



The Pitch



This Month

Barclay Cup
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2026 BNSW HOF

NSW Players to
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for Female Japan Tour

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Bridges Around
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Baseball League
Wrap Up

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U18 World Cup
Results

Recognising Hard Work BNSW Monthly Award Winners



Volunteering

Helen Panas

Bosco Braves - CSJBA

Helen is the President of our club and although she has had major surgery due recovering from Breast Cancer and chemo, she still turns up every game with a smile, making sure the club succeeds and encouragement for all the teams. Her passion and love for the club and the sport deserves all the recognition in the world.

Danni Field

**Ready 2 Change Mt Druitt Lions
Baseball Club - Greater Western**

Danni has been with us for three years, and in that she has been registrar, secretary, assistant coach, helps out with the canteen when needed. Is always there to give a helping hand with a smile. We appreciate all the work Danni does behind the scenes as well.



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

BNSW Game Day Pics 2025 September entries



Photo by Bobbi Allen – 'I'm Ready!'



Photo by Mick Alldis – 'Frosty Morning in Armidale NSW.'



Photo by Erin Devetak – 'Sliding with Style.'



Photo by Kendall at Adelyn Flynn Photo Co. – 'BeeBall Fun.'



Photo by Mick Goddard – 'That Winning Feeling.'

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](#)

September Game Day Photo Winner

Congratulations to our #NSWGameDayPic winner from Bobbi Allen - 'I'm Ready.'

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 Bobbi Allen - 'I'm Ready.'

Club Corner

Baseball New South Wales congratulates the Hills Sports High School girls' baseball team for winning the State Championship at this year's NSWCHS Girls Baseball Competition!

The girls from Hills exercised terrific teamwork both on the plate and on the mound. Pitchers Emily Ninnes and Kate Blanning put on a defensive clinic as they kept their opponents scoreless.

Meanwhile, the Hills' bats were on fire, as Kate Banning dinged an RBI triple in the first and drove in Kara Cassidy to get first on the scoreboard.

Then, Claire Hangan went for a 2 RBI triple to stretch the lead, playing solid baseball for the first three innings.

This trio also combined for a perfect 9-9, collecting six extra base hits among them.

Additionally, all ten players for Hills reached base at least once, demonstrating quality team play on the diamond.



Once again, BNSW congratulates the Hills girls for their dominant showing to win this year's NSWCHS Girls Baseball State Championship!

Club Corner cont.

Endeavour Sports High Wins Proud Shield Baseball Comp

Baseball NSW congratulates Endeavour Sports High for defeating Hunter Sports High 6-2 to win the New South Wales CHS Proud Shield Baseball Competition 2025, played on 17th September at Blacktown International Sports Park.

While Endeavour ultimately came out on top, both teams left it all out on the field and showcased their skills and determination to win.

Starting pitcher Dean Morson led Endeavour’s defensive effort, throwing six scoreless innings while relief pitcher Jake Shorey backed him up reliably as they held Hunter to only two runs.

Along with superb pitching, Endeavour also got timely hits from their bats to load up the scoreboard and clinch this year’s title.



On the other hand, Hunter received quality performances, especially on the mound, from Kallen Barker, Ashton Turner, and Kai Pora, who kept the team in the game throughout.

BNSW congratulates Endeavour and Hunter for their success this season, as well as Muirfield High and Dapto High for qualifying for the Semi Finals.

Great work to all the NSW CHS teams who played in this year’s Proud Shield Competition!

Vale Warren Williams

Baseball NSW is saddened to announce that BNSW Life Member Warren Bruce "Storky" Williams has passed last 29 August 2025.

As a young man, Warren was a rep player, and he used his baseball experience to contribute off the field after his playing days.

He was a former President of the Tamworth Baseball Association and the NSW Country Association.

He was also the first manager of the 1987 NSW Country team that competed at the U18 AYCS at Sydney, and he also served in the same capacity for the Australian Provincial Team that played at the European Baseball Week at Prague in 1997.

Additionally, Warren served as manager to the Australian U18 Development Squad and the NSW Country team in Claxton Shield in 2001.



Vale Noel Palmer

Baseball NSW is deeply saddened to hear of the passing of longtime umpire Noel Palmer.

Noel dedicated decades of service to baseball in NSW through the Sydney Winter Baseball League, the Pacific Coast Baseball League, and Baseball NSW, leaving a lasting legacy both on and off the diamond.

From his early playing and coaching days with Lane Cove Baseball Club to more than 40 years of umpiring, Noel was a passionate contributor, mentor, and leader in our community.

His achievements included serving as President of both the PCBL and Sydney Umpires Associations, umpiring Grand Finals at the World Masters Baseball Games (2009 & 2017), and being recognised with Life Memberships by the Tamworth Baseball Umpires Association (2021) and the PCBL (2022).

Our thoughts and condolences are with Noel's family and friends during this time.



Coaches Corner

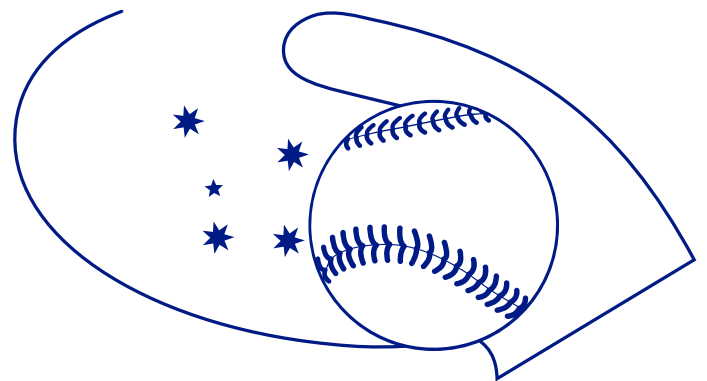
Baseball NSW Coaching Accreditation Level B

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.

Barclay Cup

Coach Profiles

ABBEY NINNES

How has the Barclay Cup helped develop women’s baseball in Australia?

I was lucky enough to play in the first Barclay Cup in 2022, and it is so influential in women’s baseball because it gives players the opportunity to play against players from all over Australia, without being limited to the nationals. The age range being so vast offering 13-16 year olds to play together and against each other allows players to learn from each other.

Are there more opportunities today for women and girls to get into baseball?

Growing up there was a limited pathway for girls in baseball, and fighting for positions against the boys wasn’t easy. The Little League girls nationals and the Barclay Cup proves the growth of opportunity for female baseball, and it’s definitely really exciting to see this grow even further.

What drew you to coaching women’s baseball?

Growing up I was exposed to incredible female role models, including Jacinda Barclay, and that is a big reason why I continued playing the game. I’ve seen



Abbey Ninnes

the impact that a good mentor, coach, and role model can offer, and I wanted to replicate this for the younger girls coming through the game.

What are you teaching young girls playing baseball now that you wish you knew when you were the same age?

I teach young female baseballers that it is okay to make mistakes, and encourage players to take risks, and this is something that wasn’t possible growing up. Being a good baseballer isn’t always defined by talent, but a big stand out is taking risks and finding what sets you apart, and this is definitely something I wish was normalised when I was growing up.

Coaches Corner cont.

Barclay Cup Coach Profiles

Does your relationship to Jacinda Barclay and her memory inspire you to be involved with this tournament? Why?

I first met Barks when I was only 7 or 8, and she's a big reason as to why I began coaching. One memory that I look back on all the time is when she stayed back after a late game in the cold to throw with me. This moment really inspired me to coach because she showed me that the smallest things often make the biggest impact, and I try to always go the extra mile to help players.

LISA NAKASHIO:

How has the Barclay Cup helped develop women's baseball in Australia?

The Barclay Cup has become such a special tournament, providing girls with an environment where they can play with great spirit, positivity, and freedom to learn and grow. It has played a huge role in developing women's baseball in Australia by creating a space that values fun, friendships, and healthy competition.

Are there more opportunities today for women and girls to get into baseball?

Absolutely. Today, there are more opportunities than ever before for women and girls to become involved in baseball. From the AWC and AWYC Nationals, to the Barclay Cup, Little League Girls, Gaynor Cup, and beyond, outside of Australia. There are now multiple pathways for players of all ages to get involved and progress in the sport.



Lisa Nakashio

What drew you to coaching women's baseball?

What inspired me most was the chance to support the future of women's baseball. I see so much potential in these players, and I want to give them the kind of support I wish I had from a female role model when I was younger. Being part of their journey, and hopefully helping them to see their own strengths and possibilities, is what drives me as a coach.

What are you teaching young girls playing baseball now that you wish you knew when you were the same age?

It's not so much something I didn't know, but something I didn't fully understand: the importance of maintaining a positive mindset. Baseball, and sport in general, can be tough, and it's easy to become your own harshest critic. I encourage players to focus on having fun, enjoying the game, and not being too hard on themselves. If they put in the work and give their best effort, improvement will always follow.

Coaches Corner cont.

Barclay Cup Coach Profiles

Does your relationship to Jacinda Barclay and her memory inspire you to be involved with this tournament? Why?

Last year, I was fortunate to be part of the Barclay Cup coaching staff, and what stood out to me was the true friendship and joy among the players. They competed hard but always with fun and respect at the heart of it. That experience was a real eye-opener and one of the main reasons I wanted to return this year. The players truly embraced the "Barky spirit," and it was so special to witness.

IRIS NG

How has the Barclay Cup helped develop women's baseball in Australia?

The Barclay Cup has been influential in promoting and growing women's baseball across Australia as it allows younger girls who typically play in mixed teams to come together and compete against other female players. The Barclay Cup is making women's baseball more noticeable and inspiring younger girls to continue playing.

Are there more opportunities today for women and girls to get into baseball?

100%. Opportunities like Barclay cup, Girls little league Championships, and state developmental programs are making women's baseball more engaging and visible in the community. These pathways not only encourage girls to stay involved and grow in the sport but also make it easier to bring their friends to join and make baseball more appealing for girls and women to participate.

What drew you to coaching women's baseball?

Coaching women's baseball gives me an opportunity to give back to the sport I love. It's been really encouraging to see how far women's baseball has come, but also exciting to know how much more potential there is for growth. Coaching allows me to play a small role in sharing my knowledge and experience to help them develop their skills and build confidence.

What are you teaching young girls playing baseball now that you wish you knew when you were the same age?

I want the girls to focus on having fun and not putting too much pressure on themselves. Teaching them that it's okay to make mistakes but how can we learn from them, stay positive, and support each other. I hope the Barclay Cup will be an opportunity for these girls to create special memories, have fun, and feel inspired to keep improving and growing as players.

Coaches Corner cont.

Barclay Cup Coach Profiles

AMY SALIBA

How has the Barclay Cup helped develop women's baseball in Australia?

The Barclay Cup has played a significant role in developing women's baseball in Australia by creating opportunities that previously did not exist. Inspired by Jacinda Barclay's legacy as a passionate leader and advocate for women in sport, the tournament provides a platform for female athletes to compete, test their skills, and gain exposure against other talented players from across the country. This year, the inclusion of an international team further expands the competition, showcasing the growing recognition of women's baseball on a global stage.

Are there more opportunities today for women and girls to get into baseball?

Yes, there are more opportunities today for women and girls to get into baseball, particularly with initiatives

such as the Inaugural Little League Girls Championship and Gaynor Cup, and of course Barclay Cup, which has created new pathways for young female athletes to engage with the sport. These developments are an important step in providing both visibility and access for girls who want to play baseball. I am particularly excited about the potential for further growth, including expanding development programs, creating clear pathways to higher levels of competition, and ensuring sustainable momentum. Together, these initiatives are helping to build a stronger, more inclusive future for women and girls in baseball.

What drew you to coaching women's baseball?

Growing up in a male-dominated sport, I experienced challenges and moments that shaped not only the person I am but also the coach I have become.



Amy Saliba

Coaches Corner cont.

Barclay Cup Coach Profiles

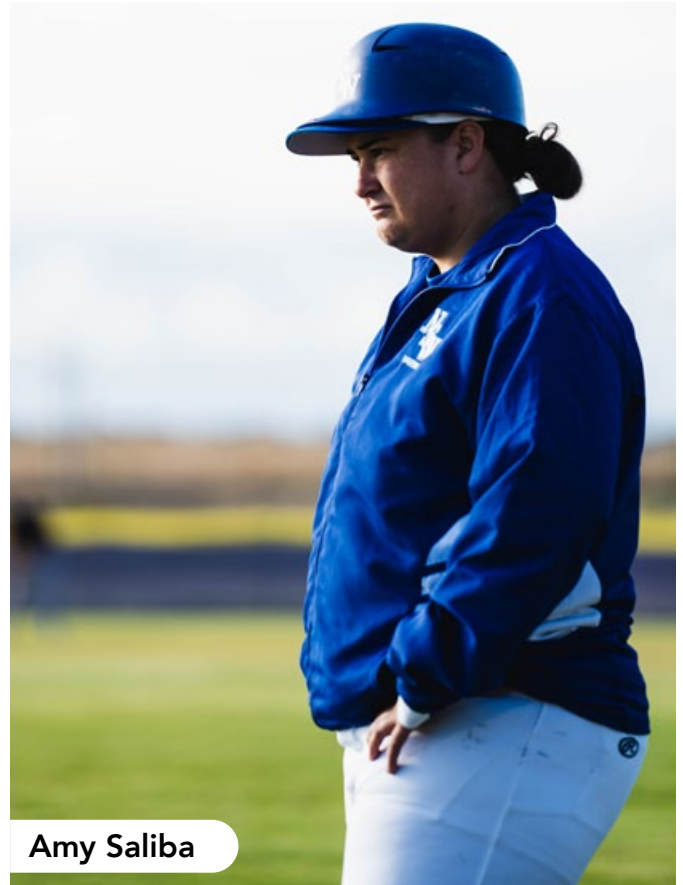
Those experiences gave me a deep appreciation for the importance of creating spaces where women and girls feel seen, supported, and valued in baseball. That is what ultimately drew me to coaching Women's baseball. Being able to give back to the game I love while helping to drive its growth and development, especially for young players, is something I value greatly. Coaching allows me to support players on their journeys both on and off the field and to help create the opportunities I once wished were available.

What are you teaching young girls playing baseball now that you wish you knew when you were the same age?

I focus on teaching players the power of having a strong mindset, resilience, and belief in yourself. I encourage my players to back themselves, to trust their abilities, and to understand that with hard work and commitment, they are capable of achieving anything they set their minds to.

Does your relationship to Jacinda Barclay and her memory inspire you to be involved with this tournament? Why?

100%. Absolutely. The Barclay Cup is one of my favourite tournaments to be part of, not just because of what it represents for women's baseball, but because of the connection it carries to Jacinda. This tournament provides opportunities for females to participate in the game, to enjoy it, to grow friendships, and to fall in love with baseball.



Amy Saliba

Photo credit: Amy Saliba by Trent Schwarz.

In the short time I had the privilege of playing alongside Jacinda, and through the memories and lessons shared by those who knew her best, I came to understand the type of person she was: a leader, a mentor, an inspiration, and above all, someone who brought fun, determination, and strength wherever she went.

Those qualities left a mark on me, and I carry them with me into my coaching.

Call for Nominations 2026 BNSW Hall of Fame

Baseball NSW is proud to announce that the Heritage Committee is now accepting nominations for the 2026 Hall of Fame Induction.

The Hall of Fame recognises individuals who have made a lasting impact on the game in New South Wales, whether through playing, coaching, umpiring, administration, or significant contribution to the growth of our sport.

We invite our community to put forward nominations and help us honour those who have shaped the history and future of baseball in NSW.

Please complete and send through your nominations to ensure deserving members of our community are considered for this prestigious honour.

[Click here](#) for the Nominations Form.



**BASEBALL NSW
HALL OF FAME**

Aussies Across Borders



Baseball NSW wishes the very best of luck to the Australians heading to Japan for exhibition games against some of the top baseball players in the world, including the World #1 Japanese Women's National Team.

For this tour, the Australian team will go by the name 'Down Under Diamonds,' recognizing its roots in the 'Diamonds in the Rough' Program.

They will play in Tochigi City, one of Japan's "Women's Baseball Cities," from 18 to 29 September.

Moreover, the team comprises Emeralds and stars from the Australian Women's Championship, and they'll also be coached by the longest-serving Emerald Shae Lillywhite, NSW representative and



Photo credit: Claire O'Sullivan by Trent Schwarz.

NSW Players to Join Australian Squad for Female Japan Tour cont.

multi-time Emerald Laura Neads, and the Japanese women's national team head coach Risa Nakashima.

Nakashima also recently visited NSW to facilitate an all-girls junior baseball clinic, and she has coached in NSW helping develop many players in the women's game through our partnership with Fukuoka and the Kyushu Honeys.

Here are the NSW players joining the Down Under Diamonds!

- Cayla Johnston
- Claire O'Sullivan
- Isobel Lambert
- Lisa Nakashio
- Maddison Erwin

These NSW players are also among the best of the best in Australian baseball.

For instance, Claire O'Sullivan has received the Women's League Most Valuable Player award after her excellent showing in the NSW Women's League season 2024/25.

She also won the MVP at the 2025 Australian Women's Championship last April 2025, where the NSW squad also bagged the gold.

Likewise, Claire has significant baseball experience in Japan, having joined two tours facilitated by Baseball NSW through our partnership with the Fukuoka prefecture.



Photo credit: Isobel Lambert by Trent Schwarz.

In 2023 and 2024, she has spent time training and playing with the Kyushu Honeys and forging relationships in the Women's Japanese Baseball circles.

Alongside Claire, Isobel Lambert, Lisa Nakashio, Maddison Erwin, and Cayla Johnston were part of the NSW squad who won the gold medal at the 2025 Australian Women's and Australian Youth Women's Championship earlier this year.

NSW Players to Join Australian Squad for Female Japan Tour cont.

In 2024, O’Sullivan, Nakashio and Lambert also joined the second inaugural outbound tour to Fukuoka, where they trained and competed alongside some of the best female baseballers in Japan, under the guidance of Nakashima.

Baseball NSW supports our girls all the way! May you continue to inspire other young Australian girls who want to try baseball!



Photo credit: NSW Girls mixed in with the Kyushu Honeys in 2023 Fukuoka Tour.

Aussies Across Borders cont.

NSW Players Selected for MLB World Select Team

Baseball New South Wales congratulates the six NSW players selected to the MLB World Select Team that will play in a college showcase tour in October!

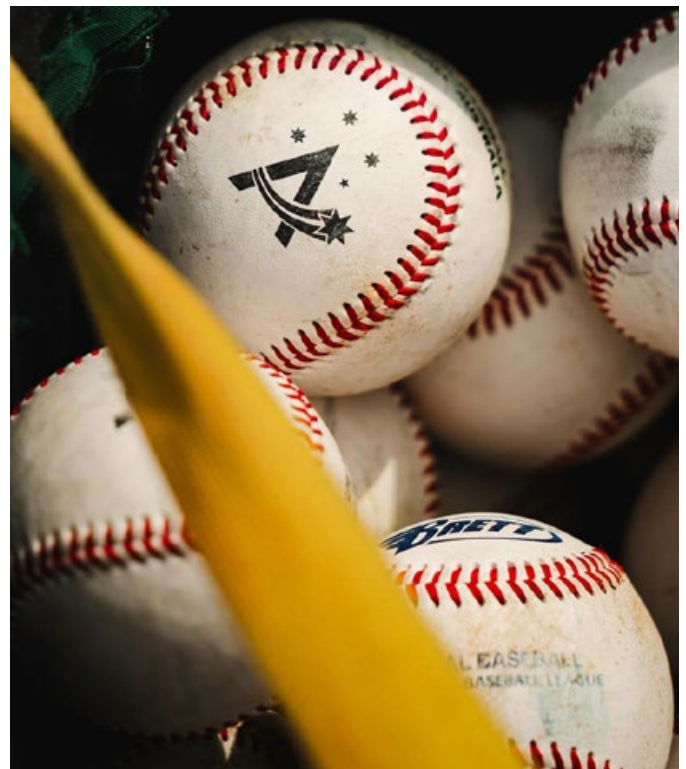
Along with the six NSW players, the Australians will feature 11 players on the 30-man trip, featuring under-20 players from Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Czech Republic, Curacao, Germany, the Netherlands, and Spain.

Here’s a list of our NSW players!

Damien Wilson	Matt Trainor
Lachlan Vella	Ashton Kennedy
Ethan Bickel	Riley Puckett

These players will fly to Arizona for this special MLB initiative designed to help grow the game outside the United States.

From 23 September to 2 October, these players will visit different spring training complexes of various MLB teams and play travel ball teams at the Arizona Fall Classic.



They will also play against junior colleges, take a campus tour and join practice at Grand Canyon University.

Finally, these players will also join a pro-style workout day with college recruiters and professional scouts in attendance.

Player Development Manager of Baseball Australia Andrew Riddell described this trip as “the pinnacle event of the year for junior baseball players outside of the U18 World Cup.”

NSW Players Selected for MLB World Select Team cont.

“The players are selected by national coaches with input from scouts from MLB clubs and they get an opportunity to live life as a pro or a college athlete for two weeks,” he said.

Moreover, this MLB initiative has already contributed to the development of many Australians’ baseball careers.

A few members of last year’s group – Zach Altamura, Ben Karakasis, Luke Donaghey, Nic Paparella, Flynn McKee, and Jack Ratcliffe--have all begun their college careers.

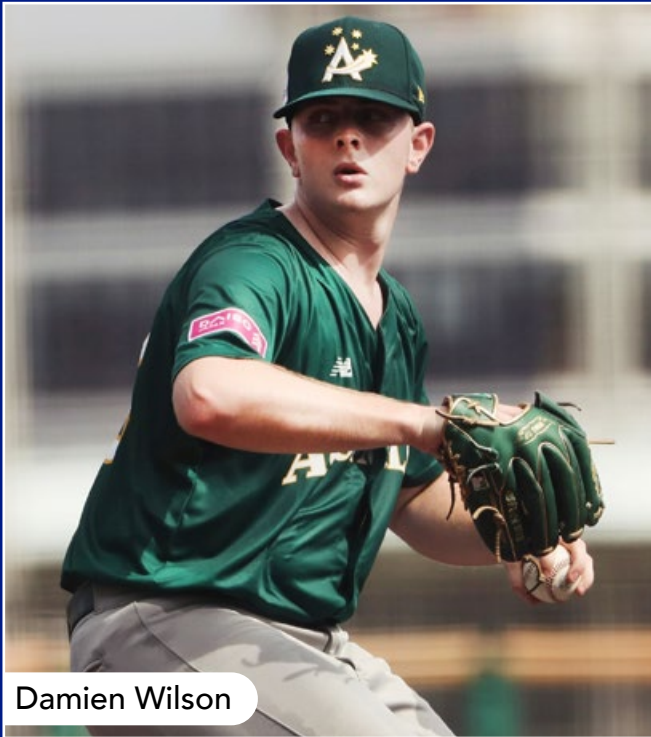
Many alumni also went to the pros, including NSW’s own and former MLB No.1 pick Travis Bazzana.

“The exposure to universities and professional teams is second to none and really shows our players what the next level of baseball looks like in the US,” Riddell added, noting the value of international experience for Australian players.

Baseball NSW congratulates the players selected to the team! Your continued success only means bigger things are yet to come for Australian baseball.



NSW Players Selected for MLB World Select Team cont.



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.



Photo credit: Mick G Photography.

Strike Zone



The NSW Baseball Umpires Association are excited to bring you the 2025/26 Umpire Development Webinar Series!

NSWBUA is excited to launch our brand-new FREE online webinar series, designed to support and grow Umpires across NSW this season and beyond!

It will be a 6 week program starting on the 8th September, finishing mid November and hosted online by the NSWBUA.

**Mon 8 Sept –
Introduction & Info Session**

To watch past sessions visit their Youtube Channel for Session 1

[Click here](#) to watch session 1

Tue 23 Sept

Tue 7 Oct

Tue 21 Oct

Tue 4 Nov

Tue 25 Nov

Time: 7:30–8:30PM

The webinar will be held Online via Google Meet. It is free for all members (registration required).

Whether you're just starting out, looking to sharpen your skills, or already experienced – this series is for you.

It will cover:

- Umpire development and growth
- Rules training & game management
- Insights for players, coaches, scorers and fans

Can't make a session? No worries – recordings will be available on YouTube afterwards!

Register now via the NSWBUA Events page or at the link below to receive your access details. (Under-18 umpires will need a parent/guardian's email to register.)

Let's build a stronger umpiring community together – because better umpiring means a better game for everyone!

[Click here](#) to register.

2025/26 Major Events Dates & Venues Announced

Baseball NSW is pleased to announce the dates and venues of our major tournaments from now, into the new year!

We've already completed so much this year, but don't forget all of the exciting events we still have on the horizon!

Be sure to mark your calendars as some of the best competitions of the season approach!

We can't wait to see everyone out there!



BASEBALL
NEW SOUTH WALES

Event	Date	Venue
Sydney Cup 2025	Sep 14th - Nov 30th 2025	Local Associations
2025/26 State League	Sep 17th - Mar 8th 2025	Local Clubs

2025/26 Major Events

Dates & Venues Announced cont.

Event	Date	Venue
Barclay Cup 2025	Sep 28 - Oct 4 2025	Adelaide, SA
NSW Country Senior Men's Championships	Oct 4th - 6th 2025	Lismore, NSW
Sydney Cup Grand Finals	Nov 30th 2025	Arncliffe Scots
NSW Women's League Pink Round	Dec 7th 2025	Blacktown International Sports Park (BISP)
U16 & U18 National Championships	Jan 7th - 15th 2025	Essendon, Preston & Port Melbourne, VIC
Fukuoka Girls High School Tour	Jan 29th - Feb 1st 2025	Blacktown International Sports Park (BISP)
Little League & Little League Div II State Championships	Apr 7th - 12th 2025	BISP Softball
Senior League State Championship	April 8th - 11th 2025	Blacktown International Sports Park (BISP)
Australian Women's & Youth Women's Championships	April 12th - 18th 2025	Melbourne (Altona)
Intermediate League State Championship	April 13th - 16th 2025	TBD
Junior League State Championship	April 13th - 17th 2025	TBD
NSW Little League Girls State Championship	April 18th & 19th 2025	TBD

2025/26 Major Events

Dates & Venues Announced cont.

Event	Date	Venue
NSW Little League Girls State Championship Finals	April 26th 2025	TBD
Australian Senior League Championships	May 13th - 17th 2025	Blacktown International Sports Park (BISP)
Australian Intermediate League Championships	May 21st - 25th 2025	Lismore, NSW
Australian Junior League Championships	May 21st - 25th 2025	Lismore, NSW
Australian Little League Championships	Jun 5th - 11th 2025	BISP Softball
Little League Invitational	July 7th - 11th 2025	Redcliffe
Little League Girls Nationals	July 7th - 11th 2025	Redcliffe



Baseball Building Bridges Around the World

Baseball NSW is proud to support this year's edition of the Barclay Cup, to be held from 28 September to 4 October 2025 in Adelaide.

But what's special about this year's tournament is that it's the first time an international team will compete against the Australian women's teams: the Florida Bolts!

It all began with the 'Baseball For All Nationals' tournament, which held the goal to encourage more women in the United States to play baseball and break the misconception that girls should only play softball.

The Baseball For All tournaments began with one all-girls team that played against boys in Cooperstown, the site of the Baseball Hall of Fame, and it has since welcomed players in over 40 states and five countries, with tournaments happening all over the US.

Baseball NSW Member and Dad to two awesome female baseballers - Scott Cheevers – reached out to BFA founder



Justine Siegal, to see if there would be an opportunity for his daughters to compete in the tournament. He was then connected with president of the Florida Bolts, Brooke Greene - a long-time pioneer in Florida sports, having coached teams, run clubs, and raised funds for tours.

Through a series of meetings on Zoom, Scott introduced his daughters Laura and Stella to Brooke and her daughter Lilly. The welcoming atmosphere at the Bolts helped the Cheevers' decide to send their daughters to Florida. Laura joined the Bolts' U16 squad and Stella went to the U12 team.

Baseball Building Bridges Around the World cont.

Both daughters are decorated NSW representatives, but young Stella was keeping herself busy, having just played for the NSW Composite squad that won the Australian Little League Girls Nationals in Brisbane before joining the Bolts.

The 2025 BFA Tournament was played at the Golden Eagle Sports complex just outside Reno, Nevada, with 53 participating teams from the US, Canada, and Australia.

Through a week of play in the desert heat (which included double-headers most days) the high level of competition was plain to see! In the U16 division, Laura's team made it to the grand finals but eventually lost to Texas in the decider!

Stella's U12 team, having nearly gone undefeated through the grand final, took home the victory defeating the Arizona Peaches in the gold medal match to claim back-to-back national championships.

Moreover, the BFA tournament also saw special guests in attendance, particularly Maybelle Blair, who played in the 1948 All American Girls Professional Baseball League (the inspiration for the classic movie "A League of Their Own"). Getting the opportunity to see these inspirational figureheads in person was a great opportunity for the girls!

When asked about her inspiration to support women's baseball, Florida Bolts president Brooke Greene said her daughter Lily's experience with being pushed to play



softball instead of baseball spurred her to look for ways to help her and other girls continue playing the sport they loved.

"[Lily] and her friend Julianna had been the only two girls in our Little League to continue to play baseball well past the age thought to be appropriate," Greene said. She even said how this push to shift sports made Lily's coaches stop developing her skills, tanking her confidence and ultimately her love for baseball.

Besides the tournament, she had also been searching for international tournaments where her Bolts could play, and her connection with the Cheevers introduced her to the Barclay Cup.

In a conversation with BNSW, she mentioned how international competitions like the Barclay Cup can help grow the sport of baseball around the world, particularly for women and girls interested in the game.

Baseball Building Bridges Around the World cont.

“When any team travels internationally to compete, they bring a new level of awareness which is going to be vital in the women’s baseball community,” she said. “It gives hope to younger generations that as we continue to grow, they’ll have the ability to play beyond when others think they should quit and anywhere they choose to!”

Like many other Aussie baseball fans, Greene also shared her excitement at joining this year’s Barclay Cup at Adelaide.

“The girls and I are very excited to be coming down for this!” she said.

Citing the Bolts as the first international team invited to the tournament, she added, “It’s an exciting time within our organization to be the first international team to be invited; as well as such an amazing honour.”

Likewise, Greene said international partnerships like this one not only helps grow the game itself but also promotes exchanging cultures and broadening girls’ horizons through sport, which would not have been possible without competitions like the Barclay Cup.

“The friendships and support the girls provide each other is also beautiful to watch and there’s a foster of cultural exchange which might not otherwise have existed,” Greene said.

The Barclay Cup is a thrilling time for fans of women’s baseball around Australia, and Greene herself said she wouldn’t mind further collaborating with the tournament



to help grow the game around the globe.

“I hope that we continue to be invited back and continue to collaborate with everyone to grow the Barclay Cup!” she said.

She also recognized how tournaments like the Barclay Cup has spread the good word on baseball to more people, leading to more followers and supporters flocking to her team, and vice versa.

“It allows for more opportunities when there are so very few all-girl tournaments as well. The outreach of support grows,” she said.

Check out exciting baseball at the 2025 Barclay Cup in Adelaide, particularly our NSW teams the Barky Ball-Hers and Cinda Spirit!

The tournament will run from 28 September to 4 October.

May this partnership blossom into stronger relationships with more women’s baseball teams across the globe!

Baseball Building Bridges Around the World Photo Gallery.



Photos By SCOTT CHEEVERS

Sydney Winter Baseball League Wrap up

Baseball NSW congratulates the winning teams from the 1st to 3rd Grades at the recently concluded Sydney Winter Baseball League last August.

For the 3rd Grade, the Quakers Hill Pirates won their Premiership victory with a 12-6 win over Sydney Uni.

Starting pitcher for the Pirates Bailey Richards also snagged Grand Final MVP honors after striking out six and allowing only two runs in 5.0 innings.

Meanwhile, the Quakers Hill Pirates also squeaked out a tightly contested 3-2 victory over Petersham 2nd at the 2nd Grade Grand Final.

The game was a 13-inning classic that ran for four hours and 15 minutes, one of the best SWBL Grand Finals



Sydney Winter Baseball League Wrap Up cont.

in recent years. Grattan paced Quakers Hill with three hits and one run with two RBIs.

Finally, Petersham 1st defeated Quakers Hills 3-0 to bag the 1st Grade championship.

Defense spelled the victory for Petersham as Bishop struck out 19 and gave up zero runs in 8.2 innings.

Congratulations to all teams this season and we hope it was celebrated at the Sydney Winter Baseball League's 50th Season Awards Night held at the Bankstown Sports Club!

You can also watch replays of the Grand Finals for 1st to 3rd Grade on StremeMasheen's official YouTube channel. Just click the links below!

[Click here](#) for Sydney Winter Baseball League - 1st Grade Grand Final 2025

[Click here](#) for Sydney Winter Baseball League - 2nd Grade Grand Final 2025

[Click here](#) for Sydney Winter Baseball League - 3rd Grade Grand Final 2025



Sydney Winter Baseball League Wrap Up Gallery cont.



Photo credit: Mick G Photography.

Sydney Winter Baseball League Wrap Up Gallery cont.

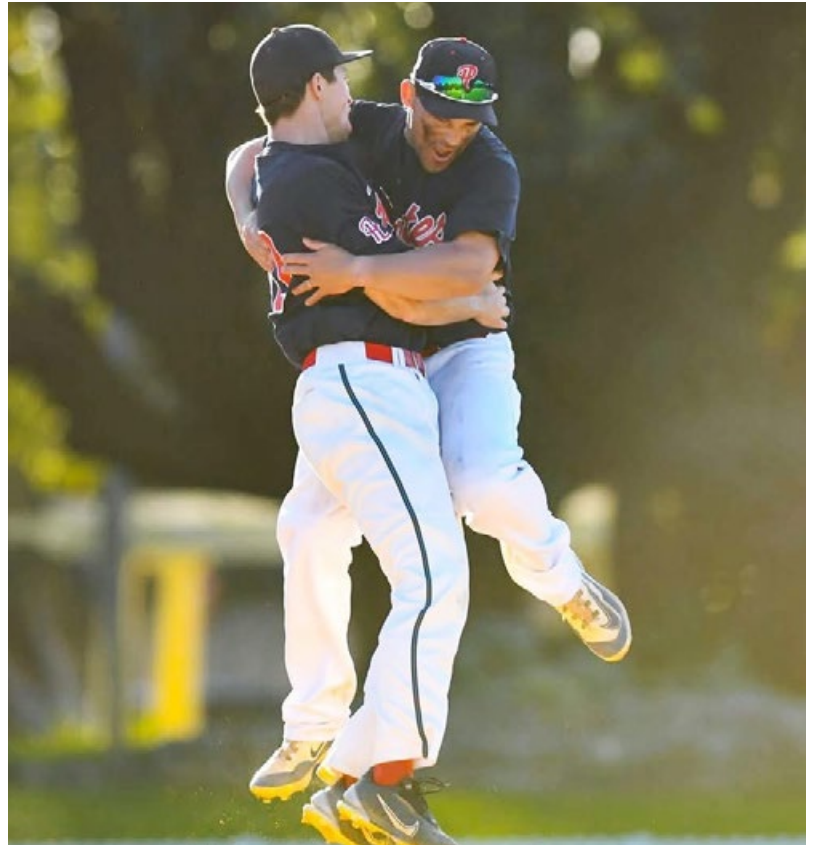


Photo credit: Mick G Photography.

Team Australia U18 World Cup Results

The Team Australia U18 squad may have bowed out of the U18 World Cup in Okinawa, Japan, but they scored their best result at the tournament since finishing 10th in 2019.

After blowing out Italy 12-3 in their last Placement Round game, the Australians finished below the undefeated Cubans (5-0) and ahead of the Italians who also finished with an identical 3-2 record.

Starting pitcher Mitch Evans had a stellar looking stat line against Italy. He pitched 2.1 innings where he struck out three and allowed two hits and zero earned runs.

Meanwhile, Ethan Bickel picked up the slack and threw 2.2 shutout innings, striking out three while earning only four hits and zero walks.

Throughout the tournament, the Australians played hard and earned quality wins against tough competition.

They dropped Game 1 against Germany in the Group Stage but rallied to defeat Panama and China, earning them a spot to the Super Round.



After losing to Cuba 2-1 in a heartbreaking walkoff, the Aussies also rallied to win their next two games in blowout fashion, first against South Africa and then Italy.

The United States went on to win the gold medal over Japan, while Chinese Taipei claimed bronze over Korea.

Following the World Cup, the Australians' strong and determined play under team manager Jason Pospishil did not go unrecognized.

We spoke to our High-Performance Manager, Grahame Cassel, who joined the

Team Australia U18 World Cup

Results cont.

Under 18's Coaching staff in Japan, and he shared that the team's performance bodes well for the Australians, with this tournament being one of the world's best baseball competitions with numerous players expected to enter the Major League system in the future.

Moreover, the Australians' experience will prove valuable as they grow and gain confidence as players, for this was the first time they've played at a game speed far surpassing local baseball.

From NSW, Ashton Kennedy received the Leading Hitter of the Tournament honor while teammate Josh Nati also earned the Most RBI Award, coming in clutch for the Australians with some timely hits when his team badly needed runs.

Both players were excellent on the plate. Kennedy finished 8 for 18 while hitting .444, leading all hitters in the tournament. Meanwhile, Nati hit .375 and led the field with 12 RBIs.

The overall performance from our NSW players though, was remarkable!

On the mound, Team Australia's best pitcher was our man Damien Wilson, putting in two quality stints as starter. As starting pitcher, Wilson kept batters off balance through his well-timed and well-placed changeups.

Likewise, relief pitcher Bickel got the team out of some serious scrapes by keeping his composure amid tough situations to strike out one hitter after another.



Team Australia U18 World Cup Results cont.

Utility man Matthew Trainor also served his team well, playing all outfield spots and hitting .364 while performing well as a relief on the mound.

Additionally, Team Australia's hitters faced the challenge of top-level pitching from all over the world, as they contended with fastballs up to 96 mph and terrific off-speed pitches.

However, the Aussies acquitted themselves well despite these surprises and gained all-important confidence once they realized they could hang with top teams at the international level.

After this tournament, the players will certainly look to try for a Collegiate or

Professional career. Several of them are already receiving offers.

From this tournament, six players-- Kennedy, Bickel, Trainor, Wilson, Puckett, and Vella--are leaving Sydney this month to participate in the MLB World Select tour in Arizona.

At the tour, they will play with other international talent against a few professional AA teams, where scouts from college and all 30 MLB teams will also be in attendance.

Baseball NSW congratulates Team Australia U18 for their brilliant performance at the World Cup! This is only another step forward in Australia's pursuit of excellence on the field.



2025 NSW Sport Awards Nominations

Sport NSW will hold the 2025 NSW Champions of Sport Ceremony on 24 November 2025 at Doltone House-Jones Bay Wharf, Pyrmont.

Part of this annual event is the conferral of the 2025 NSW Sports Awards, and everyone is invited to submit nominations across 12 categories! Winners will be revealed at the Champions of Sport Ceremony.

You can nominate eligible persons to the following awards categories:

- Valour Athlete of the Year
- Office of Sport Athlete of the Year with a Disability
- UNSW Young Athlete of the Year
- Variety Young Athlete of the Year with a Disability
- People and Culture Strategies Masters Athlete of the Year
- Coach of the Year
- Gallagher Team of the Year
- Team of the Year with a Disability

- Official of the Year
- ACPE Organisation of the Year
- Event of the Year
- Administrator of the Year

This annual event celebrates sporting excellence in New South Wales, honouring the state's best athletes, coaches, teams, administrators, and officials. It brings together the entire community to recognize their current achievements and lifelong contributions to sport in NSW.

Nominations close at 5PM on Tuesday, 7 October 2025, so don't be late!

We encourage all of our clubs and associations to nominate someone who they believe is deserving of recognition.

If you would like to work with Baseball NSW on a nomination and wish to send through some information on a local member or volunteer, please get in touch with georgia@baseballnsw.com.au.

Click the links below to learn more about the Champions of Sport Ceremony and to submit your nominations!

[Click here](#) for 2025 NSW Sports Awards Nomination Form

[Click here](#) for Sport NSW Champions of Sport Ceremony Page.

NSW Office of Sport Launches "Shoosh for Kids"

The NSW Office of Sport is launching the "Shoosh for Kids" campaign, a collaborative effort between the office and sector partners that aims to inspire positive behaviour among spectators of junior sports.

This campaign also offers free digital resources for stakeholders to help raise awareness and promote the message: If you don't have anything nice to say, then "shoosh for kids!"

However, this campaign doesn't want us to stay silent during games. Instead, it encourages us to keep things positive.

The campaign runs according to the following key themes:

- **Overarching:** Think Before You Speak
- **General Participation:** Keep It Positive. Keep It Fun.



- **Volunteer Appreciation:** Remember, Volunteers Run Kids Sport
- **Respecting the Officials:** Respect the Referee
- **Supporting the Coaches:** Let Coaches Do the Coaching

The "Shoosh for Kids" campaign will run for two month-long iterations: May for winter-based sports, and November for summer-based sports.

For more information, please check out the "Shoosh for Kids" page at the NSW Office of Sports website [here](#).

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.

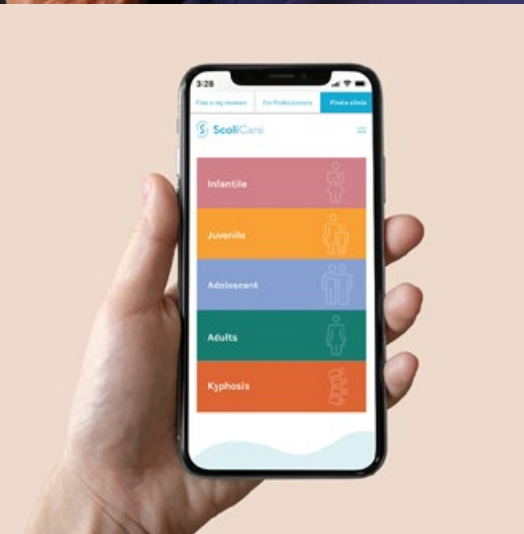
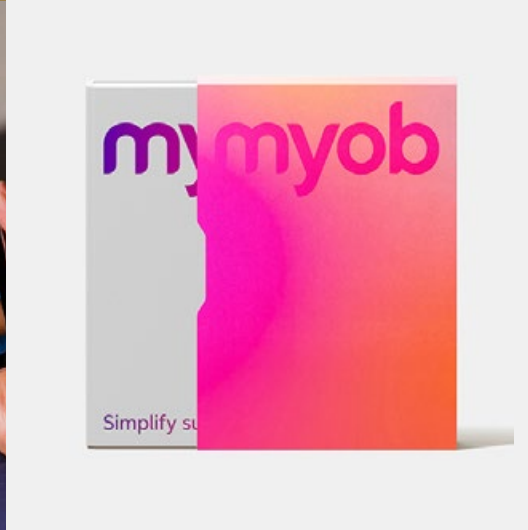
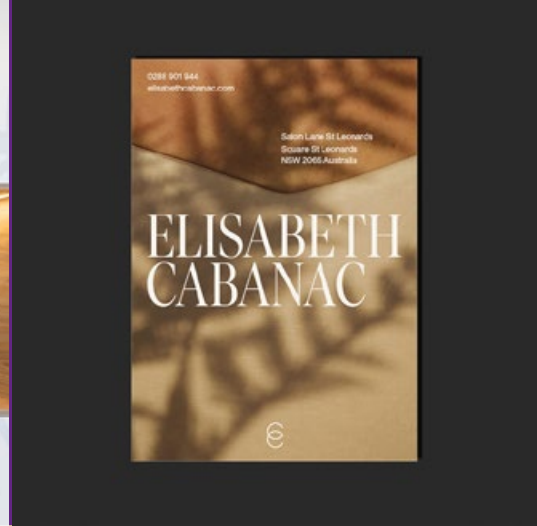


Keep it Positive.
Keep it Fun.

Think Before
You Speak



Learn More
sport.nsw.gov.au/shoosh-for-kids
[#ShooshForKids](https://www.instagram.com/ShooshForKids)



We're a brand and design studio that does things differently. We get right to the heart of what matters to our clients. We think fast, and solve complex business challenges simply with a 'get it done' attitude.

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- Verbal identity
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- Illustration
- Photography
- Videography
- Motion design
- Fabrication
- Installation

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

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