

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 6 NOVEMBER 2025
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: VSBL, LL STAFF, AWC/AYWC STAFF, HOF, U23 WORLD CUP, COLLEGE, SPORTING SCHOOLS, VOUCHERS, PHOTOS, CLUB NEWS, BV TV, LIFEBLOOD, SALESIAN, HONOUR ROLLS

2025/26 VSBL Season

We are one month into the 2025/26 VSBL season, and off to a fantastic start! Thank you to all our clubs and volunteers for making grassroots baseball possible across seniors, juniors, women's and masters – we look forward to an awesome summer ahead.

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](#)

Don't forget to check out [VSBL Fixtures/Results](#).



Photo: Keir Suggett – [Newport Rams Baseball Club](#)

2026 Little League State Championship Staff Applications Now Open

Baseball Victoria is now accepting applications for 2026 Little League State Championship staff, including head coach, assistant coach, and executive officer positions.

Dates and locations for the 2026 Charter Tournaments are as follows:

- Junior and Senior League (SL80 and SL90) at the Geelong Baseball Complex from Saturday 11 April to Monday 13 April
- Little League Intermediate (SL70), Major and Invitational (LL Minor) together with Little League Minor (Coach Pitch) at Knox Baseball Club from Friday 17 April to Sunday 19 April

Charter coaches and EO's can submit interest [HERE](#) – please nominate by Thursday 13 November.

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.

Will Hardy Commits to Weatherford College After Huge Year

A huge congratulations to Will Hardy on his commitment to Weatherford College! Will, a BV Performance Pathway and Victorian State Team representative, is heading to college in Texas.

The Newport Rams 18-year-old infielder represented Team Australia at the 2025 U18 World Cup, on the MLB International Team, and with the Melbourne Aces in Korea.

Will thanks his baseball community for all the guidance and support: "Every single player and coach who has been part of my journey, I just want to say thank you to everyone who has helped me along the way."

Read the full story [HERE](#).



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.



Sydney Hosts Five-Game U23 World Cup Qualifier vs Guam

Team Australia and Guam are competing at the 2025 Under 23 Men's Baseball WBSC Oceania Championships with a spot in the 2026 U23 WBSC World Cup on the line. It's a best-of-five series from 6-9 November at Blacktown in New South Wales.

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](#).

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!

Choose Baseball - 2026 Sporting Schools Term 1 Bookings Now Open

Sporting Schools bookings for Term 1, 2026 are now open and schools statewide are invited to get involved with baseball programs next year:

- **Baseball15** is a new fast-paced, urban version, of the game requiring no dedicated infrastructure and only requiring a ball.
- **Aussie T-Ball** is a modified version of baseball designed to introduce students of all abilities to the game.

To learn more, please visit ausport.gov.au/schools.

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](#).

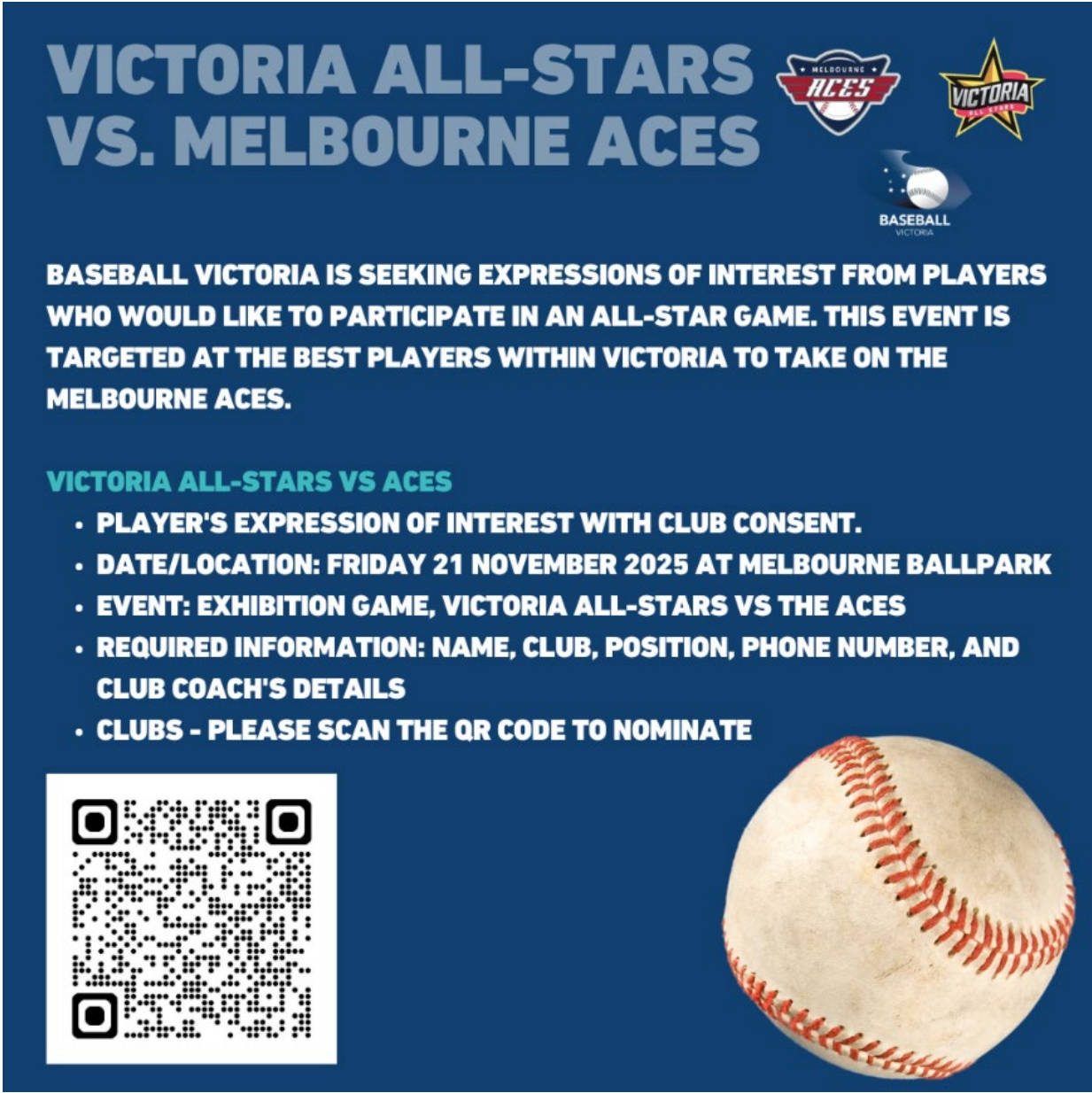
Field of View Sports Photography Gallery

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: Victoria All-Stars vs. Melbourne Aces

Baseball Victoria is seeking expressions of interest from players who would like to participate in an All-Star game. This event is targeted at the best players within Victoria to take on the Melbourne Aces in a Friday night exhibition game on 21 November at Melbourne Ballpark.

Please click [HERE](#) to nominate players from your club for the Victoria All-Stars.

A blue poster for the Victoria All-Stars vs. Melbourne Aces event. At the top, the title "VICTORIA ALL-STARS VS. MELBOURNE ACES" is written in large, bold, white letters. To the right of the title are the logos for the Melbourne Aces (a red and white shield with "MELBOURNE ACES" text) and the Victoria All-Stars (a yellow star with "VICTORIA ALL-STARS" text). Below these logos is the Baseball Victoria logo, which features a baseball and the text "BASEBALL VICTORIA". The main text of the poster, in white, reads: "BASEBALL VICTORIA IS SEEKING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM PLAYERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN AN ALL-STAR GAME. THIS EVENT IS TARGETED AT THE BEST PLAYERS WITHIN VICTORIA TO TAKE ON THE MELBOURNE ACES." Below this, the title "VICTORIA ALL-STARS VS ACES" is written in green. A list of requirements follows in white: "• PLAYER'S EXPRESSION OF INTEREST WITH CLUB CONSENT.", "• DATE/LOCATION: FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2025 AT MELBOURNE BALLPARK", "• EVENT: EXHIBITION GAME, VICTORIA ALL-STARS VS THE ACES", "• REQUIRED INFORMATION: NAME, CLUB, POSITION, PHONE NUMBER, AND CLUB COACH'S DETAILS", and "• CLUBS - PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE TO NOMINATE". At the bottom left is a QR code, and at the bottom right is a large image of a baseball with red stitching.

Club News: BV Umpiring Working Group Newsletter

The BV Umpiring Working Group has published a fantastic newsletter with a lot of great information for clubs and umpires. You can get to know some of our umpiring leaders better and read about rules and upcoming opportunities. Click [HERE](#) to view.

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 in the MSAC Champions Room for the AGM. Please refer to your email for further information.

You can view the 2024/25 Annual Report [HERE](#).

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: 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 this 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 [Little League T-Ball Sign Up Form](#). Email competitions@baseballvictoria.com.au 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 [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: 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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