

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 31 JULY 2025
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: SWC, TEAM AUSTRALIA, CMD SPORTS, AUSSIES ABROAD,
UMPIRING, CLUB NEWS, BV TV, SALESIAN, HONOUR ROLLS,
LIFEBLOOD

2025 State Winter Championships Wrap

With another awesome year of State Winter Championships in the books, we wish to congratulate all these champion junior baseballers!

- U13 Division 1: Dandenong
- U13 Division 2: North East
- U15 Division 1: Diamond Valley
- U15 Division 2: Latrobe Valley
- 17U Division 1: Dandenong
- 17U Division 2: Latrobe Valley

Well done to all players, teams and associations and thank you to BV Diamond Partners [Field of View Sports Photography](#) and [Ausport](#) for attending the tournaments and supporting our winter baseball community. Catch up on all the action on [our website](#).



Victorians Represent Team Australia at Under 12 World Cup

Victorians Harvey Ninnis, Phil Toye, and Jaxon Waters have been wearing the Green and Gold, representing Team Australia at the 2025 WBSC Under 12 Baseball World Cup in Chinese Taipei.

Head to [baseball.com.au](#) to read the [latest recaps](#), including Toye's fantastic pitching in a 9-2 win over Germany.



Photo: @rc_rainecreative / [Team Australia](#)

U16 National Squad Competing in Japan Next Month

Two Australian National Under 16 teams will head to Japan to compete in tournaments next month.

In March 2025, Team Australia [named 34 players to a national squad selected](#) off the backs of their performance at the Australian Youth Championships. The squad has since been split into one team of 18 and one team of 16 based off their date of births and school year.

One squad will compete at the 15U Perfect Game Pacific Baseball Championships in Sapporo, while the other will play against some of the top Japanese junior teams – including a double-header vs the Tokyo Giants U15 Team – in Tokyo.

Congratulations to BV Performance Pathway athletes Cooper Bishop-Worn, Cooper Busch, Euan Clarkin, Brody Stokes, Brodie Trevean, Jarvis Johansen, Mitchell Langworthy, and Marcus Murphy. Scott Meager has been named Sapporo Team Manager. Read the full update [HERE](#).

CMD Sports Joins BV Diamond Partnership Program

In case you missed it, 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

Aussies Abroad: Three Victorians on 1st Place Fort Collins Foxes in Northern Colorado

Three Victorians are playing in a collegiate summer league for the Fort Collins Foxes in Northern Colorado. BV Performance Pathway alumni Ryan Othen and Nick Bertucci join pitching coach John (Jay) O'Connor on the Foxes, which have the best record in the Front Range League heading into semi-finals on 2 August and hopefully, the championship game on 3 August.

We wish them the best of luck!

P.S. Thanks to the Aussie influence, before games you can sometimes see a footy being kicked around by the players!



Pitcher Ryan Othen (Newman University, NCAA D2 and Malvern/ North Balwyn Baseball Clubs), OF/P Nick Bertucci (Central Arizona College, NJCAA D1 and Moorabbin Baseball Club) and Pitching Coach John (Jay) O'Connor (Berwick and Waverley Baseball Clubs)

BV Community Umpiring Theory Course at North Coburg

The BV Umpiring Working Group will hold a Community Umpiring Theory course session on Monday 11 August at North Coburg Baseball Club and online via Zoom from 7-9pm. This will run alongside the regular umpire training session on the same night as a beginner course – the first step toward umpiring certification. Please register [HERE](#) so we can plan for numbers.



BV Behind The Mask Community Umpiring Training

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: StrikeZone Sports New Location

[StrikeZone Sports](#) (formerly Fielders Choice Victoria) is moving from their Mulgrave store. From 1 September, you will find them at their new retail store at Level 1, 4/10 Duerdin Street, Notting Hill. With over 391 sq. metres of space, they will have an expanded range of baseball and softball equipment, including ground equipment, uniform design and purchase, as well as many other items. For further information, please call 0488 661 908 or visit www.fielderschoicevicact.com.

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: 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! 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. Stay tuned for coaching details coming soon!

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.

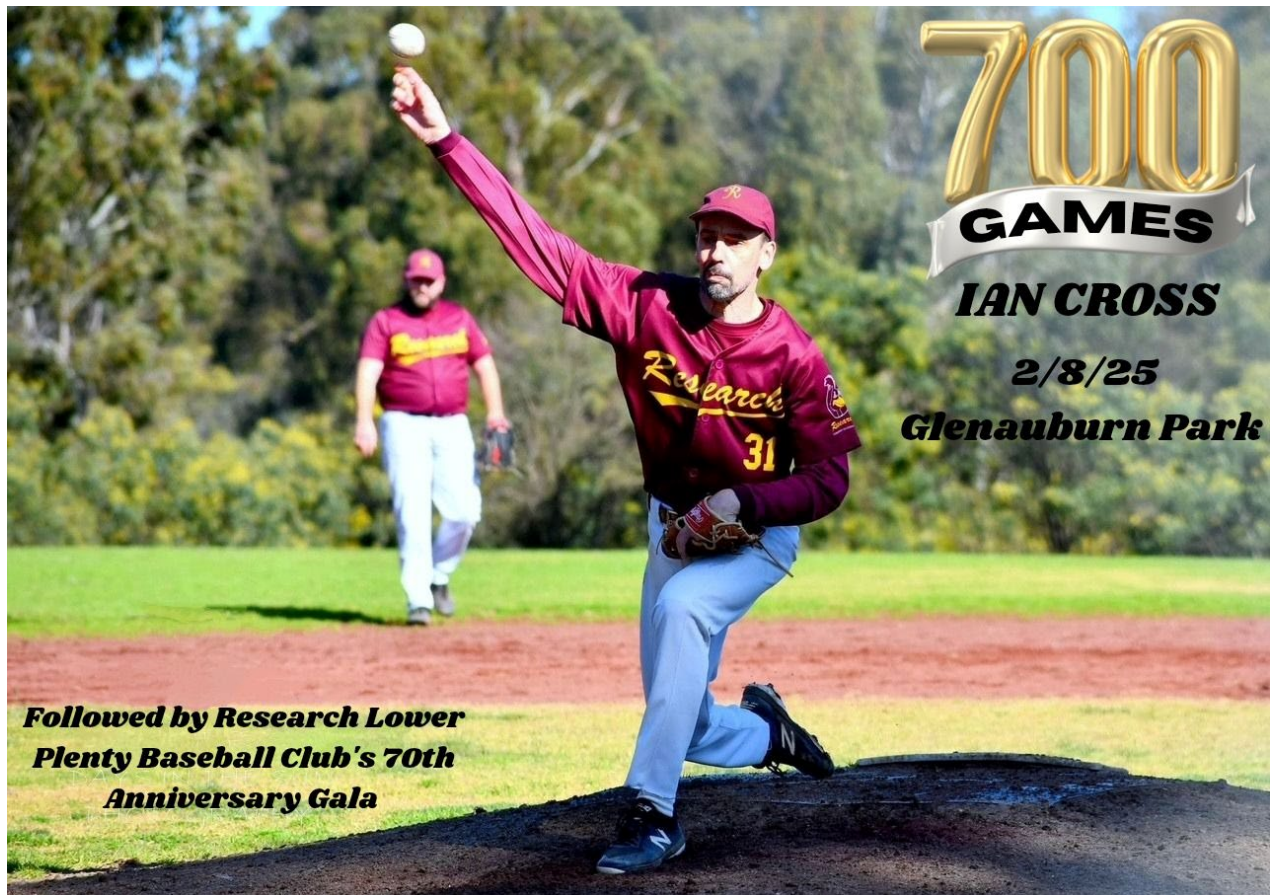
Club News: Wangaratta Rangers 25th Anniversary Celebration

Congratulations to Wangaratta Rangers Baseball Club on a successful 25th anniversary celebration over the weekend. The North Eastern baseball community came together to celebrate and hear from past presidents and premiership coaches. Head to the [club's Facebook page](#) for more details, including photos and interviews from the night.

Club News: Ian Cross to Play 700th Game at Research Lower Plenty

[Research Lower Plenty Baseball Club](#) is celebrating a big milestone this weekend as Ian Cross plays his 700th game, starting at 12:15 at Glenauburn Park. Ian has been part of the club for over 40 years, playing each winter, pitching and bringing his family along for the fun.

Congrats on this awesome milestone!



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: 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: 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.

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

