

# INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS  
DATE: 2 OCTOBER 2020  
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA  
SUBJECT: COVID-19 UPDATE, 2020 AWARDS, MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCE RESOURCES, AVAILABLE GRANTS, BV MEDIA, BV TV, AUS X MLB

## Baseball Victoria COVID-19 Update

Baseball Victoria continues to closely monitor the Victorian Government's announcements on the easing of coronavirus restrictions as we prepare for a return to activity when it's safe and possible to do so.

Currently, there are three VSBL clubs in regional Victoria that may register to return to training: Ballarat Royals, Geelong Baycats and Mitchell Majors. This is for contact and non-contact sport for regional Victorians aged 18 and under, as well as outdoor non-contact sport for adults.

This ability to train applies only to the Ballarat Royals, Geelong Baycats and Mitchell Majors as clubs participating in the Victorian Summer Baseball League. All players from these three clubs are 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 have been confirmed directly with these clubs and any changes will be communicated accordingly, subject to updates from Sport and Recreation Victoria.

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

Baseball Victoria is considering how clubs that traditionally play in winter and 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 VSBL.

Click [HERE](#) to read all the latest updates from the Victorian Premier. 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 current restrictions, 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.

## 2020 Baseball Victoria Awards

The 2020 Baseball Victoria Awards celebrate fantastic achievements from across the Victorian baseball community, including the 2019/20 VSBL season award winners. The first two nights of awards were livestreamed on the Baseball Victoria Facebook page, and we will wrap up on Friday with the third and final livestream starting at 7:30 PM as we present Club Champions and MVPs.

We announced Division Three and Division Two Award winners on Wednesday, and on Thursday we revealed the Volunteer, Coach and Umpire of the Year Award winners, as well as Division One and Women's Division One Awards. We also had a very special guest join us last night, as Victorian MLB pitcher Lewis Thorpe gave us an update on life in the big leagues and shared a message for his hometown supporters.

Congratulations to all of our deserving award winners on a fantastic 2019/20 VSBL season and their many contributions to Victorian baseball.

Click [HERE](#) to view all winners and watch the awards. Highlights are also shared across Baseball Victoria social media platforms, including [Instagram](#), [TikTok](#) and the [BV TV YouTube Channel](#).

Click [HERE](#) to RSVP on Facebook and receive a notification when we go live tonight.



### **Mental Health Resources**

Please remember we have a range of mental health resources available on our website, including information from [Beyond Blue](#), [Headspace](#), [Kids Helpline](#), [Lifeline](#) and [R U OK?](#)

We encourage our baseball community to keep in touch with one another and check in with family, friends and teammates. For more on mental health, 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](#).

### **Available Grants**

As a reminder, there are several funding schemes available, including VicHealth Reimagining Health 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 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 and read suggestions for grassroots baseball clubs.

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

## Baseball Victoria Media and Story Requests

Baseball Victoria remains dedicated to sharing inspiring 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 fantastic stories from 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

Don't forget you can stay on top of your training with our [At-Home Baseball Training: Drills and Exercises for the COVID-19 Break](#) series on the [BV TV YouTube channel](#). There are more than 50 different drills covering hitting, throwing, fielding and ball handling.

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

We are also pleased to have a variety of playlists on BV TV, including [Victorian Baseball History](#) that features a special project on the history of the Carlton Baseball Club. Don Hudson, Carlton Baseball Club Reunion Coordinator, compiled a variety of historic memorabilia to provide an awesome look back on the beloved club spanning 1898 – 1969. Click [HERE](#) to watch and get your fill of Victorian baseball from years gone by.

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

### AUS x MLB: 2 October Update

The 2020 MLB playoffs are here! After a whirlwind 60-game shortened season, both teams with Aussies on their 40-man rosters made the postseason.

It didn't last long for the Minnesota Twins as their playoff losing streak continued, ending the season for Victorian Lewis Thorpe, although West Australian Liam Hendriks and the Oakland Athletics have won their AL Wild Card series and are advancing for the first time since 2006.

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. Follow along with the postseason action, including some more Wild Card matchups and American League Division Series games.

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](#).

### The BV Team

**Kristie Middleton** - CEO

**Tania Newcombe** - Financial Controller

**Damian Shanahan** – Talent Development Manager

**Kellie Thomas** - Operations Coordinator

**Rachael Bouley** - Communications and Digital Media Coordinator

**Stewart Howe** - Umpires Coordinator

**Greg Tinkler** – National Coaching Accreditation Coordinator

**Jo Schutt** – Sporting Schools Coordinator

