

WEEKLY MEMO

TO:	VSBL CLUB PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES, MEMBERS
DATE:	APRIL 18, 2019
FROM:	BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT:	LITTLE LEAGUE STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS, WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS, INAUGURAL JACK LARNER CUP DAY, BV DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM, LOCAL SPORTS STAR AWARDS, EASTER HOURS

2019 Little League State Championships

What a wonderful two weeks of baseball tournaments we've had, first with the 2019 Senior, Junior and Intermediate League State Championships and then 2019 Little League State Championships this past weekend! We would like to thank all players, parents, coaches, officials and volunteers for taking part in the Little League tournament at Knox Baseball Club. The entire weekend was filled with enthusiasm, excitement and best of all, teamwork! Well done to all the players on their great efforts, and regardless of the final outcome, every player who took the field this weekend should be very proud. Congratulations to the Twins Little League All-Stars team on back-to-back State Championships, and the Southern Mariners Little League Development Team on their State Championship trophy! Congratulations are also in order for the Southern Mariners White Team that remain undefeated throughout their Red Robin competition!

For full results and recaps, please visit our website: <http://baseballvictoria.com.au/News-Events/Baseball-Australia-News/2019-little-league-state-championships-day-3>

Please view photos from the championships on the Baseball Victoria Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/BaseballVictoria/photos>

For details on the awesome girls who represented their charters at Little League tournament, please visit: <http://baseballvictoria.com.au/News-Events/girls-represent-at-2019-little-league-state-championships>



2019 Australian Women's Baseball Championships

The busy month has continued with the 2019 Australian Youth Women's and Women's Championships kicking off in Canberra this week. Our dedicated Victorian representatives have been leaving their mark on the competition, with Victoria Blue getting off to a 3-0 start as they look to recapture, or even improve upon, their silver medal finish from last year. The Victorian Youth Team won the gold medal in 2018, and they are continuing their campaign with some big performances. All of the Victorian representatives are remarkably determined and committed to their sport, and we wish them the best of luck as the championships wrap up this weekend! For score updates and daily recaps, please visit our Facebook page and/or website, and you can view the team rosters on the links below.

2019 Youth Women's Team: <http://baseballvictoria.com.au/Pathway/Victorian-Teams/2019-Youth-Women>

2019 Women's Teams: <http://baseballvictoria.com.au/Pathway/Victorian-Teams/2019-Victorian-Women>



Inaugural Jack Lerner Cup Day

Beloved player and coach Jack Lerner is very missed by all who knew him, and his life was celebrated this past weekend by his local baseball community. At the Inaugural Jack Lerner Cup Day hosted by Bonbeach Bluejays and Dingley Baseball Clubs on Sunday, 14th April, this standout individual was honoured by his friends and club members. Jack was an outstanding player, dependable mentor and revered coach who led the 2016 Southern Mariners Senior League team through State and National Championships all the way to the World Series in America. At the Little League State Championships over the weekend, the Southern Mariners wore the number 26 on their tops in his honour. All funds raised during the Cup Day, which included the reserves and firsts games at Dingley Baseball Club, benefitted research in the fight against Sarcoma Cancer. It was great to see so many people come out and show their support for Jack, his family and this importance cause that could save lives.

Baseball Victoria Development Grants Program

We are pleased to announce that applications are now open for the second round of funding through the Baseball Victoria Development Grants Program. The inaugural round of Baseball Victoria Development

Grants was announced in September 2018, and The Baseball Victoria Board of Directors chose to provide \$20,250 in grants to 18 fantastic clubs, charters and associations. These worthy recipients have been hard at work, planning and preparing for their activities and events aimed at increasing participation. Now, Baseball Victoria is ready to award another round of grants to clubs, charters and associations that demonstrate enthusiasm and creativity in driving participation at the grassroots level. For the second round of funding, Baseball Victoria will be prioritising applications that explain in detail how this funding would be used for inclusion initiatives and growing female participation in baseball.

The BV Development Grants Program is the product of a dedicated effort to revolutionize our approach to outreach and education. This new funding scheme provides grants ranging from \$500 to \$5000 to BV member clubs and associations across summer, winter and charters. Clubs and associations are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity, which is the latest effort in our proven history of driving participation and growth in baseball across Victoria. We remain committed to welcoming more people into our baseball community and giving our current members the tools and resources they need to grow and flourish. 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>

Local Sports Star Awards

Leader Community News in partnership with GOLD 104.3 is calling on all proud parents, coaches, teachers and competitors to submit nominations for the 2019 Local Sports Star Awards. Categories include Junior and Senior Sports Stars, and Team of Excellence. Athletes competing at state, national or international levels have a chance to win more than \$19,000 worth of cash and prizes. It would be wonderful to see some of our amazing baseball players receive such recognition for their efforts. Nominate now at <http://www.localsportsstars.com.au>

Happy Easter from BV

We hope everyone has a lovely Easter holiday with family and friends. As a reminder, the Baseball Victoria office will be closed on the following upcoming public holidays: Friday, 19th April (Good Friday), Monday, 22nd April (Easter Monday) and Thursday, 25th April (Anzac Day). Enjoy these public holidays and please get in touch during open office hours if you have any questions or concerns.

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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