

MEMO

TO: Members

DATE: 26th June 2018

FROM: Baseball Victoria

SUBJECT: P&S Meeting, Fixtures for Junior State Winter Championships, High Performance Academy, MLB U14's Showcase, Staff Appointment

Dear Members,

Presidents and Secretaries Meeting

On Monday the 18th of June, Baseball Victoria held its first Presidents and Secretaries meeting for the coming 2018/19 Summer League season. This meeting is part of an ongoing commitment to further engage with its members on important topics related to the summer competition. The meeting was chaired by Dwain Richardson, Vice Chair of the Victorian Summer Baseball League Pennant Committee in the absence of Chair, Michael Gourlay.

At this meeting five recommendations were tabled, most notably the commencement date of the 2018/19 summer season and proposed amendments to the Non-National Rule.

It was voted by the clubs present to allow for the commencement date of the summer season to be brought forward by one week. The result was heavily favoured by clubs, with 24 clubs in favour of the change and 2 against.

In contrast, a proposed amendment to the Non-National rule was carefully debated. The result was 9 clubs voted for the change to the rule whilst 17 voted against. This decision means that the current Non-National rule will remain unchanged for the 2018/19 summer season.

The meeting was received positively by those who attended. The commitment to conduct meaningful and engaged meetings of the Presidents and Secretaries, is a major goal for Baseball Victoria leading into the 2018/19 VSBL season.

Under 16 and Under 18 State Winter Championship Fixtures

The State Winter Championships for the Under 16's and Under 18's are being held in the Latrobe Valley at the Morwell Cougars Baseball Club in the coming weeks;

Under 16's: 30th June – 1st July

Under 18's: 7th – 8th July

The fixtures have been released and can be found by following the below links;

Under 16's:

<http://baseballvictoria.com.au/Portals/34/Images/Winter%20Champs/Copy%20of%20U16%20Fixture.pdf?timestamp=1529880899199>

Under 18's:

<http://baseballvictoria.com.au/Portals/34/Images/Winter%20Champs/Copy%20of%20U18%20Fixture.pdf?timestamp=1529880981872>

Baseball Victoria wishes the best of luck to all participants.

High Performance Academy Update

The High Performance Academy is currently in its fourth week with practises being conducted on Monday – Thursday from 5pm – 9pm each week. Currently players are progressing through an intensive program of skill and physical development with an outcome focused on improving the key athletic tools needed to compete at a high level in the sport.

In addition, the program continues to make use of the improvements to the High Performance Training facilities at MBP, which include a new batting tunnel and a weights gym. These upgrades join the 5 new bullpen mounds that were installed prior to the 2017 summer season, which was a combined investment between Baseball Victoria and the Melbourne Ballpark Committee of Management.

The trainings are being run by some of Victoria's best coaches under the supervision of Baseball Victoria's High Performance Manager, Damian Shanahan. Sessions include a cutting edge training environment, with strength and conditioning, ongoing testing, Driveline programming and data driven coaching in its approach.

Damian Shanahan says that the response to the new facilities has been overwhelmingly positive. *"I've been really impressed with the amount of players who are enthusiastic to come down and make use of the new equipment. I've seen a marked improvement in the number of people coming down to get in some early work in the gym or in the new tunnel so it will be really exciting to see how those extra resources help our players improve their game even further."*

Major League Baseball's Under 14 Showcase

Major League Baseball, Baseball Australia and all State Associations are proud to announce the dates for the 2018 MLB Australian Showcase. The showcase is open to 13 and 14 year old's and involves a series of trials aimed at measuring each child's aptitude for baseball. The event is part of Major League Baseball's ongoing commitment to developing Australian baseball talent and both baseball and non-baseball players are heavily encouraged to attend. It offers participants the opportunity to test their skills against the best talent from around the country and to perform in front of prominent baseball players, coaches and scouts. The data compiled will be used to identify the players with the best baseball tools. This information will be used to nominate players to take part in the MLB 14U Invitational in Lismore in August.

The Victorian Showcase will be held at Melbourne Ballpark on Sunday July 15th and run from 11:00AM. Players will be assigned to specific groups prior to the day.

Players who would like to participate need to register via the following link by 9th July;
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y9LCL67>

Staff Appointment

Baseball Victoria are pleased to announce the appointment of Tania Newcombe to the role of Finance Coordinator, the role previously held by BV Life Member and long-time administrator, Les Flowers. Tania

began her career with BHP as a graduate accountant and from there rose through the ranks to eventually hold various administrative and management roles, both in Melbourne and Newcastle. After leaving BHP, Tania opened her own business, TRW Business Services, providing accounting and bookkeeping services to small businesses.

On the sporting side, Tania has been involved with local netball for many years. Both she and her two daughters play and Tania has served as the Treasurer of the Sanctuary Lakes Netball Club. Tania brings a wealth of experience and professionalism to the role, as well as firsthand knowledge of both large and small organisations. Congratulations Tania and welcome to the team!

Baseball Victoria Emails

Due to Telstra performing some work on internet connections in the area, Baseball Victoria have been without emails for sporadic periods of time through-out the last month. Whilst highly inconvenient it was unfortunately unavoidable and Baseball Victoria have taken measures to decrease the chances of this re-occurring.

If you have sent an email in the last month and have still not received a reply, we apologise for the delay in response. We are working through the back-log and aim to address all concerns as soon as possible.

The BV Team

Justin Huber - CEO

Jeff Paull - General Manager of Baseball Operations

Taylor Crotty - Events and Operations Manager

Kelsey Quinn - Competition Coordinator

Lisa Mclellan - Digital Media and Communications Coordinator

Les Flower - Financial Controller

Damian Shanahan - High Performance Manager

Stewart Howe - Umpires Coordinator