

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 18 JULY 2025
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: STAFF, SWC, LITTLE LEAGUE, CMD SPORTS, BARCLAY CUP, EVENTS,
CLUB NEWS, BV TV, SALESIAN, HONOUR ROLLS, LIFEBLOOD

Baseball Victoria Welcomes New Executive Appointments

Baseball Victoria is pleased to announce a series of key executive appointments aimed at strengthening operational leadership, improving service to clubs, and positioning the sport for long-term growth.

“As part of our ongoing commitment to grow the game and deliver on all strategic outcomes for baseball in Victoria, the Board and CEO have undertaken a review of Baseball Victoria’s operational structure. This is an opportunity to build capability and efficiency, and to strengthen our delivery through a lens of diversity, growth, and alignment,” Baseball Victoria President Andy Rose said.

“The structure has been designed to empower leadership at all levels and support a more professional and sustainable approach to managing baseball across the state. These appointments – including the recruitment of Scott and Micheal, and the elevation of Jessica’s role – are an investment in Baseball Victoria’s future, ensuring we have the right leaders in place to deliver meaningful outcomes in an increasingly competitive sporting landscape.

These roles have been created to complement, not replace, the existing team – maintaining all current positions while supporting the CEO and Board in aligning our operations with our strategic objectives. Growing the game through strong, representative, and robust leadership remains a key priority of the Board.”

The Appointments

Scott McNaughton – General Manager, Operations

With 15+ years in sport leadership, most recently with NRL Victoria, Scott will oversee Baseball Victoria’s day-to-day operations, competition services, and club engagement functions.

Micheal Nakamura – Head of Baseball Performance

A dual Olympian, former MLB and NPB pitcher, and current national coach, Micheal will lead our high performance and development programs across all pathways – including juniors, women, and men.

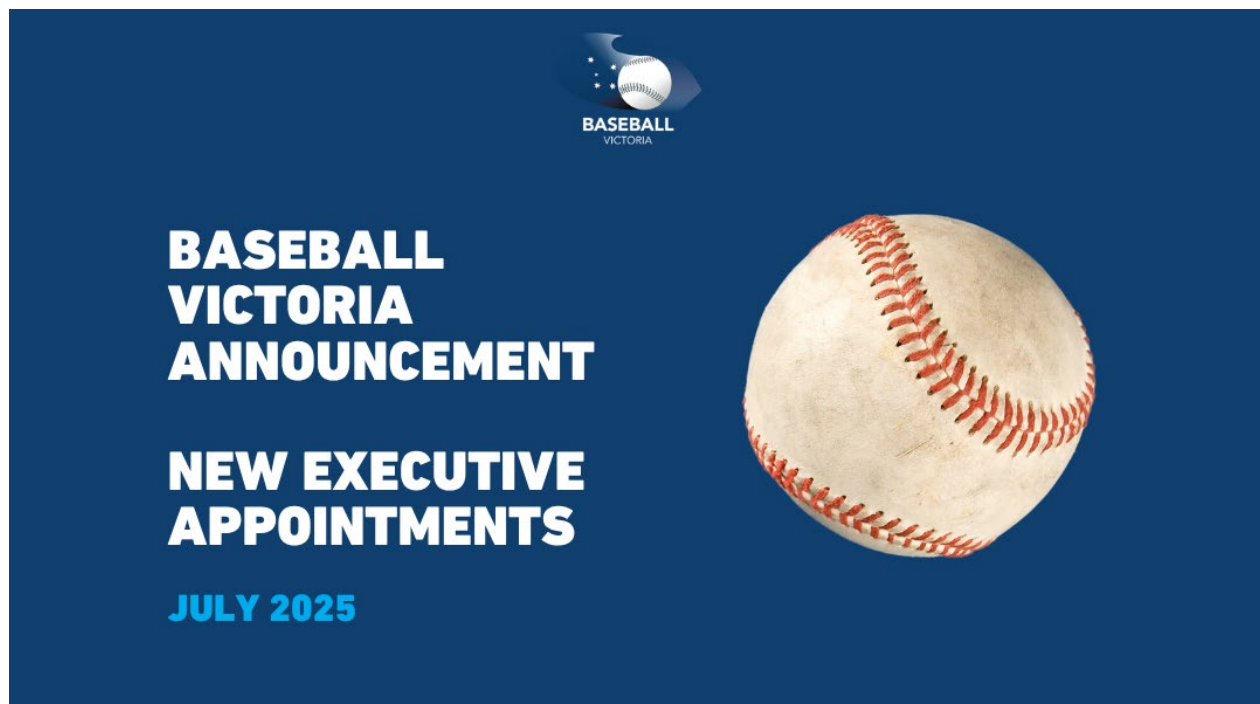
Jessica Alvaro – Head of Competitions

Jessica has been promoted to lead our competitions team, responsible for competition design, governance, and participant experience across statewide leagues.

We warmly welcome Scott and Micheal to Baseball Victoria and congratulate Jessica on her well-earned promotion. These appointments are about building the capability to support the future of baseball in Victoria.

To avoid confusion, this announcement is unrelated to recent changes involving the Melbourne Aces. These appointments are part of Baseball Victoria's own strategic planning process. That said, we remain open to working with all stakeholders to ensure the professional baseball pathway in Victoria is aligned with the state's strategic objectives.

Scott and Micheal will join the Baseball Victoria Office in early August.



Dandenong and Latrobe Valley Win 17 & Under State Winter Championships

Congratulations to Dandenong on winning Division 1 undefeated and Latrobe Valley on winning Division 2 as the 2025 17 & Under State Winter Championships wrapped up in Bendigo on Sunday.

Thank you to all the fantastic volunteers from Bendigo East, Dodgers, Falcons, and Scots for making the weekend a success, and well done to all participants!

A special mention to the All-Star teams:

- Division 1: Charlie Dolan and Shun Thong (City West), Aonghus Walsh and Mat Fielden (Dandenong), Darcy Squire and Luca Delaney (Diamond Valley), Patrick Johnson and Thomas Rome (Geelong), Chase Potts and Cheng Yen Wu (Ringwood)
- Division 2: Flynn Murphy and Marcus Murphy (Bendigo), Alex Smith, Harrison Kus, and Liam Duncan (Latrobe Valley), Ryan Brockweir and Tanner Godenzi (North East), Diesel Fallon and Ryan Evans (Sunraysia)

Keep reading [GameChanger](#) recaps from the second day and catch up on the first day of 17 & Under SWC action [HERE](#).



Photos: [Field of View Sports Photography](#)

Under 13 State Winter Championships Head North East This Weekend

Baseball Victoria's State Winter Championships season will conclude with the 2025 Under 13 SWC in Wangaratta from 19-20 July.

Division 1 will feature Dandenong, Diamond Valley, Geelong, and Ringwood, while Division 2 has Bendigo, City West, Latrobe Valley, North East, and Sunraysia.

Wangaratta Rangers Baseball Club will host all games at their home ground of Targoora Park. First pitch is 9am, with 22 games scheduled across the weekend, culminating in grand finals on Sunday afternoon.

"We are excited to return to Wangaratta and continue our winter tournament traditions," BV Tournament Officer Tony McPherson said. "Thank you to all the volunteers and participating teams and players for what is sure to be an excellent display of U13 baseball."

North Eastern Baseball Association is excited to once again welcome a great group of players to Wangaratta for an action-packed weekend.

"The Rangers committee, ground crew and NEBA volunteers have been hard at work preparing for the tournament, including some major works to all grounds installing new running tracks and base cutouts. We are looking forward to two days of awesome junior baseball in the North East," President Tyson Berry said. "Thank you to Baseball Victoria and Rural City of Wangaratta for the opportunity and ongoing support, and all the club volunteers who support baseball in our great region."

You can view the weekend's schedule [HERE](#) and stay tuned to [BV Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) for updates from the tournament.



2025 Australian Little League Girls & Little League Invitational

We are so proud of Belles (Little League Girls) and Twins and Mets (Little League Invitational) on their awesome efforts at nationals last week!

Belles got a big win on the board to finish on a high note, while Twins delivered one of the standout pitching and defensive performances of the tournament. Mets were Little League Spirit Award winners, and it was great to see them recognised for their positivity, team spirit and sportsmanship.

Head to baseball.com.au to catch up on the games.

CMD Sports Joins BV Diamond Partnership Program

Baseball Victoria is excited to announce that CMD Sports has joined the [BV Diamond Partnership Program](#) at the Triple level.

CMD Sports, established in 2020, is dedicated to supplying the Australian market with premium, often hard-to-find, sporting goods. They're a one-stop shop for baseball equipment, offering an extensive product range including bats, gloves, balls, grips, apparel, helmets, bags, protective gear, training aids and accessories. For clubs looking to stand out, CMD Sports also specialises in **custom teamwear**, providing high-quality, personalized uniforms and gear to help teams look and play their best.

"Thank you to CMD Sports for coming on board our Diamond Partnership Program," BV CEO Chet Gray said. "We are thrilled to have the support of another leading local supplier of baseball gear, and we encourage our Victorian baseball community to check them out."

"We're incredibly excited to partner with Baseball Victoria and contribute to the growth of baseball across the state," said Danny Walk, Co-Owner of CMD Sports. "Our vision has always been to provide Australian players and clubs with access to the best equipment and custom teamwear, and this partnership allows us to further support the passionate baseball community here in Victoria."

To celebrate this new partnership, CMD Sports is offering the Baseball Victoria community an exclusive **10% discount** on all online orders. Simply use the code **BV10AUG2025** at checkout. This special offer is valid until the end of August 2025.

Learn more on their official website: cmdsports.com.au



2025 Barclay Cup Tryout Registration

Baseball Victoria is pleased to announce the opening of tryout registrations for the 2025 Barclay Cup program. This year's program will include the newly revamped Futures, now specifically aimed at youth women aged 13 to 16.

The Barclay Cup/Youth Women's Futures Development Program goes beyond the existing club programs, offering participants the chance to further develop their core skills.

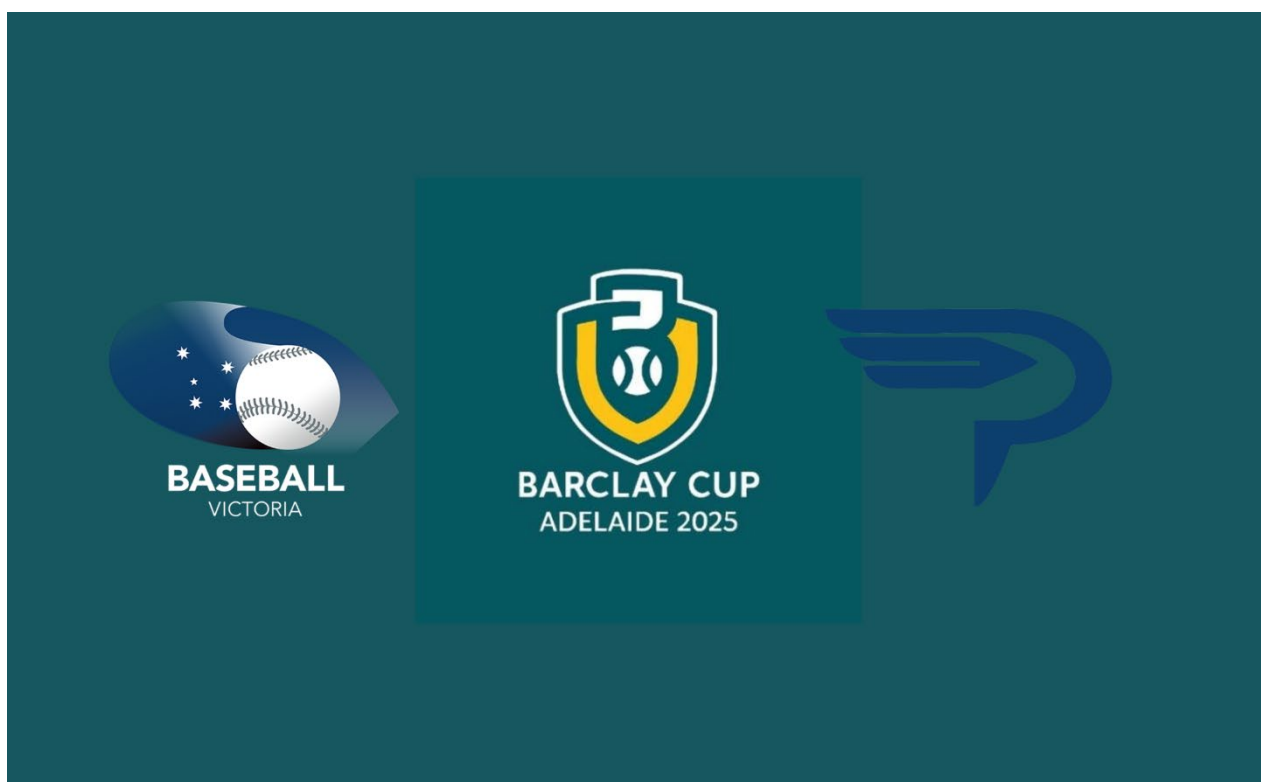
The program will run over a number of weeks under the leadership of Samantha Hamilton, Victorian Women's Head Coach and Australian Emeralds Assistant Coach.

"We are focused on reinforcing key aspects of their game and preparing them to compete at the next level," Hamilton said. "The potential within Victoria's emerging baseball talent is incredibly promising, and we're excited to be a part of their ongoing path to growth and achievement, both within the game and beyond. We're also committed to upskilling the coaches within the Baseball Victoria Coaching Panel, ensuring a holistic approach to player development."

At the end of the program, Baseball Victoria will send two teams to participate in the fourth annual Barclay Cup in South Australia, hosted at Weigall Oval, home of Adelaide Angels Baseball Club, from 28 September to 4 October. The competition features teams from NSW, QLD, VIC, WA, and SA, providing a platform for junior girls to showcase their talent and celebrate the future of women's baseball in Australia.

To be eligible to participate in the Barclay Cup, girls must be between the ages of 13 and 16 by 31 August 2025. The Barclay Cup Program and trials will be conducted and organised by the BV Performance Pathway team, with a tryout taking place on Friday 1 August from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm at Melbourne Ballpark.

Click [HERE](#) to register.



Baseball Victoria 2025 Calendar of Events

An exciting year of baseball continues with BV Performance Pathway programs, national tournaments, and winter fun [events coming up](#). Check out our full [Calendar of Events](#) and stay tuned for more baseball action.

Club News: Vale Barry Wonnacott – Sandringham Royals Baseball Club

Perhaps the most influential and loyal member of the Sandringham Royals Baseball Club, Barry Wonnacott has passed away peacefully (Tuesday).

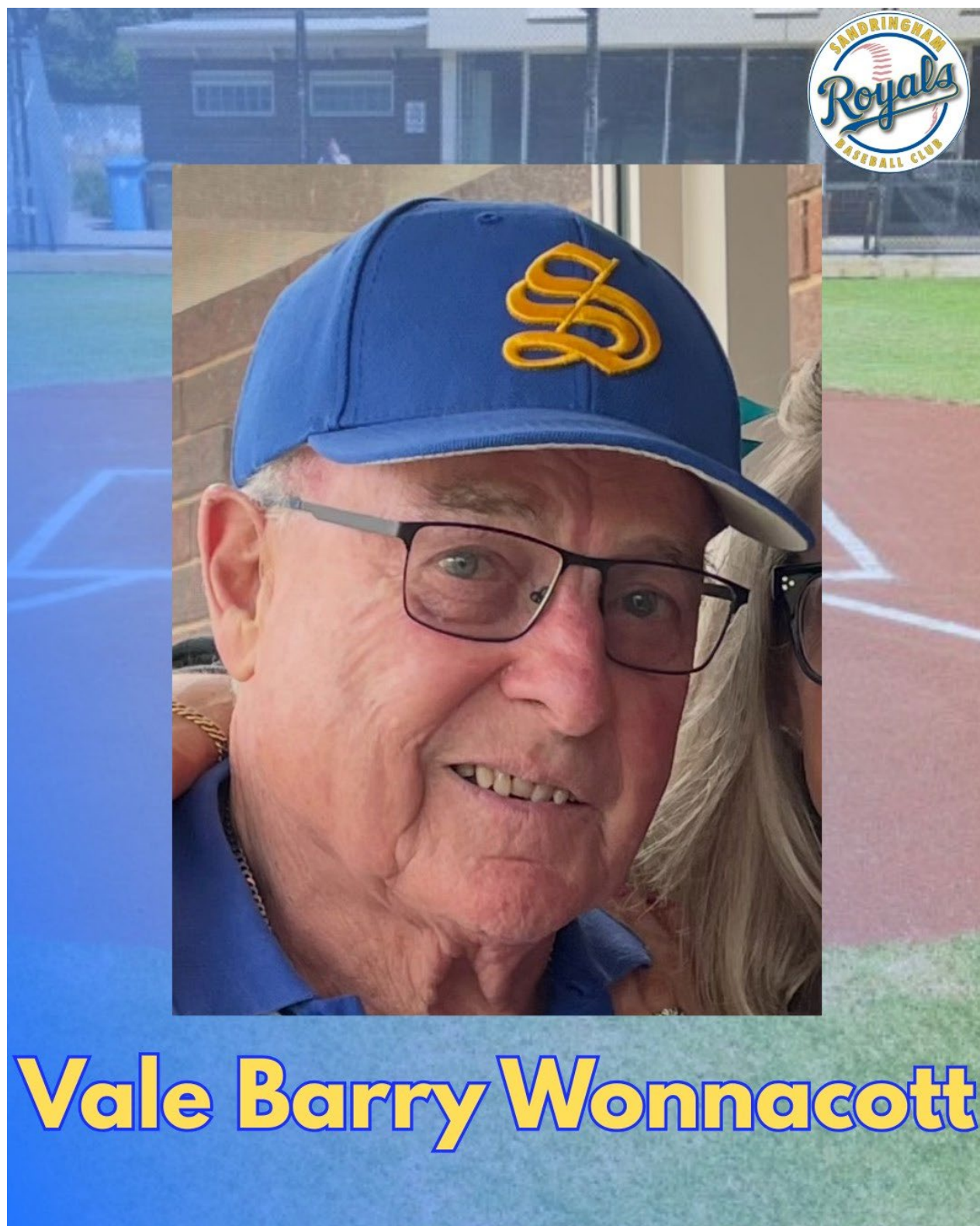
How fortunate Sandringham Baseball Club was that Barry (the first Wonnacott to join) graced the club and commenced an association that would leave an indelible imprint with the involvement of his parents and siblings that has extended for many, many years.

A dedicated and formidable player, Barry served as President, Vice President, and Chairman of Juniors, guiding a wealth of talent at junior levels and instilling the values of loyalty and hard work. Sandringham Baseball Club honoured Barry with Life Membership for his wonderful contribution to the club.

Barry loved joining in the post-game reports on the field and adding a compliment whenever appropriate. He loved watching the development of younger players and had a keen eye for a good swing or a good arm.

Barry Wonnacott's contribution on and off the club field is unlikely to ever be matched....his legacy will remain, along with the wonderful memories he provided and the wisdom he shared with many over a period of 65 years of dedication to the Sandringham Royals.

Time and Game Bazza
Rest In Peace



Club News: Little League T-Ball Club Registration

As a reminder, Baseball Victoria clubs are invited to sign up for the new national Little League T-Ball program, which can be run as a multi-week program or condensed into school holiday sessions.

By signing up, your club gets access to resources developed by Little League International, Baseball Australia and Kiddo. Little League T-Ball is aimed at kids aged 4-8 to help them develop the skills they need in order to play baseball in the future.

The first 50 clubs/organisations who sign up to run this program will receive a \$250 grant from Baseball Australia to help in buying additional equipment. Thank you to all the clubs that have signed up so far!

Scan the QR code for the [Little League T-Ball Sign Up Form](#). Email competitions@baseballvictoria.com.au with any questions or for more info.



LITTLE LEAGUE | T-BALL

BASEBALL VICTORIA

BASEBALL AUSTRALIA

T-BALL
CALLING ALL CLUBS!

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST IN HOSTING A LITTLE LEAGUE T-BALL PROGRAM AT YOUR CLUB, WITH RESOURCES DEVELOPED BY LITTLE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL, BASEBALL AUSTRALIA AND KIDDO.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP OR EMAIL [COMPETITIONS@BASEBALLVICTORIA.COM.AU](mailto:competitions@baseballvictoria.com.au) FOR MORE INFO.

Club News: 2025/26 BV Development Grants

Baseball Victoria is excited to announce that applications are now open for 2025/26 BV Development Grants. Summer clubs are encouraged to apply for grants to fund baseball development activities aimed at driving junior and female participation and growth within the sport. Please view [program guidelines](#) for more information and the [application link](#). Applications close 31 July.

Club News: Baseball Victoria AGM Save The Date

The 2025 Baseball Victoria AGM will be held on Wednesday 12 November. Please mark your calendars and note that official correspondence will be sent closer to the meeting date.

Club News: Bonbeach Bluejays Coach Expressions of Interest

Bonbeach Baseball Club is looking for its next head coach for the 2025/26 season. The Bluejays are seeking a dedicated leader to build on last year's success with the Premier League 2 Club Championship and five out of six senior teams playing finals in 2024/25. Click [HERE](#) to learn more or contact President Brendan Wilson via bonbeachstchads@gmail.com.

Club News: Cheltenham Rustlers Coach Expressions of Interest

Cheltenham Rustlers Baseball Club is seeking expressions of interest for a women's baseball coach for the 2025/26 VSBL season. The Rustlers are looking for someone who is passionate about empowering female athletes and sharing a love of baseball. Email cheltenhamrustlersbc@gmail.com to express your interest.

Club News: Footscray Senior Coach Expression of Interest

Footscray Baseball Club seeks a dedicated and knowledgeable senior head coach for the 2025/26 summer season and beyond. The club boasts growing junior, women, and senior programs. The successful applicant will have a vision of growth and development with full committee support. Visit our [club ads page](#) for more details or email applications to footscraybc1925@gmail.com.

Club News: MCC Women's Baseball Coach Expressions of Interest

Melbourne (MCC Baseball) is looking for a women's baseball coach for the 2025/26 summer season. The ideal candidate will be passionate about empowering female athletes with the drive to inspire, lead, and grow a team within the club. Visit our [club ads page](#) for more details or email Murray Noble at chairman@mccbaseball.org.au.

Club News: Port Melbourne Head Coach Expressions of Interest

Port Melbourne Baseball Club is looking for a dedicated and knowledgeable club head coach and women's program coach for the upcoming VSBL season. The Mariners want someone to bring their expertise, knowledge, and enthusiasm to a fast-growing, family-friendly club. See our [club ads page](#) for more info or email president.portmarinersbc@gmail.com.

Club News: Sandringham Royals Coach Expressions of Interest

Sandringham Royals Baseball Club is looking for a Premier 1 Reserves coach for the 2025/26 VSBL season. The ideal candidate will be an enthusiastic and experienced coach eager to develop and foster the young Royals group. Head to our [club ads page](#) for more info or email secretary@sandybaseball.com.au.

Club News: Werribee Giants Women's Head Coach Expressions of Interest

Werribee Giants Baseball Club is now seeking expressions of interest for a head coach to lead the senior women's program during the 2025/26 VSBL season. The club is looking for a passionate and driven leader to help guide and develop the women's team as the Giants continue to grow female participation and success at the club. Visit the [club ads page](#) for more info or email jessicab1984@hotmail.com to express your interest.

Club News: Wangaratta Rangers 25th Anniversary Celebration

This year, Wangaratta Rangers Baseball Club celebrate a significant milestone – the Rangers' 25th anniversary! The club warmly invites all past and present players, members, volunteers, and supporters to join in the celebration at Targoora Park, 330 Wangaratta-Whitfield Road, Wangaratta on Sunday 27 July 2025 for a day that recognises everyone who has contributed to the club's journey.

Baseball will be on show all day, with Rangers teams facing fellow Rangers:

- **U15s:** 8:30am – 9:50am
- **C Grade:** 10:10am – 11:30am (playing North Albury Bears)
- **U12s:** 10:30am – 11:30am
- **B Grade:** 12:00pm – 2:00pm
- **A Grade:** 2:30pm – 4:30pm

The canteen will be open throughout the day, and from 3:30pm, Griff will serve his renowned American BBQ feast (\$20 per person for those dining). Formal proceedings, including reflections on 25 years and the announcement of Quarter-of-a-Century All Stars, will follow the final out of the A Grade game. To assist with catering, please click [HERE](#) to RSVP.

Club News: Club Umpire Coordinator & Behind the Mask Umpire Nominations

Baseball Victoria is requesting each club to nominate a Club Umpire Coordinator for the upcoming 2025/26 VSBL season. This individual will work in collaboration with the Baseball Victoria Umpire Recruitment and Retention Officer and the BV Umpiring Working Group.

Their role will be pivotal in:

- Promoting umpiring opportunities within the club
- Supporting the development of new and existing umpires
- Facilitating education and training initiatives
- Contributing to the overall growth of the umpiring community at the grassroots level

Please click [HERE](#) to submit your nominations.

Club News: BV Club Assist Resources for Volunteers

As the [winter season](#) continues, we encourage club members to check out the recently updated [BV Club Assist](#), an online suite of club resources designed to help volunteers, support members, and enhance club operations and experiences.

There are three main sections: [Running a Club](#), [Competition](#), and [Growing a Club](#), and this comprehensive suite of resources (policies, templates, how-to guides, etc.) will be expanded as time goes on.

Head to www.baseballvictoria.com.au/bv-club-assist to get started.



Club News: WWCC and Child Protection/Sports Integrity

If you have children at your club, whether it be for junior competitions or family events, please keep in mind the updated [Working with Children Check](#) and Child Protection/Sports Integrity guidelines.

All club volunteers, including committee members, coaches, umpires, scorers, groundskeepers, and canteen staff, must have a valid WWCC with a list regularly maintained by the club. We ask that all club committee members also complete the [11 Child Safe Sport Modules](#).

Club News: BV Codes of Conduct & Behaviour Expectations

As a reminder to all clubs and members, Baseball Victoria membership requires you to adhere to BV Codes of Conduct regarding respectful behaviour. It's paramount that all players, coaches, officials, volunteers, spectators and clubs follow these expectations to ensure safe and enjoyable experiences for all. Please review the [Codes of Conduct on our website](#) and contact the BV Office with any questions.

Baseball Training on BV TV

Stay on top of your baseball training with [BV TV](#) videos, including [Ramp Up to Play](#) and [Top Throwing Drills](#). Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [TikTok](#) for more fun drills and behind the scenes.

Baseball Victoria and Salesian College Sports Academy Team Up

Baseball Victoria is pleased to partner with Salesian College Sports Academy in Chadstone, which plans to introduce a baseball program in 2026, subject to student enrolments.

We hope Salesian College will become a hub for secondary school students to pursue their academic and baseball goals in Melbourne's eastern suburbs.

Learn more about [Salesian College Sports Academy](#) and click [HERE](#) to book a tour. Families interested in enrolling or who have already done so are encouraged to contact Sports Academy Coordinator Stephen Sellwood at ssellwood@salesian.vic.edu.au to ensure they also complete a Sports Academy application.

Baseball Victoria War Service Honour Rolls

Baseball Victoria is committed to creating and maintaining an honour roll of baseball players who have served in war and peacekeeping missions since 1915. It is difficult to imagine a modern-day player's career being interrupted so dramatically, and we will be forever grateful for their service and sacrifices in our Australian armed services. Visit [our website](#) for more info.

Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Teams Program

We are proud to be part of the Australian Red Cross Lifeblood program, helping to save lives with blood and plasma donations. You can learn more about Lifeblood and join the BV Team [HERE](#).

The BV Team

Chet Gray – CEO

Damian Shanahan – High Performance Officer

Jessica Alvaro – Head of Competitions

Audrina Ning – Financial Controller

Rachael Bouley – Communications and Digital Media Officer

Michelle Coote – Administration Officer

Keli'i Zablan – Player & Coaching Pathway Officer

Shannen Jones – Membership Officer

David Nagy – Event Support Officer

Ethan Epifanio – Development Officer

Brooke Penfold – Technical Officer

Tony McPherson – Tournament Officer

Daniel Chircop – Pathways/MSA Coach

Samantha Hamilton – Performance Pathway Coach

