

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 18 SEPTEMBER 2020
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: COVID-19 UPDATE, MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES, VICHEALTH REIMAGINING HEALTH GRANTS, ROY BARTLETT, CLUB ADS, BV MEDIA, BV TV YOUTUBE, AUS X MLB

Baseball Victoria COVID-19 Update

Following Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews' announcements on Tuesday, 15 September 2020 regarding the easing of Stage Three restrictions in regional Victoria, Baseball Victoria acknowledges that a return to baseball training is likely to commence next week for three VSBL clubs in regional Victoria: Ballarat Royals, Geelong Baycats and Mitchell Majors.

Baseball Victoria is currently seeking additional clarification from Sport and Recreation Victoria to confirm the details on outdoor contact and non-contact sport for regional Victorians aged 18 and under, as well as outdoor non-contact sport for adults.

Baseball Victoria will not commence any activities until Tuesday, 22 September 2020 subject to updates from Sport and Recreation Victoria. This ability to train will only apply to the Ballarat Royals, Geelong Baycats and Mitchell Majors as clubs participating in the Victorian Summer Baseball League. All players from these three clubs will be required to complete the return to training registration for regional Victoria, and all clubs must maintain an attendance register and COVID-19 restriction compliance documentation.

Registration and return to play documents will be confirmed directly with these clubs and registered players for these clubs, subject to the updates from Sport and Recreation Victoria.

“The progress made in regional Victoria is welcome news and we are pleased to confirm our regional VSBL clubs may return to training in the coming weeks under Victorian Government guidelines and restrictions,” Baseball Victoria CEO Kristie Middleton said. “We continue to make small steps toward a COVID normal, and we are committed to getting players back on the diamond when it is safe and possible to do so. The health and safety of our Victorian baseball community remains our top priority.”

Baseball Victoria will provide further clarification on the easing of restrictions in regional Victoria and the plans for metropolitan Melbourne accordingly in line with updates from the Victorian Government.

Baseball Victoria is considering how clubs that traditionally play in winter, whom have been unable to conduct a season of baseball, might be able to participate in a division of the Victorian Summer Baseball League for regional Victoria or how they might join the Victorian Summer Baseball League.

Click [HERE](#) to read the Premier's full statement on the easing of restrictions in regional Victoria.

Please click [HERE](#) for all of our COVID-19 updates and Victorian Government resources.

If you have any questions or concerns, please [contact us](#).

You can view the Baseball Victoria COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions [HERE](#) for details on the shutdown of baseball activity as well as COVID-19 health questions, face masks and much more.

As a reminder, the COVIDSafe app is now available and will allow authorities to quickly track and control the spread of COVID-19. Please consider downloading the app to help save lives, protect the community and get baseball back as soon as possible. Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

Mental Health Resources

It's important to reach out and check in on family, friends, teammates and co-workers. This show of support can make a big difference to someone who is struggling with life's ups and downs. Asking "are you okay?" and knowing what to say next allows you to have meaningful conversations and make sure your fellow baseballers and loved ones are staying healthy in these challenging circumstances.

For more information from R U OK? and mental health resources, visit our COVID-19 resources page [HERE](#).

You can also access information on keeping your family safe during the COVID-19 pandemic from the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services website [HERE](#).

VicHealth Reimagining Health Grants

Applications are now open for the VicHealth *Reimagining Health Grants*, a redesigned funding program offering \$2.5 million in grants for Victorian community organisations.

VicHealth has merged previous funding opportunities such as Active Club Grants and Partnership grants into this funding stream to simplify the process so organisations can get the support they need as soon as possible.

VicHealth is offering grants of up to \$3K, \$10K or \$50K for local organisations who can support young people (aged 0-25 years) or Victorians experiencing disadvantage, by creating meaningful social connection, providing opportunities for physical activity or by addressing food security issues.

Local sporting organisations and clubs are encouraged to view the [grant guidelines](#) and apply before applications close on Tuesday, 27 October at 11:59 PM. Early applications may be assessed and notified of the outcome prior to the closing date, so apply early for the fastest outcome.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more about this funding opportunity and ideas for grassroots baseball clubs.

There are several other funding opportunities available, including [Sport and Recreation Victoria's Sporting Club Grants](#) and the Victorian Government's [Community Sport Survival Package](#). Click [HERE](#) to view all available grants.

Westgarth Baseball Club Legend Roy Bartlett Beats COVID-19

Westgarth Baseball Club honoured club legend and life member Roy Bartlett on his 100th birthday on 27 June 2020, and now the centenarian has been recognised once more, this time for beating a six-week battle with COVID-19. Nine News featured his inspiring story on Thursday night's bulletin.

Roy defied the odds after contracting coronavirus in an aged care facility where he was recovering from pneumonia. He has since been discharged from the hospital, leaving in good health and good spirits, much to the delight of his family, hospital staff and all those who know and love him at Westgarth, where he has contributed 75 years of active volunteering.

Roy's family says he is doing well and they appreciate all the support and the 100th birthday messages from throughout the baseball community. We wish Roy and his family all the best and are happy to hear he is feeling better.

Click [HERE](#) to watch and read the full story from Nine News.

Club Coaching Ads

Doncaster Baseball Club is seeking expressions of interest for the role of women's head coach for the VSBL season. The club has a strong women's program, having fielded teams in all three women's divisions

in recent seasons, with a focus on female junior development and an enthusiastic group of top-level senior women's players.

The club is seeking a playing or non-playing coach who will help develop and maintain a positive club culture and position the club for on-field success in women's baseball.

For more details, please click [HERE](#).

Baseball Victoria Media and Story Requests

Baseball Victoria is committed to sharing more stories from around the Victorian baseball community. We invite clubs to share their story ideas and nominate players, coaches, volunteers and officials for profile pieces, so we can highlight all the amazing stories from clubs across the state. Please submit your story ideas [HERE](#). Don't forget to connect with us on all of our platforms – learn more on our media page [HERE](#).

BV TV YouTube Channel

Keep working hard on your baseball skills with all of the training videos available on our [BV TV YouTube channel](#). The [At-Home Baseball Training: Drills and Exercises for the COVID-19 Break](#) series covers hitting, throwing, fielding and ball handling, with more than 50 different drills to add to your training routine.

Click [HERE](#) to check out the BV TV training videos.

For more baseball content and to stay connected with us, please follow Baseball Victoria on TikTok [HERE](#) and Instagram [HERE](#).

AUS x MLB: 18 September Update

There are just 10 days left in the 2020 MLB season before playoffs, and the two teams with Aussies on their 40-man rosters are in the postseason picture. Victorian Lewis Thorpe remains at Minnesota's alternate training site after appearing in seven games so far, while West Australian Liam Hendriks leads the league with 13 saves. Click [HERE](#) to read our full AUS x MLB update.

Don't forget you can get your MLB fix on [Kayo](#), with the Australian sports streaming service bringing you some of the biggest games streamed live each week. In addition to MLB Strikezone showings, Kayo has the following lineup for next week:

- New York Mets v Tampa Bay Rays - Tuesday, 22 September, 8:00 AM AEST
- Los Angeles Dodgers v Oakland Athletics - Wednesday, 23 September, 12:30 PM AEST

Click [HERE](#) to check out Kayo and follow along with the MLB action live.

New to Kayo? Sign up for a free 14-day trial [HERE](#).

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