

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 4 DECEMBER 2025
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: WOMEN'S ALL-STARs, WPBL, U18 DEVELOPMENT, VSBL, 2BALL, AWC/AYWC, BOARD, AYC, MY SPORT LIVE, U15 WC, COLLEGE, FOV, CLUB NEWS, BV TV, LIFEBLOOD, SALESIAN, HONOUR ROLLS

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

What a fantastic weekend of women's baseball – a huge thank you to Newport Rams Baseball Club and Port Melbourne Mariners Baseball Club for hosting the Victorian Women's All-Stars vs. Japan University Women's All-Stars Series.

We made the most of Melbourne weather and enjoyed a fantastic weekend with exciting competition and great teamwork. We appreciate our friends from the Women's Baseball Federation of Japan who made this series possible and travelled to Melbourne. We also acknowledge the support of Baseball Australia.

A huge shout-out to all the players, coaches, umpires, groundskeepers, volunteers, and supporters who brought the series to life. The future is bright for women's baseball, and we can't wait to see what comes next.

You can rewatch the Day 1 livestreams [HERE](#) and check out the [Star Weekly Sport](#) recap.



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

In case you missed it, all nine eligible Australians were selected in last month's inaugural Women's Professional Baseball League (WPBL) draft.

The first professional women's baseball league in the US 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 [Allie Bebbere](#), 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 baseball.com.au.

P.S. The Victorian Women's All-Stars vs. Japan University Women's All-Stars Series featured four of the WPBL draftees with Allie playing alongside LA-bound Caitlin Eynon and Leah Cornish, plus Maddison Erwin who is headed to New York.



Victorian Under 18 Development Squad Cap Presentation Ahead of Taiwan Trip

The Victorian Under 18 Development Squad received their caps on Friday night at Melbourne Ballpark before the Aces game. 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!



BV Performance Pathway Athletes Debut With Melbourne Aces

Speaking of Melbourne Aces, the Southern Stars & Stripes Shield series was a big success this past weekend, 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.

2025/26 VSBL Season

The 2025/26 VSBL season is heating up, and we hope everyone is having a blast out there on the field! Good luck to all in these busy last few weeks leading up to the Christmas break. If you see any outstanding performances over the weekend, please consider submitting a nomination for VSBL Player of the Week Awards:

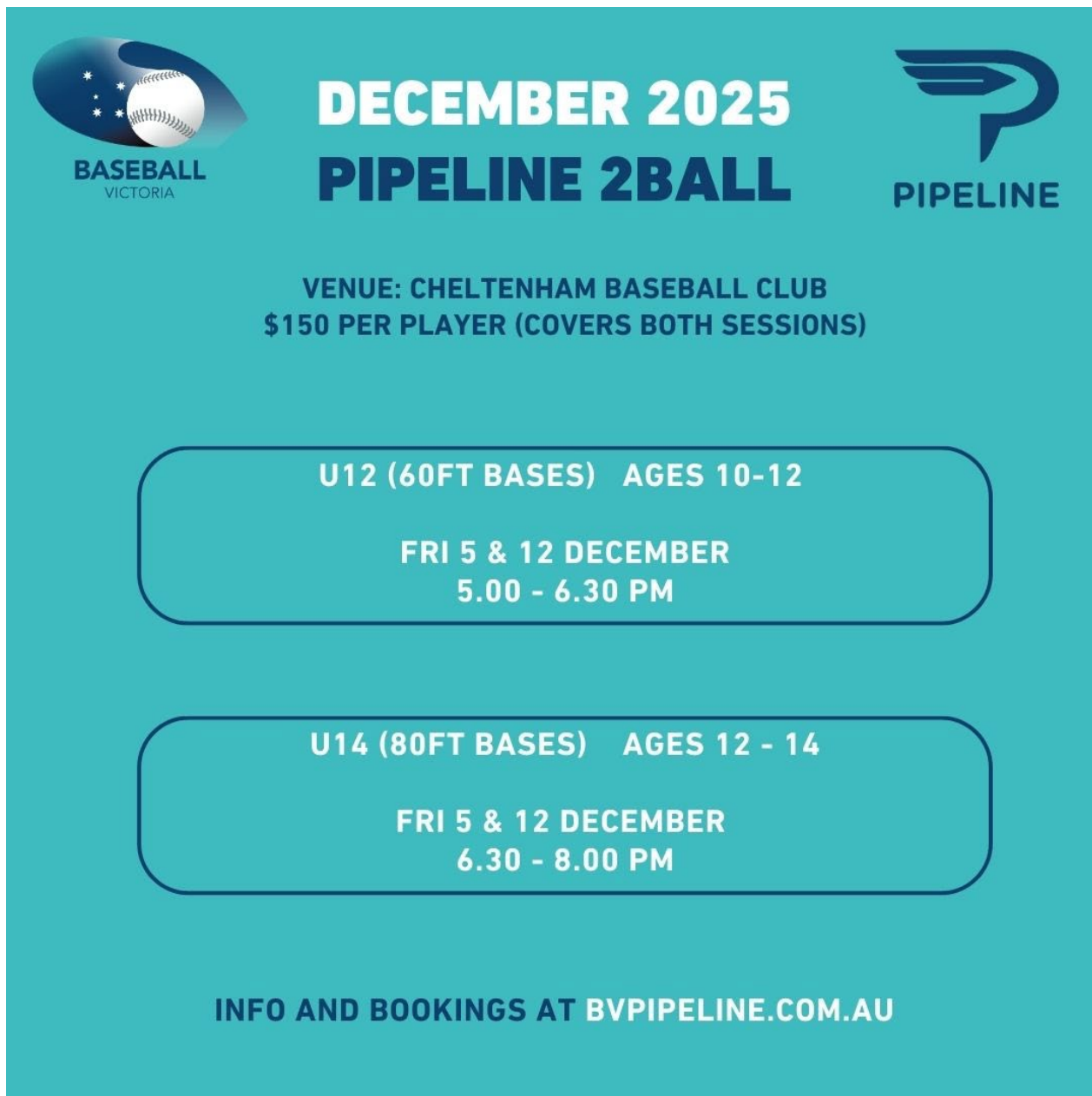
- [Senior Player of the Week](#)
- [Junior Player of the Week](#)
- [Aces Sporting Club Women's Batter of the Week](#)
- [Aces Sporting Club Women's Pitcher of the Week](#)

Don't forget to check out [VSBL Fixtures/Results](#) and follow the [VSBL Facebook page](#) for the latest updates.

December BV Pipeline 2Ball

Pipeline 2Ball is back this 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 bvpipeline.com.au for more details and to register.

A teal-colored promotional graphic for the December 2025 Pipeline 2Ball event. At the top left is the 'BASEBALL VICTORIA' logo featuring a baseball and stars. At the top right is the 'PIPELINE' logo featuring a stylized winged 'P'. The main title 'DECEMBER 2025 PIPELINE 2BALL' is centered in large, bold, white and dark blue text. Below the title, the venue 'VENUE: CHELTENHAM BASEBALL CLUB' and the fee '\$150 PER PLAYER (COVERS BOTH SESSIONS)' are listed in dark blue. Two rounded rectangular boxes contain session details: the first for 'U12 (60FT BASES) AGES 10-12' with dates 'FRI 5 & 12 DECEMBER' and time '5.00 - 6.30 PM'; the second for 'U14 (80FT BASES) AGES 12 - 14' with dates 'FRI 5 & 12 DECEMBER' and time '6.30 - 8.00 PM'. At the bottom, the text 'INFO AND BOOKINGS AT BVPIPELINE.COM.AU' is displayed in dark blue.

BASEBALL VICTORIA

**DECEMBER 2025
PIPELINE 2BALL**

PIPELINE

**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 BVPIPELINE.COM.AU

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

As a reminder, tryout registration is closing soon 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 14-18 April.

Please click [HERE](#) to register for tryouts.



VICTORIAN WOMEN'S & YOUTH WOMEN'S STATE TEAM TRYOUT REGISTRATION

**TRYOUTS START 7 DEC
REGISTER VIA QR CODE**

DEC 2025 - TRYOUTS
FEB & MAR 2026 - TRAINING
12-18 APRIL 2026 - AWC
14-18 APRIL 2026 - AYWC



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 **Baseball at its best** 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](#).



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 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.



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

In case you missed it, My Sport Live has renewed its [BV Diamond Partnership](#) at the Home Run level and will serve as our official streaming partner for the 2025/26 and 2026/27 VSBL Grand Finals.

“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.

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 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 Cruize 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.

Congrats to the Aussies and well done to all involved in the qualifier. 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!

[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: Preston Pirates Celebrate 800+ Games for Ian Cross](#)

On 22 November, Ian Cross reached an incredible [Preston Pirates](#) milestone – 802 games with the club! He has thrown an estimated 30,000 pitches for the Pirates since starting in 1979.

When you add in his winter baseball career, Ian has played over 1,500 games and thrown around 60,000 pitches.

Now in his 46th summer season, Ian was joined by past and present players and supporters, who cheered as he was presented with a special trophy from the club honouring his impressive achievement.

Congrats Ian!



Photo: [Preston Pirates Baseball Club](#)

[Club News: BV Umpiring Working Group Newsletter](#)

In case you missed it, the BV Umpiring Working Group recently published their [next newsletter](#), 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 [HERE](#) 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), 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](#).

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 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 [HERE](#) 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: 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 [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 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

