



TRAVIS BLACKLEY - LIFE MEMBER 2020

Travis Blackley started his baseball career as a Little Leaguer at Cheltenham and progressed through our junior system, both Summer and Winter, to our seniors showing promise but not outstanding athletic ability. Travis was MVP in the Thirds for season 1997-98. However, the quality that stood out from the beginning was the fierce determination to compete in any and all situations.

Despite attending the State Team Try Outs each year he was eligible, Travis was first selected for a Victorian state squad at the U18 level and from there his career took off, With the help of some expert coaching from Alan Tanner he improved his fast ball and his performances at the Natural Championships gained him selection in the Australian U19 Team team touring Canada for the World Championships in 2000. Travis pitched against Cuba and won. This was the first time an Australian Team defeated Cuba. Travis signed with the Seattle Mariners in 2001 and went on to a play 18 seasons of professional baseball including 4 seasons in the Major Leagues.





Professional Career Summary

	G	W	L	S	INNS	SO	ERA
Majors	82	9	9	-	192.2	132	5.23
Career	499	135	116	6	2239	1867	4.02

Playing Highlights include:

- 2000 World Championships in Canada pitching Australia to a first ever win over Cuba.
- 2001-02 BV Pitching Award Div 2 and was Manager of the Reserves.
- 2003 Playing with San Antonia Missions AA and selected to Futures Games for the All Star Week - Finished Pitcher of the year with 162 Inn, 144 SO.
- 2007 Pitched for Australia in the Baseball World Cup for 1.64 ERA.
- 2010 Playing for the ACES in the inaugural Australian Baseball season, pitched a 1 hit shutout against the Sydney Blue Sox
- 2009 Pitched for Australia in the World Classic earning a no-decision against [Cuba](#) and a 1.59 ERA for the tournament.
- 2012 Starting pitcher against Texas Rangers and won critical games to elevate Oakland to the Post Season Playoffs.
- 2012-13 ABF Player of the Year
- 2015 Played with Brisbane Bandits helping them to their first Claxton Shield victory since re-establishment of the ABL in 2010.
- Played for Australia on multiple occasions in World Cup, Intercontinental Cup Asian Series and Olympic Qualifiers
- Played for the Victorian Aces in the Claxton Shield





Off Field Contributions

- Travis returned to play for Cheltenham whenever opportunities outside his professional career and representative commitments allowed.
- He has always been generous with his time in being accessible to our players and Club members, providing interviews and talks to pass back his experiences and knowledge.
- He has provided MLB memorabilia for funds raising
- Arranged for Justin Leone, a teammate with San Antonio Missions to play a season with our Firsts. Justin was a top class shortstop and hitter who also went on to make the Majors. Having a player like Justin provided a huge lift to the Club.
- He has always been prepared to provide expert coaching and encouragement to any player seeking advice and assistance.
- As an ambassador for the Club he has lifted our profile enormously by showing that our development pathways can take a Little Leaguer all the way to the Major Leagues.

Travis Blackley is the best baseballer the Club has produced. He is a fine role model for our players and ambassador for the Club and he is an inspiration for every young player who runs on to the diamond for Cheltenham.

