

WEEKLY MEMO

TO: VSBL CLUB PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES, MEMBERS
DATE: 25 OCTOBER 2019
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S BASEBALL LEAGUE, TAKE THE PLEDGE,
2020 STATE TEAM TRYOUTS, DANIEL HOGG ST KILDA, KEELEY
HARRISON STORY

Victoria Announced as Provisional License Holder for Australian Women's Baseball League

Baseball Victoria is one of four organisations that have been granted provisional licenses for the inaugural season of professional women's baseball league in Australia. Baseball Victoria joins the Adelaide Giants, Brisbane Bandits and Canberra Cavalry as provisional license holders following a detailed submission process. All four organisations will play a key role in the design and construction of the league's format moving forward, with the first meeting set to occur under Baseball Australia's direction this year.

"Baseball Victoria took on this opportunity to ensure Victorian women have a voice in shaping a professional women's league. This is the chance to explore what having a women's league could look like for Victoria, and what these possibilities could mean for our female athletes," Baseball Victoria CEO Kristie Middleton said. "We will continue to prioritise the best interests of Victorian girls and women as we look further into the prospect of the professional women's league." For more details, please click [HERE](#).



Take the Pledge to Respect Umpires

As a reminder, there's only a few weeks left until we draw the winner of the \$250 [Ausport Superstore](#) gift voucher as part of our Take the Pledge to Respect Umpires campaign. Announced earlier this year, Take the Pledge is aimed at encouraging and promoting respect for the umpires who make our beloved sport possible. Every umpire deserves to be treated with respect, kindness and courtesy. We appreciate the support from clubs and associations that have Taken the Pledge, and we hope to see more signed pledges in the coming weeks, especially from our VSBL clubs in the heart of the summer season. For more details and to see which clubs have taken the pledge, click [HERE](#).

2020 State Team Tryouts

Tryouts for the 2020 Victorian State Teams started last week, with more than 150 athletes taking advantage of this opportunity. Well done to all the players that have tried out and showcased their determination on the field. Tryouts will continue for the next week before final team selections are made and announced in November.

Daniel Hogg Supports St Kilda on Division 2 Journey

St Kilda Saints Outfielder Daniel Hogg is along for the ride as his beloved team looks to make their mark in VSBL Division 2. Daniel moved to Melbourne at the start of 2018, and he and a friend signed up to play at St Kilda. He hasn't looked back since, embracing his club community which is celebrating 140 seasons of baseball. Daniel says he's excited for this monumental season. "I'm really looking forward to being back in Division 2 and playing some competitive baseball."

The Saints dropped three of their first four games in series against Preston and Moorabbin, but players like Daniel aren't fazed as he knows his club has what it takes to compete consistently across the long summer season. "As a club I think staying in Division 2 is probably our primary goal and as we work on our juniors, we will move towards Division 1 in a couple of years."

Read more on Daniel's St Kilda story [HERE](#).

Keeley Harrison Continues to Shine on the Diamond

Keeley Harrison is on a mission to make her baseball dreams come true. At 15 years old, she has already recorded some impressive accomplishments, including winning the Pitching Award with the Victorian Youth Women's Team and earning a nomination for the Leader Community News Local Sports Stars Award. Earlier this month Keeley was also named as a recipient of the Jagajaga Sports Awards after being nominated by her school principal for her commitment to supporting sport in her local community.

As an avid pitcher who also plays second base and outfield, Keeley is embracing the next chapter of her baseball career at Doncaster Dragons Baseball Club, playing in the VSBL Women's competition. "My plans for summer baseball are to continue at Doncaster Baseball Club and get a chance to play with some of my friends and improve my baseball skills more and more for the next winter season," Keeley said.

Read more about Keeley's big baseball goals [HERE](#).

The BV Team

Kristie Middleton - CEO

Jeff Paull – General Manager of Baseball Operations

Kellie Thomas - Operations Coordinator

Kelsey Quinn – Competitions and Tournament Manager

Rachael Bouley - Communications and Digital Media Coordinator

Tania Newcombe - Financial Controller

Damian Shanahan – Talent Development Manager

Stewart Howe - Umpires Coordinator

Greg Tinkler – National Coaching Accreditation Coordinator

Jo Schutt – Sporting Schools Coordinator

