

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 9 OCTOBER 2025
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: VSBL, BARCLAY CUP, UMPIRES, WELLBEING, AWC/AYWC STAFF, PIPELINE, EVENTS, COLLEGE, WPBL, PHOTOS, TRIBUNAL, UMPIRE, CLUB NEWS, BV TV, LIFEblood, SALESIAN, HONOUR ROLLS

2025/26 VSBL Season Kicks Off

The 2025/26 VSBL season got underway with senior and women's competitions over the weekend, followed by masters on Monday. Juniors hit the field this Sunday for their first games. We can't wait to see what the summer has in store, and we wish everyone the best of luck!

If you haven't registered yet, 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](#)



Photo: [Chelsea Baseball Club](#)

Vic Dingoes and Vic Hornets Represent at 2025 Barclay Cup

We are so proud of all our Vic Dingoes and Hornets at the 2025 Barclay Cup - what a week of baseball fun, team spirit and wonderful friendships! It was so great to see them compete alongside girls from across the country, making great baseball memories as the fourth annual junior girls tournament was held in Adelaide.

A special mention to our Spirit Award winners: Sarah Fielden and Paige Anders!

The Spirit Award is presented to one player from each team — a player that exemplifies what it means to be a great teammate and demonstrated inclusivity & sports-“woman”-ship throughout the tournament. Deb Barclay, the mother of Jacinda Barclay, presented the awards.

Catch up on all the action via the [Barclay Cup Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



Photo: [Barclay Cup](#)

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.”

2025 Baseball Victoria Umpire Seminar

A quick thank you to all the umpires and club members who attended the 2025 BV Umpires Seminar at Newport Baseball Club last month. It was a great success, with nearly 50 attendees and 11 new Community Umpire Course completions.

We look forward to seeing more beginner umpires get behind the plate this season, while others progress from Community to Association and State levels. Learn more about umpiring and explore accreditation options [HERE](#).

Baseball Victoria TMA Project Introduces VSBL Wellbeing and Safeguarding Leads

Baseball Victoria, in conjunction with Total Teams, will be delivering a 4-part workshop series for summer clubs, following a [successful pilot program](#) during the winter season.

This course is designed to **educate and motivate VSBL clubs** in all aspects of **wellbeing and safety**. By nominating a dedicated club representative to take part, your club will be equipped with the knowledge and resources to maintain a safe and supportive environment for all members.

Workshop sessions will be held on the Monday evenings of 13 October, 27 October, 17 November, and 8 December.

Please register your interest [HERE](#). You can also check out the [Wellbeing and Safeguarding Leads flyer](#) for more details and stay tuned for updates.



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 Damian Shanahan at damian.shanahan@baseballvictoria.com.au. Please click [HERE](#) to nominate by Friday 14 November.

BV Pipeline 2Ball + Coach Education

Pipeline 2Ball is back this October, focused on igniting passion and love of baseball. Held Mondays at Newport and Fridays at Waverley, 2Ball develops skills that scale in a fun and engaging environment.

Integrated on-field coach development offers a great opportunity for coaches to learn and strengthen their skills, too. Head to bvpipeline.com.au for more details and to register.



PIPELINE 2BALL + COACH EDUCATION

MONDAYS @ NEWPORT
6 - 27 OCTOBER
5.30 - 7.30PM
10 - 12 YEAR OLDS

FRIDAYS @ WAVERLEY
10 - 31 OCTOBER
5.30 - 7.30PM
11 - 13 YEAR OLDS

ALL SESSIONS OPEN TO ALL CLUBS/COACHES
COACHES ENCOURAGED TO JOIN PIPELINE STAFF ON FIELD

\$130 PER PLAYER

PLAYER BOOKINGS AT [BVPIPELINE.COM.AU](https://bvpipeline.com.au)

Baseball Australia Confirms National Championship Dates and Locations for 2026

Baseball Australia has announced the location and dates of the 2026 National Australian Baseball Championships. Each year, BA runs ten national tournaments for varying age groups.

The Australian Youth Championships (U16 and U18) and the Australian Women's Championships serve as Performance Pathways Events and are used in evaluation for national team selection, as well as for professional and college scouts.

The Little League, Junior League, Intermediate League, and Senior League Tournaments serve as part of the Little League International Pathway, with automatic entry into a World Series event in the USA designated to the winner.

There are a few changes from the 2025 calendar year: the Australian Youth Championships (AYC) move from Sydney to three clubs in Melbourne. The Senior League titles move from Geelong to Sydney.

Further, an [expression of interest](#) is now available to host for 2027 National Championships. Clubs and state associations from across the country can apply. For more information, [click here](#).

Read the full announcement [HERE](#).



2026 NATIONAL BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

TOURNAMENT	DATES	LOCATION
 UNDER 16 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (AYC)	JAN 7-13	ESSENDON, PRESTON AND PORT MELBOURNE
 UNDER 18 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (ATC)	JAN 9-15	ESSENDON, PRESTON AND PORT MELBOURNE
 AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS	APR 12-18	MELBOURNE (ALTONA)
 AUSTRALIAN YOUTH WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS	APR 14-18	MELBOURNE (ALTONA)
 SENIOR LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS	MAY 13-17	SYDNEY (BLACKTOWN)
 INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS	MAY 21-25	LISMORE
 JUNIOR LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS	MAY 21-25	LISMORE
 LITTLE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS	JUN 5-11	SYDNEY (BLACKTOWN)
 LITTLE LEAGUE INVITATIONAL	JUL 7-11	REDCLIFFE
 LITTLE LEAGUE GIRLS	JUL 7-11	REDCLIFFE

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!

Allie Bebbere Confirmed in the Inaugural Women's Pro League Draft

Congratulations to Allie Bebbere, one of eight Australians who made the cut in the Women's Professional Baseball League draft list.

Bebbere and Molly Paddison of Queensland were two of a handful of Aussies who travelled to Washington, DC in August to try out for the WPBL – an American women's professional competition starting in 2026. 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.



Tribunal Member Applications Open for 2025/26 VSBL Season

Baseball Victoria is looking for volunteers to serve on the VSBL Tribunal Panel for the 2025/26 VSBL season. The match review officer and tribunal members play a valuable role in ensuring a successful summer season and a fair and safe experience for all participants.

Tribunal members will hear appeal cases over player penalties and meet at most once a week. The number of cases varies each year depending on the games played and any player ejections during the competition. Tribunal cases have declined in recent years, marking a positive trend for our grassroots sport.

While we are seeking individuals with experience in tribunal and legal processes, this is not required when applying.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please keep in mind that in order to be successful with your application, you must:

- Have a clear understanding of the rules and processes while adhering to the Victorian Summer Baseball League rules and regulations, Baseball Victoria By-Laws and the rules of baseball.
- Be reliable and prepared to attend hearings on a weekly basis.
- Hold a high level of confidentiality.
- Provide feedback and assist in any further review in conjunction with the VSBL Pennant Committee.

Candidates should be confident in their proven abilities and experience in these areas. All interested individuals may apply [HERE](#).

Club News: Sandringham Marks Minute of Silence for Club Legend Barry Wonnacott

Sandringham Premier 1 and Reserve players marked one minute silence in memory of Club Legend Barry Wonnacott, who passed away in July.

Sandringham thanks Sunshine and the umpires for being part of the tribute. It was wonderful to see many supporters also in attendance.



Photo: [Sandringham Baseball Club](#)

Club News: Get Active Kids Vouchers Program

Round 9 of the Get Active Kids Voucher Program is opening at 10am, 15 October for voucher and reimbursement applications. The closing date for this round is 13 November, or earlier if the budget allocation is fully exhausted.

Eligible members can apply for a \$200 voucher to use until voucher expiry on 31 December 2025. If your members have already paid their fees, they can seek reimbursement for any fees paid from 1 July 2025 until the time of submitting their application. Click [HERE](#) to learn more with information for families and activity providers.

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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