

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS

DATE: 28 NOVEMBER 2025 FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA

SUBJECT: WOMEN'S ALL-STARS, WPBL DRAFT, BOARD, VSBL, AWC/AYWC,

HOF, MY SPORT LIVE, TEAM AUS, 2BALL, SSV, COLLEGE, PHOTOS,

CLUB NEWS, BV TV, LIFEBLOOD, SALESIAN, HONOUR ROLLS

This Weekend: Victorian Women's All-Stars Take On The Japan University Women's All-Stars in Historic Clash

For the first time in many years, a combined Japan University Women's All-Stars team is coming to Melbourne to give our Victorian Women's All-Stars an unprecedented opportunity to represent their state and take on quality opposition as part of preparation for the 2026 Australian Women's Championships in April.

The trip is a whirlwind tour spanning just one action-packed weekend, 29-30 November, featuring five games over two days at Newport Baseball and Port Melbourne Baseball Club, respectively. It's a fantastic opportunity to showcase Victoria's growth, particularly in the women and girls space.

"We are beyond excited to host the Japanese University All-Stars team and showcase some of the best women's baseball talent in Victoria," Baseball Victoria CEO Chet Gray said. "We are hoping this series inspires the next generation of players and provides a springboard into early 2026 where we are aiming to hold our first-ever all-girls competition."

Saturday 29 November (KC White Reserve, Newport)

• Game 1: 12pm

Ceremony: 3:30pm

Game 2: 4pm

Sunday 30 November (Kevin & Sandra Longstaff Field, Murphy Reserve, Port Melbourne)

• Game 1: 10am

Game 2: 12pm

• Game 3: 3:30pm

Read the full story **HERE**. Hope to see you there!



Allie Bebbere One of Nine Australians Selected in Women's Professional Baseball League Draft

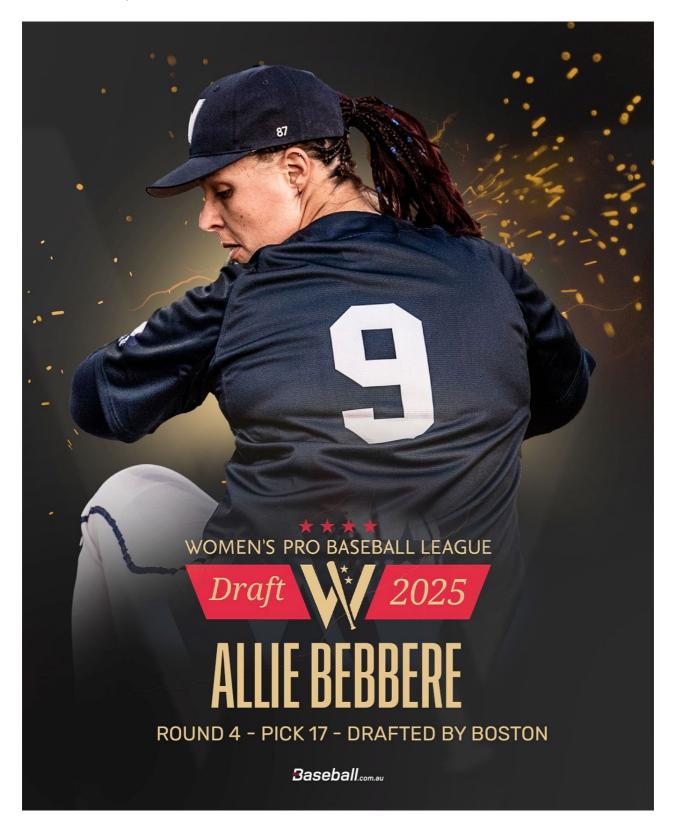
It's been a huge week for women's baseball, with all nine eligible Australians selected in the inaugural Women's Professional Baseball League (WPBL) draft.

The first professional baseball league in America is scheduled to begin in the American summer with a four-team competition featuring New York, Boston, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Our very own <u>Allie Bebbere</u>, a Victorian women's baseball superstar and Aussie Emerald, was drafted by Boston and celebrated alongside her Doncaster Dragons teammates at the club's draft party.

We are so proud of Allie - her determination and dedication are inspiring the next generation of women's baseball, and we can't wait to see what comes next. All of us in Victoria will be cheering you on!

Read the full story on <u>baseball.com.au</u>.



Baseball Victoria Board Update

The Baseball Victoria Board of Directors has several updates to share with our members as we wrap up another successful year and head into 2026.

Andy Rose has stepped down as President of Baseball Victoria after four years and Jennifer Pitson has stepped down as Vice President. Both will continue to serve as Board Directors for the remainder of their terms.

"It's been such an honour to serve as BV President. Thank you to the Victorian baseball community for allowing me this opportunity, and I'm pleased to stay involved on the Board," Andy said. "The BV Board and Office remain committed to building a bigger, brighter future for baseball across Victoria, and our strategic direction and operational priorities reflect our dream of growing the game."

The Board has elected Kerry Gassner to the role of President and Ben Stewart to the role of Vice President.

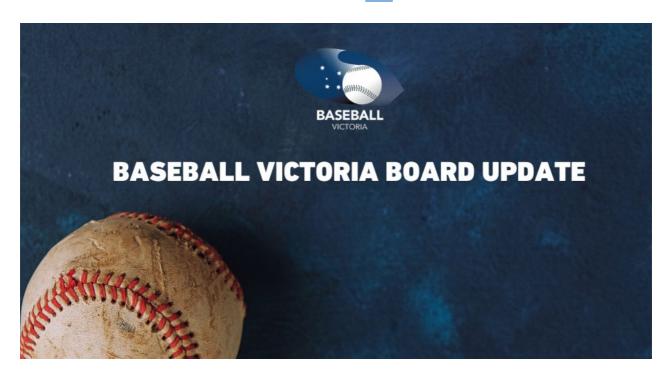
"I'm truly humbled to step into the role of President of Baseball Victoria. Having been a long-time part of our baseball community, our vision, alongside our incredibly talented Board and BV office team, is to strategically align all our people to create new opportunities for everyone who wants to be included within our game of baseball here in Victoria," Kerry said.

"And finally, a very big thank you to our departing President, Andy Rose for all his passion and dedication to baseball in Victoria work over the past four years."

The Board will continue to focus on the strategic objectives of Baseball Victoria to ensure the sport is in a strong position for the future.

"Our vision of <u>Baseball at its best</u> inspires us to elevate the game across Victoria. I'm excited to team up with the Victorian baseball community, Chet and the Board to drive our sport forward," Ben said.

Read more about the Baseball Victoria Board of Directors here.



2025/26 VSBL Season

The 2025/26 VSBL season is in full swing, and we hope everyone is having a blast out there on the field! It will be a busy few weeks leading up to the Christmas break, and we wish all juniors and seniors the best of luck as summer baseball continues.

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

Don't forget to check out <u>VSBL Fixtures/Results</u>.

2026 Victorian Women's & Youth Women's State Team Tryouts Registration

As a reminder, tryout registration is now open for the Victorian Women's and Youth Women's State Teams ahead of the 2026 Australian Championships, which will return to Melbourne Ballpark next April.

Tryouts will be held at Melbourne Ballpark on the following dates:

- Sunday 7 December 9am-12pm (all players)
- Wednesday 10 December 6pm-9pm (pitchers and catchers only)
- Sunday 14 December 9am-12pm

Please note that no club, state, charter, or private academy clothing is to be worn at trials.

Following the selection process, a training program will commence in February, leading up to the Australian Women's & Youth Women's Championships. The AWC will run from 12-18 April and the AYWC (U16) is set for 14-18 April.

Please click **HERE** to register for tryouts.



Baseball Victoria Hall of Fame Nominations - Closing Soon!

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 <u>Hall of Fame</u> 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 are available as <u>Word</u> and <u>PDF documents</u>. Nominations are due by Sunday 30 November and should be sent to <u>chet.gray@baseballvictoria.com.au</u>



Baseball Victoria and My Sport Live Continue Diamond Partnership and VSBL Finals Livestream

Baseball Victoria is excited to announce My Sport Live has renewed its <u>BV Diamond Partnership</u> at the Home Run level and will serve as our official streaming partner for the 2025/26 and 2026/27 VSBL Grand Finals.

My Sport Live will also stream two games of the Women's All-Stars Series between Victoria and the visiting Japan University team this weekend.

"We are thrilled to continue our long-standing partnership with Baseball Victoria, bringing grassroots baseball to the screen and showcasing impressive talent and teamwork," My Sport Live Managing Director Andrew Weiss said. "We look forward to kicking things off with an international women's baseball showcase this weekend and streaming finals later this summer."

Baseball Victoria appreciates the ongoing support of My Sport Live, a sports broadcasting and live event coverage company based in Melbourne and servicing events nationwide.

"Thank you to My Sport Live for all their streaming support over the years. We are pleased to continue our strong partnership and share some truly thrilling moments in our game with supporters across the state, country, and beyond who appreciate the opportunity to watch wherever they are via livestream," BV CEO Chet Gray added.

Head to www.mysportlive.tv to learn more.

Team Australia Heads to U15 Baseball World Cup Qualifiers in Guam

In case you missed it, it's time for Team Australia to hit the field for the 2025 U15 Baseball World Cup Oceania Qualifier in Hagatna, Guam, from 28 November to 1 December.

Australia, Guam, and Northern Mariana Islands will compete in a triple round robin, meaning each team plays each other three times. The team that finishes top of the group will be declared U15 Oceania Champions and qualify for next year's World Cup in Italy.

Best of luck to Victorians Bodhi Evans, Jacob Tayler, Edison Bush, Cale Morris, and Cruize Chase as they wear the Green and Gold. Our very own Keli'i Zablan joins them as assistant coach.

Stay tuned to Team Australia Baseball and follow along on the WBSC Oceania website.



December BV Pipeline 2Ball

Pipeline 2Ball is back next month, focused on igniting passion and love of baseball. U12 and U14 sessions are set for Friday 5 and 12 December at Cheltenham Rustlers Baseball Club. 2Ball develops skills that scale in a fun and engaging environment. Head to bypipeline.com.au for more details and to register.



DECEMBER 2025 PIPELINE 2BALL



VENUE: CHELTENHAM BASEBALL CLUB \$150 PER PLAYER (COVERS BOTH SESSIONS)

U12 (60FT BASES) AGES 10-12

FRI 5 & 12 DECEMBER 5.00 - 6.30 PM

U14 (80FT BASES) AGES 12 - 14

FRI 5 & 12 DECEMBER 6.30 - 8.00 PM

INFO AND BOOKINGS AT BYPIPELINE.COM.AU

Victorian School Sports Awards Nominations Closing Soon

Nominations for the Victorian School Sports Awards (VSSA) delivered by School Sport Victoria close this Sunday, 30 November 2025.

The VSSA recognise the outstanding sporting performances of students, teachers, schools, and community members from Government primary and secondary schools each year.

If you know someone who has excelled in performance, shown exceptional leadership, or contributed significantly to school sport throughout 2025, please submit a nomination via the <u>Victorian School Sports</u> Awards page.

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 know of any college commitments or achievements over the coming year, we would love to hear about them. Thank you!

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.

Club News: BV Umpiring Working Group Newsletter

The BV Umpiring Working Group has published their <u>next newsletter</u>, with plenty of fantastic information and resources for clubs and umpires. This is a great way to get to know our umpiring leaders better and read about rules and upcoming opportunities. Click <u>HERE</u> to view.

Thank you to all our umpires this summer season – we greatly appreciate your efforts!



All-umpire meeting at Melbourne Baseball Club

Club News: Inclusion Consultation Survey

Creating safe, inclusive and welcoming spaces is a high priority for Baseball Victoria, and as part of this work, we have partnered with not-for-profit organisation 'Proud2Play' (P2P) who are leaders in the LGBTQIA+ sports/active recreation space.

We are currently participating the in the P2P Rainbow Roadmap program, designed to support sporting organisations to create authentic culture change around inclusion. This process includes assessment of all relevant policies, assets and activities (online and on site) related to LGBTQIA+ and inclusion more broadly where possible.

The next step in this journey is to consult with our members to understand their unique perspectives on what we do well in this space, and where there is room for improvement. We are looking for honest experiences of our administration and clubs.

The survey is completely anonymous and open until Friday 21 December - please access it here: <u>Baseball Victoria Inclusion Consultation Survey</u>

You may view frequently asked questions about the survey **HERE**.

Club News: Container Deposit Scheme

Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme is a new way for clubs to fundraise, with more than five million containers returned by sporting clubs since the scheme launched. That's over \$500,000 back with clubs.

If your club is keen to get involved, sign up as a donation partner: <u>Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme | Fundraising For Charities And Community Groups</u>

Club News: Share Your Thoughts on VSBL Club Wellbeing and Safety - SPACES Compass Survey

As part of our ongoing Wellbeing and Safeguarding Project with Total Teams, the <u>SPACES Compass Survey</u> is now live, and we encourage all VSBL members to share their experiences. This feedback is essential to helping our clubs and Baseball Victoria make the sport safer, stronger, and more connected for everyone.

The survey will be open through Thursday 11 December, and the feedback will be used to help VSBL Wellbeing and Safeguarding Leads evaluate the current club environment and areas to focus on to ensure safe and well baseball clubs.

Please click <u>HERE</u> to access the survey, which is open to all participants (players, coaches, umpires, scorers, volunteers). Thank you in advance for sharing your feedback and helping us build a brighter future for everyone in baseball!



Club News: Pride Cup x Movember Grants

Is your baseball club interested in hosting a Pride Game?

Sport has the power to change culture, so <u>Pride Cup</u> and <u>Movember</u> are partnering to support 15 men's teams across Australia to host their first Pride Cup. Together, we'll spark real conversations with young men and their teammates about respect, belonging and inclusion, creating more inclusive sporting environments.

Successful clubs will get:

- Up to \$1000 in funding for men's competitions to host a Pride Round
- Inclusion education for players and staff
- Event planning support and promotion

Apply now: pridecup.org.au/movember-x-pride-cup/



Club News: Baseball Australia 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: 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 to see more throughout the summer season.

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 <u>Little League T-Ball Sign Up Form</u>. Email <u>competitions@baseballvictoria.com.au</u> with any questions or for more info.

Club News: BV Codes of Conduct & Behaviour Expectations

As a reminder to all clubs and members as the summer season continues, 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 <u>Codes of Conduct on our website</u> 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 <u>Working with Children Check</u> 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 <u>11 Child Safe Sport Modules</u>.

Club News: BV Club Assist Resources for Volunteers

As a reminder, we encourage clubs to check out <u>BV Club Assist</u>, 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 <u>BV TV</u> videos, including <u>Ramp Up to Play</u> and <u>Top Throwing Drills</u>. Follow us on <u>Instagram</u> and <u>TikTok</u> for more fun drills and behind the scenes. Feel free to share our <u>Let's Play Ball</u> 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, 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









































