

WEEKLY MEMO

TO:	VSBL CLUB PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES, MEMBERS
DATE:	MAY 10, 2019
FROM:	BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT:	SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA CHAMPIONSHIPS, BV DEVELOPMENT GRANT FUND, ACES LICENSE, SENIOR WINTER STATE CHAMPS VOLUNTEERS, VSBL PENNANT COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS, CEP DAY WALLINGTON, CLUB COACHES, RESPECT UMPIRES

2019 School Sport Australia Baseball Championships

Last week, School Sport Victoria hosted the 2019 School Sport Australia Baseball Championships at Geelong Baseball Centre. Team Vic had a wonderful tournament overall, finishing in second place with five wins, two losses and one draw. Although they narrowly lost in the championship game, with NSW pulling away in the bottom of the 10th for a 7-6 walk-off win, Team Vic should be very proud of their accomplishments. Zak Skinner had four hits and Will Tucker had three in their final game as Lachlan Hockey threw 7.1 innings and struck out seven along the way. Congratulations to Team Vic on a job well done and having a great tournament, with displays of impressive teamwork and determination. To view some of the best photos of our awesome Victorian representatives on the field, please visit:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/SchoolSportVictoria/photos/?tab=album&album_id=2214312551987170

Baseball Victoria Development Grants Program – CLOSING TODAY!

You have until 11:59 PM this evening, 10th May, 2019, to submit applications for the second round of funding through the Baseball Victoria Development Grants Program! If you have not done so already, we strongly encourage member associations, clubs and charters to apply for this funding, which will be used for inclusion initiatives and activities aimed at growing participation in our beloved sport at the grassroots level. After the success of the inaugural round of this new funding program, which saw \$20,250 in grants awarded to 18 member bodies, we are looking forward to awarding the second round of grants to applicants who clearly demonstrate how these funds would make a difference. Please note that we will be prioritising applications that explain in detail how this funding would be used for inclusion activities and increasing female participation in baseball. Please learn more about the Baseball Victoria Development Grant Program and the application requirements on our website: <http://baseballvictoria.com.au/News-Events/Baseball-Australia-News/applications-now-open-for-baseball-victoria-development-grants-program>

Melbourne Aces Licence Changes Hands

Baseball Australia announced yesterday the official transfer of the licence of the Melbourne Aces Australian Baseball League (ABL) team to a consortium of investors, led by long-time supporters of baseball in Victoria, Brett and Shaun Ralph.

Baseball Australia chief executive Cam Vale was pleased the passionate supporters of baseball had committed to the Aces. "Whilst the circumstances requiring the need to change are unfortunate due to the ill health of the former licence holder, this consortium of investors stepping in on short notice is a credit to them in securing and ensuring the long-term future of the Melbourne Aces," Vale said.

"Principal investors Brett and Shaun Ralph have been fantastic contributors to baseball and a range of sports in this country. "To have them as the permanent licence holders of the Aces is a major coup for the sport in this country and another step forward for the Australian Baseball League."

Brett Ralph said he was excited about the opportunity to continue growing baseball in Victoria. “We have been involved with the sport of baseball and, in particular, the Melbourne Aces for many years,” Ralph said. “We are passionate about the game and the opportunities that baseball has in Australia. We are looking forward to enhancing the fan experience at Altona and to the Aces playing a leading role in the continued growth of baseball in Victoria.”

Volunteers - Senior Winter State Championships

We were lucky enough to have a wonderful team of volunteers at the 2019 Senior, Junior, Intermediate and Little League State Championships. From snapping photos to solving GameChanger questions, these volunteers made a big difference and we are grateful for their contributions as we work to continuously improve these events for players, parents and spectators. Now we’re looking ahead to our next tournament, the 2019 Senior Winter State Championships from 8th June – 10th June at Geelong Baseball Centre. We would love to have some more enthusiastic volunteers help out at this event in areas such as field marshalling, setup and teardown, social media, member services and more. We are happy to work with volunteers to gauge their interests and ensure they receive hands-on experience in areas they are interested in. If you or someone you know would like to take advantage of this opportunity and have a behind the scenes look at a large baseball tournament, please visit our website:

<http://baseballvictoria.com.au/News-Events/volunteers-wanted-for-2019-senior-winter-state-championships>

VSBL Pennant Committee Nominations

With the start of the 2019/20 VSBL season just months away, we are busy preparing for the season ahead. These preparations include accepting nominations for the Victorian Summer Baseball League Pennant Committee. If you have someone you would like to nominate, please keep in mind that all nominations must be submitted by Monday, 13th May at 9am. Voting by the clubs to elect the nominated members will begin on Tuesday, 14th May and end on Monday, 20th May at 9am. This sub-committee of the Board of Baseball Victoria is an important part of our organization’s ongoing effort to improve the VSBL competition and ensure greater opportunities and a fair and safe competition for all.

To view the Pennant Committee – Member Criteria and Nomination Application, please visit our website:

<http://baseballvictoria.com.au/News-Events/nominations-open-for-vsbl-pennant-committee>

Coaching Education Program Level 3 Day at Bellaire Baseball Club

As part of our ongoing commitment to improving baseball here in Victoria, we are continuing our Coaching Education Program, with the next Level 3 Accreditation Day set to take place on Sunday, 2nd June at Bellaire Baseball Club in Wallington. This will be a great opportunity for members of Geelong regional clubs to improve their coaching skills and certifications. Level 3 will be \$150 per person (plus a \$5.18 TeamApp payment processing fee for a total of \$155.18). For more details on the requirements and to register today, please visit: <https://baseballvictoria.teamapp.com/events/8583021>

Coaching Vacancies

With the winter season well underway, there are several VSBL clubs turning their attention to their Club Coach positions. Clubs such as Port Melbourne Mariners, Newport Rams and Moorabbin Panthers are searching for Club Coaches who can make a positive difference to their club environment and serve as a leader, on and off the field. These are all great opportunities to get more involved in the sport and make a real difference to players and the overall club environment. For more information, please visit the club advertisements section on our website: <http://baseballvictoria.com.au/Get-Involved/Club-Advertisements>

Take The Pledge – Respect for Umpires

We would like to thank the following baseball clubs and associations for their support of our Take the Pledge to Respect Umpires initiative: Eagles (Mildura), Bendigo East, Falcons, Doncaster, Fitzroy, Malvern, Latrobe University, Research Lower Plenty, Bonbeach, Werribee, Latrobe Valley Baseball Association and Dandenong Baseball Association. All of these clubs and associations have been entered into the drawing for a \$250 Ausport gift voucher. We will be announcing the details for the drawing soon, so make sure you Take the Pledge if you haven’t already! Thank you again to everyone for supporting our umpires.

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



BASEBALL VICTORIA

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