

## INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS  
DATE: 18 DECEMBER 2025  
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA  
SUBJECT: HOLIDAYS, U18 DEVELOPMENT, VSBL, BARKY, ACES, PARTNERS, AYC, CLUB NEWS, BV TV, LIFELOOD, SALESIAN, HONOUR ROLLS

### Happy Holidays From Baseball Victoria

As we close out 2025, we wish to thank every single person involved in Victorian baseball. Players, coaches, umpires, scorers, groundskeepers, club volunteers, and supporters make our beloved game possible, and we are so thankful for your support during another awesome year. We continue to make strides forward for the grassroots sport we all love, and we can't wait to see what 2026 has in store.

Please note the Baseball Victoria Office will be closed for the holidays from Saturday, 20 December 2025 and reopening on Monday, 5 January 2026. For urgent enquiries, please contact BV CEO Chet Gray via email: [chet.gray@baseballvictoria.com.au](mailto:chet.gray@baseballvictoria.com.au).

We wish everyone a safe festive season and a happy new year – see you back on the diamond soon!



## Victorian Under 18 Development Squad Taiwan Trip

In case you missed it, the Victorian Under 18 Development Squad is having an awesome week in Taiwan, competing in the New Taipei City International U18 Baseball Invitational Tournament through 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.

Keep up the great work everyone! [Head to our website](#) to read more about the squad.



## 2025/26 VSBL Season

One more weekend to go for summer baseball this year! Well done on a fantastic season so far and thank you to all our clubs and volunteers for making it possible. We hope everyone has a great break and we will be back to baseball in mid-January.

As a reminder, 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.

## 24 Hours for Barky: Behind the 24-Hour Baseball Game in Australia for a Great Cause

Jacinda 'Barky' Barclay left a huge mark on the sporting community, particularly her friends and teammates at Springvale Baseball Club. To honour her legacy and raise awareness for mental health, the club partnered with Beyond Blue, turning 15 November into a signature day for the Lions.

Beyond Blue is a charity that provides support for people experiencing mental health challenges. The event promotes people to speak up, showing them that they are not alone.

Over the past six years the club has raised just over \$22,000, with all proceeds going to Beyond Blue. This year, they took their efforts to new heights with a 24-hour baseball game at Melbourne Ballpark. Read the full story on [baseball.com.au](http://baseball.com.au).



### **Melbourne Aces Win Continental Cup With Standout Victorian Performances**

Melbourne Aces continued the 2025/26 International Baseball Showdown at Melbourne Ballpark this past weekend, winning two out of three against the Killer B's in the Continental Cup. Check out the full recap of how local Victorians performed over the weekend alongside their Aces teammates on [melbourneaces.com.au](http://melbourneaces.com.au).

### **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](#).

### **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](http://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 from 7-15 January.



## **Club News: Baseball Australia Call for AYC Ground Announcers**

In 2026, Baseball Australia is focused on further elevating the standard and experience of national events. With three outstanding diamonds in Melbourne hosting the Australian Youth Championships (AYC), Baseball Australia will be publishing daily news articles and livestreaming more than 50% of all games with commentary.

All games at Port Melbourne and 24 of the 28 games at Essendon will be broadcast with full commentary. To complement this coverage and enhance the on-site experience, Baseball Australia would also like to introduce ground announcing at Preston games to help lift the atmosphere and engagement for players, families, and spectators. They are seeking the support of our community to help fulfil this position and contribute to making the 2026 AYC a high-quality and memorable event for all involved.

Baseball Australia will provide all required equipment, a prime shaded viewing position, a per diem, and a simple script. Please note that ground announcing is not commentary. The role involves announcing batters as they come to the plate and playing music between innings from a Baseball Australia Spotify playlist. Announcers must remain neutral and should not call plays, cheer, or show bias.

Individuals may choose which games they wish to assist with, with no minimum or maximum commitment. Please click [HERE](#) to read more about this opportunity and contact Jordan (Baseball Australia: Growth and Events Coordinator) to express your interest: [Jordan.smith@baseball.com.au](mailto:Jordan.smith@baseball.com.au).

## **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: 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: 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 Sunday 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: 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! We look forward to seeing more kids hitting the field and enjoying a fun sport with new friends.

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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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



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