

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 23 OCTOBER 2025
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: VSBL, AYC, U18 DEVELOPMENT SQUAD, AWC/AYWC STAFF, HOF, UMPIRES, COLLEGE, U23 WORLD CUP, PHOTOS, VOUCHERS, CLUB NEWS, BV TV, LIFEBLOOD, SALESIAN, HONOUR ROLLS

2025/26 VSBL Season Kicks Off

We are off and running with the 2025/26 VSBL season, and it's great to see so many baseballers having fun across senior, women's, masters, and junior competitions.

Thank you to all our clubs and volunteers for making grassroots baseball possible – we can't wait to see what this summer season has in store.

If you haven't registered yet and want to play summer ball, please click [HERE](#) for links to do so. As a reminder, all new and returning players, coaches, umpires, scorers, volunteers, and committee members must register on GameDay.

If you see any outstanding performances over the weekend, please consider submitting a nomination for VSBL Player of the Week Awards:

- [Senior Player of the Week](#)
- [Junior Player of the Week](#)
- [Aces Sporting Club Women's Batter of the Week](#)
- [Aces Sporting Club Women's Pitcher of the Week](#)

Here are a few more helpful links as we settle into summer baseball:

- [Summer Registration](#)
- [VSBL Fixtures](#)
- [VSBL Facebook](#)
- [Club Finder By Postcode](#)
- [All VSBL Clubs](#)
- [Welcome to Baseball Guide](#)
- [Join Baseball](#)

Victorian U16 and U18 State Teams Announced Ahead of 2026 Australian Youth Championships

In case you missed it, our Victorian Under 16 and Under 18 State Teams have been announced.

We are so excited to watch these representatives on the national stage, right here at home in Victoria.

The U16 Australian Youth Championship runs from 7-13 January 2026, followed by the U18 AYC from 9-15 January at Essendon, Preston, and Port Melbourne Baseball Clubs.

"A huge congrats to our 2026 State Team players, who will have an amazing opportunity to represent Victoria and compete for a national championship," BV CEO Chet Gray said.

"Well done to all on successful tryouts and good luck leading up to the tournament."

U16 VICTORIAN STATE TEAM ANNOUCEMENT

ALESSIO PETRUZZIELO

BODHI EVANS

CALE MORRIS

CHASE POTTS

CRUIZE CHASE

DANIEL HWANG

DARCY SQUIRE

EDISON BUSH

GEORGE STEER

JACK NORTHFIELD

JACK THOMAS

JACKSON BURTON

JACOB TAYLER

LUCAS JOEL

OSCAR SHIMAKURA

PARKS HALASZ

SAM STAFILIS

SPENCER TYERS

THOMAS HILL

TYLER BARTON



TOURNAMENT

7-13 JANUARY 2026

@ ESSENDON, PRESTON
& PORT MELBOURNE
BASEBALL CLUBS



U18 VICTORIAN STATE TEAM ANNOUCEMENT

BRANDON ELTON

BRODY STOKES

COOPER BISHOP-WORN

COOPER BUSCH

ETHAN NAKAMURA

EUAN CLARKIN

HARRISON BRODIE

JAI DIBLASI

JAKE BERTUCCI

JORDAN ELLIS

KEINOSUKE LEE

LACHLAN BRENNAN

LIAM PUNCHER

MARCUS MURPHY

MITCHELL LANGWORTHY

RILEY PEOPLES

ROMAN COOTE

RILEY SHANKS

SAMUEL WALK

WINDSOR BRECKENRIDGE



TOURNAMENT

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Victorian Under 18 Development Squad Announced for Taiwan Trip

We also announced the Victorian Under 18 Development Squad, which will travel to Taiwan to compete in the New Taipei City International U18 Baseball Invitational Tournament from 12-22 December.

It's a great opportunity for our young athletes to develop their skills on the global stage, represent Victoria with pride, and immerse themselves in a unique cultural and sporting environment, playing against teams from around Asia.

Well done everyone!

VICTORIAN U18 DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

ALEXANDROS PAPADOPOULOS
ANGUS SAGGERS
BAILEY STEWART
BRODIE TREVEAN
DECLAN MARSHALL
DECLAN TAYLER
ETHAN KENT
JARVIS JOHANSEN
JAX CLARKE
JESUS CAMACHO
KYCEN DOWLING
LIAM COSTER
MATTHEW FIELDEN
OLIVER BERGIN
TAKUTO KAWASE
TANNER GODENZI
WILLIAM FERGUSON



COACHES

HEAD COACH - DAVID HARGREAVES
ASSISTANT COACH - BEN LAUX
EO - MICHELLE COOTE

TAIWAN TRIP

12-22 DECEMBER 2025



2026 AWC & AYWC High Performance Coach and Staff EOI

Baseball Victoria will once again be entering teams to participate in the 2026 Australian Women's and Youth Women's Championships at Melbourne Ballpark from 12-18 April. Our teams have a rich and successful history competing in these events and this is your chance to lead our women's baseball athletes on the national stage.

Expressions of interest are now open for all positions: manager (head coach), assistant coach, pitching coach and executive officer. If you have any questions, please email micheal.nakamura@baseballvictoria.com.au. Click [HERE](#) to nominate by Friday 14 November.

Baseball Victoria Hall of Fame Nominations Now Open

The Baseball Victoria Hall of Fame was established in 2024 to honour and preserve the legacy of individuals who have made outstanding contributions to baseball in Victoria. The Hall of Fame recognises excellence across all aspects of the game, including players, managers, administrators, umpires, and scorers who have demonstrated exceptional dedication and achievement at grassroots, state, national, and international levels.

The BV History and Recognition Working Group is calling for Hall of Fame nominations to be inducted in 2026. The criteria, selection process and nomination form can be found on our website as [Word](#) and [PDF documents](#). Nominations are due by Sunday 30 November.



Baseball Victoria Announces Umpiring Working Group Appointments

Baseball Victoria is pleased to announce the updated BV Umpiring Working Group appointments, with this dedicated team set to continue rolling out our [Umpiring Blueprint for the Future](#).

The BV Umpiring Working Group reports to a part-time Technical Officer on the BV staff (Brooke Penfold) and consists of four volunteers:

- State Umpire – Operations: Alan Sutherland
- State Umpire – Technical: Denis Dalzotto
- State Umpire – Development: Casey Cooke
- State Umpire – Communications: Jenelle Stafilis

“Congratulations to all on their appointments to the BV Umpiring Working Group,” Baseball Victoria CEO Chet Gray said. “After making great strides forward over the past couple of years, we are eager to continue strengthening our umpiring community through recruitment, education, and accreditation, and working together to ensure a bright future for baseball officials in Victoria.”

Victorian College Players

We wish all the best to the many Victorians chasing their dreams and playing college baseball overseas – check out the list [HERE](#). We appreciate your help as we look to keep our list updated – please let us know of any required additions or edits if there’s someone we missed. If you hear of any college commitments or achievements over the coming year, we would love to hear about them. Thank you!

Sydney to Host Five-Game U23 World Cup Qualifier vs Guam in November

Team Australia and Guam will compete at the 2025 Under 23 Men’s Baseball WBSC Oceania Championships with a spot in the 2026 U23 WBSC World Cup on the line.

From 6-9 November at Blacktown in New South Wales, Australia and Guam will duke it out in a best-of-five series. Our very own Will Hardy has made the roster after his success at the 2025 U18 World Cup, while Damian Shanahan is assistant coach. Read the full story [HERE](#).

[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.



[Get Active Kids Vouchers Program](#)

Round 9 of the Get Active Kids Voucher Program is now open. Families can [apply for vouchers](#) to get up to \$200 off a child's registration/membership fees and any included uniform and equipment. Many of our summer baseball clubs are registered with the program.

Applications close 13 November or earlier if the allocation is exhausted. Find out more [HERE](#).

[Club News: 2025 Baseball Victoria AGM](#)

All member clubs and associations have been sent the 2025 Baseball Victoria AGM Agenda. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 12 November at 7pm at the MSAC Champions Room for the AGM. Please refer to your email for further information.

[Club News: Baseball Australia Opens Expressions of Interest to Host National Tournaments in 2027](#)

Baseball Australia is inviting expressions of interest from clubs, associations, and venues across the country to host its suite of national tournaments in the 2027 season.

Each year, Baseball Australia delivers ten tournaments across seven national events that bring together the best emerging and elite talent from across the country, while also showcasing the depth of the grassroots game.

While 2026 tournament dates and venues have been determined, members of the community are encouraged to consider hosting a tournament in 2027 and beyond.

The tournaments open for hosting include:

- Australian Youth Championships (U18 and U16)
- Australian Women's Championships (Open and Youth)
- Senior League Championships
- Junior League Championships
- Intermediate League Championships
- Little League Championships
- Little League Girls and Little League Invitational

Expressions of interest (EOI) can be submitted [via this form](#) by 16 January 2026.

Club News: 25-26 Sports Infrastructure Fund

Sport and Recreation Victoria has opened applications for the 2025-26 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund. It supports communities to breathe new life into local sports grounds, sports courts, change rooms, play spaces, pavilions, sports lighting and more.

While only LGAs can apply, sporting clubs are encouraged to contact their LGAs to express interest, seek support, or be involved as a partner in applications. Read more [HERE](#).

Club News: BV Codes of Conduct & Behaviour Expectations

As a reminder to all clubs and members as the summer season gets underway, 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.

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: Little League T-Ball Club Registration

Thank you to all the clubs across summer and winter that have signed up for the new national Little League T-Ball program – we are up to over 40 clubs so far! There were some great programs through the winter, and we are excited for more during the summer.

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 with any questions or for more info.

Club News: BV Club Assist Resources for Volunteers

As a reminder, we encourage clubs to check out [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.



Baseball Training on BV TV

Check out all our [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. Feel free to share our [Let's Play Ball](#) video campaign, too!

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](#).

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.

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



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