

WEEKLY MEMO

TO:	VSBL CLUB PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES, MEMBERS
DATE:	FEBRUARY 1, 2019
FROM:	BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT:	U18 WORLD CUP QUALIFIER, UMPIRES PLEDGE, P&S MEETING, MATCH SHEETS, GRANT APPLICATIONS, WINTER COACHES

Dear VSBL Club Presidents and Secretaries, BV Members,

U18 World Cup Qualifier Team

On the heels of our U18 Blue team's thrilling gold medal win at the 2019 Australian Youth Championships, four players were selected to the U18 World Cup Qualifier Team. Chris Burke, Liam Evans, Conor Myles and Blake Townsend made the cut, and they headed to Guam to participate in the Oceania Qualifier. Team Australia made it all the way to the final, which they won over American Samoa, earning them a ticket to the U18 World Cup in South Korea. We are so proud of our four Victorian representatives and their teammates, and we can't wait to see what the future has in store. It's fantastic to see the continued success of these players as they made their way through our development programs in preparation for representative opportunities like the National Championships and the World Cup!

Take the Pledge to Respect Umpires

We recently announced our new campaign: Take the Pledge to Respect Umpires, and we would like to thank everyone who has shared their enthusiasm for this important initiative. We want to set our sport up for sustained success, and a crucial component of this is retaining umpires as well as getting new umpires on board. Our clubs, associations, players, coaches, spectators and volunteers can all play a very important role in this. By taking the pledge to respect umpires, you can do your part to show your appreciation and consideration of these individuals who dedicate so much time and energy to our beloved sport. We are encouraging clubs to display our "Respect for Umpires" poster in clubrooms and change rooms, as well as signing pledge posters. This will promote positivity and hopefully influence others to recognise the importance of respect. Clubs that submit a photo of their members with signed pledges will be entered into a draw to win a \$250 Ausport gift voucher. Please email your photos to rachael.bouley@baseballvictoria.com.au, and learn more about this campaign and the accompanying poster and pledge forms on our website: <http://baseballvictoria.com.au/News-Events/Baseball-Australia-News/baseball-victoria-encourages-members-to-take-the-pledge-to-respect-umpires>

P&S Meeting

We are looking forward to seeing our VSBL Club Presidents and Secretaries at the next P&S Meeting on Monday, February 4th at 6:30 PM at Melbourne Baseball Club. Immediately following this meeting will be a Women's Baseball Forum, which will open up the discussion for issues surrounding the women's competition and suggestions as to how this can be improved. We want to continue to enhance and encourage opportunities for women in our sport, and we hope this forum will be a great starting point to get others involved. Please refer to your pre-reading documents for more details on the upcoming P&S Meeting.

Accurate Match Sheets

We would like to kindly remind all VSBL clubs of the importance of accurate match sheets. Over the course of the season, there have been numerous occasions where incorrect spelling, use of nicknames or incorrect surnames have caused confusion and even issues with player eligibility for finals. It is important that all scorers record players names accurately, so as to avoid any potential complications or fines as finals draw near. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter as we look to keep all our competitions running smoothly as we approach the last few weeks of the season.

Sporting Club Grants Program - CLOSING SOON!

We would like to remind all clubs that applications for Sport and Recreation Victoria's Sporting Club Grants Program close this Sunday, February 3rd. This is a fantastic opportunity for funding, which can be used toward new uniforms and equipment, as well as training for coaches, officials and volunteers. For more details, please visit <http://www.sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding/our-grants/sporting-clubgrants-program>.

Move it AUS – Participation Grants

Another worthwhile opportunity for funding is available through the Move It AUS – Participation Grant Program. These grants are designed to help clubs and sporting organisations implement programs and activities that will inspire Australians to get moving and stay active. This is part of the push to make Australia the world's most active and healthy nation, and baseball is certainly one way to maintain physical fitness. Applications for the current round of funding close on Monday, February 18th at 5 PM. For more details, visit: https://www.sportaus.gov.au/grants_and_funding/participation

Winter Coaching Vacancies

With the summer season wrapping up soon, many Victorian baseball clubs are making plans and preparations for the winter baseball season. Several clubs are currently advertising for winter club coaches, including Cheltenham, Footscray, Watsonia, Bonbeach and Waverley. If any of these opportunities interest you, and you'd like to find out more, please view these advertisements on our website: <http://baseballvictoria.com.au/Get-Involved/Club-Advertisements>

The BV Team

Justin Huber - CEO

Jeff Paull - General Manager of Baseball Operations

Kellie Thomas - Operations Coordinator

Kelsey Quinn - Competitions Coordinator

Rachael Bouley - Communications and Digital Media Coordinator

Tania Newcombe - Financial Controller

Luke Hughes – Commercial Operations & Marketing

Damian Shanahan – High Performance Manager

Stewart Howe - Umpires Coordinator

Greg Tinkler – National Coaching Accreditation Coordinator

Jo Schutt – Sporting Schools Coordinator



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