



2015/2016 Junior Competition Update

Baseball Victoria is pleased to announce the following updates regarding the 2015/2016 Junior Competition.

Charters

Over the last couple of months, Baseball Victoria has been consulting with all charters and clubs in rolling out and finalizing the charters for upcoming seasons.

During this consultation period, it became clear that there were a number of challenges that existed, which we have attempted to alleviate by realigning the charters.

Some of the challenges are a by-product of a junior structure that has not been adjusted for over 30 years. The new junior structure will help address some of these challenges, however, other areas still need to be reviewed such as the junior criteria, how we recruit participants, ensuring a quality entry-level program and changing the way we deliver the sport. Increasing our resources within each charter by having a Charter Development Coach and Officer will assist in improving our sport.

The main changes that have occurred during the consultation period:

1. Geelong decided to become their own charter
2. Due to Geelong becoming their own charter and low participation numbers, the LL Major and Junior League teams from clubs within the Western Mets Charter will join the Northern Diamondbacks charter
3. Decreased participation numbers in the Yarra Rangers charter has resulted in Waverley joining the Eastern charter and Berwick joining the Southern Mariners charter.

The charters for the Little League Major, Junior League and Senior League will be as follows:

Southern Mariners	Eastern
Berwick Bonbeach Cheltenham Chelsea Moorabbin Sandringham Springvale	Blackburn Ormond Malvern Melbourne Upwey Waverley
Northern Diamondbacks	Geelong Baycats
Doncaster Essendon Fitzroy Newport Preston Sunshine Werribee Williamstown	Made up of local Geelong Clubs

The Western Mets charter will conduct a Little League Minor competition on Friday nights and Berwick and Pakenham Pumas will also form a Little League Minor Charter.

Baseball Victoria is still working with some clubs which may result in further clubs joining the above charters.

Charter Academy Program

In 2015/2016, Baseball Victoria is pleased to launch the charter academy program. The academy program is a high level competition. It will be a competition-based academy program that picks the best players from both the Little League and Junior League age groups, in order to provide high quality competition games for those players as well as an academy training program. The sessions will be held on Saturday mornings alternating each week between training and playing games against the other charter academy teams.

Originally the cost to participate in this program was \$420. However, Baseball Victoria (BV) is pleased to announce that it has been able to source funding from Sports and Recreation Victoria (SRV) Victorians More Active funding that will significantly subsidise this program for 2015/2016. This has enabled us to reduce the cost to participate in the charter academy program to **\$250**. **Note:** BV and each of the Charters will endeavor to look at future funding opportunities to keep the cost of all Charter programs from 2015 – 16 onwards to a minimum.

Charter Development Coaches and Officers:

Baseball Victoria is pleased to announce the following appointments for the roles in each charter:

Charter	Charter Development Coach	Charter Development Officer
Southern Mariners	John Carlile	Chris Kennedy
Eastern	Chris Harman	TBA
Northern Diamondbacks	Paul Brown	Bronwyn Gell
Geelong Baycats	TBA	Joshua Beaumont
Western Mets	N/A	Bronwyn Gell

The charter development coach (CDC) will oversee the charter academy in each charter as well as working to improving the coaching standard within the charter.

The charter development officer (CDO) will be responsible for going to schools on behalf of the clubs in their charter to increase participation in the sport.

Charter Committee:

Each charter will form a committee to be made up of members from clubs within the charter. This committee is formed for the sole purpose of organising and overseeing the charter competitions, charter representative teams and the promotion and development of the sport within the charter. These charter committees are still to be formed. Once finalised clubs will be advised of the members of the committees.

Baseball Victoria would like to take this opportunity to thank all clubs for their patience and the valuable feedback and assistance provided during the consultation period. The changes we are implementing are significant changes that would not be possible without your assistance and support.