

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 11 DECEMBER 2025
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: U18 DEVELOPMENT, VSBL, PATHWAY, AYC, TEAM AUS, COLLEGE, CLUB NEWS, BV TV, LIFEBLOOD, SALESIAN, HONOUR ROLLS

Victorian Under 18 Development Squad Gears Up for Taiwan Trip

The Victorian Under 18 Development Squad received their caps at Melbourne Ballpark before the Aces game on Friday 28 November. After weeks of dedicated training, these baseballers 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.

Good luck everyone – we can't wait to cheer you on! [Head to our website](#) to read more about the squad.



2025/26 VSBL Season

We are wrapping up summer baseball for 2025 next weekend, and hope everyone has a fantastic break. Well done on a fantastic season so far and thank you to all our clubs and volunteers for making it possible!

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](#) and follow the [VSBL Facebook page](#) for the latest updates.



Photo: [Williamstown Wolves Baseball Club](#)

BV Performance Pathway Athletes Debut With Melbourne Aces

In case you missed it, the Melbourne Aces enjoyed great success during the Southern Stars & Stripes Shield series at the end of November, and six young Victorians made their debut on home turf.

Congratulations to Addison Bishop-Worn, Will Hardy, Jordan Ellis, Riley Peoples, Liam Puncher, and Jake Bertucci on their excellent performances, which you can read about [HERE](#).

It's fantastic to see the latest wave of BV Performance Pathway athletes getting their opportunity to play with the Aces - and making an impact on both sides of the ball.

Victorian Government to Support Australian Youth Championships for Next Three Years

The Victorian Government has thrown its support behind Australia's premier youth baseball tournament, securing the Australian Youth Championships (AYC) in Melbourne for the next three years.

The AYC features two marquee national titles – the Under 16 and Under 18 divisions – and serves as the nation's leading Performance Pathways event, where emerging baseball talent showcase their skills in front of more than 15 Major League Baseball scouts and college recruiters each year.

From 2026 through 2028, fourteen teams across both divisions will compete at a tournament in Melbourne, continuing the city's legacy as one of the greatest sporting capitals in the world. This January, the tournament will be held at Essendon, Preston and Port Melbourne Baseball Clubs.

Click [HERE](#) to read the full announcement.



2026 Australian Youth Championship Fixture Revealed

The schedule for U16 and U18 divisions of the 2026 Australian Youth Championships (AYC) has been revealed. Head to baseball.com.au for all the details and mark your calendar to head down to one of our local host clubs – Essendon, Preston and Port Melbourne – to watch the AYC action live.



Team Australia Wins U15 Baseball World Cup Qualifier in Guam

Team Australia finished the U15 Oceania Championships undefeated, officially qualifying for next year's World Cup after an epic trip to Guam. Victorians Bodhi Evans, Jacob Tayler, Edison Bush, Cale Morris, and Cruise Chase were joined by assistant coach Keli'i Zablan for the successful series, which saw Australia compete against Guam and Northern Mariana Islands in a triple round robin. Catch up on all the recaps [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!

Thank You BV Diamond Partners

A huge thank you to all our [BV Diamond Partners](#) for their support in 2025. We acknowledge and appreciate the support of the [Victorian Government](#), [Baseball Australia](#), [School Sport Victoria](#), [Ausport](#), [Maribyrnong Sports Academy Baseball](#), [Salesian College Sports Academy](#), [SportsLink Travel](#), [NASA Wear](#), [Field of View Sports Photography](#), [Aces Sporting Club](#), [Symmetry Physiotherapy](#), [Bazooka Sports](#), [Greatrex Sporting Goods](#), [My Sport Live](#), [Northern Sports & Remedial Myotherapy](#), [Wyndham City Council](#), [Online Strength Coaching](#), [CMD Sports](#), [EcoGroup](#), and [HRplus](#).

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), a leader in the LGBTQIA+ sports/active recreation space.

We are currently participating 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: [Baseball Victoria Inclusion Consultation Survey](#)

You may view frequently asked questions about the survey [HERE](#).




We want BV to be a safe space for the LGBTQIA+ community

What has been your experience with us?



We value your ideas and feedback!

Share your thoughts in this short member survey.



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: [Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme | Fundraising For Charities And Community Groups](#)

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 [SPACES Compass Survey](#) 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 end-of-day on 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.

If you haven't done so already, please click [HERE](#) to access the survey today, 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!



VICTORIAN Summer Baseball League

TOTAL TEAMS

WELLBEING AND SAFEGUARDING PROJECT: SPACES COMPASS SURVEY

PLEASE SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON YOUR CLUB EXPERIENCE TO HELP US HELP CREATE A SAFER AND STRONGER BASEBALL COMMUNITY. SCAN THE QR CODE TO GET STARTED.



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.

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 [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, 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 for 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

