

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 20 NOVEMBER 2020
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: COVID-19 UPDATE, NATIONAL SHOWCASE SERIES – VICTORIA TRYOUTS, RAMP UP TO PLAY, MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES, ABL SEASON – MELBOURNE ACES, BV MEDIA, LIFEBLOOD

Baseball Victoria COVID-19 Update

Baseball Victoria anticipates further changes to restrictions flagged by the Victorian Government in the coming days, and we will closely monitor Premier Daniel Andrews' weekend announcements. Fixtures for the 2020/21 VSBL season are imminent, however, we will make any final adjustments based on this weekend's updates before fixtures go live on Monday, 23 November 2020.

Baseball Victoria continues to work closely with VSBL clubs to ensure appropriate fixturing and COVID safe protocols for a successful return to play following our return to activity.

VSBL clubs must have council approval to return to training and need to maintain confirmed registration of all attendees. All players and coaches must register to return to training [HERE](#).

Our [At-Home Baseball Training: Drills and Exercises for the COVID-19 Break](#) and [Ramp Up to Play](#) series feature training exercises for those who wish to continue their solo training for now or brush up on their skills. Click [HERE](#) to check out these training videos.

Clubs can have groups of 20 people (including players and coaches) at training, with two groups on a single diamond separated by 20 metres. At this stage, all training for seniors is non-contact where physical distancing must be maintained, while juniors are able to conduct full training. Access to club canteens/bars is subject to council approval, with more details available [HERE](#).

We will continue to provide updates accordingly and support our VSBL clubs as we make the most of this summer season and adjust to our COVID normal. We wish to remind all members to register for the return to training if they haven't already so we can have a safe and successful summer of baseball.

Click [HERE](#) to view our club resources page.

Click [HERE](#) for more Victorian Government COVID-19 resources.

Click [HERE](#) to register with your club and view registration resources for new and returning members [HERE](#).

Click [HERE](#) to view our frequently asked questions, which are regularly updated.

Tryout Registration for National Showcase Series – Victoria

Registration is now open for the 2021 National Showcase Series – Victoria tryouts, which will begin at the end of this month. Under 16 and Under 18 players are encouraged to [register](#) for this opportunity, which will replace the traditional Australian Youth Championship that was cancelled due to COVID-19.

Dates and times for the tryouts at Melbourne Ballpark are as follows:

Under 18

Saturday, 28 November 9.00 am - 5.00pm

Monday, 30 November 6.00pm - 9.00pm

Tryout enrolment to close Wednesday, 25 November

Under 16

Sunday, 29 November 1.00pm - 6.00pm

Saturday, 5 December 1.00pm - 6.00pm

Saturday, 12 December (if required) 1.00pm to 6.00pm

Tryout enrolment to close Tuesday, 1st December ***If unable to attend the first session, you may register to attend the next session on Saturday, 5 December.*

Specific session times will be provided after enrolment closes.

The National Showcase Series – Victoria will consist of a local showcase and underage tournament to ensure athletes still receive extensive high performance and development opportunities as well as exposure to college and professional scouts. The local showcase will be used for data collection and scouting purposes followed by a seven-game tournament between two teams in both the Under 16 and Under 18 age brackets.

T-shirts, uniforms, caps and water bottles will be provided as part of the showcase. The approximate estimated cost at this stage for the showcase will be between \$300 and \$400, with payment after tryouts.

Click [HERE](#) to register for tryouts.

Click [HERE](#) to view more details on the National Showcase Series – Victoria.

Ramp Up to Play

As we get back to the baseball field, don't forget to check out the [BV TV YouTube channel](#) for training videos such as the [At-Home Baseball Training: Drills and Exercises for the COVID-19 Break](#) and [Ramp Up to Play](#) series.

We also have many other playlists on BV TV, including [Victorian Baseball History](#) and the [2020 Baseball Victoria Awards](#) highlights featuring an interview with [MLB pitcher Lewis Thorpe](#).

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

Mental Health Resources

We know it's been a challenging year and we are so glad to see our baseballers returning to the diamond safely and reconnecting with their club communities. As restrictions continue to ease, we wish to remind everyone to stay in touch and check in with friends and family to see how they are doing mentally. Especially in these times, it's important to talk about mental health and emotional wellbeing.

Please check out the mental health resources available on our website, including information from [Beyond Blue](#), [Headspace](#), [Kids Helpline](#), [Lifeline](#) and [R U OK?](#) 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](#).

Melbourne Aces ABL Schedule

The revised 2020/21 Australian Baseball League schedule was just released this afternoon, with the reigning Claxton Shield champs Melbourne Aces set to start the season in Sydney for a four-game series against the Blue Sox from 17 -20 December.

You can view the full Melbourne Aces schedule [HERE](#) and check out tickets and memberships [HERE](#).

Read the full ABL statement on the revised schedule [HERE](#).

Baseball Victoria Media and Story Requests

As we get closer to the summer season, please remember you can always submit story ideas and nominate players, coaches, volunteers and officials for profile pieces. This allows us to share even more stories from baseballers across the state.

Please submit your story ideas [HERE](#).

You can connect with us on all our platforms – learn more on our media page [HERE](#).

Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Teams Program

Baseball Victoria is proud to be part of the [Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Teams Program](#), which saves thousands of lives nationwide through blood and plasma donations every year.

When we joined Lifeblood Teams earlier this year, we shared our goal of reaching 100 donations in 2020. Well, thanks to the generous support of the Victorian baseball community, we have surpassed our goal and now saved 102 lives so far. This is great news, but there is still more work to be done, and Lifeblood urgently needs 16,000 additional people to give blood or plasma in the next two weeks. Supplies of Australia's two most common blood types, O+ and A+, are at risk with less than two day's supply. All blood types are need every day, and now is a great time to get involved and make a lifechanging difference.

Plus, Lifeblood has teamed up with six Australian artists to offer a series of limited-edition bandages for donors, and the [True Colours](#) campaign will run through the end of November.

Please join us in giving back through blood donation. Click [HERE](#) to sign up today and join the Baseball Victoria Lifeblood Team. You can find pop-up clinics in your area or book your blood bank appointment at donateblood.com.au, on the Lifeblood app or on 13 14 95. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about Lifeblood's extra safety measures to ensure the health and wellbeing of donors.



The BV Team

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