



The Pitch

This Month

BlueSox Bulletin

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for 2026 World
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Cover Photo by Greater Western Baseball Association

Recognising Hard Work BNSW Monthly Award Winners



January Volunteers of the Month:

Umpiring

Bruce Moriarty,
Central Coast Baseball -
Central Coast Baseball

Bruce has dedicated many years to officiating on the Coast from juniors through to seniors. He always enters the field with a massive smile and a desire for all the players to enjoy the game. Thank you, Bruce, for all you've done for the game on the Coast for so many years!

Coaching

Matthew Rodgers,
Camden Red Sox - Macarthur

Matt is the Coaching Coordinator for Camden Red Sox. He also coaches T-ball, Junior League, and is on the coaching roster for NSW AWC. He seamlessly

transitions from teaching fundamentals to high-performance tactics, showing an unmatched commitment to the growth of baseball in our community.

February Volunteers of the Month:

Scoring

Kim Robertson,
Macarthur Orioles - State League

Season 25/26 is Kim's 9th season scoring grade for Macarthur. For the last 2 seasons she has done 2nd and 1st Grade. She is always willing to jump in and help other grades and shares her knowledge freely. Thanks for the service!

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

Congratulations to the BNSW Monthly award winners!

Congratulations to this month's Volunteers of the Month submissions! 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 put forward these amazing volunteers for recognition.

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](#)

Game Day Photo Winners

Congratulations to our #NSWGameDayPic winners below.

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!

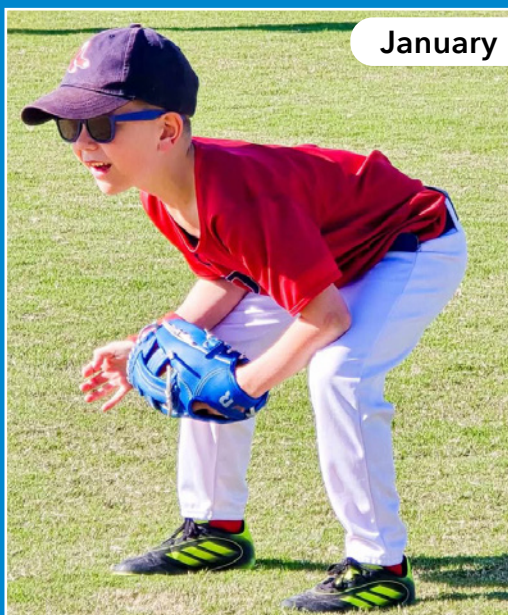


Photo by Matthew Rodgers – 'Style, Stance, and Sportsmanship.'



Photo by Mel Melhem – 'What a Pick!'

Club Corner

Baseball NSW is inviting our clubs and associations to join the following events from the NSW Office of Sport!



Each event is designed for people working in State Sporting Organisations and other related groups who specialize in sport integrity as well as diversity, equity, and inclusion.

You can attend workshops and expert-led discussions to gain practicable insights you can then apply in our own sectors.

Check out the following free events on the next page!



Photo credit: NSW Office of Sport.

Club Corner cont.

Sport Integrity & Inclusion Events held by NSW Office of Sport

Sport Integrity Conference – Raising the Bar

This conference has the theme “Resilience, Respect and Resolution.” It brings together sector and industry stakeholders to collaborate, network, and examine pressing issues in sport integrity.

In 2026, the Office of Sport focuses on changing the social landscape and its influence on sideline behaviour, complaints management, and wellbeing within sport.

Date: 2-3 June 2026

Time: 8:30am, to 3pm

Venue:

NSW Rugby League Centre of Excellence,
Sydney Olympic Park

Disability Sports Forum – Every Ability, Every Opportunity

Explore the Seven Pillars of Inclusion together with leaders, coaches, advocates, and athletes at the Disability Sports Forum! You can also learn how we

can shape sporting environments to accommodate people of all abilities.

This forum will also share inspiring stories and give you practical tools as well as evidence-based strategies to rethink inclusion.

People who design programs, influence policy, and champion inclusive community sport will be equipped further to create spaces where everyone can participate, progress and thrive.

Date: 4 June 2026

Time: 10am to 4pm

Venue:

Waterview in Bicentennial Park,
Sydney Olympic Park

Mark your calendars and join these events to build on your knowledge and collaborate with leaders on the key issues facing the sport sector.

For any inquiries, reach out to
sportintegrity@sport.nsw.gov.au

BlueSox Bulletin



Baseball NSW commends the Sydney Blue Sox for an outstanding 2025/26 Australian Baseball League season!

This year, the Sox finished with the best record in the league at 24-14, and they hosted their first-ever ABL Championship Series against the Adelaide Giants at Blacktown International Sports Park.

The Sox gave it all they had against a surging Giants team, but a tightly contested three-game series ultimately saw Adelaide capture their third Claxton Shield in four years, solidifying a dynasty.

Giants center fielder Devin Saltiban won Most Valuable Player after a stellar performance in the series.

Championship experience went a long way as the Giants took Game 1 on 23 January with a walkoff 3-2 victory.

In the second inning, Jo Stevens and Michael Campbell put the Sox hitters in scoring position thanks to a walk and a hit, respectively.

Shortstop Hansel Jimenez paid them off with a line drive to right field that brought them home, putting the Sox up 2-0.

Jimenez finished the game with two hits, and two runs scored.

In the third, Pablo Nunez caught a deep one in centre field to rob Nick Ward of a run opportunity after a hit from Ben Fierenzi.

The Sox managed to stand firm in the fourth, even after Saltiban's solo homer, as a double play held off the Giants from doing further damage.

In the eighth, the Sox had runners on second and third with zero outs.

However, Giants relief pitcher Ky Hampton made the play that swung the game. He struck out Briley Knight and Harry Fullerton, and then induced a ground out from Nunez to keep the score at 2-1.

Deep in the eighth, Jordan McArdle walked, while pinch runner Jack Partington advanced to third on a wild pitch. Then Robbie Glendinning hit a sacrifice fly to right field, which allowed Partington to score the equalizing run.

The Sox went quiet in the ninth.

BlueSox Bulletin cont.

Sydney Blue Sox Wrap

2025/26 ABL Season

Mitch Edwards took over Jose Colmenares and smashed a solo homer to right centre to walk off the Sox and take a 1-0 series lead in the best-of-three ABLCS.

Still, the Sox proved why they led the league throughout the season with a 6-1 victory in Game 2 last Saturday to force a deciding Game 3.

Their bats got hot at the right time, while Alex Wells' dominant pitching kept the Giants at bay all game.

Sydney scored early with a run from Dylan Leach, brought home by Jo Stevens on a clean base hit to centre.

Meanwhile, Wells prevented the Giants lineup from gaining any momentum as they couldn't figure out his pitching.

In the fifth, Sydney took the initiative after Harry Fullerton drove Jimenez home with a line drive to right field, as he opened this scoring chance with a single to centre. A wild pitch then let Fullerton cross to put Sydney up 3-0.

The sixth inning decided the game. Both Stevens and Michael Campbell singled, while Jimenez walked.

Stevens scored on a fielding error, while Fullerton's groundout put Campbell on the plate. Then, Jimenez crossed home plate on another wild pitch, blowing the game open at 6-1.

On the mound, Wells continued his masterclass with only six hits allowed across seven innings, striking out four and walking one.

Then, Coen Wynne took over and retired the Giants side in the eighth and ninth to close the game.

Still, the Giants recovered to play a complete game in the third contest to win their third Claxton Shield in four years. The Giants won Game 3, 6-2, on the backs of their superb pitching and effective hitting.

Starting pitcher Josh Hendrickson pitched 5.2 innings and allowed only six hits and struck out seven.



BlueSox Bulletin cont.

Sydney Blue Sox Wrap

2025/26 ABL Season

The rest of the pitching staff also held their ground, while their batting lineup all gathered at least one hit, totaling ten hits and six walks.

After the Giants scored 1-0 in the second, the Sox scored a run of their own deep in the same inning thanks to Jo Stevens and Hansel Jimenez.

Stevens doubled and went to third off Jimenez's bunt, then Stevens crossed home plate after a pair of two-out walks.

However, the Giants mounted a rally in the third that swung the momentum to their side and ultimately helped decide the series.

At the bottom of the third, the Sox failed to score while leaving two baserunners on.

The Giants put all the pressure on them to play catch-up, as Saltiban's fielding stifled the Sox's offense, which was followed by a double play.

Nursing a 4-1 lead, the Giants also scored two more runs at the top of the sixth to secure the championship.

Michael Campbell managed a lead-off walk off Hendrickson, while Jimenez singled and Briley Knight hit a sacrifice fly to score another run for the Sox, 6-2.

The Sox weren't able to generate momentum after that, as the Giants' pitching staff didn't give them anything to work with.



Hampton shut out the Sox at the bottom of the eighth, while Danyony Pulido finished the job in the ninth.

Pulido struck out the first batter, surrendered a single, then induced a double play to finish the series.

Baseball NSW commends the Sydney Blue Sox for playing a terrific ABL season that saw them advance all the way to the Championship Series!

We also congratulate the Adelaide Giants for winning the Claxton Shield after a hard-fought, three-game thriller of a series.

Finally, BNSW thanks everyone who helped make this year's ABL season a reality, and who helped make the season an outstanding one.

See you all next season!

BlueSox Bulletin cont.

Sydney BlueSox Players Win 2025/26 ABL Awards

Baseball NSW congratulates our Sydney Blue Sox players who won the end-of-season ABL awards for 2025/26!

A voting body comprising team representatives and accredited media members who engaged with the league all season voted on the finalists.

The voting also followed the previous years' process.

We commend Eric Rataczak for winning the Helms Award and Landen Bourassa for being named the season's Pitching Champion!

Throughout the season, Rataczak has delivered big hits for the Blue Sox, as his hitting proficiency and batting power combined with his consistency helped produce runs for his team when they needed it most.

He sat constantly at the top of the Sox lineup during the regular season as the team weathered some injuries to a few key players.



Photo credit: Mick G Photography – Eric Rataczak.

The Miami Marlins prospect also finished in the top three of every offensive category during the 2025/26 campaign, providing clutch hits and timely defense.

During the season, the Helms Award winner slashed .336/.411/.571 in 33 games.

BlueSox Bulletin cont.

Sydney BlueSox Players Win 2025/26 ABL Awards

Meanwhile, Landen Bourassa won the Pitching award due to his effective anchoring of the team’s defense during the regular season. He threw the most innings pitched across the entire ABL while remaining consistent in elite run prevention.

He also threw three complete games all season, even as the ABL hasn’t seen a single complete game in the past three seasons. Bourassa’s work on the mound helped propel the Sox to a minor premiership and a berth in the ABL Championship Series.

During the season, Bourassa started 9 games, posting a record of 6-2, an ERA of 2.31 with 62.1 IP and 59 SO and a 1.14 WHIP.

Likewise, we also commend Josh Bishopp for being named finalist for the ABL Rookie of the Year & Relief Pitching Awards. In particular, we celebrate Josh Bishopp for his stellar efforts in his rookie season.

Throughout the Sox campaign, he was one of the league’s best relief pitchers this season, where he backed up the starters with staggering strikeout numbers. On the mound, Bishopp had an ERA of 1.96 for 23.0 IP. He also had 1 SV and 28 strikeouts.

The rookie also played a dominant season for the Sox, where he helped the team pull out some wins with late-inning heroics.

Congratulations to everyone who made it to the list of finalists and won their individual award categories!

We look forward to seeing more of your excellence in future seasons.



Photo credit: Mick G Photography – Landen Bourassa.



Photo credit: Mick G Photography – Josh Bishopp.

Coaches Corner

BNSW is offering Level B and C Coaching Accreditation courses throughout 2026.

Interested participants must register beforehand and must have also completed all pre-requisite learning before attendance.

Moreover, head coaches of all association teams participating in the NSW State Championships must hold Level C Accreditation before the event.

Please take advantage of the last remaining courses over these next few months:

21 March 2026

Level C – Practical Component at Lismore

22 March 2026

Level B at BISP

22 March 2026

Level B – Practical Component at Plattsburg Oval

Visit the BNSW Events page for the registration links.



Call for Nominations 2027 BNSW Hall of Fame

Baseball NSW is proud to announce that the Heritage Committee is accepting nominations for the 2027 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



Last month, four of our NSW ladies were selected in the first Women’s Professional Baseball League (WPBL) draft: Ticara Goldenhuis, Claire and Elodie O’Sullivan, and Maddi Erwin.

Before they head to the US to join their teams, the SBS has featured these women who have made history in Australian baseball in this incisive story about their achievements before the draft, and on their experience being drafted in the first professional women’s baseball league since 1954.

The WPBL comprises four teams representing major US cities--San Francisco, Los Angeles, Boston, and New York--and the first season is slated to start on 1 August 2026 at Robin Roberts Stadium in Springfield, Illinois.



[Click here](#) for more info on the NSW ladies drafted in the WPBL.

For more information on the WPBL starting this year, [click here](#).

Aussies Across Borders cont. Team Australia Announces Roster for 2026 World Baseball Classic

Baseball NSW congratulates our players who made it to the 30-man Team Australia roster for the 2026 World Baseball Classic!

The team assembled a balanced squad that's laden with experience as well as young talent ready to perform at the sport's biggest international stage.

The World Baseball Classic welcomes teams from various countries to play world-class competition in the world's premier baseball tournament.

This year's WBC will see Australia begin pool play in Tokyo where they will face fellow Pool C teams Chinese Taipei, Czechia, Japan, and Korea.

Tune into the World Baseball Classic on these dates! All times AEDT (Sydney)



Mar 5, 2pm: Australia vs Chinese Taipei

Mar 6, 2pm: Australia vs Czechia

Mar 8, 9pm: Australia vs Japan

Mar 9, 9pm: Australia vs Korea

Aussies Across Borders cont.

Team Australia Announces Roster for 2026 World Baseball Classic

The top two teams out of pool play will advance to the quarterfinals in Miami.

During their last time out, Team Australia reached the quarterfinals of the WBC for the first time, and they will look to build on their success this year.

The team welcomed back 17 players from their 2023 World Baseball Classic squad, comprising nine position players and eight pitchers, each with valuable tournament experience.

However, the team also features significant young talent. For instance, thirteen players are aged 26 or under, while 12 will make their World Baseball Classic debut. Meanwhile, ten players will play their first senior Team Australia tournament.

Five players will also bring their experience in Major League Baseball to the squad: Curtis Mead, Warwick Saupold, Jack O'Loughlin and Aaron Whitefield.

Moreover, the former first pick of the 2024 MLB Draft, Travis Bazzana, also joins the squad.

All players in Team Australia have strong connections to ABL clubs, while seven are currently affiliated with an MLB or KBO organisation.

Currently, four players have KBO experience: Lachlan Wells, Coen Wynne, Warwick Saupold, and Jarryd Dale.

Manager of Team Australia David Nilsson spoke with Baseball Australia about the team-first makeup of the team.



"I think the strength of the team is it is built around the sum of parts," Nilsson said. "It's about having a sum of parts that can execute towards a collective goal and by playing as a team."

He also added, "For any team to have success in an international baseball tournament, you need to be fundamentally sound pitching and defensively. That will be one of our strong focus. We have great players who we know can succeed."

Aussies Across Borders cont. Team Australia Announces Roster for 2026 World Baseball Classic

The same collaborative spirit also informed the roster evaluation and selection process, per Nilsson.

“Every month the selection committee would meet,” he said. “As it got closer, the meetings became more frequent. The ABL season absolutely influenced decisions. But we have eyes everywhere. There are people everywhere that contribute to these decisions.”

Ahead of the WBC, 23 of the Team Australia players will fly to Fuchu City to join a two-week training camp.

The remaining seven will attend their respective pro club’s Spring Training.

This training camp should help keep the

players sharp and refine their preparation, ensuring that they will be ready for the intensity of international competition.

“Fuchu is about preparation,” Nilsson told Baseball Australia. “We need to be as prepared as we can for elite level baseball. The camp is about hard work, and everyone really understanding where they fall in the team, connecting and narrowing down on their roles. There is a large emphasis on process to get better and on game speed.”

Baseball NSW wishes our players all the best as they compete against world-class players at the WBC! May you persevere and show how far Australian baseball has come!



Team Australia Roster for 2026 World Baseball Classic

AUSTRALIA

ROSTER

C ROBBIE PERKINS	LHP ALEXANDER WELLS
C ALEX HALL	LHP LACHLAN WELLS
C MITCH EDWARDS	LHP JACK O'LOUGHLIN
INF CURTIS MEAD	LHP JOSH HENDRICKSON
INF TRAVIS BAZZANA	LHP BLAKE TOWNSEND
INF LOGAN WADE	LHP JON KENNEDY
INF JARRYD DALE	LHP COOPER MORGAN
INF RIXON WINGROVE	RHP MITCH NEUNBORN
INF GEORGE CALLIL	RHP TODD VAN STEENSEL
UTL MAX DURRINGTON	RHP WARWICK SAUPOLD
UTL ROBBIE GLENDINNING	RHP CONNOR MACDONALD
OF TIM KENNELLY	RHP COEN WYNNE
OF AARON WHITEFIELD	RHP KY HAMPTON
OF ULRICH BOJARSKI	RHP KIEREN HALL
OF CHRIS BURKE	RHP SAM HOLLAND



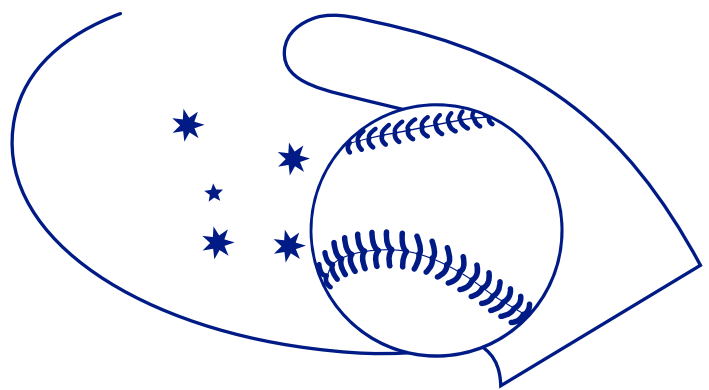

2026 Major Events Dates & Venues Announced

Baseball NSW is pleased to announce the dates and venues of our major tournaments throughout the year!

As we continue the 2026 season, check out all of the exciting events we 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
2025/26 State League	Sep 17th - Mar 8th 2026	Local Clubs
Little League & Little League Div II State Championships	Apr 7th - 12th 2026	BISP Softball

2026 Major Events

Dates & Venues Announced cont.

Event	Date	Venue
Senior League State Championship	April 8th - 11th 2026	Blacktown International Sports Park (BISP)
NSW Hall of Fame Presentation	April 11th 2026	Club Auburn
Australian Women's & Youth Women's Championships	April 12th - 18th 2026	Melbourne (Altona)
Intermediate League State Championship	April 13th - 16th 2026	TBD
Junior League State Championship	April 13th - 17th 2026	TBD
NSW Little League Girls State Championship	April 17th - 19th 2026	Rangers Baseball Club, Hornsby
Australian Senior League Championships	May 13th - 17th 2026	Blacktown International Sports Park (BISP)
Australian Intermediate League Championships	May 21st - 25th 2026	Lismore, NSW
Australian Junior League Championships	May 21st - 25th 2026	Lismore, NSW
Australian Little League Championships	Jun 5th - 11th 2026	BISP Softball
Little League Invitational	July 7th - 11th 2026	Redcliffe
Little League Girls Nationals	July 7th - 11th 2026	Redcliffe

Fukuoka Girls High School All Stars NSW Visit

Baseball NSW would like to thank the Fukuoka Girls High School All Stars team for their visit to Australia at the end of January!

This visit was their third tour to Sydney, and it was the second all female tour since Orio Aishin visited in 2023.

The team has visited Australia on an alternating basis of girls and boys' squads. Moreover, this year, the Fukuoka team comprised girls from high schools all over the Fukuoka Prefecture.

The Girls High School All Stars trained and played exhibition games at Blacktown International Sports Park against a combined squad of the NSW Women's and Youth Women's teams.



Fukuoka Girls High School All Stars NSW Visit cont.

We would also like to thank head coach Risa Nakashima and coach Yuki Kawabata for their collaboration and their engagement with our own New South Wales players. Both teams played four games, with the fourth match played between a combined team with players from both Fukuoka and NSW.

Likewise, we thank Fukuoka delegate Mr. Tomoaki Hashimoto for helping organise the visit and driving the exchange of cultures between the Fukuoka Prefecture and Baseball NSW. The visit has been a great experience for all involved.

Additionally, New South Wales players have also found success during their own visits to Japan. Our players Claire O'Sullivan, Ticara Geldenhuis, Maddi Heath, Isobel Lambert, Lisa Nakashio, Jordan Richardson and coach Laura Neads have learnt from playing and training with the Japanese pro team Kyushu Honeys in 2023 and 2024.

BNSW is grateful for our strong partnership with Fukuoka Prefecture and we hope for a continued relationship of cultural exchange and collaboration with Japan.



Photo credit: Baseball NSW – Mr. Tomoaki Hashimoto with Baseball NSW CEO Matt Rippon.



Photo credit: Baseball NSW.

Fukuoka Girls High School All Stars NSW Visit Gallery

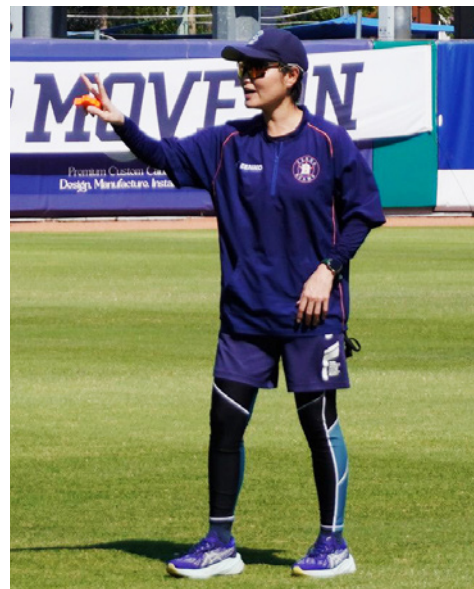


Photo credits: Baseball NSW.

Women's AYWC/AWC Teams 2026

Congratulations to the ladies named on our NSW teams for the 2026 Australian Women's and Youth Women's Championships!

Baseball NSW is proud to announce and congratulate the players selected to represent New South Wales at the upcoming Australian Women's Championship and Australian Youth Women's Championship in Melbourne.

The tournaments will take place at the same time but will have a staggered start. The AWC will begin on 12 April 2026 while the AYWC will start on 13 April. Both tournaments will end on 18 April.

These talented athletes will compete against the best from around the country, showcasing the depth of talent in NSW baseball.

Their hard work, determination, and passion for the game have earned them this well-deserved opportunity.

Prior to the AWC/AYWCs, the NSW U16 and U18 squads have also won the tournament's gold and bronze medals, respectively.



Baseball NSW wishes our ladies the very best as they represent New South Wales in Melbourne! May the spirit of competition guide you to success!

Australian Youth Women's Championship 2026 Team Roster

AYWC Team Roster 2026

Adele Acosta

Heba Arifaki

Lily Baxter

Madeleine Cesare

Skyla Coyle

Madison Forbes

Emma Gainsford

Georgia Gately

Lucy Glastonbury

Milla Hodge

Charley Le Grice

Ameila Mahboub

Mackenzie Paroz

Jemma Pekert

Jessica Rosser

Taylor Stevens



Australian Women's Championship 2026 Team Roster

AWC Team Roster 2026	
Olivia Bonello	Cayla Johnston
Kara Cassidy	Mattea Karn
Ryleigh Delacour-Batch	Isobel Lambert
Maddison Erwin	Tamryn Love
Ticara Geldenhuis	Sayaka Mori
Breanna Green	Lisa Nakashio
Elise Grenfell	Claire O'Sullivan
Maddison Heath	Ebony Van Eynde
Mackenzie Jackson	Ivy White

Australian Youth Championships 2026 Results

Baseball NSW congratulates our NSW and NSW Country teams for their excellent representation at the recently concluded 2026 Australian Youth Championships in Melbourne!

Firstly, we congratulate the NSW U16 team for winning gold at the U16 AYC, after a dominant 12-1 performance against Victoria.

The U16 squad went out on the races early, scoring three runs in the first before an out was recorded. U16 AYC Most Valuable Player Noah Nash dinged a two-run triple and scored again as Mitch Howay hit a single to bring him home.

Besides collecting four hits and two RBI, Nash was also doing work on the mound and on the field. He pitched two shutout innings, while making a highlight save in the outfield, where he collided with a teammate to make the catch while still holding onto the ball.

Nash's final numbers for the tournament are 16-for-27, 1 HR, 12 RBI, 7 BB, 10 SB, 4.1 IP, 2 H, 2 ER, 3 SO.



**2026 AUSTRALIAN
U16/U18 YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Meanwhile, fellow NSW U16 player Dan Price received the Golden Glove award for his defensive performance. In the finals, Price struck out two runners to push his team to the gold medal game, while garnering a 1.000 fielding percentage with eight assists from behind the plate across the tournament.

NSW pitcher Jack Phegan also received the Golden Arm award for his pitching throughout the tourney. In the gold medal game, Phegan threw 5.0 innings and allowed a single run with zero walks. His final numbers are 12.2 IP, 2 ER, 11 H, 1 BB, 8 SO.

Australian Youth Championships 2026 Results cont.

We also congratulate the NSW U18 team for winning bronze at the AYC. The team was led by Ashton Kennedy, whose MVP-caliber performance listed his squad to the Preliminary Final in a 3-2 win over South Australia, securing at least bronze.

In that game, Kennedy also became the first pitcher to tally ten strikeouts in the 2026 AYC. Kennedy retired the first six hitters in South Australia’s lineup, then he struck out two more hitters in the third.

Overall, Kennedy pitched all 7.0 innings and gave up only three hits and one earned run.

The NSW squad also pushed the eventual gold medalist Victoria to the limit as both teams played in a thoroughly exciting slugfest that ultimately saw Victoria advance to the gold medal game with a 10-9 walkoff victory.

Meanwhile, the NSW Country U16 team also placed fifth, having defeated Western Australia 7-3 in their consolation match.

The Country U16 squad also won via a comeback, as they trailed 3-0 deep in the sixth, but scored seven runs to secure their third win in this year’s tourney.

Dustan Evans was the hero of the sixth, driving in two runs on a double.



Photo credit: Hugh Whittle/Baseball Australia – NSW U16 team celebrates the gold medal at 2026 AYC in Melbourne.

Australian Youth Championships 2026 Results cont.

Meanwhile, Tennyson Bragg led all batters for NSW Country with a 2-for-4 game with 2 RBI.

On the mound, starting Country pitcher Corey Daniels threw over 3.2 innings and gave up five hits and three runs. Relief pitcher Cooper Stark also threw 3.1 innings and gave up zero runs.

Finally, we also commend the efforts of NSW Country U18 who finished sixth in their division. In their consolation match against the ACT Roos, the Country team came back to secure a draw in a thrilling 7-7 contest.

The Country U18 squad had to come back from a 1-5 deficit in the third thanks to major hits from Blake Brennan and Tyler Lessard of the Roos.

However, deep in the same inning, Country scored three runs to come

within a single run, 5-4, although the Roos scored two more runs at the top of the fourth.

Then Country responded with a single by Dustan Evans and Aaron Hsieh to tie the game at 7 in the bottom of the fourth.

Still, the Roos' pitching staff closed the game out as Archer Wals allowed only a walk in his 1.1 innings while Cooper Stark gave up zero runs and only two hits in his 1.2 innings.

Dustan Evans led NSW Country with three hits and two runs.

Baseball NSW congratulates all of our teams who gave it their all in the 2026 AYC! We also tip our hat to the other medalists, and we thank all the teams for making this year's tournament a great success.



Photo credit: Hugh Whittle/Baseball Australia – NSW Country U16 finished fifth at 2026 AYC in Melbourne.

Australian Youth Championships 2026 Gallery



Photo credit: Hugh Whittle/Baseball Australia – NSW U18 team won bronze medal at 2026 AYC's in Melbourne.



Photo credit: Hugh Whittle/Baseball Australia – NSW Country U18 finished sixth at 2026 AYC's in Melbourne.

Doosan Bears Spring Training 2026 Wrap

Baseball NSW thanks the Doosan Bears for visiting Blacktown International Sports Park to hold their 2026 Spring Training!

The Bears were in Sydney for four weeks, starting from 19 January to 19 February 2026, and they conducted high-intensity training sessions every day at Blacktown. They also played two scrimmage games. Both the training and the scrimmages were open to the public.

Moreover, the Bears used all three diamonds at BISP, proving their determination to sharpen their skills and their work ethic to pursue constant improvement.

The team held their annual Spring Training to prepare for the upcoming 2026 KBO season. Their training at Sydney was also one stage in their preparation, as they will also fly to Japan to play preseason matches before the season starts.

Meanwhile, the Bears are led by coach Kim Won-hyung, former pitching coach for the Korean National team who debuted as a pitcher in 1991 with the



now-disbanded Ssangbangwool Raiders after playing for Jeonju Dong Middle School and Jeonju High School.

As a pro, Kim played for 21 years before moving on to coaching.

Prior to their trip, Kim spoke to Korea JoongAng Daily and said that the Bears “have always been a team that puts pressure on opponents with dynamic, high-energy play.” He added that he “will work to restore that ‘Hustle Bears’ identity and bring meaningful baseball to [Bears] fans.”

Doosan Bears Spring Training 2026 Wrap cont.

In the KBO, the Doosan Bears are one of the league’s powerhouse clubs, with a rich history dating back to 1982. Throughout the years, the Seoul-based club has also won six Korean Series titles (1982, 1995, 2001, 2015, 2016, 2019).

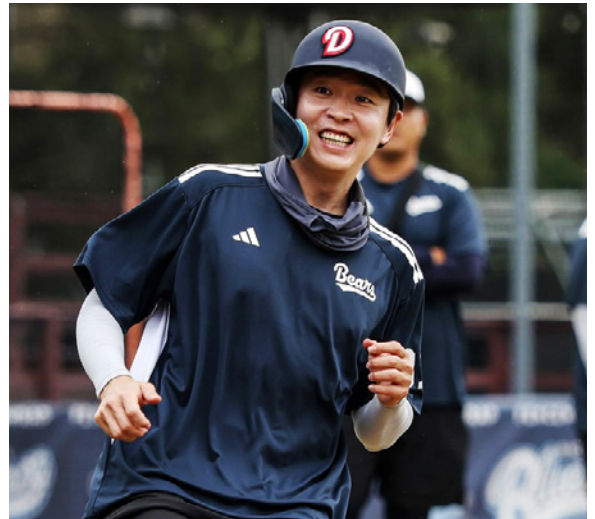
Baseball NSW’s facilitation of Doosan’s Spring Training signifies the strengthening of the relationship between the Asia Pacific baseball organisations.

We hope to see the Bears and other teams across Asia visit Sydney for training and other partnership opportunities.

We also wish the Bears the very best as they move on to the next stages of their preparation for the coming KBO season! Go Bears!



Doosan Bears Spring Training 2026 Gallery



2026 Rookies Cup Tournament Wrap Up

Baseball NSW thanks everyone who joined the 2026 Rookies Cup hosted by the Pittwater Baseball Club last 22 February 2026!

The tournament had five pools with 25 teams overall, which also included a girls pool of four teams. Moreover, there were ten diamonds set up for the day, where the teams played almost 50 games.

After the games, the following teams won their respective pools, and they received a small trophy and some certificates.



Pool Red	
Winner	Manly
Runner-Up	Colts Blue
Pool Green	
Winner	Greater Western Maroon
Runner-Up	Ryde Black
Pool Blue	
Winner	Cronulla White
Runner-Up	Manly White

Pool Yellow	
Winner	Manly Grey
Runner-Up	Iron Birds Gold
Pool Pink	
Winner	Manly

2026 Rookies Cup Tournament Wrap Up cont.

We would like to thank tournament director Stuart Hanrahan for leading the tournament and for ensuring the event ran smoothly. Hanrahan also went above and beyond with ground marking and ground set up.

Thanks goes to UIC Katie Page for supporting more than 30 umpires across the tournament, and to Pittwater Secretary Julie Hogan and her BBQ and Canteen Teams for supplying hearty food and drinks all day.

Likewise, we also thank all the volunteers who helped out throughout the day.

The Rookies Cup is one of the most anticipated events in the BNSW calendar. A participation-focused event, it is designed for players League Age 8-10, and it is a day dedicated to their fun, development, and participation.

Moreover, this event is intended to give young baseballers an unforgettable experience on the field, more than competition or championship trophies.

Baseball NSW congratulates all the kids who played in this year's Rookies Cup! See you all on the next part of your baseball journey!



2026 Rookies Cup Tournament Gallery



2026 Rookies Cup Tournament Gallery cont.



Apply Now for the Game on for Change Grant

Baseball NSW is calling on all interested clubs and associations to apply for the Game on for Change - Preventing Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence through Sport grant!

This grant is offered by the NSW Office of Sport and is worth \$3,135,000. Likewise, funding is offered across three tiers, which aims to empower all levels of the sporting sector and allow clubs and associations to lead in the prevention of domestic, family and sexual violence.

Additionally, the grant program aims to build the capacity and capability of sports organizations to address the gendered drivers of domestic,



**Office
of Sport**

family and sexual violence through increased knowledge and values as well as improved skills and behaviours.

Applications close at 1PM on 4 March 2026 for the 'Expanding Reach' Tier (Medium) and the "'Whole-Of' Action' Tier (Large).

Outcomes advised for all tiers will start from April 2026 onwards.

For more information on the grant and the grant application process, check out the NSW Office of Sport's webpage [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.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS...



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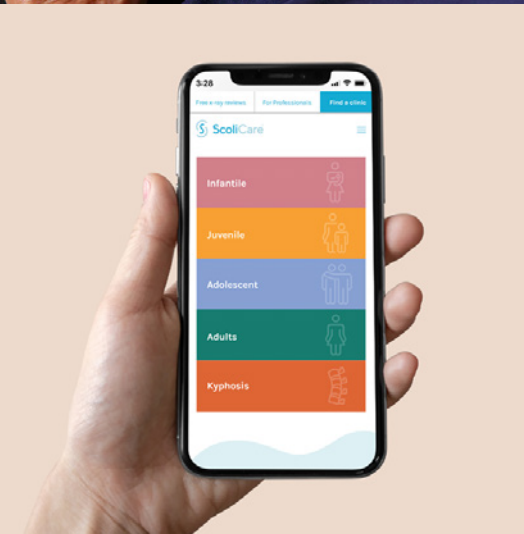
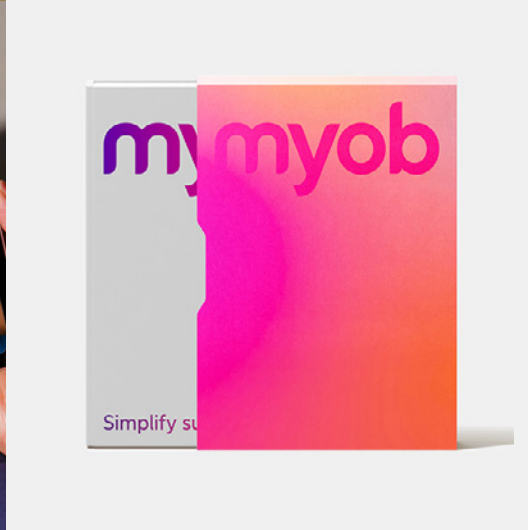
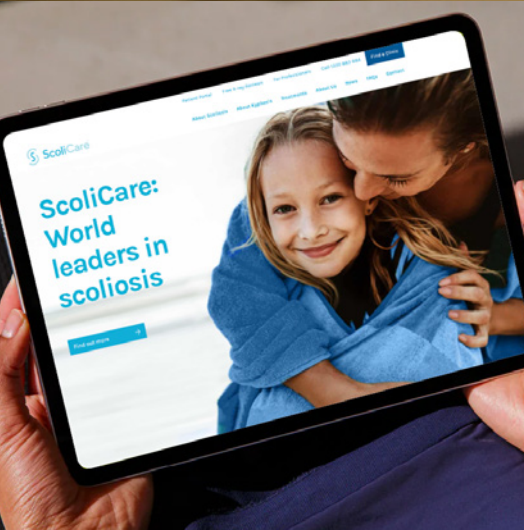
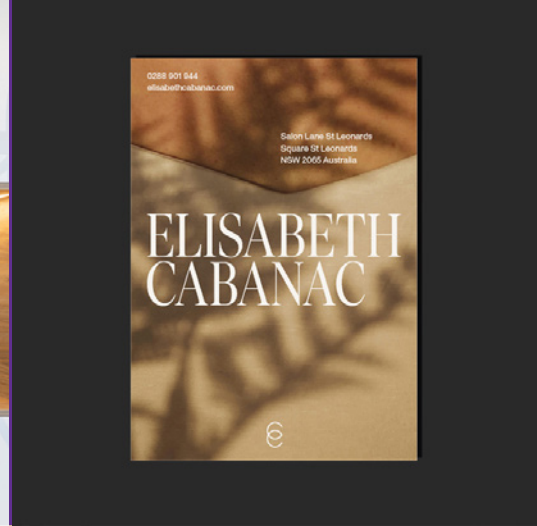


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