



The Pitch



This Month

O'Sullivan Sisters
Bag Medals at
Japan Women's
Tournament

Australia Scores
Best-Ever Finish at
U12 World Cup

Baseball NSW
Announces 2025
Sydney Cup

Sydney Blue Sox to
Join ABL Season
2025/26

Trials Now Open for
2026 Australian Youth
Championships

Recognising Hard Work BNSW Monthly Award Winners



Umpiring

Cornell Kane

Holroyd Giants Baseball

Cornell consistently helps out teams when there is no umpire available, even if it means he doesn't get to play a game himself. On top of that he runs the club with his wife Tracy and runs juniors. It takes a selfless, baseball-loving man to do all that.

Coach

Troy Carroll

MacKillop Baseball Club

Troy is an outstanding coach who inspires players from U4s to seniors. As MacKillop's head coach, he creates fun, inclusive learning while teaching skills at every level. He leads club-wide training, try baseball days, and coaches juniors and reps. His passion and dedication make him truly deserving of Volunteer of the Month.



[Click here](#) to vote for someone in your club who deserves recognition.

BNSW Game Day Pics 2025 August entries



Photo by Matt Jones – ‘Mean Mugging in the Batters’ Box.’



Photo by Jill Archer – ‘Welcome to Lake Kelso.’



Photo by Erin Devetak – ‘For the love of the game.’



Photo by Carla Warren – ‘Wagga Jackals.’

Congratulations to the BNSW Monthly award winners!

Congratulations to this month's Volunteers of the Month winners! Thank you to all your hard work in making sure our games and activities run smoothly every time! BNSW would also like to thank the nominators who handed in their nominations.

You can submit someone you know who's doing a great job via the link below!

[To vote for someone who deserves recognition CLICK HERE](#)

August Game Day Photo Winner

Congratulations to our #NSWGameDayPic winner from Matt Jones. 'Mean Mugging in the Batters' Box.'

Entries are now open for next month's #BNSWGameDayPics. Send in your favourite photo through Facebook Inbox to be in with a chance to win!



Photo by Matt Jones – 'Mean Mugging in the Batters' Box.'

From the Baseball NSW Office

To our Baseball NSW Community

I am very excited to have joined Baseball NSW and to support the important work happening across our associations, clubs and programs. I want to start by saying thank you to all who have extended a warm and positive welcome. With preparations underway for the new season, it's encouraging to see the focus on supporting players, coaches, and volunteers, while strengthening pathways and experiences across the sport.

Member Services

The registration portal has been successfully launched as of 1 July 2025, with 32 clubs participating in the online training sessions provided. Registrations are tracking well slightly higher compared to the same time last year, a reflection of the strong engagement from our clubs and members. Work is underway to update the coaching portal and processes, including the rollout of accreditation certificates expected in October.



Matt Rippon
Baseball NSW, Chief Executive Officer

Participation & Partnerships

Engagement through Sporting Schools remains strong, with positive uptake across August and September. There has been a clear focus on working with clubs on ideas to help with growth, whether it be working in the OOSH or pre-school environments. Club marketing and supporting ideas in the local community have also been a focus, such as the work done to help build the Canterbury Baseball Club that has been a senior club since 1927, and now starting to build a junior base utilising the Play Well Program.

From the Baseball NSW Office. cont.

Competitions & Tournaments

Momentum from last year's Sydney Cup continues, with seven tournament divisions and 45 teams, including two female-only Gaynor Cup divisions (U12 and U15). The NSW State League Under-18 competition now allows metal bats, aligning with national and international pathways and supporting players aiming for collegiate opportunities in the U.S. The NSW Women's League Pink Round will be held at BISP on 6 December, featuring all 1st and 2nd Grade games, and culminating in a marquee 1st Grade match between Ryde and Blacktown at 5:30 PM following the community raffle presentation.

High Performance & Pathways

Our high performance and pathway programs are delivering exciting outcomes. Barclay Cup trials have been completed, and the Australian representative squad has progressed through training, with eight players selected for the U18 World Cup. Additionally, registrations for Baseball NSW's, RBI, and Sydney Blue Sox school holiday camps are now open, offering an exciting development opportunity for players over the upcoming school break. Congratulations also to our Little League Girls team on a successful tour to Redcliffe, winning Gold, and to the 19 coaches who recently achieved Level C accreditation.

Communications & Engagement

We continue to enhance how we connect with our community. Website improvements, including a new "Find a Team" feature seeks to down the way people can search for local clubs and associations, either via the BNSW Website or through the Baseball Australia Club Finder. Our social media channels and direct communications to clubs and associations are seeing strong engagement, with nearly a 50% increase in link clicks on social this month alone and consistent 50-60% open rate on all EDM's sent. We are excited to continue rolling out content highlighting competitions, pathways, and opportunities to get involved in baseball across NSW. This is our callout to our members to partner with us in sharing all baseball's positive stories around the diamonds.

Looking Ahead

As we head into the new season, I'm excited for the opportunities ahead to connect with our members, clubs, and communities. I encourage everyone to get involved whether as a player, volunteer, coach, or supporter, as we focus on providing high-quality opportunities for all. This is amplified in our "You Belong" campaign, designed to share the message that baseball is a game for everyone. Thank you for your ongoing support, and I look forward to seeing you around the grounds soon!

~ Matt Rippon – BNSW CEO

Club Corner

**Baseball NSW congratulates
all clubs and associations
for hosting their Try Baseball
Days for July and August!**

Your efforts to attract more players
to our beautiful sport every year
should be applauded.

**For further info about Try Baseball,
please visit the Play Baseball page
on the BNSW website [here](#).**



Vale

John Barlow

It is with great sadness that Baseball NSW advises the passing of St George Baseball Club and NSW Baseball icon, John Barlow.

John was a long-term member of the St George Baseball Club and known as a tough competitor on the mound as well as a great teammate.

In 1958 and 1959 he represented NSW School Boys in Adelaide and Sydney. In 1968 he played for NSW against Far North Coast in Lismore. He followed that up in 1969, being selected for NSW Colts. In 1973 John played for NSW in a series against Queensland with NSW sweeping the contest 3 nil.

John's legacy lives on through his competitive spirit, integrity, and unwavering support for both our sport and his teammates.

On behalf of Baseball NSW, we extend our condolences to John's family and friends.



BNSW and Sydney Blue Sox Spring Holiday Camps

Baseball NSW are excited to announce we will be running school holiday camps in collaboration with the Sydney Blue Sox and RBI Australia, to bring players from 6-17 years three days of baseball fun!

There will be five camps available this spring, with the first cluster of camps being held on the 29th September to the 1st October, and the second FEMALE FOCUSED camps being held from the 7th to the 9th October.

Camp 1 focuses on ages 6-15 years across the Rookie Stars, Junior Sox and High Performance Prep ages. The female focused camps are for ages 8-17 years in two defined age groups, the Future Flames (8-12yrs) and Rising Prospects (13-17yrs).

You will need to pre-register your child for the camp prior to attending. Each camp will cater to the abilities of each of the age groups!

The camps will be held at Blacktown International Sports Park.



Photo by: Mick G Photography

AGE GROUPS

Click on the links below to select the camp relevant for your child's age group.

Camps 29th September – 1st October:

[Rookie Stars \(6-8 years\)](#)

[High Performance Prep \(13-15 years\)](#)

Camps 7th – 9th October:

[Female – Future Flames \(8-12 year olds\)](#)

[Female – Rising Prospects \(13-17 years\)](#)

Make sure to bring a hat, water, some snacks and sunscreen and we can't wait to see everyone there!

Coaches Corner

Baseball NSW Coaching Accreditation Level B

Baseball NSW encourages everyone interested in coaching to sign up for our Level B courses!

Take the opportunity to earn coaching accreditation before the 2025/2026 season begins.

These courses are daylong face to face events, and all participants must register before joining. They must also have completed all prerequisite learning.

Register for the courses [here!](#)



BASEBALL
NEW SOUTH WALES



Coaches Corner cont.

High Performance Coach Profiles

**This edition features:
Michael Campbell, Jeff Catt,
Abbey Ninnes and Amy Saliba.**

MICHAEL CAMPBELL – PERFORMANCE PATHWAY PROGRAM

What is your fondest memory or experience of coaching in baseball?

My 1st coaching opportunity for an external tournament program with a great bunch of players that I am now seeing progress in their own way through the game.

What values do you try to instill in your players, both on and off the field?

Accountability, Ownership & routine/structure.

What was your greatest success as a coach?

So far, it's seeing some of the players I have been involved with over the years grow & become better individuals on/off the field.

What was your biggest learning experience as a coach?

That there is always more than one way to help a player gain more knowledge. Different language & interpretations can



Michael Campbell

be molded across age groups to help each player understand your teachings.

How would you characterize your coaching/leadership style?

Direct & competitive. But also very understanding of the failure we face in this sport & the learnings we can gain from each of those to better the next time we are faced with a challenge.

Was there anyone who inspired you to start coaching? If so, who & why?

Yes, being from the NSW Country program it would be remiss of me not to appreciate coaches like Nick Zulumovski, Al Parrot, Shaun Smith & TP - Terry Pearce.

Coaches Corner cont.

High Performance Coach Profiles

But, all coaches whom have offered their services to help me along my baseball journey have & still inspire me to this day. The least I can do is pass my knowledge onto the next generation of talent coming through our pathways.

JEFF CATT – EMERGING PATHWAYS PROGRAM

What is your fondest memory or experience of coaching in baseball?

I have been very fortunate to have 17, I think, tours to Japan with a dozen 12 year olds in tow. Experiencing the culture and making many great friends there was life changing. But on top of that so many times when I saw parents of those kids they would say 'What have you done to my child? They have changed so much for the better after going on that tour'.

Even players that are well into late twenties now comment to me that Japan tour was there best tour ever and how it made them grow up in a very short period of time.

What values do you try to instil in your players, both on and off the field?

Be classy, and respectful of players, spectators and the officials, and be the best version of yourself.

Was there anyone who inspired you to start coaching? If so, who & why?

Tough question because I have learnt so much from so many. He didn't necessarily start me but Garry Everson showed so much passion in trying to improve the knowledge and standard of coaching over



Jeff Catt



Jeff Catt

the years that I thought that that's the road what I would also like to follow.

What do you think is the best part of coaching the next generation of players?

Being able to see all kids, whether they are potential MLB players or park-ballers, turn up every week having fun and learning to be students of the game.

Coaches Corner cont.

High Performance Coach Profiles

ABBIE NINNES – WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

What is your fondest memory or experience of coaching in baseball?

My fondest memory in coaching baseball has to be winning back to back National Championships for NSW at the first, and second, Little League Girls National Championships, and at both going undefeated.

What values do you try to instill in your players, both on and off the field?

The values I try to instill in my players both on and off the field are governed by risk-taking. I encourage every player I coach to take risks, and give things a go because you never want to wonder 'what if?'. I am a firm believer that taking risks is what separates good from great, and it forces players to trust and believe in themselves, and it is confidence and self-belief that will foster success. I also try to instill resilience in my players, as baseball is a game of failure, and I encourage players to make mistakes and take risks, but most importantly develop and learn from them. I try to also instill teamwork into all my players both on and off the field, as success isn't that of one person, it's the entire team who contributed.

Was there anyone who inspired you to start coaching? If so, who & why?

My dad, Dave Ninnes continues to be a huge inspiration to me coaching. I grew up watching him coach junior baseball, and admired the way that he cares for each individual player as if they were his own, which is something I hadn't seen before.



Abbey Ninnes

He sees more than just athletes, but sees individuals, each with their own strengths and potential, and he takes chances on players that fly under the radar, or have something others didn't see which is something I value. I see it even more so now, when his past little leaguers ask him to catch up how much of an impact a coach that takes the time to build trust, and show up for every single athlete has, and that's what really drives me in coaching. When players feel respected, heard, and understood, they respond with more confidence, effort, and resilience, and his example has taught me to develop both players, but also people. It was through watching my Dad coach, and watching the inherent difference he made to every single player he coached that inspired me to start coaching, and I try to emulate his drive to push athletes to be their absolute best, but also to genuinely care for them.

Coaches Corner cont.

High Performance Coach Profiles

What do you think makes NSW women's baseball excel amid tough competition?

The extensive pool of talent in women's baseball within NSW helps us excel amid tough competition. I've seen the grassroots programs of the Little League Girls Nationals excel, and both 2024, and 2025 winning gold is a testament to the depth of talent coming through, and I think a big part of this is having strong female role models in the game that the junior girls can look up to, to visualise these pathways. By having the likes of Isobel Lambert, and Lisa Nakashio foster connections with players, and continue to give back to the game, it keeps the future of NSW women's baseball visible, and really showcases the pathways that are available now directly to players. Emerging opportunities like the State Championships, the Nationals, Barclay Cup, WDP, and the Youth Womens Nationals are good stepping stones to showcase the pathway of Women's baseball in NSW, and after winning back-to-back Little League Girls National Titles, it proves NSW women's development is excelling.

What drew you to start coaching women's baseball?

Growing up I always wanted more opportunities in women's baseball, and I was lucky enough to see the pathway into the women's league from a young age by having female mentors around me, something I know wasn't accessible to a lot of players at the time. I wanted to coach women's baseball because I wanted to do my part in creating more opportunities for female players, and help develop the pathway that I didn't have access to. I saw how many of my teammates gave away the sport because of the lack of opportunities growing up, so I wanted to make an impact in keeping women in the game.

AMY SALIBA – WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

What is your fondest memory or experience of coaching in baseball?

My fondest memory of coaching would have to be coaching the NSW Youth at the AYWC in 2024. As someone



Amy Saliba

Coaches Corner cont.

High Performance Coach Profiles

who represented NSW as a player in the first-ever Youth Women's National Championship, it was an incredible honour to put on the NSW jersey again, this time as a coach. Being able to give back and support the next generation of athletes was a truly special and rewarding experience.

What values do you try to instill in your players, both on and off the field?

While I am passionate about helping young athletes develop their skills in all areas of the game, I place an even greater emphasis on fostering qualities like respect, resilience, and being a great teammate. I firmly believe that a positive team culture is the foundation for success, creating an environment where both individual players and the team as a whole can thrive, on and off the field.

Was there anyone who inspired you to start coaching? If so, who & why?

Peter Neads has been a major inspiration for me to begin coaching. His dedication to his players and his commitment to the game are unmatched. He always goes above and beyond to support those around him. I have the utmost respect for Pete and I strive to coach with the same dedication and care that he demonstrates.

What do you think makes NSW women's baseball excel amid tough competition?

With the development of women's baseball across Australia, it is an exciting time to be involved in the growth and development of NSW Women's Baseball. Baseball NSW is dedicated to developing fundamental skills early while fostering

leadership, teamwork, and accountability. This strong foundation, combined with the pride of representing NSW, motivates players to maintain and elevate the high standards of the program into the future.

What drew you to start coaching women's baseball?

I am deeply passionate about and a strong advocate for women in sport, a commitment that has been further inspired by the late Jacinda Barclay. My passion for the game, combined with this advocacy, drew me to coaching women's baseball. I have experienced firsthand the positive impact that strong coaching and team culture can have, and I wanted to give back by creating those same opportunities for young women. Coaching allows me to contribute not only to skill development but also to fostering confidence, leadership, and a lifelong love of the sport.

Aussies Across Borders



The O’Sullivan sisters, Claire and Elodie, have bagged the gold and silver medals, respectively, after their teams the Zenko Beams and Tokai Nexus faced each other in the Final of the Japanese Women’s Club Championship.

Winning the final 5-4, the Beams relied on Claire’s hitting and pitching to deliver the victory in a hard-fought game that came down to the final inning.

Claire pitched for many pivotal innings across the tournament, including starting for the Beams in the quarterfinal and playing a shutdown role out of the bullpen. At the plate, Claire also gave the Beams several base hits.



Photo credit: @masaki.h.photo

O'Sullivan Sisters Bag Medals at Japan Women's Tournament cont.

Beams coach Risa Nakashima also managed with "team-centric approach", injecting much-needed fight, grit, and determination, alongside an impressive team cohesion.

Nakashima also led the Baseball NSW All Girls Clinic held earlier this year in Canterbury.

Her relationship to Baseball NSW has flourished through the multiple tours we have partaken to Fukuoka, Japan as part of our partnership with the government body.

On the other hand, Elodie also gave an impressive performance in the

final contest, a strong end to her terrific showing at one of the toughest competitions in women's baseball.

Elodie has won several national championships with New South Wales and Western Australia. She has also represented in various Australian Women's Showcases, where she won a championship with the Brisbane Bandits in 2024.

Baseball NSW congratulates both the O'Sullivans for bagging the two top medals at the Japanese Women's Club Championship. What an unreal achievement and a great award to add to the collection!



O'Sullivan Sisters Bag Medals at Japan Women's Tournament cont.



Photo credit: @masaki.h.photo

Aussies Across Borders cont.

Travis Bazzana's Rise to the MLB Doorstep

At just 22, Travis Bazzana is now one step away from the Major Leagues.

On August 10, the Cleveland Guardians promoted their No. 1 prospect to Triple-A Columbus, placing him on the brink of his MLB debut.

Bazzana's journey began on the diamonds of NSW, playing tee-ball from age four with the Ku-Ring-Gai Stealers and later the Ryde Hawks, before progressing through Baseball NSW's development pathways and ultimately representing Australia at the U-18 World Cup and making his Team Australia debut in the Premier 12. His rise is a shining example of where our pathways can lead.

After rewriting the record books at Oregon State and becoming the first Australian selected No. 1 overall in the MLB Draft, Bazzana continues to carry the hopes of the Australian baseball community. His success is already inspiring the next generation of NSW juniors,



proving that global baseball dreams can be achieved from local beginnings.

As he closes in on his Major League debut with Cleveland, Travis isn't just chasing history — he's paving the way for the players who will follow in his footsteps.

Aussies Across Borders cont. Aussie Players link up at Texas Galveston College

Three proud NSW Baseball alumni are taking the next step in their baseball journeys, with Luke Donaghey, Kyan Wallington, and Ben Karakasis recently completing their first training session at Galveston College in Texas.

The trio, who each developed through the NSW pathways system, have now combined forces with a strong contingent of fellow Aussies at Galveston.

Their move marks an exciting opportunity to test themselves in the U.S. college system—renowned for its high standard of competition and strong development pathways.

For Luke, Kyan, and Ben, the transition is not only about playing baseball at a higher level, but also about experiencing life abroad, building new connections, and showcasing the talent that NSW continues to produce.

With the season ahead full of promise, we'll be cheering them on from home. Baseball NSW wishes them the very best for their college upcoming season.



Strike Zone



2025 Community Umpire Course from the NSWBUA!

The course is scheduled every Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday in August, September, and October.

The course is also open to 15-25 attendees age 12 and above.

You are free to choose the location of the course, which will take 2.5hrs with a start time to be determined.

Each attendee is asked to pay \$35 to join the course. The course will cover the following topics:

- Signals
- Plate Work
- Strike Zone
- Fair/Foul
- Positioning
- Basic Rules
- Definitions

QR code link to application form



For more information, please contact Jason Spurway at sdu@nswbua.org.

The NSWBUA invites all members to join the 2025 Annual Umpire Seminar for Junior Baseball scheduled on Saturday 30th & Sunday 31st August from 8:30am to 4:30pm

The seminar will be held at:
Kelso Park North,
565 Henry Lawson Drive,
Panania.

You can register for the seminar through the following link [here](#).

The NSWBUA also offers discounts for students and participants in the 2025 Senior Seminar.



Strike Zone



Any member of our community interested in umpiring should check out these events from the NSWBUA for September! You can find all the information below on the [NSW Baseball Umpires Association](#) website and be sure to register today.

2025/26 NSWBUA Member Umpires - Summer Season Kickoff Meeting

Date: 2 September 2025

Time: 6:30PM - 9:00PM

Location: Blacktown International Sports Park Baseball Function Room

2025 Community Course - Rangers Baseball Club (Ryde Hornsby Association)

Date: 4 September 2025

Time: 6:30PM - 9:00PM

Location: Rofe Park, Hornsby Heights, NSW

2025 Community Course - Castle Hill Knights Baseball Club (Hills Association)

Date: 5 September 2025

Time: 6:30PM - 9:00PM

Location: Castle Glen - 228, Ridgescrop Dr, Castle Hill NSW

2025 Community Course - Camden Red Sox (Macarthur Association)

Date: 6 September 2025

Time: 11:30AM - 2:30PM

Location: Hilder Reserve, Elderslie NSW

2025 Community Course - Schofield & Box Hills Baseball Clubs (Hills Association)

Date: 8 September 2025

Time: 6:30PM - 9:00PM

Location: Peel Reserve in the Ponds - 22 Alkoomie St, The Ponds NSW

2025/26 NSWBUA Umpire Development Webinar Series

Date: 8 September - 18 November 2025

Time: 7:30PM - 8:30PM

Location: <https://meet.google.com/nzxu-qhn>

2025 Community Course - North Ryde RSL Baseball Club (Ryde Hornsby Association)

Date: 9 September 2025

Time: 6:00PM - 8:30PM

Location: North Ryde RSL Top Field - Cnr Pittwater & Magdala Roads, North Ryde NSW

Register for these courses and more by clicking: [NSW Baseball Umpires Association Events page.](#)

Australia Scores Best-Ever Finish at U12 World Cup

Team Australia may have bowed out of the U12 World Cup but they still come home with a prize worth bragging about, as they set a country record at a U12 event by finishing ninth place in the tournament.

After the placement rounds, the Aussies finished with a record of 2-2, only behind World #8 Panama, with a record of 3-1, and #7 Cuba, who went undefeated at 4-0. On the other hand, Team Australia ranked above Czechia (2-3), Germany (1-3), and South Africa (0-4).

Their previous best-rank was tenth.

Likewise, Team Australia kept it close early with a 2-2 tie in the fourth against Panama, although they did break the game open with nine runs en route to a dominant 13-3 victory.

Costly errors from the Australians during the fourth inning helped Panama catch enough momentum to swing the game, as they gave away five singles, five walks,



two errors, and let Panama have nine walks at the plate.

Before that, though, Harvey Ninnis tied the game at one with an RBI in the third, while Phile Toye produced a balk to score a run to tie the game at two.

Ethan Uncle also had a pair of base hits, leading his team. Meanwhile, starting pitcher Preston Taylor had a nice showing.

In the fifth, NSW Country's Billy McCarthy had an RBI before the run-rule took effect, giving Panama the win.

Still, Team Australia could hang their hats on their impressive victories over Germany (9-2) in the group stage, and over Czechia (11-2) in the placement round.

Australia Scores Best-Ever Finish at U12 World Cup cont.

The eventual medalists were the United States (gold), Japan (silver), and Korea (bronze).

Baseball NSW congratulates the Under 12 Team Australia side for their grit and perseverance, resulting in another step in the country's growing baseball prowess!

Here are the New South Wales names to remember from this history making Under 12 Team Australia World Cup Team -

Ben Beezley – Pittwater
Zeke Coughlin – Cronulla Sharks
Logan Jones – Camden Red Sox
Izaak Johnson – Pittwater
Liam Kelly – North Sydney Bears
Billy McCarthy – North Lismore
Ethan Uncle – Eastern Suburbs Dolphins
Head Coach Matt O'Neill - Ryde Hawks



Photo's credit: Baseball Australia (baseball.com.au).

Team Australia U16 Japan Tours 2025

Baseball NSW congratulates the Team Australia U16 squad who finished fifth after defeating China at the Pacific Rim Championships at the Sapporo Dome and the U16 team who ended with a 2-1 record against premier competition in Tokyo, including a win over the Tokyo Giants U15 team.

The Sapporo team’s victory concludes their campaign at the Perfect Game Pacific Rim Championship, which saw them notch two victories over Japan and Indonesia in pool play, resulting in a 2-1 record.

However, losing a three-way tiebreak with Japan and Chinese Taipei cost Team Australia a shot at the semi-finals, leading to their fifth-place game against China.

Despite the results, the team still took several positives from their experience.

“The comeback win against Japan showed some resilience and was a great start,”



BASEBALL
AUSTRALIA

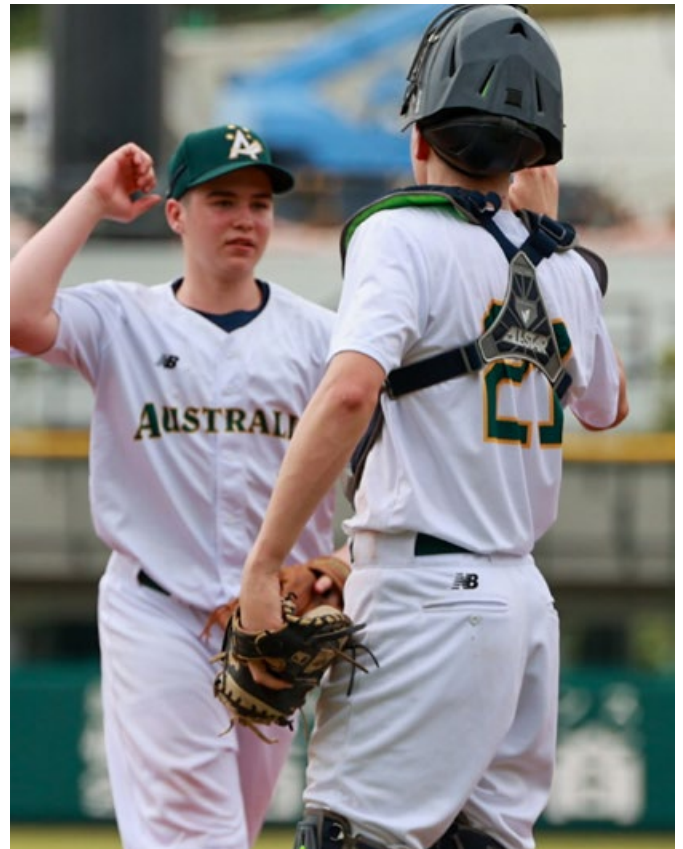


Team Australia U16 Japan Tours 2025 cont.

team manager Scott Meager said. "To go 2-1 in pool play is a very pleasing result & the boys have learned a great lesson that every run matters in international competitions after not advancing to the semi-finals due to the tiebreaker rules."

Meanwhile, the Team Australia U16 team who played in Tokyo also ended with a 2-1 record in exhibition games against local teams in Fuchu, including one win over the Tokyo Giants U15 team and a 13-8 win on 10 August.

Congratulations to the Team Australia squads for their strong showing against top-level U16 competition in Japan! May this experience teach our young players that they belong on the field against the world's best teams.



Team Australia U16 Japan Tours 2025 Photo Gallery



Photo credit: @masaki.h.photo

Team Australia U16 Japan Tours 2025 Photo Gallery Cont.



Team Australia U18 Selection Camp

Team Australia finalised its roster for the U18 World Cup through a Selection Camp on the Gold Coast.

At this camp, team coaches filled the U18 squad’s 20-man roster out of a pool of 33 athletes, which began on the 17th August and concluded on the 23rd.

This camp also came after a two-day coaches conference at Crowne Plaza involving 50 coaches from across Australia. Baseball NSW High Performance Staff, Grahame Cassel and Nathan Howarth were in attendance, alongside coaches such as Jack Dormor, James Sammes, Amy Saliba, Jason Picot, Rowan Street, Ian Hook, Peter Gahan and Jason Bromley.

The 33 players named for the selection camp are among the best of the best in Australian baseball, and they worked out at Surfers Paradise Baseball Club and stayed at the Crowne Plaza for the week. They participated in a series of workouts, evaluations, and exhibition games. Of the 33 players, 23 are in their second year of eligibility and ten are in their first.



Photo's credit: SportsPics By Damo.

Ten of the players in the selection camp hail from NSW and Country NSW.

NSW’s own Jason Pospishil will manage the squad. Check out the list of NSW players who made the Selection Camp!

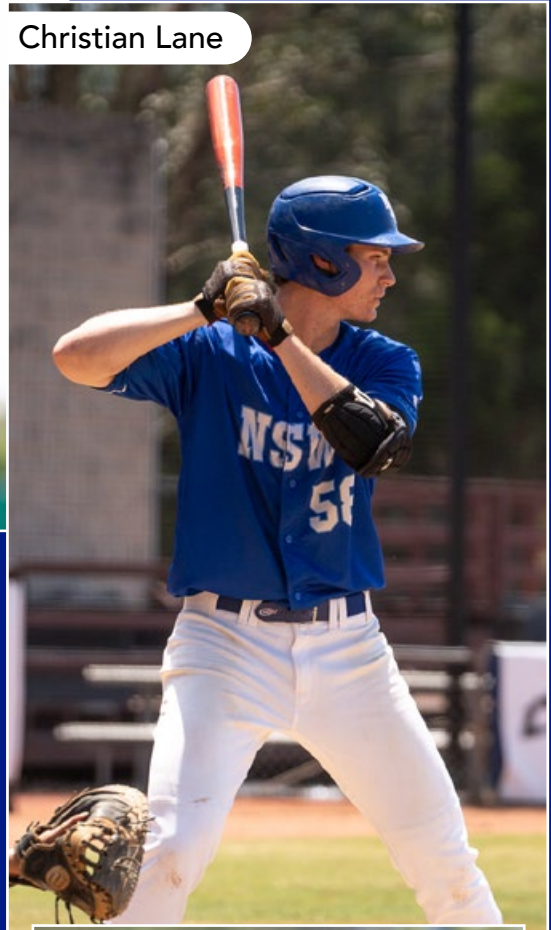
Lachlan Robinson	Ashton Kennedy
Lachlan Vella	Christian Lane
Matthew Trainor	Damien Wilson
Riley Cooper	Josh Nati
Riley Puckett	Ethan Bickel

Team Australia U18 Selection Camp cont.

Ashton Kennedy



Christian Lane



Damien Wilson



Josh Nati



Ethan Bickel

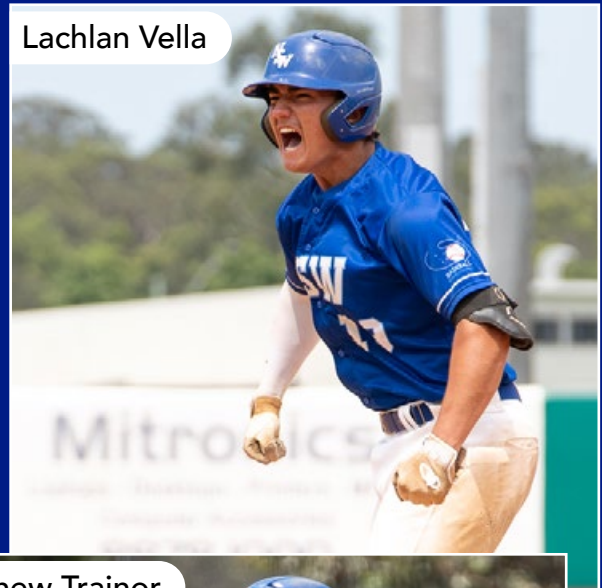


Team Australia U18 Selection Camp cont.

Lachlan Robinson



Lachlan Vella



Matthew Trainor



Riley Cooper



Riley Puckett

NSW talent shines with eight U18 squad selections

After the weeklong Selection Camp, Team Australia finalised its 20-man roster for the U18 World Cup, which includes eight out of ten NSW players!

The team will now fly to Okinawa, Japan on the 31st of August for another three-day training camp before the tournament begins.

Besides the eight NSW players, NSW's own Jason Pospishil will also manage the team during the tournament. He will be joined by Baseball NSW's own High Performance Manager, Grahame Cassel

You can check out the results and standings at the World Baseball Softball Confederation's official U18 World Cup homepage and catch the games as they're played at GameTime, the WBSC's streaming service.

Team Australia is in Group B, joining the United States, China, Germany, Panama, and Chinese Taipei. They will first play Germany at 11:30AM AEST on 5 September at Nishizaki Stadium in Okinawa, Japan.



Check out the final roster on the next page, and congratulations to the eight NSW players selected! BNSW wishes Team Australia the very best of luck at the U18 World Cup!

Team Australia

U18 World Cup

Roster

PITCHERS

RHP Ethan Bickel – NSW
RHP Riley Puckett – NSW
RHP Patrick Crotty – QLD
RHP Deakin Filko – SA
RHP Kristian Haeusler – WA
RHP Nate Quigg – ACT
LHP Mitch Evans – SA
LHP Damien Wilson – NSW

POSITIONAL

C Jordan Ellis – VIC
C Cooper Teichmann – QLD
INF Ben Nesbit – WA
INF Will Hardy – VIC
INF Josh Nati – NSW
INF Eita Samukawa – WA
OF James McFarlane – SA
OF Devin Leahy – VIC
OF Christian Lane – NSW
UTL Matt Trainor – NSW
UTL Lachlan Vella – NSW
UTL Ashton Kennedy – NSW

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Baseball NSW Announces 2025 Sydney Cup

Baseball NSW is pleased to announce the 2025 Sydney Cup Baseball Tournaments!

This tournament will bring together top talent and promising players across New South Wales for a high-level representative season for the community.

This year's Sydney Cup is part of BNSW's three major inter-association tournaments, including the Association Cup and Gaynor Cup. The Sydney Cup pulls together elite competition across the following age groups – U12, U14, U16.

All tournaments will follow a regular season and playoff, scheduled around key public holidays and state events

The Grand Finals for all tournaments, bar the U15 Girls, which will be played on 30 November at a single venue.

On the other hand, due to the Barclay Cup and the October Long Weekend, the U15 Gaynor Cup will be both a pre- and post-Christmas event. Round 1 will begin on 2 November, while the Grand Final will be played on 1 March.



SYDNEY CUP

For more information, check out the full announcement and schedule below!

[Sydney Cup full announcement](#)

[Sydney Cup Schedule](#)

Sydney Blue Sox Committed to ABL Season 2025/26

Get ready for more baseball action this summer!

Baseball NSW encourages everyone to catch the Australian Baseball League (ABL) for season 2025/26.

Both elite Australian talent and top prospects play every summer before crowds across the country.

Catch the Sydney Blue Sox in action this season, as they compete against the Perth Heat, Adelaide Giants, and the Brisbane Bandits for the ultimate prize: the Claxton Shield.

The ABL has also established a reputation as a top developmental league since its return in 2010.

Among former ABL players, 77 of them have entered the Major Leagues, while many of them have become integral to the Australian National Team's success in major international competition.

Last season, the Blue Sox ended their campaign in the semi-final series against the Canberra Cavalry.

The first seed Sox fell to the fourth-seeded



Cavalry 5-2, and Sydney's own will look to bounce back from this heartbreak and continue their path to improvement.

The Sox had won 24 games last season, a drastic turnaround from having won only 23 games over the previous two campaigns.

Moreover, Baseball NSW will fully support the Blue Sox, acknowledging their vital role in the baseball community of New South Wales.

This support involves promotions, strategy, and community engagement designed to increase the team's presence and bolster connections with the baseball grassroots.

Sydney Blue Sox committed to ABL Season 2025/26 cont.

The ABL season runs for ten weeks, and all teams will play a total of 78 games, with 39 games each. Teams will also play between Thursday and Saturday, with a three-game series over Boxing Day Weekend. Besides, teams will host four-game series every round.

By the end of the season, the top two teams will qualify for the ABL Championship Series.

Catch the Blue Sox in action when the ABL comes to the state for season 2025/26! You can watch the games live or catch them on Baseball+.



All images - Credit: Mick G Photography

NSW Office of Sport 2025 Local Sport Grant Program

The NSW Office of Sport is inviting all local baseball clubs and associations to apply for the 2025 Local Sport Grant Program!

This program offers funding of up to \$4.65 million earmarked to support grassroots programs across New South Wales.

Your baseball club might be interested in this grant if you want to:

- Upgrade your facilities
- Procure new baseball equipment
- Start your own programs to promote inclusion and participation in sport and active recreation

Last year's edition of the program provided \$4.4 million in funding to 579 community sport projects statewide.

This year, the grant focuses on local clubs, with grant amounts starting from \$2,000 to a maximum of \$20,000.



The application process begins 30 June 2025 and ends on 1:00PM of 18 August 2025. Outcomes are advised from February 2026 onwards.

Interested clubs can [apply here](#).

You can also check out other grants on this page [here](#).

Sporting Grants Now Open for Application

Each year there are various grants provided by organisations and government departments that can provide much-needed support and funds to nurture sporting talent, help build sports facilities and develop the sports industry as a whole.

Purpose:

As part of Sport NSW's commitment to advocating for and strengthening the sports sector – grants information and updates are a regular feature of the fortnightly Blues eNews newsletter.

Join the network and subscribe to Blues eNews [here](#).

The full Sport NSW Grants Schedule Summary document is regularly updated and details available grants with the view to making this information easily accessible and in one place.



Bookmark the [Sport NSW Grants page](#) and check back regularly for updates.

The full summary of all grants available throughout the year can be downloaded [here](#).

e-Safety in Sport

How to Stay Safe Online



In today's digital age, online safety is more important than ever, especially within our sporting communities.

As baseball clubs across New South Wales increasingly use online platforms to connect, engage, and grow their communities, it's essential that we all stay informed about the best practices for ensuring a safe and positive online environment.

The Australian eSafety Commissioner provides a wealth of resources specifically tailored for sports organisations. These tools are designed to help clubs, coaches, and players protect themselves and their communities online. We strongly encourage all our NSW baseball clubs and members to take advantage of these resources to enhance their understanding of e-safety and to implement effective strategies within their teams.

The eSafety website offers valuable information on a range of topics, including how to manage online abuse, protect personal information, and create safe online spaces for all participants. Whether you're a club administrator, coach, player, or parent, there's something relevant for everyone.

Key Resources Available:

- **Online Safety for Sports Clubs:** This guide provides practical advice on how to create a safe and supportive online environment for all members.
- **Managing Online Abuse:** Learn how to recognise, prevent, and respond to online abuse, ensuring that all interactions remain respectful and positive.
- **Protecting Personal Information:** Understand the importance of safeguarding your personal information and the information of others when engaging online.
- **Creating Safe Online Spaces:** Get tips on how to foster a community culture that values respect, inclusion, and safety, both on and off the field.

We urge all members to visit the [eSafety for Sport Communities](#) page and explore the available resources. By doing so, you are not only protecting yourself but also contributing to a safer online environment for our entire baseball community.

Let's work together to ensure that our love for the game extends to a safe and supportive online experience for everyone involved.

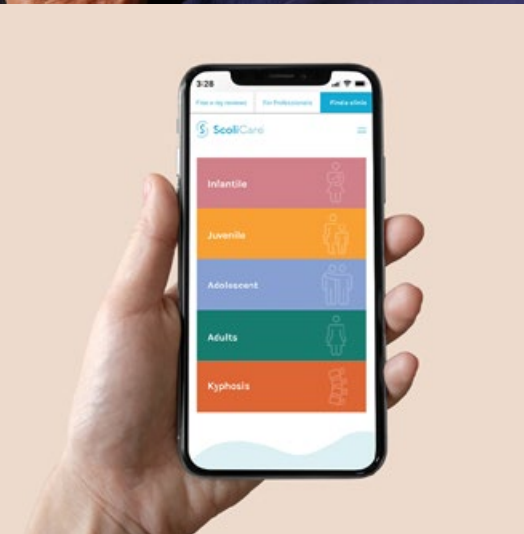
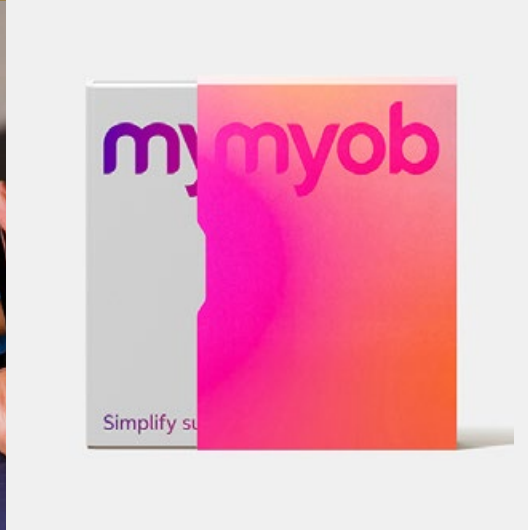
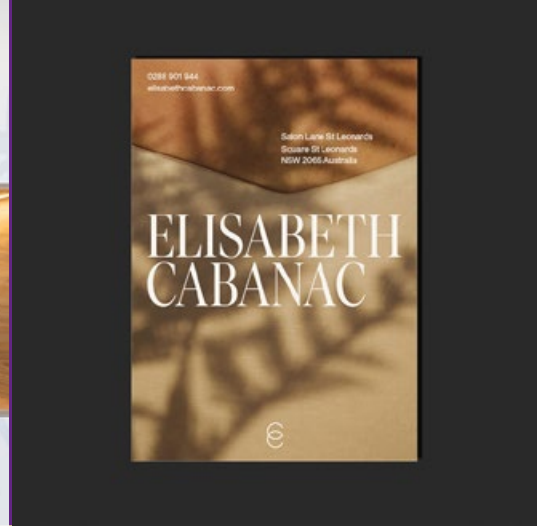


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Need some help? Get in touch today
hello@derringer.com.au or call 0416 176 900

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