

# INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS  
DATE: 21 AUGUST 2025  
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA  
SUBJECT: AYC, TEAM AUSTRALIA, COACHES, WOMEN'S PRO, ECOGROUP,  
EVENTS, FIELD OF VIEW, CMD SPORTS, MASTERS, CLUB NEWS,  
PERFORMANCE SKILLS, BV TV, SALESIAN, HONOUR ROLLS,  
LIFEBLOOD

## 2026 Australian Youth Championships Tryout Registration

As a reminder, tryout registration is now open for Victorian State Teams ahead of the 2026 Australian U16 and U18 Youth Championships next January.

We will be sending one U16 and one U18 team to the national championships (dates and venue TBA by Baseball Australia soon).

Tryouts will be conducted in September, with teams to be finalised at the start of October and on-field prep beginning in November.

**If players are unavailable for one or more tryout sessions due to winter finals, please notify the BV Office at [administration@baseballvictoria.com.au](mailto:administration@baseballvictoria.com.au) so we can accommodate.**

### **Under 16 Tryout Dates**

Saturday 6 September  
Saturday 13 September  
Saturday 20 September  
Saturday 27 September (if required)

### **Under 18 Tryout Dates**

Tuesday 9 September  
Wednesday 10 September (proposed pitchers and catchers)  
Tuesday 16 September  
Tuesday 23 September  
Tuesday 30 September (If required)

\*Session dates and times could be altered due to inclement weather and selection priorities.

**Tryout venue:** Melbourne Ballpark, Merton Street, Altona Meadows

**Times:** TBC (*an email will be sent to all players who register, confirming times and what to bring prior to the commencement of tryouts*)

### **Age Qualifications**

U16 - Year Born 2010 & 2011  
U18 - Year Born 2008, 2009, 2010

## Program

- On-field preparation throughout November and December with specific weekly schedule and venue TBD
- Friendship Series - we have organised a friendship series versus South Australia U16 & U18 teams from Friday 26 December to Monday 29 December 2025 in Melbourne. Venue and final game schedule TBD.

Please click [HERE](#) to register for tryouts via GameDay or follow the QR code below.

A promotional poster for the Victorian U16 & U18 State Team Tryout Registration. The background is a dark blue image of a group of young baseball players in their uniforms, some holding a trophy. At the top center is the 'BASEBALL VICTORIA' logo, which includes a stylized baseball and the text 'BASEBALL VICTORIA'. The main title 'VICTORIAN U16 & U18 STATE TEAM TRYOUT REGISTRATION' is written in large, bold, white capital letters. Below the title, on the left side, is a list of dates and activities in teal capital letters: 'SEPT 2025 - TRYOUTS', 'OCT 2025 - TEAM SELECTION', 'NOV & DEC 2025 - TRAINING', and 'JAN 2026 - AYC (TBA)'. On the right side, there is a white box containing the text 'TRYOUTS START 6 SEPT REGISTER VIA QR CODE' and a large QR code below it.

**VICTORIAN U16 & U18  
STATE TEAM TRYOUT  
REGISTRATION**

**SEPT 2025 - TRYOUTS  
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**TRYOUTS START 6 SEPT  
REGISTER VIA QR CODE**

## **BV Performance Pathway Athletes Head to Team Australia U18 World Cup Selection Camp**

Six Victorians are spending the week on the Gold Coast for the Team Australia Under 18 World Cup Selection Camp.

We are so proud of our BV Performance Pathway athletes - all the best to Will Kent, Devin Leahy, Will Hardy, Riley Peoples, Jordan Ellis, and Roman Coote!

The selection camp features a series of workouts, exhibition games and evaluations.

The six-day camp will be used to select players on the final roster for the 2025 Under 18 World Cup in Okinawa, Japan (5-14 Sept). Read the full story [HERE](#).



*BV Performance Pathway athletes headed to the U18 World Cup Selection Camp.*

### **Victorians Attend Baseball Australia Coaching Conference on the Gold Coast**

This past week, BV Performance Pathway and Victorian coaches attended Baseball Australia's Coaching Conference on the Gold Coast.

Mark Richards, Jarryd Rogers, Adrian (AJ) Baillargeon, Samantha Hamilton, Keli'i Zablan, and Ethan Epifanio (pictured) were part of the group of fifty coaches from across the country. BV High Performance Officer Damian Shanahan was also in attendance and stayed on for U18 coaching duties with Baseball Australia.

The two-day conference focused on teaching coaches how to create engaging learning environments and explore modern trends of coaching and development.

Dr. Jeff Simons, a Professor of Kinesiology at California State University, East Bay, who specialises in the psychology of sport and physical activity, presented at the conference. The Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) was also in attendance.

This was a fantastic opportunity for coaching development and collaboration leading into the Under 18 World Cup Selection Camp.

### **Victorians Head to USA for Women's Pro Baseball League Tryouts**

Victorian Women's State Team and Emeralds pitcher Allie Bebbere is off to the USA to try out for Women's Pro Baseball League (WPBL), along with fellow VIC representative Ruby Dale.

She's posting on her account ([@baseballerbebbs](#)) about her journey. There are about a dozen Aussie baseballers joining Allie and Ruby in trying out for the professional women's league, scheduled to begin in 2026. Good luck everyone! Check out [Women's Baseball – The Inside Pitch](#) for more details.

## EcoGroup Teams Up With Baseball in Victoria, Joins BV Diamond Partnership Program

Baseball Victoria is excited to announce that EcoGroup has joined the [BV Diamond Partnership Program](#) at the Home Run level.

EcoGroup specialises in high-quality recycled red crushed brick, which is ideal for use on baseball and softball diamonds. They currently supply a number of baseball and softball clubs across Australia, either directly to the clubs themselves or the local councils that maintain their grounds.

EcoGroup offers flexible delivery options, with product delivered loose by the tonne (via trucks) or in bulka bags. This all depends upon the site and club requirements.

"Thank you to EcoGroup for supporting baseball in Victoria through the BV Diamond Partnership Program," BV CEO Chet Gray said. "We are thrilled to have the support of this reputable crushed brick supplier, who has helped supply the diamonds at Essendon, Melbourne Aces, Williamstown, and more."

EcoGroup is passionate about supporting clubs and sustainability. EcoGroup's mission is to rethink recycled materials, through providing cost-effective, environmentally responsible alternatives without compromising on quality.

"We're proud to support Baseball Victoria and the local clubs that bring communities together. We believe our crushed brick embodies the spirit and attitude of young Australians, tough, grounded, ready to play, and proud to do things differently," said Marina Ward, EcoGroup Co-Founder. "It's a product made for performance, designed with purpose, and delivered with passion for our local communities. Thank you, Baseball Victoria, for sharing in our passion."

Learn more on their official website: [www.ecogroup.com.au](http://www.ecogroup.com.au)



## Baseball Victoria 2025 Calendar of Events

A big year for baseball continues with BV Performance Pathway programs, training, and tournaments throughout the coming weeks and months. Check out [our calendar of events](#) for more info.

## Field of View Sports Photography Gallery

Thank you to BV Diamond Partner Field of View Sports Photography for all the amazing photos. Check out [their gallery](#) of our representative teams, state championships, BV Performance Pathway, and more.

### **CMD Sports + BV Diamond Partnership Program – Special Discount**

In case you missed it, CMD Sports has joined the [BV Diamond Partnership Program](#) at the Triple level, which you can read more about [HERE](#).

CMD Sports is 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. 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](https://cmdsports.com.au)



### **Australian Masters Games – Field of Dreamers Women’s Team**

The Australian Masters Games are coming up from 18-25 October 2025 in Canberra, ACT. Field of Dreamers, a Brisbane-based team, is looking for friendship female players from Victoria to join in the 35yo+ tournament. The overarching theme is fun and participation, with all skills and ages welcome.

Please email coach Shannon Woodrow at [swoodrow@bigpond.net.au](mailto:swoodrow@bigpond.net.au) for more information and to express your interest. Individual registrations close Friday 19 September.

### **Club News: Steve Kitto Plays 800<sup>th</sup> Game at Heathmont Baseball Club**

Congratulations to Steve Kitto on reaching his 800<sup>th</sup> game milestone with Heathmont Baseball Club on Saturday.

Heathmont came away with a 13-4 win over North Balwyn to seal the deal on a fantastic achievement for Steve, who made history at the club by being the first player to reach 800 games.

Check out photos and videos from the day on the [club’s Facebook page](#).

### **Club News: Melbourne Aces Import Players**

Melbourne Aces will have several import players available for a large part of the 2025/26 VSBL season. The Aces would require some assistance from the club but would look after most of the requirements. Clubs can contact Mick Wearne on 0418 324 114 to discuss further.

### **Club News: Blackburn Baseball Club Senior Women's Team – Coming 2025/26**

Blackburn Baseball Club is proud to launch a Senior Women's Team for the 2025/26 season, with Cale Hunkin leading the way as Senior Women's Coach. The Burners are building a strong, inclusive women's program and inviting people who want to be part of a welcoming, community-focused club to come on board.

Whether you're an experienced player or just keen to be involved, the Burners would love to hear from you. Click [HERE](#) to join and feel free to send any questions to [blackburnorioles@gmail.com](mailto:blackburnorioles@gmail.com).

### **Club News: Chelsea Baseball Club Women's Players Wanted**

Chelsea Baseball Club is looking for women players for the upcoming summer season. All abilities are welcome as the Dolphins look to submit two teams again this year across Women's Regional and State League. Come and try/pre-season training opportunities will commence from mid-September. Chelsea provides a friendly culture where the priorities are to work hard, stay positive, and back each other up. Contact [secretary@chelseabaseballclub.com.au](mailto:secretary@chelseabaseballclub.com.au) for more information.

### **Club News: Fitzroy Baseball Club Come & Try Day**

Fitzroy Baseball Club will hold a come and try t-ball and baseball day with a sausage sizzle on Sunday 7 September from 9:30 to 11:00am at Merri Park. Fitzroy is also hosting a free five-dayGRRRLS Baseball Academy for young female players to build their baseball skills, from 22-26 September. Follow [Fitzroy Lions on Facebook](#) for more info or [visit our club ads page](#).

### **Club News: Sandringham Come and Try Baseball and Tee-Ball**

Sandringham Baseball Club will host Come and Try Baseball and Tee-Ball sessions on 14, 17, and 21 September. The Sunday sessions will run from 10am-12pm and the Wednesday session will be from 4:30 to 6pm with a BBQ. Tee-ball is open to boys and girls aged 4-8 and baseball for boys and girls aged 7-18. Follow the [club on Facebook](#) for more details.

### **Club News: Sunshine Come and Try Baseball and Tee-Ball**

Sunshine Baseball Club is hosting come and try baseball and tee-ball sessions on Sunday 24 and 31 August from 2pm to 4pm at Barclay Reserve, Albion. These sessions are open to ages 5-17 with no experience necessary. Contact [sbcjuniors@outlook.com](mailto:sbcjuniors@outlook.com) or visit [sunshinebaseball.com.au](http://sunshinebaseball.com.au) for more info.

### **Club News: Upwey Ferntree Gully Junior Come and Try Day**

Upwey Ferntree Gully Baseball Club has two junior baseball come and try sessions coming up next month: Friday 5 September from 5-6:30pm and Sunday 14 September from 10-11:30am at Kings Park. New players are welcome with no experience required. Visit [upweyftgbaseballclub.com](http://upweyftgbaseballclub.com) or the [Tigers Facebook page](#) for more details.

### **Club News: Williamstown Wolves Come and Try Days**

Williamstown Wolves Baseball Club will host a big come and try day on Sunday 14 September, starting with juniors from 9-11am. T-ball is open to kids 4-7 and junior baseball is open to ages 7-17 with players of all experience levels welcome. An afternoon session for women's baseball will run from 12-2pm on the same day, open to ages 13 and up. See our [club ads page](#) or follow [Williamstown BC](#) on Facebook for more details.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:jessicab1984@hotmail.com) to express your interest.

#### **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](http://www.baseballvictoria.com.au/bv-club-assist) to get started.



### Club News: Little League T-Ball Club Registration

Thank you to all the clubs that have signed 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.

We've seen some great programs this winter and look forward to more throughout the summer! Stay tuned as we showcase participating clubs.

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

LITTLE LEAGUE | T-BALL

BASEBALL VICTORIA

BASEBALL AUSTRALIA

GRAND SLAM T-BALL

**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: 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: 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.

### **Centre for Wellbeing Science (University of Melbourne) Performance Skills Inventory**

The Centre for Wellbeing Science (University of Melbourne) is developing a performance skills inventory to help young adults to build personalised performance plans and monitor their progress. The performance skills inventory profiles key factors known to enhance performance and is open to young adults (18 – 25 years) who engage in any form of performance including sport.

Participants who complete the online questionnaire will receive a personal performance profile, which highlights the mental skills and practices that they are strongest in, and the ones that could be developed further. If you're interested in developing your mental skills for baseball performance, you can complete the questionnaire and receive your personal performance profile [HERE](#).

### **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](mailto: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

**Scott McNaughton** – General Manager, Operations

**Jessica Alvaro** – Head of Competitions

**Audrina Ning** – Financial Controller

**Rachael Bouley** – Communications and Digital Media Officer

**Michelle Coote** – Administration Officer

**Shannen Jones** – Membership Officer

**Brooke Penfold** – Technical Officer

**Tony McPherson** – Tournament Officer

**David Nagy** – Event Support Officer

**Micheal Nakamura** – Head of Baseball Performance

**Damian Shanahan** – High Performance Officer

**Keli'i Zablan** – Player & Coaching Pathway Officer

**Ethan Epifanio** – Development Officer

**Daniel Chircop** – Pathways/MSA Coach

**Samantha Hamilton** – Performance Pathway Coach

