



# Australian Baseball Federation

2015/16 Annual Report

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# Chairman & CEO Report

## It is with pleasure that we present the 2015/16 Australian Baseball Federation Annual Report.

The past 12 months has again seen significant growth in baseball and it is with great pleasure we present to our members the 2015/16 Australian Baseball Federation Annual Report.

The health of the game is best measured against the following key metrics, which have all seen significant progress over the last 12 months.

- Club Membership (participation)
- Exposure (interest in the game)
- Fan Engagement through digital channels
- Development of 'pathways' programs
- Success of the Australian baseball League (ABL)

At a time when participation levels are declining in many other sports, participation in baseball has increased by 6.2% since the last reporting period. Baseball now boasts 57,474 Full Active Members, recording over 50,000 participants for the second year running, and baseball's ninth year of consecutive growth. With a further 139,500 recorded in baseball's exposure category (interest in the game), the game now engages just under 200,000 Australians regularly (196,974).

A significant contributor to baseball's growth has been the success of Little League in Australia. With Little League well established and Junior League coming into its second year, 2015/16 saw the introduction of Senior League for players aged 13 to 16.

Little League continues to be embraced by the Australian baseball community with Australia now having the 3rd highest number of Little League participants worldwide.

The pathway in Australian Baseball has never been healthier. Little League brings clubs together as Charters to compete in the spirit of participation. As with previous Championships, the winner of Australian Little League Championship won automatic qualification to the Little League World Series in Williamsport, USA, with Hills (NSW) taking that honour in 2016 to represent Australia against the world's best. However, such is the strength of the Little League program in Australia, that our Junior League Champions were also granted automatic qualification in 2016. Cronulla (NSW) beat Ryde (NSW) 7-4 in the Australian Junior League Championship Final for that honour, but it was in the Senior League Championship, won by Victoria's Southern Mariners, that stole the headlines. The Mariners had to qualify for the Senior League World Series via an Asia-Pacific qualifier, and went on to make Australian baseball history.

A truly wonderful testament to Aussie baseball grit and determination, as well as skilled execution of our great game, the Southern Mariners were not only the first Australian team to represent at a Senior League World Series, they exceeded all expectations and made the Senior League World Series Championship game. Despite going down to 7-2 to Central (USA) in the final (August 2016), the Mariners broke new ground for Australian baseball and certainly demonstrated the health of the Australian pathways participation program.

Further growth was seen in female participation, with 10,613 females now playing the sport. This unprecedented annual growth of 18.4% has been the result of focused participation strategies, including the continued growth of the National Women's and Youth Women's Championships and significant effort by those volunteers and Australian Emeralds Officials who are so committed to the growth of women's baseball in Australia.

Digital engagement of members and supporters increased over the past 12 months, with the ABL continuing to serve the game of baseball as a powerful marketing and engagement tool. The ABL digital media platforms, highlighted by ABLtv.com, grew exponentially with over 5.6 million unique views (2014/15: 2.4M unique views) of ABL video content totalling more than 211,000 hours of ABL content watched across all platforms.

This, combined with 25%+ growth in the ABL's social media following, set new standards in digital media engagement for fans.

The ABL completed its 6th season and continues to build on its success. With the League the primary driver of participation and growth for baseball in Australia, Baseball Australia commenced preliminary discussions with Major League Baseball, with whom it shares ownership of the League, to acquire its share and for Baseball Australia to become the sole owner of the League. This was formally announced in August 2016.

Congratulations goes to the champions Brisbane Bandits for a hard fought ABL Championship series win – defeating Adelaide Bite in a clean sweep. We would like to acknowledge the incredible support of all State Associations, their General Managers and dedicated staff and volunteers who make this possible.

Reduced government funding continues to have an impact on the sport; however, BA's financial position remains healthy. Members' accumulated funds were reported as \$1.33M, a slight reduction (2014/15: \$1.69M) from the previous reporting year, recording a net profit before extraordinary items of \$238,120.

The ABF continues to operate as a responsible and sustainable entity, ensuring members funds are expended ethically and in line with the board approved strategic direction.

We have also worked tirelessly and closely with the World Baseball and Softball Confederation (WBSC) to secure baseball's re-admittance into the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games.

Baseball is defined by its vibrant and committed members, supporters, staff and volunteers. To our principal partner, Australian Sports Commission, we thank them for their ongoing investment and support in baseball. To Major League Baseball, we extend our ongoing thanks for their continued support and investment in the development of Australian baseball.

To our other great partners including Boral, Bendigo Bank, Majestic Athletic, New Era, Virgin Australia, Hertz and Fielders Choice, we thank them sincerely

To the State and Territory Associations and their Boards, staff and volunteers, who do such a great job in delivering and servicing the sport at the coalface, we thank you for your ongoing commitment and support.

To the ABF Board, thank you for your contribution over the past 12 months and to the staff at ABF, your commitment to the development and success of our sport is unwavering.

In closing, we'd like to make special mention again to those that help deliver our sport, week-in, week-out, our volunteers. Baseball is a community which cares, our volunteers are second to none and are the foundation on which our game is built.

Yours sincerely



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D Hynes'.

**David Hynes**  
Chairman



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brett Pickett'.

**Brett Pickett**  
Chief Executive Officer

# Message from the Australian Sports Commission

The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) congratulates our National Sporting Organisations (NSOs) on their achievements this year. In particular, we congratulate all of our athletes who represented Australia in the Rio Olympic and Paralympic Games. You did so with great distinction. The country is proud of your commitment and dedication, and the manner in which you conducted yourself throughout the campaigns.

In the aftermath of the Games, the Board of the ASC has re-committed to the core principles of Australia's Winning Edge, the ASC's ten year plan for high performance sport introduced in 2012. The four key principles are: high aspirations for achievement; evidence-based funding decisions; sports owning their own high performance programs; and a strong emphasis on improved leadership and governance.

We are confident these principles serve the long term interests of sporting sector.

We will also use the experience of the last four years to seek to improve implementation of Winning Edge in ways that will benefit the sector.

The ASC is equally committed to increasing community participation in sport, particularly amongst our children and youth. We have been pleased this year to see our flagship participation program Sporting Schools reach over 4,300 schools in partnership with NSOs.

Innovations by the ASC this year included the release of our Integrity Guidelines for Directors and Leaders of Sporting Organisations, which provides directors with comprehensive and practical guidance for the first time on anti-doping, sport science and medicine, illicit drugs, match-fixing, child protection and member protection – vital issues for maintaining trust and respect in the sporting sector.

We also staged our inaugural Athlete and Coaches Forum, giving Australia's elite athletes and coaches the opportunity to share their experiences and enhance their leadership capabilities.

And we were delighted to see fruits of our efforts to improve female opportunity in sports, with improved elite and participation opportunities in women's sport, better media exposure, some outstanding new commercial deals, and an increase in female representation at NSO board level from 27 per cent to a 39 per cent across the top 23 NSOs.

Looking ahead, ASC priorities include:

- further institutional and governance reform in sport, with an emphasis on increased national integration and alignment
- increased funding for sport, including new non-government sources of funding
- further embedding sport in schools' educational programs
- improved national coordination of sports infrastructure spending, and
- Improved use of data and technology in sports.



**John Wylie AM**

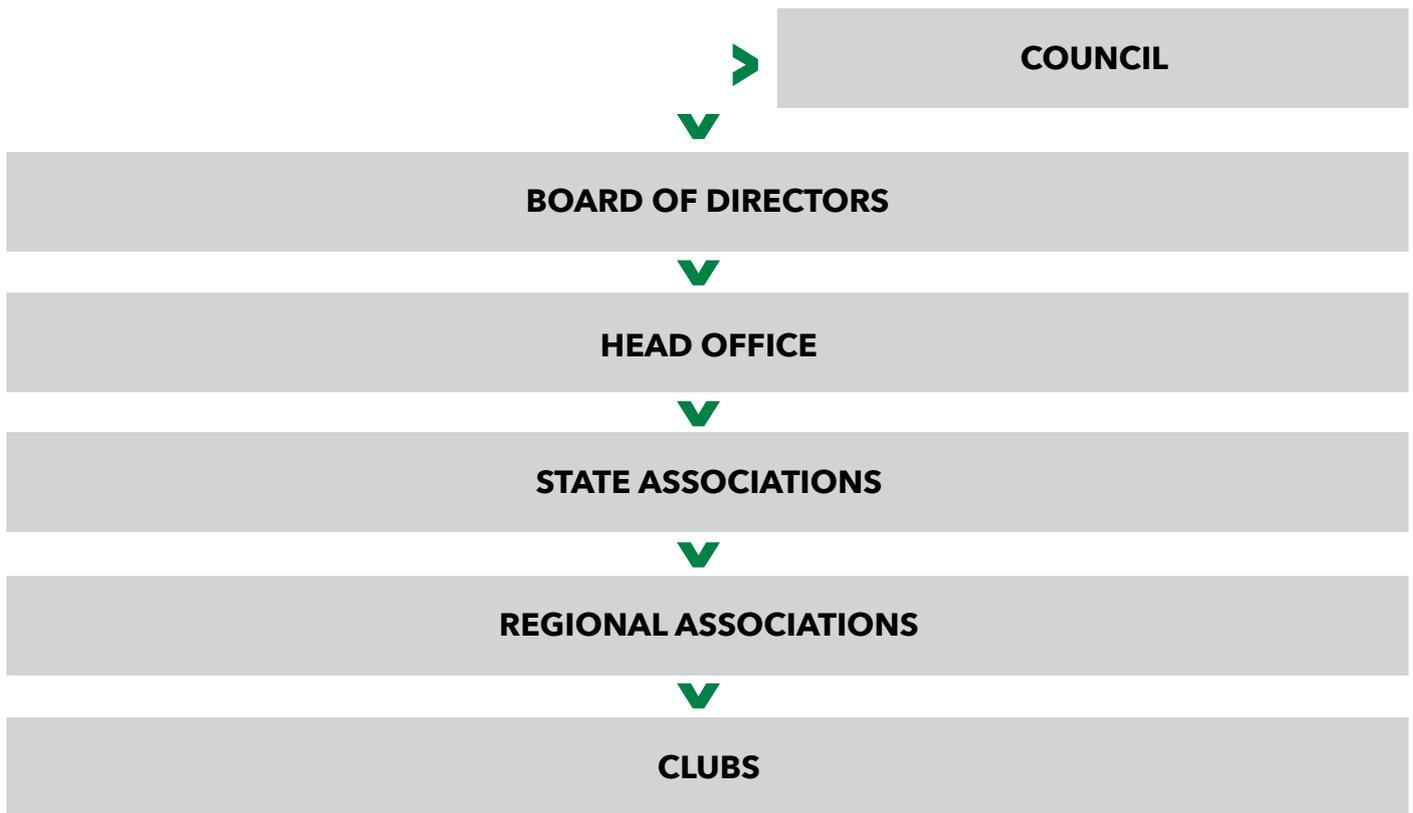
Chair

Australian Sports Commission

# Structure & Personnel

Baseball Australia is governed by an independent Board of Directors and is administered by a Chief Executive Officer and a team of employees who are responsible for the day-to-day delivery of our core operational areas of the ABL, participation, high performance, business development and finance.

## Organisation Structure



## Board of Directors

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### David Hynes

Chairman  
Portfolios: Baseball Operations, Olympics, ABL,  
International Affairs and Facilities

### Jane Lamming

Portfolios: Legal & Governance  
*Appointed April 2016*

### Yasmine Gray

Portfolio: Marketing &  
Communications

### Peter Schmigel

Portfolios: Government Relations  
*Appointed April 2016*

### Peter Williams

Portfolios: Finance, Heritage Committee (Chairman)

### Rob Sadler

Portfolios: Legal and Governance  
*Appointed April 2016* (Participation Portfolio)

### Geoff Hooker

Portfolios: Commercial and Events, High  
Performance and Baseball Operations  
*Appointed April 2015*

### Brett Pickett

Chief Executive Officer

## Management & Staff

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### Chief Executive Officer

Brett Pickett

### Office & Administration Coordinator

Melinda Baxter

## Baseball Operations

### Chief Operating Officer

Justin Drew

### Head of Coach & Officials Development

Peter Gahan  
*Departed: January 2016*

### Head of Technical Officials

Brett Robson

### Player Development Coordinator

Vacant

### Financial Controller

Kerran Evans (Joint-ABL role)

### Head of High Performance

Glenn Williams

### National Sport Medicine & Druge Education Officer

Bruce Rawson

### Head of Little League & Nat'l Champs

Mathew Sundstrom

### Head of Facility Development

Daniel Amodio (Joint-ABL role)

### Men's National Team Coach

Jon Deeble

### Women's National Team Coach

Simone Wearne

### High Performance & Events Coordinator

Sharon Butty *Appointed September 2015*

## Marketing, Communications & Partnerships

### Head of Marketing & Communications

Clinton Bown

### Communications & Marketing Coordinator

Sam Finn *joined April 2016*

### Digital Media & Broadcast Manager

Andrew Reynolds (Joint-ABL role)

### Head of Corporate Partnerships

Alex Pellerano (Joint-ABL role)

### Marketing, Membership & Participation Coord.

Miranda Frisken

## Member Associations

Baseball Australia is made up of seven (7) State and Territory member associations. Each of our State and Territory members play a vital role in the development and delivery of our sport.

The State Council consists of a representative from each State and Territory, ultimately the President or Commissioner as highlighted below



### BASEBALL CANBERRA

Commissioner: Theo Vassalakis (Council)  
Chief Executive Officer: Donn McMichael  
General Manager: Tom Vincent  
[www.act.baseball.com.au](http://www.act.baseball.com.au)



### BASEBALL NORTHERN TERRITORY

President: Michael Bongiorno (Council)  
Executive Officer: Lisa Hooley  
[www.nt.baseball.com.au](http://www.nt.baseball.com.au)



### BASEBALL WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Chairman: Stephen Byrne (Council)  
Chief Executive Officer: Lachlan Dale  
[www.wa.baseball.com.au](http://www.wa.baseball.com.au)



### BASEBALL SOUTH AUSTRALIA

President: Mark Snelgrove (Council)  
Chief Executive Officer: Nathan Davison  
[www.baseballsa.com.au](http://www.baseballsa.com.au)



### BASEBALL NEW SOUTH WALES

Chairman: Anthony Brasher (Council)  
Chief Executive Officer: Mark Marino  
[www.nsw.baseball.com.au](http://www.nsw.baseball.com.au)



### BASEBALL QUEENSLAND

Commissioner: Robert Wesener (Council)  
Chief Executive Officer: Colin Dick  
[www.qld.baseball.com.au](http://www.qld.baseball.com.au)



### BASEBALL VICTORIA

President: Myles Foreman (Council)  
General Manager: Ashley Blair  
[www.baseballvictoria.com.au](http://www.baseballvictoria.com.au)

## Committees

### Baseball Operations

Brett Pickett (BA)  
Justin Drew (BA)  
Geoff Hooker (BA)

### Heritage Committee

Peter Williams (Chair)  
Robert Moden (BA – Heritage  
Committee Coordinator)  
Kevin Cantwell (QLD)  
Hartley Anderson  
Lionel Harris (NSW)  
Peter Dihm (VIC)  
Robert Laidlaw (SA)  
Doug Corker (WA)

### Umpire Development

Paul Latta (QLD), Chair  
Mel MacKay (QLD)  
Brett Robson (WA)

### State Directors of Scoring

Vicki Beard (ACT)  
Sue McCollough (NSW)  
Libby Williams (NT)  
Meri Brealey (QLD)  
Michele Winther (VIC)  
Natalie Todd (WA)  
Enza Henty (SA)  
Judy Clifford (CNSW)

### Council of Australian Baseball Scorers (CABS)

#### Technical Commission

Steve Eads (SA)  
Meri Brealey (QLD)  
Caroline Adamson (WA)



### Life Members

1957 - Mr Reg E Darling\*  
1976 - Mr G C (Don) Mould\*  
1977 - Mr J B (John) Hollander OBE\*  
1977 - Mr E (Tim) Bassingthwaighte  
1978 - Mr Robert (Bob) J Black\*  
1985 - Mr John Anderson  
1992 - Mr Neville Pratt OAM\*  
1993 - Mr Kingsley Wellington  
2000 - Mr Ken Douglass  
2000 - Mr Peter Dihm

2001 - Ms Jan Thurley  
2003 - Mr Ross Straw\*  
2003 - Mr Rodney Byrne OAM\*  
2004 - Mr Ian Ross  
2005 - Mr Alan Waldron  
2009 - Mr Ron Morgan\*  
2011 - Mr Mark Peters  
2013 – Geoff Pearce  
2013 – Ron Finlay

*\*Denotes deceased*

# Financial Reports

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11. Directors' Report

13. Directors' Declaration

14. Independent Auditor's Report

15. Independence Declaration

16. Income Statement

17. Balance Sheet

18. Equity Statement

19. Cashflow Statement

20. Notes

## Directors' Report

In accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors, the Directors present their financial report of Australian Baseball Federation Inc. ("ABF") for the year ended 30 June 2016 and the state of Australian Baseball Federation Inc. financial affairs as at that date

### Board Members

The following persons held office as board members of the ABF during the period or since the end of the year and up to the date of this paper.

David Hynes	President	
Peter Williams	Director	
Yasmine Gray	Director	
Rob Sadler	Director	
Geoff Hooker	Director	
Peter Schmigel	Director	Appointed 13 April 2016
Jane Lamming	Director	Appointed 13 April 2016
Brett Pickett	Chief Executive Officer	

### Board Meetings

During the year six board meetings were held.

<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Meeting Attended</i>
David Hynes	6
Geoff Hooker	6
Peter Williams	5
Yasmine Gray	6
Rob Sadler	6
Peter Shmigel	1
Jane Lamming	1
Brett Pickett	6

### Principal Activities

The general activities of ABF are set out throughout this Annual Report and there were no significant changes from the principal mission "to provide national leadership and a national framework for harnessing the energies of the many baseball people and organisation throughout Australia with the aim of building the business of baseball for the benefit of all".

### Review of Operations

The Australian Baseball Federation (ABF) is the peak body for the sport of baseball in Australia. It is recognised by the International Baseball Federation (IBAF), the Australian Sports Commission, the Australian Olympic Committee, Major League Baseball and other professional leagues around the world.

The ABF's main function is to conduct, encourage, promote, standardise, control and administer all forms of the sport throughout Australia. As part of its operations the ABF also conducts the annual Major League Baseball Australian Academy Program (MLBAAP), in conjunction with Major League Baseball (MLB), which is the benchmark player development program for the sport. The ABF is also a partner in a joint venture with MLB to operate the professional Australian Baseball League (ABL).

	<b>30 June 2016</b>	<b>30 June 2015</b>
<b>Australian Baseball</b>	(352,145)	248,533
<b>Major League Baseball</b>	(9,735)	25,036

\* Included in the revenue of MLBAAP and expenses of ABF is an interdivision transfer of: \$50,000. Figures shown in the Director's Report and Statement of Comprehensive Income are excluded from this amount.

### Changes in State of Affairs

No significant changes in the state of affairs occurred during the year.

**Board Member Benefits**

One board member has received or is entitled to receive, during or since the financial year, a benefit because of a contract made by the entity or related body corporate with the board member, a firm which the board member is a member or an entity in.

This statement excludes any benefit included in the aggregate amount of the emoluments received or due and receivable by board members, shown in the entity’s accounts, or the fixed salary of a fulltime employee of the entity or related body corporate.

**Financial Position**

The net assets of the entity have remained constant over the year.

**After Balance Date Events**

There have been no significant changes in the state of affairs of ABF since year end.

**Officers’ Indemnities and Insurance**

During the financial year ABF entered into an insurance contract which serves to indemnify Directors and staff for costs incurred by them in defending legal proceedings arising out of the performance of their normal duties as Directors and staff officers.

**Environmental Issues**

The entity’s operations are not subject to significant environmental regulation under the law of the Commonwealth and State.

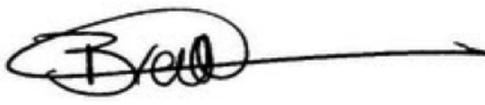
**Auditors Independence Declaration**

A copy of the auditor’s independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 has been included.

Signed in accordance



**David Hynes**  
Chairman  
8 October 2016



**Brett Hurrell**  
Chief Executive Officer

## Directors' Declaration

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The directors have determined that the company is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

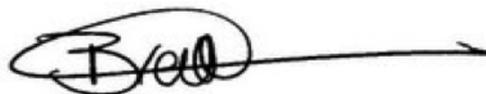
The directors declare that:

- (a) The financial statements and notes, are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and:
  - (i) comply with Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001 to the extent described in Note 1 to the financial statements; and
  - (ii) give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2015 and its performance as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows, for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements; and
- (b) in the directors opinion:
  - (i) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and
  - (ii) the financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors.



**David Hynes**  
Chairman  
Gold Coast, 8 October 2016



**Brett Pickett**  
Chief Executive Officer

## Independent Auditor's Report

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### Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Australian Baseball Federation Inc., being a special purpose financial report which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2016 and the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity and Cash Flow Statement for the period ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration.

### Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The directors responsibility also includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the directors financial reporting under the Corporations Act 2001. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

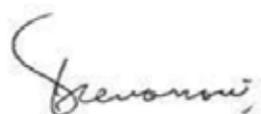
### Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001. We confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001, was provided to the directors of Australia Baseball Federation Inc on the same date as the date of this auditor's report.

### AUDIT OPINION

In our opinion, the financial report of Australian Baseball Federation Inc is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2016 and of its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1; and
- (b) (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Corporations Regulations 2001.



Russell Tevorrow  
Registered Company Auditor No. 8708  
Gold Coast, 10 October 2016

## Independence Declaration

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Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 to the directors of Australian Baseball Federation Inc.

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief during the period ended 30 June 2016 there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

JMR Group



**Russell Trevorrow**

Registered Company Auditor No. 8708  
Gold Coast, 10 October 2016

## Income Statement

### Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2016

	Note	30 June 2016 \$	30 June 2015 \$
<b>Major League Baseball Academy</b>			
Revenue	2 (a)	372,355	334,048
Interest Received	2 (a)	14	12
Expenses	2 (b)	(382,104)	(309,024)
<b>Total</b>		<b>(9,735)</b>	<b>25,036</b>
Operating revenue ABF	2 (c)	4,378,304	4,154,001
Interest received	2 (c)	16,278	7,620
Profit on Disposal of Assets		-	-
<b>Total revenue</b>		<b>4,394,582</b>	<b>4,161,621</b>
Operating expenses ABF	2(d)	(4,746,604)	(3,912,728)
Interest paid	2(d)	(124)	(361)
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>4,746,727</b>	<b>(3,913,089)</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>248,533</b>
<b>Profit (Losses) attributable to members of the entity</b>		<b>(381,880)</b>	<b>273,569</b>

## Balance Sheet

### Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2016

	Note	30 June 2016 \$	30 June 2015 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	11	1,110,940	1,295,421
Trade and other receivables	3	474,679	606,771
Other assets	4	425,440	244,197
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>2,011,059</b>	<b>2,146,389</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	6	72,831	49,693
Other assets	4	-	600,000
Financial Assets	5	25	25
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>72,856</b>	<b>649,718</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>2,083,915</b>	<b>2,796,107</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	7	555,092	491,391
Other liabilities	8	104,909	510,559
Tax liabilities	8	-	-
Short term provisions	9	58,612	69,843
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>718,613</b>	<b>1,071,793</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Long service leave	9	35,273	32,404
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>35,273</b>	<b>32,404</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>753,886</b>	<b>1,104,197</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>1,330,029</b>	<b>1,691,910</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained earnings	10	1,330,029	1,691,910
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>1,330,029</b>	<b>1,691,910</b>

## Equity Statement

### Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 30 June 2016

	Reserves \$	Retained Profits \$	Total \$
<b>Balance at 30 June 2014</b>		<b>1,418,340</b>	<b>1,418,340</b>
Profit (loss) for the period		273,569	273,569
<b>Balance at 30 June 2015</b>	-	<b>1,691,909</b>	<b>1,691,909</b>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2015</b>		<b>1,691,909</b>	<b>1,691,909</b>
Profit (loss) for the period		(361,880)	(361,880)
<b>Balance at 30 June 2016</b>	-	<b>1,330,029</b>	<b>1,330,029</b>

## Cashflow Statement

### Cashflow statement for the year ended 30 June 2016

	Note	30 June 2016 \$	30 June 2015 \$
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>			
Receipts from clients		4,424,985	5,029,825
Payments to suppliers and employees		(4,587,507)	(3,828,523)
Interest received		16,292	7,620
Interest paid		(124)	361
<b>Net Cash Flow from Operating Expenses</b>	<b>11 (a)</b>	<b>(146,354)</b>	<b>1,209,283</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>			
<i>Payment for:</i>			
Other investments		-	(200,000)
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(38,127)	(16,875)
<i>Proceeds from:</i>			
Proceeds from sale of investment		-	-
<b>Net Cash from Investing Activities</b>		<b>(38,127)</b>	<b>(216,875)</b>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held		(184,481)	(992,420)
Cash at the beginning of Period		1,295,421	303,001
<b>Cash at the End of the Perior</b>	<b>11 (b)</b>	<b>1,110,940</b>	<b>1,295,421</b>

## Notes

### NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Reporting Status

The directors have determined that the company is not a reporting entity. As a result, the financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared to satisfy the financial report preparation requirements of the Corporations Act 2001.

The Australian Baseball Federation Inc. is an incorporated society, registered in South Australia. The association's principal activity is to manage, develop and promote baseball in Australia.

#### Basis of Preparation

The report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001, and the following applicable Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 101:	Presentation of Financial Statements
AASB 107:	Cash Flow Statements
AASB 108:	Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
AASB 1031:	Materiality
AASB 1048:	Interpretation and Application of Standards

No other Accounting Standard, Australian Accounting Interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have mandatory application. The company has however applied the measurement and recognition criteria of all accounting standards.

#### Reporting Basis and Conventions

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs modified by the revaluation of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities for which the fair value basis of accounting has been applied.

The directors evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial report based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the company. There were no key adjustments during the year which required accounting estimates or judgements.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the company in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

The charge for current income tax expense is based on the profit/loss for the year adjusted for any non-assessable or disallowed items. It is calculated using the tax rates that have been enacted or are substantially enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax is accounted for using the balance sheet liability method in respect of temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements. No deferred income tax will be recognised from the initial recognition of an asset or liability, excluding a business combination, where there is no effect on accounting or taxable profit or loss.

Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply to the period when the asset is realised or liability is settled. Deferred tax is credited in the income statement except where it relates to items that may be credited directly to equity, in which case the deferred tax is adjusted directly against equity.

Deferred income tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future tax profits will be available against which deductible temporary differences can be utilised. Future income tax benefits in relation to tax losses are not brought to account unless there is virtual certainty of realisation of the benefit.

**(b) Property, Plant, and Equipment**

Property, plant and equipment are brought to account at cost or at independent or directors' valuation, less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation or amortisation. The carrying amount of property, plant and equipment is reviewed annually by directors to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal.

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including capitalised lease assets, but excluding freehold land, are depreciated over their useful lives using the diminishing method commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements. Depreciation rates and methods are reviewed annually and, if necessary, adjustments are made.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are:

Class of Asset	Depreciation Rate
Plant and Equipment	20 – 40%

The gain or loss on disposal of all fixed assets, including re-valued assets, is determined as the difference between the carrying amount of the asset at the time of disposal and the proceeds of disposal, and is included in operating profit before income tax of the economic entity in the year of disposal. Any realised revaluation increment relating to the disposed asset, which is included in the asset revaluation reserve, is transferred to retained earnings at the time of disposal.

**(c) Intangibles**

Licences, Patents and trademarks

Licences, patents and trademarks are recognised at cost of acquisition. All intellectual property has a finite life and is carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any impairment losses.

**Research and Development**

Expenditure during the research phase of a project is recognised as an expense when incurred. Development costs are capitalised only when technical feasibility studies identify that the project will deliver future economic benefits and these benefits can be measured reliably.

Development costs have a finite life and are amortised on a systematic basis matched to the future economic benefits over the useful life of the project.

**(d) Impairment of Assets**

At each reporting date, the company reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the income statement.

**(e) Payables**

A liability is recorded for trade creditors and other accounts payable with respect to goods and services received prior to balance date, whether invoiced to the company or not. Trade creditors and other accounts payable are normally settled within 30 days.

**(f) Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for the company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits expected to be settled within one year together with entitlements arising from wages and salaries and annual leave which will be settled after one year, have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on-costs. Other employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits.

Contributions are made by the company to employee superannuation funds and are charged as expenses when incurred.

**(g) Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the company has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

**(h) Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities on the balance sheet.

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in banks and investments in money market instruments, net of any outstanding bank overdrafts.

**(i) Trade Debtors**

Sales made on credit are included in "Trade Debtors" and are recorded at the balance due, less a provision for doubtful debts for an amount estimated to be uncollectible. Trade debtors are due within 30 days from the end of the month.

**(j) Revenue**

Income is recorded on an accruals basis as the goods are delivered or the service provided. Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Government grants are only recognised as revenue when they are received and there is reasonable assurance that the company will or has complied with the conditions attaching to them. Grants are recognised as income over the periods necessary to match them with the related costs which they are intended to compensate.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

**(k) Financial Instruments**

*Recognition*

Financial instruments are initially measured at cost on trade date, which includes transaction costs, when the related contractual rights or obligations exist. Subsequent to initial recognition these instruments are measured as set out below.

*Loans and receivables*

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

*Financial liabilities*

Non-derivative financial liabilities are recognised at amortised cost, comprising original debt less principal payments and amortisation.

*Fair value*

Fair value is determined based on current bid prices for all quoted investments. Valuation techniques are applied to determine the fair value for all unlisted securities, including recent arm's length transactions, reference to similar instruments and option pricing models.

*Impairment*

At each reporting date, the group assess whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. In the case of available-for-sale financial instruments, a prolonged decline in the value of the instrument is considered to determine whether an impairment has arisen. Impairment losses are recognised in the income statement.

**(l) Goods and Services Tax**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisitions of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

The net amount of GST receivable/payable to the ATO is included as a current asset/liability in the balance sheet.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which are recoverable from, or payable to the ATO, are classified as operating cash flows.

Comparative figures have also been changed where classifications of income and expenditure items have been altered from the prior year as a result of a review by the directors. The new classifications have been altered to reflect a more accurate view of the company's operations.

## NOTE 2 - REVENUE

	30 June 2016	30 June 2015
	\$	\$
<b>(a) Operating activities MLBAAP</b>		
MLBAAP income	372,355	334,048
Interest revenue	14	12
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>372,369</b>	<b>334,060</b>
<b>(b) Operating expenses MLBAAP</b>		
MLBAAP expenses	382,104	309,024
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>382,104</b>	<b>309,024</b>
<b>(c) Operating Activities ABF</b>		
ASC grants	1,137,000	1,141,000
Commercial	543,956	473,287
Interest revenue	16,278	7,620
Membership fees	1,015,999	913,626
National Championships and events	1,358,255	1,261,945
National teams	285,295	303,340
Other income	37,799	60,803
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>4,394,582</b>	<b>4,161,621</b>
<b>(d) Operating Expenses ABF</b>		
Audit services	10,675	11,200
Commercial	320,703	254,301
Event Underwrite	112,836	-
Interest expense	124	361
Membership	268,125	273,602
National Championships and events	1,247,144	1,185,320
National teams	367,970	504,593
Office and administration	357,824	424,542
Other expenses	311,013	86,559
Payroll and consultants	928,314	930,610
Provision for Doubtful Loans	600,000	-
State funding grants	222,000	242,000
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>3,913,089</b>	<b>3,913,089</b>

**NOTE 3 - TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES**

	<b>30 June 2016</b>	<b>30 June 2015</b>
	\$	\$
<b>Current</b>		
Trade debtors	390,717	454,883
Provision for doubtful debts	(34,941)	(17,851)
Other receivables	40,004	44,130
Stock on hand	78,899	125,609
Current tax assets	-	-
	<b>474,679</b>	<b>606,771</b>

**NOTE 4 - OTHER ASSETS**

	<b>30 June 2016</b>	<b>30 June 2015</b>
	\$	\$
<b>Current</b>		
Loans - other	-	6,000
Prepayments	425,440	238,197
	<b>425,440</b>	<b>244,197</b>
<b>Non-Current</b>		
Balance brought forward	600,000	400,000
Movement of loan	-	200,000
Lee write up (down) of impaired assets	(600,000)	-
	-	600,000
	425,440	844,167

**NOTE 5 - FINANCIAL ASSETS**

		<b>30 June 2016</b>	<b>30 June 2015</b>
		\$	\$
Other	(Note 13)	25	25
Investment - ABL		25	25

Australian Baseball League Pty Ltd (ABL) is a company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. The Company's principal activity is to develop and operate the Australian Baseball League being professional baseball in Australia

**NOTE 6 - PLANT & EQUIPMENT**

	<b>30 June 2016</b>	<b>30 June 2015</b>
	\$	\$
Plant & equipment	325,736	290,164
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(252,905)	240,471
	<b>72,831</b>	<b>49,693</b>

**By Category:**

	<b>Furniture &amp; fittings at cost</b>	<b>Office equipment at cost</b>	<b>Computer equipment at cost</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Gross carrying amount</b>				
Balance at 30 June 2015	118,314	65,360	105,845	289,519
Additions:	541	33,408	4,179	38,128
Disposals:	(1,913)		-	(1,913)
<b>Balance at 30 June 2016</b>	<b>116,942</b>	<b>98,768</b>	<b>110,042</b>	<b>325,734</b>
<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>				
Balance at 30 June 2015	96,272	52,691	90,863	239,826
Expense	4,495	3,861	6,508	14,864
Disposals:	(1,786)			(1,786)
<b>Balance at 30 June 2016</b>	<b>98,981</b>	<b>56,552</b>	<b>97,371</b>	<b>252,904</b>
<b>Net carrying amount</b>	<b>17,962</b>	<b>42,217</b>	<b>12,653</b>	<b>72,831</b>

**NOTE 7 - TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES**

	<b>30 June 2016</b>	<b>30 June 2015</b>
	\$	\$
<b>Unsecured</b>		
Trade creditors	259,627	369,389
Accrual and other payables	295,465	122,002
	<b>555,092</b>	<b>491,391</b>

**NOTE 8 - OTHER LIABILITIES**

	<b>30 June 2016</b>	<b>30 June 2015</b>
	\$	\$
<b>Current</b>		
Revenue received in advance	104,909	510,559

**NOTE 9 - PROVISIONS**

	<b>30 June 2016</b>	<b>30 June 2015</b>
	\$	\$
<b>Current</b>		
Accrued annual leave	58,612	69,843
<b>Non-Current</b>		
Long service leave	35,273	32,404
	<b>93,885</b>	<b>102,247</b>

**NOTE 10 - RETAINED EARNINGS**

	<b>General</b>	<b>MLBAAP</b>	<b>Total</b>
	\$	\$	\$
<b>30 June 2014</b>			
Balance at the beginning of the period	1,298,270	107,069	1,405,339
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	261,534	25,036	286,570
Transfer to equity			
Prior year adjustment			
<b>Equity at 30 June 2015</b>	<b>1,559,804</b>	<b>132,015</b>	<b>1,691,909</b>
<b>30 June 2015</b>			
Balance at the beginning of the period	1,559,804	132,105	1,691,909
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year (i)	(352,145)	(9,735)	361,880
Transfer to equity			
Prior year adjustment			
<b>Equity at 30 June 2016</b>	<b>1,207,659</b>	<b>122,370</b>	<b>1,330,029</b>

(i) The results are grossed up (down) by including funds allocated to MLBAAP by ABF

**NOTE 11 - CASH FLOW INFORMATION**

	<b>30 June 2016</b>	<b>30 June 2015</b>
	\$	\$
<b>(a) Reallocation of net cash from operating activities to operating profit after income tax</b>		
Net profit (loss) after income tax	273,569	273,569
<b>Adjustment for non cash items</b>		
Depreciation	16,875	16,875
<b>Adjustment for change in assets and liabilities</b>		
Decrease/(increase) in:		
Debtors	64,166	-
Prepayments	187,243	-
Other current assets	(264,102)	50,379
Increase/(decrease) in:		
Accounts payable	(109,762)	303,894
Other creditors	(238,522)	342,305
Provisions	591,638	2,473
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<b>(146,354)</b>	<b>1,209,293</b>

(b) For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and bank deposits at call net of bank overdrafts. Cash at the end of the year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the accounts as follows:

**Reconciliation of cash**

Cash at bank	1,110,640	1,295,121
Petty cash	300	300
	<b>1,110,940</b>	<b>1,295,421</b>

**NOTE 12 - AUDITOR'S REMUNIERATION**

	<b>30 June 2016</b>	<b>30 June 2015</b>
	\$	\$
<b>Remuneration of the auditor of the company for:</b>		
Auditing and reviewing of financial accounts	10,675	11,200
Other services	-	-
	<u>10,675</u>	<u>11,200</u>

**NOTE 13 - INVESTMENT IN AUSTRALIAN BASEBALL LEAGUE PTY LTD**

		<b>30 June 2015</b>	<b>30 June 2014</b>
		\$	\$
<b>ABF holds a 25% stake in Australian Baseball League Pty Ltd (ABL)</b>			
Equity 25 on dollar ordinary shares	(Note 5)	25	25
Long Term Loan	(Note 4)	600,000	600,000
Less Provision for Doubtful Loans		(600,000)	-
		<u>25</u>	<u>600,025</u>

# Business Operations

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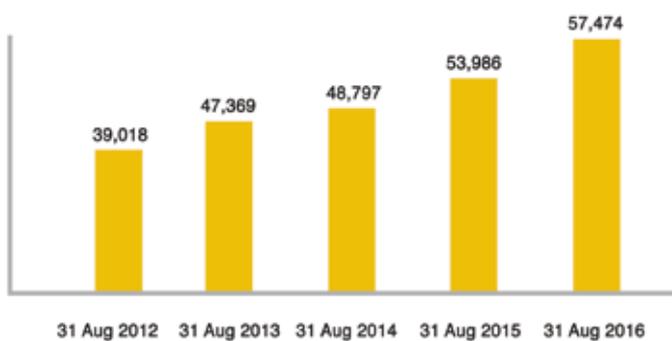
# Baseball Operations

## Membership & Participation

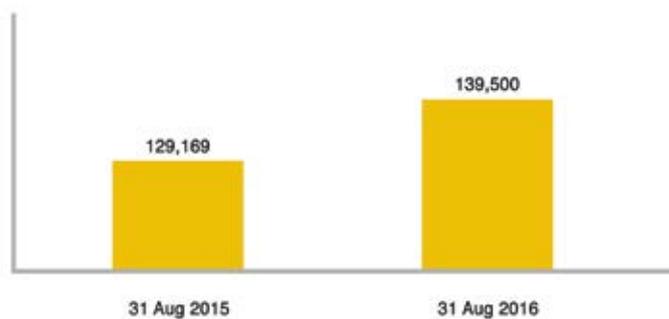
The 2015/16 year saw the sport reach a membership base of 57,474 full active members by the end of the reporting period, up from 54,100. Exposure Category Participants for 2015-16 also grew to a total of 139,500.

The sport has now experienced nine consecutive years of membership growth, and was re-categorised from a Category D to a Category B sport by the Australian Sports Commission.

### Full Active Membership Growth



### Exposure Category Growth



### Aussie T-Ball and Sporting Schools

Aussie T-Ball remains as the sports National entry level program, and our major recruitment tool. Sporting Schools has seen Aussie T-Ball delivered far more broadly within schools and provided greater opportunity for conversion to club participation. The sport continues to recognise and investigate the opportunity that exists through T-Ball participation in schools with the view to better engage in this space over coming years.

### Women's Baseball

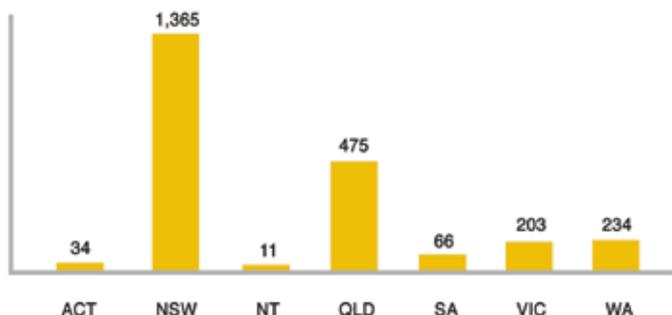
As an identified priority area for the sport, female participation continues to grow. 2015-16 saw a further increase from 8,964 female members to 10,613. This 18.4% growth can be attributed to increased opportunities at a state level including competitions and camps as well as the efforts of the club network.

## Coach Development

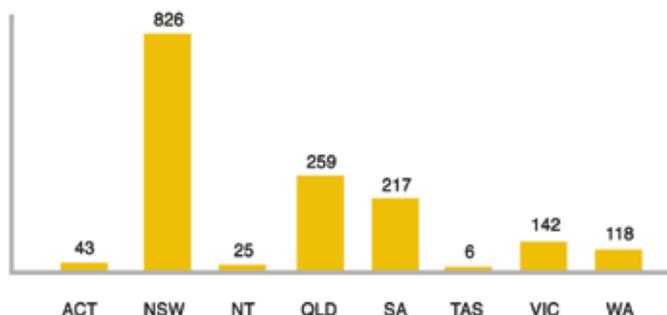
For the first time in 2015-16, Baseball Australia undertook efforts to record numbers of both accredited and non-accredited coaches. This exercise was about further understanding the delivery of the sport and also devising strategies to ensure quality of program delivery and the continued growth of the game.

The number of accredited coaches grew from 1,897 in 2014/15 to 2,388 in 2015/16, and at the same time the number of non-accredited coaches was recorded at 1,636.

### Accredited Coaches



### Non-Accredited Coaches



## Officials Development

### Council of Australian Baseball Scorers (CABS)

The Council of Australian Baseball Scorers (CABS), coordinated by Lorraine Dunn of South Australia, has established a program of competency grading and accrediting scorers Australia-wide. An accreditation system exists for book scoring (Levels 0 to 5) and computer scoring (Levels 3IT and 4IT).

#### CABS Technical Commission:

Steve Eads (SA), Meri Brearley (QLD), Caroline Adamson (WA)

#### International Appointments

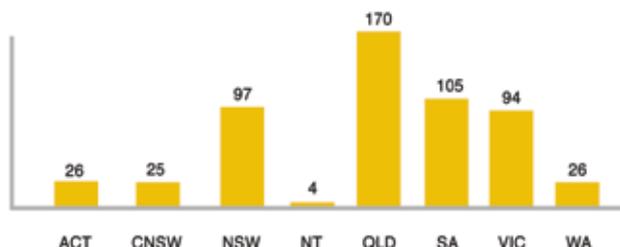
WBSC Premier 12, Jennie Maloney

#### Development of Scorers

The recruitment and training of scorers is conducted by the State Accreditation Coordinators, whose sterling (and voluntary work) has resulted in 547 accredited and financial CABS members nationwide:

State	Head	Members
ACT	Vicki Beard	22 members
CNSW	Judy Clifford	25 members
NSW	Sue McCullough	106 members
NT	Libby Williams	4 members
Qld	Meri Brealey	175 members
SA	Enza Henty	109 members
Vic	Michele Winther	95 members
WA	Natalie Todd	24 members

### CABS Members by State



State-by-state scorer numbers are as follows:

ACT - 22 | CNSW - 25 | NSW - 106 | NT - 4 | QLD - 175 | SA - 109 | TAS - 0 | VIC - 95 | WA - 24

## Umpiring

### Umpires Directorate (State Directors of Umpiring)

Paul Latta (QLD), Trent Thomas (NSW), Matt Pearson (ACT), Ian McKenzie (VIC), Blake Halligan (SA), David Gripper (WA)

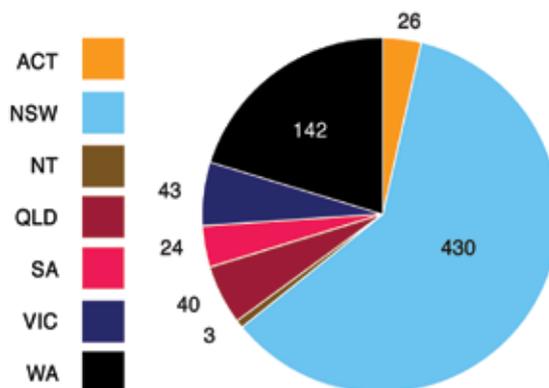
### International Appointments

Brett Robson (WBSC Premier 12, World Baseball Classic Qualifier), Trent Thomas (WBSC U18 World Cup), Kevin McGuire (WBSC U12 World Cup)

### Umpires Working Overseas

Tom West (MiLB), Takahito Matsuda (MiLB), Jon Byrne (MiLB, to November 2015)

## National Umpire Numbers



## Little League

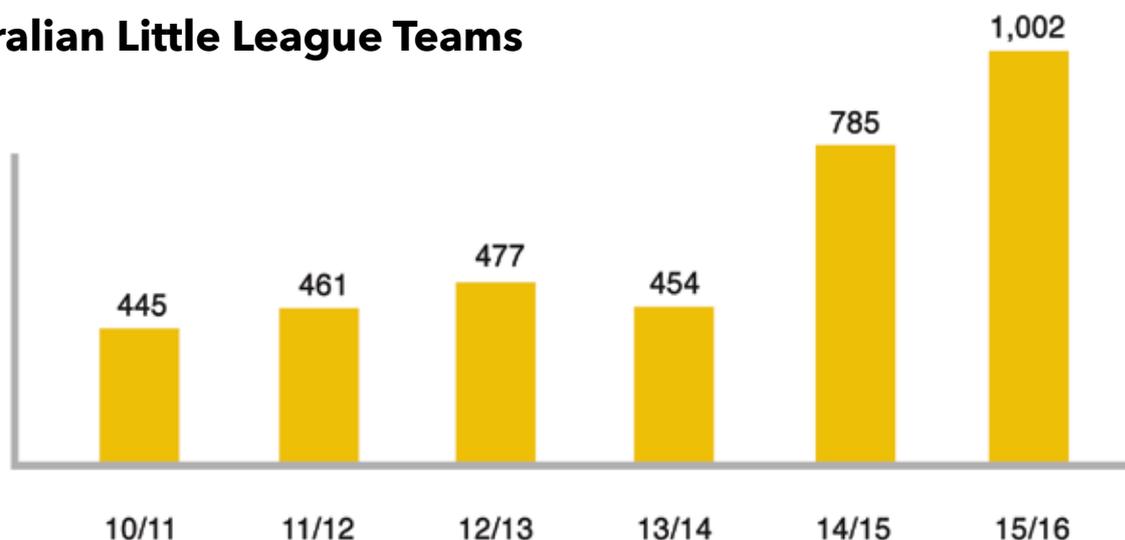
Little League continues to be embraced by the Australian baseball community with Australia now having the 3rd highest number of Little League participants worldwide.

Following on from the successful introduction of the Junior League division in 2014/15, Australia was granted automatic entry to the Junior League World Series in 2016 by Little League International.

2015/16 saw the successful introduction of Senior League (for 13-16 year olds) culminating in the inaugural Australian Senior League Championship in May 2016.



## Australian Little League Teams



### Australian Senior League Championship

Albert Park, Lismore NSW, hosted to the 2016 Australian Senior League Championship, from 14th to the 19th of May.

The Southern Mariners took out the inaugural Australian Senior League Championship after defeating Hills 6-1 in a fantastic final. The Eastern Phantoms took home the bronze after defeating the Adelaide Titans 12-2

**1. Southern Mariners**

- 2. Hills
- 3. Eastern Phantoms
- 4. Adelaide Titans

(In Alphabetical Order)

- Adelaide Armada
- Brisbane South
- Central Coast
- Cronulla
- Eastern Athletics



### Australian Junior League Championship

Diamond Sports West Beach and Glenelg Baseball Complex, Adelaide SA, hosted to the 2016 Australian Junior League Championship, from 22nd to the 27th of May.

Cronulla defeated fellow New South Wales side Ryde 7-4, to become the 2016 Australian Junior League Champions.

**1. Cronulla**

- 2. Ryde
- 3. Manly
- 4. Northern Metros

(In Alphabetical Order)

- Adelaide Pirates
- Adelaide Waves
- Brisbane North
- Canberra
- Central Firebirds
- Eastern Athletics
- Eastern Phantoms
- Geelong Baycats
- Gold Coast Pirates
- Hills
- Northern Diamondbacks
- Swan Hills Aces

### Bendigo Bank Australian Little League Championship

Albert Park, Lismore NSW, hosted to the 2016 Bendigo Bank Australian Little League Championship; from 8th to the 13th of June.

Hills defeated Central Coast 7-3 in the championships game, while Ryde defeated Adelaide Rays to claim the bronze medal.

**1. Hills**

- 2. Central Coast
- 3. Ryde
- 4. Adelaide Rays
- 5. Swan Hills
- 6. Central Firebirds
- 7. Manly
- 8. Macarthur
- 9. Northern Metros
- 10. Eastern Athletics
- 11. Brisbane North
- 12. Brisbane Metro
- 13. Gold Coast Pirates
- 14. Adelaide Seahawks
- 15. Southern Mariners
- 16. Canberra

(In Alphabetical Order)

- Coastal Bay Sharks
- Eastern Phantoms
- Geelong Baycats
- Northern Diamondbacks

## Senior League Asia Pacific Championship

Local Victorian Charter the Southern Mariners became Australia's first representatives at the Senior League Asia Pacific – Middle East Regional Championship in Clark, Philippines from July 11 – 16, emerging as Champions and qualifying for the Senior League World Series.

<b>Game One</b>		<b>Game Three</b>	
Philippines	4	Indonesia	0
Australia	21	Australia	33
<b>Game Two</b>		<b>Game Four</b>	
Australia	16	Australia	2
CNMI	0	Guam	1
<b>Final</b>			
Guam	0		
Australia	10		

## Senior League World Series

The Southern Mariners of Victoria represented Asia – Pacific Region at the Senior League World Series. The event was held in Bangor, Maine from the 31st July through to the 6th August 2016. The Southern Mariners finished the World Series as runners up after being defeated in the championship game 7-2.

<b>Game One</b>		<b>Game Three</b>	
Asia Pacific	8	Latin America	7
US Central	13	Asia Pacific	13
<b>Game Two</b>		<b>Game Four</b>	
US Southwest	1	Asia Pacific	7
Asia Pacific	2	Maine D3	6
<b>Final</b>			
Asia Pacific	2		
US Central	7		

## Junior League World Series

Cronulla of New South Wales were Australia's first representatives at the Junior League World Series. The event was held in Taylor, Michigan from the 14th through to the 21st August 2016.

<b>Game One</b>		<b>Game Two</b>	
Asia Pacific	5	Australia	3
Australia	1	Latin America	14



## Little League World Series

Hills from New South Wales represented Australia at the Little League World Series. The event was held in Williamsport, Pennsylvania from the 18th through to the 28th August 2016. Hills won two games in the double elimination tournament as they became Australia's most successful team at the Little League World Series to date.



<b>Game One</b>		<b>Game Two</b>		<b>Game Three</b>		<b>Game Four</b>	
Europe Africa	1	Australia	2	Australia	2	Mexico	10
Australia	3	Latin America	3	Caribbean	1	Australia	0

# National Championships

## U16 National Championship

For the first time in 37 years, South Australia claimed the U16 National Championship, beating Victoria Blue 7-4. Western Australia defeated Victoria White to take home the bronze.

1. **South Australia**
2. Victoria Blue
3. Western Australia
4. Victoria White
5. Queensland
6. New South Wales
7. Country NSW
8. Canberra

### Awards

Golden Bat Jarryd Dale (VIC Blue)  
 Golden Glove Dawson Summers (WA)  
 Golden Arm Duane Johannsen (QLD)  
 MVP Jarryd Dale (VIC Blue)

## U18 National Championship

For the first time three decades, Country NSW won the U18 National Championship defeating Victoria Blue 4-1. While New South Wales defeated Queensland to walk away with the Bronze Medal

1. **Country NSW**
2. Victoria Blue
3. New South Wales
4. Queensland
5. Western Australia
6. Canberra
7. South Australia
8. Victoria White

### Awards

Golden Bat Jordan McArdle (SA)  
 Golden Glove Harrison Fullerton (NSW)  
 Golden Arm Mitchell Inskip (CNSW)  
 MVP Oliver Dunn (VIC Blue)

## National Women's Championship

NSW made it three wins in a row after winning the gold-medal matchup 11-7 over Victoria. Western Australia took out the bronze defeating Queensland.

1. **New South Wales**
2. Victoria
3. Western Australia
4. Queensland
5. Australian Capital Territory

### Awards

Golden Bat Tahnee Lovering (NSW)  
 Golden Glove Tammy McMillan (QLD)  
 Golden Arm Kim McMillan (NSW)  
 MVP Laura Neads (NSW)

## Youth Women's Championship

Western Australia won the gold-medal matchup 5-4 over Queensland. New South Wales took out the bronze.

1. **Western Australia**
2. Queensland
3. New South Wales
4. New South Wales Country
5. Victoria

### Awards

Golden Bat Jenna Dyer (QLD)  
 Golden Glove Kelsey Brennan (WA)  
 Golden Arm Natasha McDonnell (NSW)  
 MVP Emma Froemke (WA)



## National Teams

### U18 Canada vs Australia WBSC Friendly Series

Australia took on Canada at Surfers Paradise Baseball Club in an eight game series. The series was sanctioned by the WBSC. Australia won the series 7 games to 1.

First	Last	Pos.	State Team	First	Last	Pos.	State Team
Max	Barrett	Pitcher	VIC	Joshua	Rawlinson	Utility	WA
George	Callil	Infield	VIC	Rhys	Steedman	Pitcher	WA
Jye	Deeble	Pitcher	QLD	Ben	Tsui	Outfield	NSW
Jack	Enciondo	Pitcher	VIC	Nate	Vankan	Outfield	QLD
Dean	Frew	Infield	NSW	Alexander	Wells	Pitcher	NSW
Joshua	Hendrickson	Pitcher	WA	Lachlan	Wells	Pitcher	NSW
Mitch	Holding	Catcher	VIC	Jess	Williams	Utility	WA
Ryan	Kift	Outfield	WA	Daniel	Myrmell	Outfield	NSW
Tristan	King	Catcher	WA	Mason	Pickard	Infield	SA
Lachlan	MacDonald	Pitcher	QLD	Kyle	Cross	Pitcher	NSW
James	McCallum	Outfield	NSW	Brad	Inglis	Pitcher	ACT
Mitchell	Neunborn	Utility	WA	Alan	Kenny	Pitcher	WA
James	Percival	Outfield	NSW	Michael	Ryan	Pitcher	WA

### Coaches

Steve Fish (Manager, WA), Graeme Lloyd (Pitching Coach, WA), Damian Shanahan (Assistant Coach, VIC), Glenn Williams (Assistant Coach, NSW) Ben Onofrio (Physio, SA) Neil Barrowcliff (EO, NSW)

### U18 World Cup

The U18 Team travelled to Osaka Japan to take part on the U18 World Cup. The team performed extremely well to come away with a fourth place finish.

First	Last	Pos.	State Team	First	Last	Pos.	State Team
Max	Barrett	Pitcher	VIC	James	McCallum	Outfield	NSW
George	Callil	Infield	VIC	Mitchell	Neunborn	Utility	WA
Jye	Deeble	Pitcher	QLD	James	Percival	Outfield	NSW
Jack	Enciondo	Pitcher	VIC	Joshua	Rawlinson	Utility	WA
Dean	Frew	Infield	NSW	Rhys	Steedman	Pitcher	WA
Joshua	Hendrickson	Pitcher	WA	Ben	Tsui	Outfield	NSW
Mitch	Holding	Catcher	VIC	Nate	Vankan	Outfield	QLD
Ryan	Kift	Outfield	WA	Alexander	Wells	Pitcher	NSW
Tristan	King	Catcher	WA	Lachlan	Wells	Pitcher	NSW
Lachlan	MacDonald	Pitcher	QLD	Jess	Williams	Utility	WA

### Coaches

Steve Fish (Manager, WA), Graeme Lloyd (Pitching Coach, WA), Damian Shanahan (Assistant Coach, VIC), Glenn Williams (Assistant Coach, NSW), Ben Onofrio (Physio, SA), Neil Barrowcliff (EO, NSW)



## ABL All-Star Game

Team Australia took on the World All-Stars at the Australian Baseball League All-Star game hosted in Melbourne in December. Team Australia won the game in walk-off fashion, 3-2.

First	Last	Pos.	ABL Team	First	Last	Pos.	ABL Team
Craig	Anderson	LHP	SYDNEY	Robbie	Perkins	C	CANBERRA
Daniel	Schmidt	LHP	PERTH	Josh	Dean	1B	SYDNEY
Matt	Timms	RHP	BRISBANE	Brad	Harman	SS	MELBOURNE
Scott	Mitchinson	RHP	PERTH	Darryl	George	3B	MELBOURNE
Steve	Kent	LHP	CANBERRA	Sam	Kennelly	3B	PERTH
Steve	Chambers	RHP	ADELAIDE	Logan	Wade	SS	BRISBANE
Wayne	Lundrgen	RHP	SYDNEY	Mitch	Nilsson	2B	BRISBANE
Ryan	Searle	RHP	BRISBANE	Andrew	Campbell	OF	BRISBANE
Aaron	Sooke	RHP	SYDNEY	Angus	Roeger	OF	ADELAIDE
Josh	Tols	LHP	ADELAIDE	Luke	Hughes	OF	PERTH
Matthew	Williams	RHP	ADELAIDE	Tom	Brice	OF	ADELAIDE
Allan	de San Miguel	C	PERTH	David	Sutherland	OF	BRISBANE
Trent	D'Antonio	UT	SYDNEY	Aaron	Whitefield	OF	BRISBANE

## Coaches

Jon Deeble (Manager), Tony Harris (3B Coach), Phil Dale (Pitching Coach), Graeme Lloyd (Bench Coach), Kevin Jordan (1B Coach)

## Spring Training Tour

With the backing of Major League Baseball, 26 of the countries best young players headed to Florida in March. The team played a combination of games against a European All-Star team and several professional organisations Rookie Level clubs. The team ended the trip with a 3-4 record, including a win against the Boston Red Sox in Fort Myers.

The trip included opportunities to spend time with over a dozen current and former Australian professional players who are located in Florida.

First	Last	Pos.	State Team	First	Last	Pos.	State Team
Jacob	Amos	NSW	C / OF	Samuel	Jones	QLD	RHP
Max	Barrett	VIC	RHP	Jordan	McArdle	SA	C
Joshua	Bedggood	QLD	LHP	James	McCallum	NSW	1B / OF
Ulrich	Bojarski	WA	C / 1B	Mitchell	Neunborn	WA	RHP / INF
George	Callil	VIC	SS	Jack	O'Loughlin	SA	LHP
Brodie	Cooper-Vassalakis	ACT	RHP	James	Percival	NSW	OF
Jarryd	Dale	VIC	SS	Mason	Pickard	SA	OF
Jye	Deeble	QLD	LHP	Jordan	Power	WA	RHP
Oliver	Dunn	VIC	RHP / INF	Joshua	Rawlinson	WA	RHP / INF
Dean	Frew	NSW	2B / SS	Joshua	Robins	NSW	RHP
Harrison	Fullerton	NSW	RHP / INF	Brody	Seignior	QLD	LHP
Joshua	Hendrickson	WA	LHP	Benjamin	Tsui	NSW	OF
Mitchell	Holding	VIC	C	Nate	Vankan	QLD	OF

## Coaches

Steve Fish (Manager, WA), Graeme Lloyd (Pitching Coach, WA), Damian Shanahan (Assistant Coach, VIC), Glenn Williams (Assistant Coach, NSW), Ben Onofrio (Physio, SA), Neil Barrowcliff (EO, NSW)

## U15 World Cup

The U15 National team attended the U15 World Cup in Iwaki Japan and finished in 11th place.

First	Last	Pos.	ABL Team	First	Last	Pos.	ABL Team
Daniel	Bannon	NSW	2B	JD	Winlaw	QLD	C, 2B
Ben	Fierenzi	VIC	2B	Declan	Croker	VIC	P
Jo	Stevens	NSW	INF	Dylan	Walsh	WA	3B
Liam	McCallum	NSW	P/OF	Liam	Evans	VIC	P
Tyson	McKee	SA	P	Matthew	Martin	WA	P/OF
Will	Kortekaas	SA	P	Maxim	Watson	QLD	P
Blake	Cavill	NSW	P/INF	Zac	Mansfield	QLD	P/OF
Ky	Jackson	NSW	P/INF	Chris	Burke	VIC	C
Hayden	Lyberopoulos	NSW	C/P/OF	Thomas	Horne	NSW	P
Caleb	Shepherd	NSW	C	Blake	Townsend	VIC	P

## Coaches

Andrew Kyle (Manager), Graeme Lloyd (Pitching Coach), Mark Shipley (Assistant Coach), Damian Shanahan (Assistant Coach), Neil Barrowcliff (EO), Kyle Mitchell (Physio).

## MLB Australian Academy Program

Fifty of Australia's best young players, as well as five Internationals, converged onto the Gold Coast for the 16th MLBAAP.

First	Last	State	Pos.	First	Last	State	Pos.
Brodie	Cooper-Vassalakis	ACT	P	Mason	Clavell	SA	C
Jake	Green	ACT	P	Jordan	McArdle	SA	C
Liam	Holm	NSW	P	Ciaran	Palmer	VIC	C
Oliver	Howitt	NSW	P	Harrison	Fullerton	NSW	SS/P
Joshua	Robins	NSW	P	Shane	Kelleher	NSW	SS
Mitchell	Skinner	NSW	P	Jason	Matthews	NZ	SS/2B
Alex	Osborne	NSWC	P	Luke	Cronan	QLD	3B
Kyle	Glogoski	NZ	P	Dermot	Fritsch	QLD	SS
Elliot	Johnstone	NZ	P	Jacob	Nilsson	QLD	1B
Tom	Rees	QLD	P	Alex	Barling	VIC	3B
Josh	Bedgood	QLD	P	Jordan	Barnett	VIC	SS
Duane	Johannsen	QLD	P	Jarryd	Dale	VIC	SS
Taliesin	Tardrew-O'Meara	QLD	P	Oliver	Dunn	VIC	SS/P
Luke	Turner	QLD	P	Joshua	Meyer	VIC	3B/P
Jack	O'Loughlin	SA	P	Brock	Wells	VIC	3B/P
Ky	Hampton	SA	P	Ulrich	Bojarski	WA	1B/C
Declan	Steel	SA	P	Alex	Hall	WA	SS
Matthew	Beattie	VIC	P	David	John	WA	SS
Liam	Madden	VIC	P	Dawson	Summers	WA	SS
Jamie	Young	VIC	P	Jesse	Williams	WA	SS/P
Jake	Baker	WA	P	Alex	Fisher	NSWC	CF
Jackson	Riley	WA	P	Aaron	Cheng	CHINA	OF
Lochlan	Southee	WA	P	Jacob	Amos	NSWC	RF/C
Maclain	Wilson	WA	P	Nic	Anderson-Vine	NSWC	RF
Mitchell	Edwards	ACT	C	Correze	Nepia	NZ	OF/1B
Rixon	Wingrove	NSWC	C	Liam	Taylor	QLD	CF
Jordon	Thomson	QLD	C	Luke	Cartwright	VIC	OF
				Joshua	Diggins	WA	CF

## Coaches

Jon Deeble- Head Coach, Tony Harris- Field Coordinator, Damian Shanahan- Outfield Coordinator, Jason Pospishil- Infield Coordinator, Kevin Jordan\*- Hitting Coordinator, David Nilsson\*- Hitting Coach, Luke Hughes\*- Team Manager, Graeme Lloyd\*- Pitching Coach, Mark Shipley- Infield Coach, Tyrone Hambly- Hitting Coach, Phil Allen- Team Manager, Mark Hutton\*- Pitching Coach, Michael Nakamura\*- Pitching Coach, Dan Beattie- Pitching Coach, Dan Betreen- Pitching Coach, Tim Ballard- Pitching Coach, Shayne Watson- Team Manager, Gareth, Jones- Hitting Coach, Landon Hernandez- Hitting Coach, Andrew Utting- Hitting Coach, Tyler Chappell- Pitching Coach, Matt Corbitt- Assistant Coach, Andrew Kyle- Infield Coach, Kevin Cantwell- Camp Mentor, Neil Barrowcliff- Education Coordinator, Bill O'Sullivan- Operations Manager, Kentaro Ueda- Operations Manager, Bruce Rawson- Medical Director

## A-ROO Development Programs

### Phoenix Cup

The U18 A-Roo Women's development team travelled to the Phoenix Cup and finished the tournament in third place

First	Last	Pos.	State Team	First	Last	Pos.	State Team
Kelsey	Brennan	P/C/IF	WA	Emma	French	P	VIC
Caitlin	Gordon	P/IF	WA	Brittany	Cedelland	P	VIC
Meaghan	Haggart	LHP/IN/OF	WA	Sinead	Byrne-Connell	P	VIC
Chloe	Humphreys	IF/P	QLD	Madeline	Davis	IF	VIC
Abbey	Kelly	SS	VIC	Amy	West	OF	QLD
Natassha	McDonnell	P	NSW	Grace	Zylstra	OF/P	QLD
Taneeca	Moss	IF/OF	QLD	Pheebe	Watson	C/OF	NSW
Brittany	Smith	P/IF	QLD	Jordan	Richardson	IF	NSW
Olivia	Stevens	C/OF	QLD	Emma	Flatley	IF/P	QLD

### Coaches

Lisa Norrie (Head Coach), Ashleigh Ross (Assistant Coach), Shannon Moss (Assistant Coach)



### Cal Ripken

Baseball Australia again sent an A-Roo development team to the Cal Ripken World Series.

First	Last	State	First	Last	State
James	Nati	NSW	Caleb	Goodwin	WA
Robbie	Brennan	SA	Parker	Robinson	NSW
Bradlee	Marsh	SA	Damian	Eagles	NSW
Jaxon	Forbes	NSW	Riley	Yeatman	SA
Jack	Bennetts	NSW	Maddux	Stivey	WA
Joshua	Beezley	NSW	Nicholas	Parton	VIC
Hayden	Peoples	VIC	Tyson	Noel	WA
			Zach	Newbold	NSW

### Coaches

Head Coach: Dean Marnell (VIC), Assistant Coach: Andrew Scott (SA), Assistant Coach: Shayne Watson (QLD)  
Executive Officer: Darryn Ferris (NSW)

# Marketing & Communications

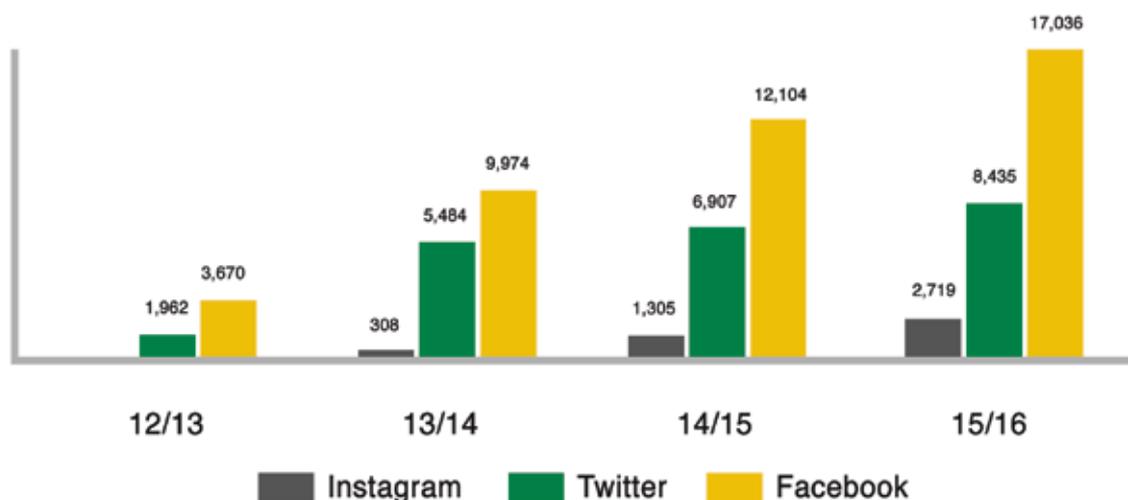
Australian Baseball has continued to expand its media footprint with significant growth across its various digital channels including [baseball.com.au](http://baseball.com.au), [southernthunder.baseball.com.au](http://southernthunder.baseball.com.au), [emeralds.baseball.com.au](http://emeralds.baseball.com.au), Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, ABLTV and its coverage through the traditional media, as detailed below.



## Social Media Growth - Baseball Australia Assets

The Australian Baseball community relies on social media and other digital platforms for the majority of its news, in the absence of significant coverage in the mainstream media. Social media audiences continue to grow significantly with BA Facebook growing its audience by 41% in 2015/16, compared to 21% growth the previous year.

### Social Media Growth



## ABL - The Marketing of Baseball



The ABL continues to play a significant role in the marketing of baseball in Australia. Now in its second year – ABLtv delivered 5.6 million unique video views in 2015-16, an increase of 230% season-on-season.

ABLtv, which streams live games to ABL fans, both in Australia and internationally, was viewed in 232 countries, with the US (956,382), Australia (502,189) and UK (277,922) the top three countries for viewership.

There were 357,272 unique viewers of streamed ABL games in 2014/15 - 115% increase from the first season of ABL.tv.

Importantly, The ABL was able to drive the publication of 4,634 stories in 2015-16, which generated 345,860,686 impressions.

## Staffing

Following 5 year's service, Trish Quayle vacated the role of Head of Marketing and Communications (December, 2015), and was replaced by Clinton Bown as Head of Communications and Digital Marketing (February, 2016). Further, Sam Finn (April, 2016) joined Baseball Australia as Communications and Digital Marketing Coordinator. This team will have a far greater focus on growing member engagement through digital platforms, digital marketing and content production.

## Publications

Baseball Australia produced its first full colour magazine *Pathways* in June 2016. The 28 page magazine was designed to demonstrate to young readers and their families, the various pathways available to young people in Australian Baseball. *Pathways* was distributed to every junior participant at the 2016 Australian Little League Championships.



## Facilities & Government Relations

High quality facilities that cater for our ABL supporters and participants at all levels of our game remains a priority for Baseball Australia. Since the re-launch of the ABL in 2010, BA has generated over \$24 million in government funding and facility commitments and we will continue to work with all levels of government to progress these important projects across Australia.

### Baseball Park WA - \$6M Commitment from Federal Government

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull announced that the Federal Government will commit \$6 million towards Stage 2 of the Redevelopment of Baseball Park WA, adding to the \$1 million contribution from the State Government of Western Australia. The upgrade will include new seating with increased capacity, international standard lighting, grassed seating terraces, new spectator amenities, and improved premium seating.



### Narrabundah Ballpark ACT - \$4.5M Commitment from State Gov.

The ACT Government announced a \$4.5 million contribution to the redevelopment of Narrabundah Ballpark. The upgrade will include an extended grandstand, new spectator amenities, reshaped fencelines, refurbished clubhouses, and new batting cages.



## **Blacktown International Sportspark, NSW - WBC Qualifier**

Destination NSW sponsored the first-ever World Baseball Classic Qualifier in Australia in February 2016. The event was also supported by Blacktown City Council, who contributed significantly towards the refurbishment of the facility in preparation for the event.



## **Essendon Baseball Club, VIC - Chris Lane Memorial Little League**

Moonee Valley Council has approved the Development Application for the construction of the Chris Lane Memorial Field to commemorate Essendon Baseball Club's Chris Lane, who was tragically killed while following his dream of playing baseball in the USA. Construction for the project is expected to commence in 2017 with the significant support of Major League Baseball, Musco Sports Lighting, and Moonee Valley Council, who have also announced a commitment to fund refurbished change rooms at Essendon Baseball Club to make them more

## **Melbourne Ballpark, VIC - 2015 ABL All Star Game**

The 2015 ABL All-Star Game was hosted in Melbourne for the 4th consecutive year with the support of the Victorian Government, setting an attendance record for Melbourne Ballpark with an event that combines sport, music, and culture.accessible to female participants.

## **Diamond Sports Centre, West Beach, SA - Baseball Complex Opens**

The Baseball and Softball facilities were completed at the ground-breaking Diamond Sports Centre at Adelaide Shores. Baseball held its inaugural season at the facility during the 2015/16 season, ending with the state finals in March. Due to the success of the construction, the Bite will relocate to the venue for the 2016/17 ABL Season. This venue presents significant opportunities for hosting venue for national and international events at many levels of the sport.



## **Albert Park Lismore, NSW - Bendigo Bank Little League Championship**

With the support of Destination NSW and Lismore City Council, Baseball Australia hosted the Bendigo Bank Australian Little League and Australian Senior League Baseball Championships at Albert Park, Lismore. The Albert Park complex redevelopment master plan was also completed with the goal of generating funding for the \$4M redevelopment of the facility in the next year.

## **Holloway Field, QLD - Venue upgrades for the Bandits**

The Brisbane Bandits had significant venue improvements process leading up to the 2015/16 ABL season, focusing on premium seating, increased capacity and group entertainment areas. These Improvements helped the Bandits set attendance and revenue records during the 2015/16 season en-route to their first ever ABL Championship Series.

## **Government Relations Events in Canberra, ACT and Sydney, NSW**



Baseball Australia and the ABL once again sponsored the US Embassy's 4th of July Independence Day Party in Canberra, providing Government Officials and Embassy Staff with an opportunity to try their skills at baseball.

Baseball NSW / Sydney Blue Sox also hosted a 2015/16 ABL season launch event at Parliament House in NSW featuring Blue Sox #1 Ticket Holder, and NSW Premier, Mike Baird.

# Commercial Development

**Budget of \$380,000 for rebates, cash sponsorship and contra sponsorship was surpassed by \$3,652 resulting in an actual income total of \$383,652 for the 2015/16 financial year.**

## ***Key Partnerships***

**Bendigo Bank:** Bendigo Bank is the official bank of Baseball Australia, presenting partner of Australian Little League and naming rights partner of the Australian Little League Championship.

**Boral:** Completed their first year as a major partner with naming rights to the 2015 ABL All-Star Game along with naming rights for the Women's National Team, the Emeralds, who will participate in the 2016 Women's World Cup.

**Aces Sporting Club:** A strong supporter of baseball in Australia with a genuine desire to help the sport succeed long term.

**Hertz:** Hertz became the official rental vehicle partner of Baseball Australia.

**Virgin Australia:** The official domestic airline of Baseball Australia.

**Majestic:** Continued its relationship as the official uniform provider for Baseball Australia.

**New Era:** New Era continued their support of Baseball Australia with both a cash contribution plus supply of all Team Australia game hats.

**Gabba Sports:** Gabba is a preferred supplier to Baseball Australia and a contributor to a number of facility development projects nationally.

**Rawlings:** Supports Baseball Australia with a variety of baseball equipment including baseballs, helmets and catcher's gear.

**V-Insurance:** Long term partner as the official insurance broker of Baseball Australia.

**Sam Bat:** Based in Canada, Sam Bat supports Baseball Australia as our official bat supplier.

**Accor Hotels:** Preferred hotel supplier to Baseball Australia.

**Fielders Choice:** Fielders Choice has been a longtime partner of baseball and remains our official retail partner.

**Compass Global Markets:** Official FX partner to the sport and also sponsor of the Sydney Blue Sox.

**Sportslink International:** The official tour provider for Baseball Australia organises tours to key international baseball events across the United States, Asia, and Australia.

**Kangaroo Photos:** The official photographer of for all national championships across Australia.

**Angove Wines:** The official wine of Baseball Australia provides product for our major events.

# Australian Baseball League

**The Australian Baseball League (ABL) entered new territory in its sixth season, setting benchmarks in attendance, ticket sales and media exposure all while continuing to showcase truly elite on-field performances.**

Fan engagement was at an all-time high, not only with record numbers through the turnstiles, but the re-emergence of live regular -season games broadcast on Australian TV for the first time in almost two decades.

The year also saw many firsts on the field, highlighted by the Brisbane Bandits claiming the championship in their first ever playoff appearance in the new league, and first Claxton Shield title for Queensland since 2006.

With an expanded 56-game home and away schedule, 2015-16 saw more game action than ever before, with 217 players representing 10 different countries and 22 different professional teams from the USA (MLB), and Japan (NPB).

The ABL digital media platforms, highlighted by ABLTV, grew exponentially with over 5.6 million unique views of ABL video content totalling more than 211,000 hours of ABL content watched across all platforms. This combined with 25%+ growth in the ABL's social media following, set new standards in digital media engagement for fans.



Our playing cohort continued to shine, with many of Australia's best players returning to the ABL and using 2015-16 as an ideal preparation for the World Baseball Classic Qualifier in February. Likewise, with more than 85 international players gracing our shores, we were treated to a tantalising mix of seasoned professionals and future MLB stars in the making – highlight by another six ABL Alumni making their debuts during the 2016 MLB season; Joey Rickard (Bandits/Orioles), Ji-Man Choi (Bite/Angels), Tyler Goeddel (Bandits/Phillies), Warwick Saupold (Heat/Tigers), Blake Smith (Bite/White Sox) and James Beresford (Aces/Twins).

The 2015 ABL All-Star Game presented by Boral marked the fourth straight year that Melbourne played host to the mid-season marquee showcase and was again able to combine off-field fun and headline rock acts with on-field heroics and a walk-off 3-2 win for Team Australia.

In the front office, this season saw many new faces join the fold and three of six teams set all-time highs in terms of revenue. Overall record attendance and ticket sales were the result of a significant focus on improved customer experiences at our ballparks with fully catered options like Adelaide's "Shark Tank", Brisbane's "Corral", Canberra's "Bunker Boxes" and Melbourne's "Party Deck" all proving increasingly popular with fans.

In terms of partnerships, the ABL embarked on several new multi-year agreements, headlined by major partners Boral and Bendigo Bank who like all our valued sponsors helped deliver the game into more communities around the country and across the globe than ever before.

Ultimately, the 2015-16 season yet again proved the brilliance of our players, the tenacity of our staff and volunteers, and the seemingly undying loyalty of our fans as the Brisbane Bandits took home the Claxton Shield. With six completed seasons the ABL has truly established itself amongst the wider community as a mainstay of the contemporary Australian sporting landscape.

## Commercial Partnerships

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2015-16 marked the first year that all six ABL clubs and the league's two marquee events (All Star Game and Finals Series) had secured naming rights partners in the same year. Growing attendance and digital profile led to the highest level of naming rights partnerships in the league's six-year history with over one-third of sponsorship revenue delivered through naming rights partners.

Similarly, official ABL licensees and major service providers have established an unshakable foundation upon which the ABL continues to grow. Companies like Rawlings, Sam Bat, New Era, Virgin Australia, Delta Airlines, Hertz and many more others continued their long-running support of the league with many brands expanding upon their initial investment throughout the year.

### ABL Major Partners

Boral, Bendigo Bank, Virgin Australia, Levi's, Rawlings, Sam Bat, New Era, Hertz, Delta, Conoco Phillips

### Team Naming Rights Partners

SA Power Networks, WellDog, MIT Services, Jet Couriers, Healthway, Compass Global Markets

## Media & PR

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The League's media landscape continued to evolve during the year, with the standout growth of ABLTV and the launch of 'Game of the Week' on ESPN the crowning achievements for 2015-16.

Under and expansion of the existing partnership with ESPN and simulcast on the MLB Network, the ABL launched a regular season game of the week from Dec 27 through to the end of the season, which generated a total audience reach of 567,420 over five games.

This was supplemented by a combined audience of 482,200 for the All-Star Game and ABL Championship Series – representing a 10% increase on the corresponding games the year prior.

These impressive broadcast increases form only part of the picture with headline figures showing substantial growth across all areas of media engagement:

- 5.6 million unique video views of ABLTV content (134% Increase)
- 89,000 Facebook followers (26% increase)
- 46,000 Twitter followers (20% increase)
- 4,634 major news stories across TV, Print and Radio. (49% Increase)

## On-Field

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While the 2015/16 ABL Season displayed many evolving characteristics in terms of business operations, the one constant remained the elite player performances and heart-thumping excitement of all the action 'between the lines'.

With a 56-game regular season (the most ever in the new league) ABL fans were treated to 173 games in total, culminating in a tense playoff series that saw Brisbane host, and win, the ABL Championship for the first time.

After clinching the minor premiership, the Bandits were clearly the team to beat, highlighted by several players riding career best performances to Claxton Shield glory. None more so than Ryan Searle whose transition to bullpen proved an inspired move as he racked up an all-time ABL record 17 saves across 31 appearances. Searle joined teammates Justin Williams and rookie standout Aaron Whitefield in a near clean sweep of the ABL's post-season awards, with only ABL stalwart Allan De San Miguel's unrivalled defensive prowess standing in their way.

## ABL Awards

- Helms Award (MVP) – Justin Williams, OF, Brisbane Bandits
- SAM BAT Champion Crusher Award - Justin Williams, OF, Brisbane Bandits
- New Era Pitching Champion – Ryan Searle, RHP, Brisbane Bandits
- Reliever of the Year – Ryan Searle, RHP, Brisbane Bandits
- Rawlings Golden Glove – Allan de San Miguel, C, Perth Heat
- Rookie of the Year – Aaron Whitefield, OF, Brisbane Bandits

International stars were again on show with 13 Major League clubs and two Japanese organisations assigning players to the ABL – bringing the cumulative total to 195 affiliated players from 27 international clubs since inception.

These stars, in concert with our home-grown heroes find no better pace to shine than in the ABL's annual All-Star Game. The 2015 Australian Baseball League All-Star Game, presented by Boral was another blockbuster with a record Melbourne attendance and after a tight battle dominated by the pitchers, Team Australia walked off the World All-Stars for the second straight year late game heroics cementing 3-2 win.

## All-Star Game Box Score

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
<b>World All-Stars</b>	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	9	4
<b>Australia</b>	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	6	2

At the Major-League level, the ABL continues to prove a breeding ground for future MLB players as six more ABL alumni made their debuts. Joey Rickard (Bandits/Orioles), Ji-Man Choi (Bite/Angels), Tyler Goeddel (Bandits/Phillies), Warwick Saupold (Heat/Tigers), Blake Smith (Bite/White Sox) and James Beresford (Aces/Twins) joined 15 other players who have first appeared in the 'show' after a stint in the ABL. Couple that with former MLB players looking to extend their careers in Australia and the ABL can now boast 43 players with experience at the game's highest level.



## Category Leaders

### Batting Average

Player	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	HR	RBI
Harris, David	CAN	.346	48	179	38	62	6	19
D'Antonio, Trent	SYD	.344	45	157	36	54	3	32
Williams, Justin	BRI	.342	47	184	33	63	10	33
Pounds, Bryan	CAN	.325	50	163	28	53	7	35
Wik, Marc	ADE	.324	53	170	38	55	2	23
Unroe, Riley	BRI	.318	55	211	42	67	0	25
Petty, Kyle	ADE	.317	55	208	39	66	14	44
Wade, Logan	BRI	.315	35	130	21	41	5	20
Leblebician, Jason	CAN	.312	51	202	39	63	8	44
Vavra, Tanner	MEL	.309	52	165	31	51	2	22

## Pitching

PITCHER	CLUB	W-L	ERA	IP	H	BB	SO
Searle, Ryan	BRI	5-2	0.40	45.0	26	9	54
Balog, Alex	SYD	5-2	1.35	46.2	34	13	45
Mitchinson, Scott	PER	3-2	1.83	39.1	39	18	40
Tols, Josh	ADE	4-1	2.23	48.1	34	17	46
Carl, Edwin	PER	4-2	2.95	85.1	62	28	85
Teasley, Rick	BRI	7-4	3.01	77.2	81	20	63
Kent, Steven	CAN	6-4	3.04	77.0	75	23	79
Larkins, Matthew	MEL	6-6	3.06	97.0	87	28	68
Bailey, Tom	PER	4-2	3.14	51.2	51	19	47
Grening, Brian	CAN	6-4	3.47	85.2	84	24	83



## Misc. Stats

### Games Played

Travis Demeritte, ADE	56
Mitch Nilsson, BRI	55
Kyle Petty, ADE	55

### At Bats

Bralin Jackson, BRI	216
Derek Peterson, PER	214
Riley Unroe, BRI	211

### Wins

Steve Chambers, ADE	8
Jason Jarvis, BRI	8
Rick Teasley, BRI	7

### Saves

Ryan Searle, BRI	17
Kody Kerski, ADE	11
Michael Click, CAN	10

### Home Runs

Kyle Petty, ADE	14
Allan de San Miguel, PER	10
Justin Williams	10

### Runs Batted In

Jason Leblebajian, CAN	44
Kyle Petty, ADE	44
Rhys Hoskins, SYD	43

### Games Pitched

Ryan Searle, BRI	31
Eric Green, BRI	29
Matt Timms, BRI	28

### Strikeouts

Edwin Carl, PER	85
Brian Grening, CAN	83
Steven Kent, CAN	79

### Stolen Bases

Riley Unroe, BRI	14
Logan Moon, MEL	12
Kyle Petty, ADE	12

### Hits

Riley Unroe, BRI	67
Kyle Petty, ADE	66
Jason Leblebajian, CAN	63

### Innings Pitched

Matthew Larkins, MEL	97
Jason Jarvis, BRI	89
Brian Grening, CAN	85

### Walks

Jan Stoecklin, SYD	43
Nick Veale, PER	37
Steven Chambers, ADE	33

### On-Base Percentage

Trent D'Antonio, SYD	.469
Marc Wik, ADE	.468
Bryan Pounds, CAN	.437

### Slugging Percentage

Kyle Petty, ADE	.582
Justin Williams, BRI	.582
Ryan Miller, CAN	.578

### WHIP

Ryan Searle, BRI	0.78
Alex Balog, SYD	1.01
Edwin Carl, PER	1.05

### Batting Average Against

Ryan Searle, BRI	.165
Edwin Carl, PER	.199
Josh Tols, ADE	.200

## Attendance & Playoffs

On the facilities front, the high-quality of play and year-on-year growth in attendance have combined to push our stadia around the country to new heights.

Corporate seating upgrades to Melbourne Ballpark, Holloway Field (Brisbane) and Blacktown International Sportspark (Sydney) were all welcome improvements during 2015-16; however, it was the announcement of more than \$10 million in combined funding for upgrades of Canberra's 'Fort' and Perth's Baseball Park that best demonstrate the undeniable impact the ABL continues to have on baseball best baseball facilities across the country.

Ultimately however the focus remained on the diamond where the season belonged to the Brisbane Bandits, who rallied late in the year and defied a previous best finish of 4th to claim their maiden title in the new Australian Baseball League.

### ABL Final Standings (Regular Season)

TEAM	W	L	PCT	GB	HOME	AWAY	L10	Streak
Brisbane Bandits	37	19	.661	--	23-5	14-14	9-1	W4
Canberra Cavalry	31	25	.554	6.0	18-10	13-15	5-5	L1
Adelaide Bite	30	26	.536	7.0	18-10	12-16	7-3	W1
Sydney Blue Sox	26	29	.473	10.5	18-9	8-20	3-7	W2
Perth Heat	23	33	.411	14.0	12-16	11-17	2-8	L4
Melbourne Aces	20	35	.364	16.5	10-18	10-17	3-7	L2

### ABL Playoff Results

#### ABL Preliminary Finals

Game One: Adelaide 6 def Canberra 4

W: Tols (1-0, 5.06); L: Grening (0-1, 9.00); SV: van Mil (1)  
HR: CAN: Miller, R (1). ADE: Demeritte 2 (2).

Game Two: Canberra 3 def Adelaide 2

W: Kent (1-0, 3.00); L: Ito (0-1, 5.40); SV: Click (1)  
HR: ADE: Petty (1). CAN: Pounds (1).

Game Three: Adelaide 9 def Canberra 2

W: Talbot (1-0, 1.59); L: Cone (0-1, 13.50)  
HR: ADE: Petty (2), Demeritte 2 (4).

#### ABL Championship Series

Game One: Brisbane 7 def Adelaide 4

W: Jarvis (1-0, 7.20); L: Tols (0-1, 16.88); SV: Searle (1)  
HR: ADE: Roeger (1). BRI: Jackson, B (1), Bennett (1).

Game Two: Brisbane 7 def Adelaide 1

W: Blackley (1-0, 1.50); L: Chambers (0-1, 9.00)  
HR: ADE: Petty (1). BRI: Lutz (1).



# Australian Baseball Hall of Fame

First Name	Family Name	Era	Category	State	Inducted
Tony	Adamson	1989-99	Player	WA	2005
Les	Agnew	1900-1918	Player	NSW	2005
Rod	Byrne	1968-88	Manager	WA	2005
Kevin	Cantwell	1947-67	Player	NSW	2005
Norrie	Claxton	1900-18	Manager	SA	2005
Phil	Dale	1989-99	Player	VIC	2005
Graeme	Deany	1947-67	Player	VIC	2005
Don	Deeble	1947-67	Player	VIC	2005
George	Dickinson	1919-46	Player	WA	2005
Alf	Emmerick	1919-46	Player	NSW	2005
Rue	Ewers	Pre 1900	Player	SA	2005
Billy	Ford	1919-46	Player	NSW	2005
Harold	Franks	1900-18	Player	NSW	2005
Tom	Gleeson	Pre 1900	Player	NSW	2005
Kevin	Greatrex	1968-88	Player	SA	2005
Ken	Gulliver	1919-46	Player	NSW	2005
Larry	Home	1968-88	Player	QLD, NSW, WA	2005
Ron	Johnson	1989-99	Player	QLD	2005
Cec	Kemp	1947-67	Manager	NSW	2005
Frank	Laver	Pre 1900	Manager	VIC	2005
Ray	Lawler	1946-67	Player	NSW	2005
Graeme	Lloyd	1989-99	Player	VIC	2005
Eric	McElhone	1900-18	Player	NSW	2005
Ron	Mc Pherson	1947-67	Player	NSW, WA	2005
Adrian	Meagher	1968-88	Player	QLD	2005
David	Mundy	1968-88	Player	SA	2005
Bob	Nilsson	1989-99	Player	QLD	2005
David	Nilsson	1989-99	Player	QLD	2005
Neil	Page	1968-88	Player	SA	2005
Charlie	Puckett	1918-46	Player	SA	2005
Dave	Roberts	1947-67	Player	SA	2005
Andrew	Scott	1989-99	Player	SA	2005
James	Searle	Pre 1900	Manager	NSW	2005
Ron	Sharpe	1919-46	Player	SA	2005
Craig	Shipley	1989-99	Player	NSW	2005
Harry	Simpson	Pre 1900	Player	NSW, SA, VIC	2005
Ross	Straw	1947-67	Player	VIC	2005
John	Swanson	1968-88	Player	VIC	2005
Harold	Turner	1900-18	Manager	NSW	2005
Kingsley	Wellington	1947-67	Manager	SA	2005
Ernie	Yum	1919-46	Player	NSW	2005
Alan	Albury	1968-88	Player	QLD	2006
Jon	Deeble	1999-	Manager	VIC	2006
Merv	Deigan	1947-67	Player	NSW	2006
Lionel	Harris	1968-88	Player	NSW	2006
Ray	Michell	1968-88	Player	WA	2006
Jack	Rowley	1947-67	Player	NSW	2006
Charles	Simmonds	1900-18	Player	NSW	2006
Bill	Edmonds	1947-67	Player	NSW	2007
Matthew	Sheldon-Collins	1989-99	Player	VIC	2007
Shayne	Bennett	1989-99	Player	SA	2008
Harold	Kennett	1919-46	Player	NSW	2008
Don	Knapp	1968-88	Player	WA	2008

# Australian Baseball Hall of Fame (Cont.)

First Name	Family Name	Era	Category	State	Inducted
Wallace	Pratt	1900-18	Player	NSW	2008
Paul	Elliott	1989-99	Player	NSW	2009
Gary	White	1989-99	Player	NSW	2009
David	Clarkson	1989-99	Player	VIC	2010
Cyril	Graham	1919-46	Player	NSW	2010
Doug	Mateljan	1968-88	Player	WA	2010
Montague	Noble	1900-18	Player	NSW	2010
Andrew	Watson	1900-18	Player	NSW	2010
Grahame	Cassel	1989-99	Player	NSW	2011
Norman	White	1947-67	Player	SA	2011
Dick	Shirt	1968-88	Player	NSW	2012
Simone	Wearne	2000-	Player	VIC	2012
Glenn	Williams	2000-	Player	NSW	2012
Geoff	Martin	1968-88	Player	QLD	2013
Joe	Quinn	Pre 1900	Player	QLD	2013
Don	Rice	1947-67	Player	SA	2013
Sydney	Smith	Pre 1900	Player	SA	2013
Garry	Thompson	1947-67	Player	SA	2013
Phil	Alexander	1968-88	Player	SA	2014
Kaye	Greenham	1947-67	Player	WA	2014
Brendan	Kingman	1989-	Player	NSW	2014
<b>John</b>	<b>Galloway</b>	<b>1968-88</b>	<b>Player</b>	<b>SA, VIC</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Trent</b>	<b>Durrington</b>	<b>Outstanding International Career</b>		<b>NSW</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Grant</b>	<b>Balfour</b>	<b>Outstanding International Career</b>		<b>NSW</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Philip Clifton</b>	<b>Brideoake(dec)</b>	<b>1947-1967</b>	<b>Player</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Ernie George</b>	<b>Bolton</b>	<b>1947-1967</b>	<b>Player</b>	<b>VIC</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Peter "Yowie"</b>	<b>Vogler</b>	<b>1989 -1999</b>	<b>Player</b>	<b>QLD</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Micheal</b>	<b>Nakamura</b>	<b>Outstanding International Career</b>		<b>VIC</b>	<b>2016</b>



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