

## INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: VSBL CLUB PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES, MEMBERS  
DATE: 20 MARCH 2020  
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA  
SUBJECT: COVID-19 UPDATE, BV TV YOUTUBE CHANNEL, VSBL FINALS,  
GENEVIEVE BEACOM, 2019 VICTORIAN SCHOOL SPORTS  
AWARDS, CLUB ADVERTISEMENTS

### COVID-19 Update

On Tuesday, 17 March, Baseball Victoria announced the postponement of all Victorian Baseball activity until Tuesday, 7 April 2020, due to the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic. Baseball Victoria and all member clubs and associations have ceased baseball activity, including training, team meetings, events, tournaments and competitions.

All decisions made in relation to the health and safety of our baseball community have been given careful consideration following consultations with federal and state government, Sport Australia, Baseball Australia and our state and territory baseball counterparts. By postponing non-essential static gatherings, Baseball Victoria and the greater Victorian baseball community can assist in stopping the spread of this virus.

Baseball Victoria will continue to provide updates on the rapidly evolving COVID-19 situation, with all details available [HERE](#) on the Baseball Victoria website.

You can find information on how to keep yourself and your family safe and healthy [HERE](#) from the Victoria Department of Health.

### Baseball Victoria Launches BV TV YouTube Channel

Baseball Victoria is pleased to announce the launch of BV TV, the new Baseball Victoria YouTube channel. In the midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic and a break in all Victorian baseball activity, BVTV will feature plenty of exciting baseball content, not only from Victoria but across Australia and even the globe.

As part of the BV TV launch, a series of training videos will be released in the next week to help athletes stay on top of their training even during this extended break. The *At-Home Baseball Training: Drills and Exercises for the COVID-19 Break* video series offers guidance on drills recommended by Baseball Victoria Talent Development Manager Damian Shanahan.

“During this unique time where so much is changing, one thing can stay the same and that’s putting the effort in to train at home,” Shanahan said. “We don’t want you to miss your baseball, and we are looking forward to bringing you these videos that will help you stay in shape and continue training at home during the COVID-19 break.”

Today’s videos will feature Walk Thrus (Happy Gilmores), Ready Right Now Toss, Hookems and Gauntlet exercises.

Videos will be released several times a week as Baseball Victoria looks to share more content with the community throughout the COVID-19 break and beyond.

Click [HERE](#) to subscribe to BV TV and follow along with the At-Home Baseball Training: Drills and Exercises for the COVID-19 Break video series.

## 2019/20 VSBL Finals

We enjoyed a wonderful weekend of VSBL finals, and we hope all players, teams, supporters and clubs did too. There was plenty of premiership glory to go around as part of Women's Super Saturday and Division 1 and 2 Grand Finals.

In the Division 1 Firsts Grand Final, Blackburn prevailed over Sunshine 9-1 in game one while the Eagles came back to win 4-1 in game two. Blackburn managed to hold on for a 5-4 victory in game three on Sunday, securing back-to-back premiership flags.

Click [HERE](#) to read what Blackburn Manager Matthew Tayler had to say after the Orioles' Grand Final win.



*The Orioles are back-to-back VSBL Division 1 Premiers! Photo: [Blackburn Baseball Club](#)*

In Division 2, Malvern followed up on a 12-4 game one win with a huge 15-1 victory over Williamstown to bring home the flag and secure promotion to Division 1.

Click [HERE](#) to read about Malvern's massive win and Coach Phil Dale's plans for the future.

Women's Super Saturday at Springvale was a huge success, with five fantastic grand finals playing out across VSBL Women's Division 1, 2 and 3. Springvale, Doncaster, Moorabbin, Bonbeach and Sunshine won the premierships in exciting games to wrap up the season on a high note.

Click [HERE](#) to read about all Women's Super Saturday action.

In partnership with My Sport Live, the Division 1 and 2 and Women's Division 1, 2 and 3 East Grand Finals were livestreamed. Thank you to everyone who tuned in and watched the finals, and congratulations to all of the Grand Final winners on their success!

Relive all the action and watch grand final highlights [HERE](#).

### **Genevieve Beacom Looks Ahead After Pitching Debut in VSBL Division 1**

Genevieve Beacom had a thrilling finish to her 2019/20 VSBL season, making history once again by becoming the first woman to pitch in a VSBL Division 1 Firsts game. Although Sandringham Royals missed out on finals, 15-year-old Genevieve was excited to have the chance to pitch in the firsts. She impressed in her debut outing in Sandringham's final midweek game of the season, pitching the last inning and striking out the Newport Rams batter with runners on for the third out as the Royals won 4-3.

"I felt empowered and very grateful that I was given the opportunity to play for Sandringham's ones," Genevieve said. "I never think about how I'm going to go before I pitch. I just concentrate on getting my work done in the warm-up."

Click [HERE](#) to read more about Genevieve's VSBL pitching debut.



*Genevieve Beacom impressed in her VSBL Division 1 pitching debut. Photo: Baseball Victoria*

### **Waverley's Mitchell Thomas Wins 2019 Victorian School Sports Awards**

Congratulations to Mitchell Thomas, who was named the 2019 Victorian School Sports Award winner for baseball. Mitchell plays for Waverley in the VSBL competition, and the standout junior has been recognised for his sporting achievements.

Learn more about the Victorian School Sports Awards [HERE](#).

### **Club Advertisements**

Sandringham Baseball Club is looking for a senior club coach for the 2020/21 VSBL season. Please click [HERE](#) to view club ads and learn more.

### **The BV Team**

**Kristie Middleton** - CEO

**Jeff Paull** – General Manager of Baseball Operations

**Kellie Thomas** - Operations Coordinator

**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

