

Belinda Ainslie  
Head Coach – 2023 Victorian U18 Girls  
Street Address  
3 St Michael Drive, Tarneit, VIC, AU, 3029  
1st March 2023

Re: Athlete Letter of Reference and Recommendation – Ciara Saunby

To Whom it Concerns:

I am writing this letter of reference and recommendation for Ciara Saunby.

Ciara joined the 2023 Victorian U18 Girls team, that was held in Perth, Western Australia in January 2023, as a draft inclusion when we were in need of an additional experienced catcher following a player injury in the preparation campaign. This process of selection of Ciara, led to Ciara meeting her team mates in person only 1 day in advance of the event starting, which is a particularly challenging circumstance to join a team.

Ciara however exceeded expectation as she immediately formed a strong connections with, and gained the trust of the 3 lead pitchers, ensuring that when the team took to the field with Ciara in the catcher position, we all had confidence in her abilities to best support the pitcher and team to deliver the team defensive goals and outcomes.

Ciara also offered a strong offence, exhibiting consistent good pitch selection choices, and executing solid contact with the bat. Her base running and offensive situational awareness was on point for the cohort, complimenting her strong presence in defence.

Ciara was a quiet member of the team outwardly, but made a positive impact in the team, both on and off the field, both calling plays and in support of her teammates. She was also a handy 3<sup>rd</sup> base and outfield when not leading from behind the plate. She was very well liked and respected member of the team by both players and officials.

I highly recommend Ciara Saunby as a softball player and team member, and I look forward to seeing her progress further towards her full potential as an elite softball athlete.

Sincerely,  
*Belinda Ainslie*

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Head Coach – 2023 Victorian U18 Girls

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