



# - Waverley News -

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*Waverley Softball – "It's never just a game"*

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## Welcome back Ray Allsopp



WSA is pleased, proud and excited to welcome back **Ray Allsopp!** For those who are unaware of Ray's background, Ray was the **driving force behind the establishment of the Waverley Softball Association.** Ray co-opted the assistance of Aubrey Kotz and Syd Steele who quickly developed the fledgling WSA into one of the biggest and most successful softball associations in Australia. Not only was Ray an administrator with **great drive and**

**vision** – he was without doubt **the best coach in the country** in his time. Unfortunately, for Ray (and softball) men were not permitted to coach women's softball at state level. Proof of Ray's coaching credentials can be seen on the WSA honour boards. Almost without exception, Ray would have coached every one of the large number of WSA Australian representatives that appear on our honour board up until the mid 1980's. Ray's father Arthur would teach the younger players excellent basic skills and **Ray would quickly identify and develop these girls into elite softballers.**

Ray's talents were not only limited to softball! Ray was the brainchild behind what is now known as **Auskick.** His contribution to football was recently recognised by being named the winner of the **2009 VicSport Eunice Gill Sports Leadership Award** and shortly there after being named an **AFL Life Member.**

After 20 years, Ray recently 'dipped his softball coaching toe back in the water' helping the Victorian Under 16 Girls prepare for National Championships. When asked, Ray didn't hesitate to offer his services as Assistant Coach to Jenny Cassidy for the WSA 19 State Championship team. **Time has not diminished Ray's passion for the game and it will prove to be exciting times for WSA to have Ray involved once again with the WSA!!**

## WSA nominated for City of Monash 2010 Club of the Year

The WSA has been shortlisted by the City of Monash for their 2010 Club of the Year award. **Stay tuned for the outcome!!**

## Kylie – Good Luck in Italy!!

Victorian Open Women's Coach, Kylie Bloodworth heads off to Italy on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March as Head Coach of the Legnano Softball Club. This is the **first time Legnano have appointed a female Head Coach.** Kylie will be joined at Legnano by two fellow Aussie players Kate Judd and Clare Warwick. Kylie coached both these girls in the ACT. The WSA wish Kylie all the best of luck in Italy! For those that can read and translate Italian, check out the team's progress on <http://www.bsclignano.eu/>

## Congratulations Jess Hollett and Mel Lindsay

Congratulations to **Jess Hollett and Mel Lindsay** for being selected to the Australian Under 19 Squad: Congratulations also to **Tayla Supple (Falcons/Geelong), Marina Walker and Jess Bahn (Glen Eira)** for also being selected to the Australian Under 19 squad. Congratulations to **Micah Ropata** who was recently selected to the **New Zealand Under 19** squad. Micah will be representing New Zealand at the Easter tournament. Well done to all these girls!!

## WSA Under 16 State Champions

**Congratulations and well done to the WSA Under 16 Girls team who took out the State Championship title in at Fawkner Park 5-6 December.** Our girls were never seriously challenged for the weekend and comfortably beat Knox in the Grand Final



Francesca Alves  
Emily Clow  
Adele Curcio  
Tiarne Ecker  
Katrina Johns  
Emily Kassianou  
Zoe Monk  
Caitlin O'Keefe  
Lauren Passarelli  
Natalie Passarelli  
Raejean Potae  
Kirsty Spargo  
Elly Trevethan  
Alys Young  
Melanie Ziada

**Coach: Margie May**

**Assistant Coach: Chris Wayne**

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## WSA Under 19 Women State Champions

Congratulations to the following girls who successfully defended the Under 19 state title. The Waverley girls defeated Glen Eira 10-1 in the Grand Final.

Racquel Bisinella-Duns  
Emma Gunn  
Jess Hollett  
Mel Lindsay  
Florence Mafi  
Emily Papadimitriou  
Micah Ropata  
Emily Smethurst  
Amy Stenniken  
Rachael Thomson  
Jess Trengove  
Sheree Wood  
Breanna Young

**Coach: Jenny Cassidy**

**Assistant Coach: Ray Allsopp**

**Team Managers: Taari Ropata/Kathy Stenniken**

**Statistician: Melissa Southern**



## Players required for Easter Tournament

WSA are looking for more players for the Easter Junior Tournament in the follow age groups.

**Under 14 Blue**

**Under 19 Blue**

**Under 23**

The Easter tournament is a lot of fun. If you are interested, please collect a nomination form from the Control Room

## WSA Under 14 Girls for State Championships 6-7 March, 2010 – Horsham

Stephanie Blenkinsop

Paige Crane

Sara Davison

Perri Dudley

Bridget Dunstan

Natasha Holt

Bryony Large

Sarah Maislinger

Taya Molloy

Lisa Mundos

Adelaide Naylor

Jodi Penfold

Bianca Ross

Brooke Stanley

Maitlyn Turpin

**Coach: Fran Smethurst**

**Assistant Coach: Katherine Lorimer**

**Good Luck to Fran, Katherine and the girls**

## Canberra Australia Day Tournament

Congratulations to our Under 12 Red team who took out the Cup Final and our Under 23 team who also won their division. Thank you to all our coaches and officials who have worked hard to prepare the girls for the tournament. **All teams and players have shown massive improvement and we can look forward to some more great softball from our talented juniors over Easter.**

## Congratulations to Stuart Tyler



At the 2010 Under 16 National Championship played at Blacktown Olympic Park in Sydney, Stuart Tyler was awarded his **Level 5 Umpiring accreditation.**  
**Congratulations Stuart!!**

**Umpire in Chief Andrew Rindfleish and Stuart Tyler.**

## Trial dates - Victorian Secondary School Sports

VSSSA trial dates have recently been announced:  
**Sunday 28 February and 14 March – 10am to 2.00pm**  
Teams announced **14 March 3.00pm**  
Forms available [www.vsssa.org.au](http://www.vsssa.org.au)  
Nominations **close 26 February**  
Further information: Sharon Myhre-Davis  
Email: [myhre-davis.sharon.a@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:myhre-davis.sharon.a@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
Competition dates **1 – 8 May in Melbourne**

## Important dates:

Open Women's State Champs resume at Sunshine Sunday **14 Feb 2010**  
WSA Finals **20 – 27 Mar 2010**  
Easter Working Bee **28 Mar 2010**  
Easter Junior Tournament **2 -5 Apr 2010**

## Stay tuned for some exciting DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES!!

WSA are planning exciting development opportunities for our future stars:

- **2010 Friendship Series**
- **More 'Futures Academy' programs; and**
- **Specialist Coaching**

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