

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 4 DECEMBER 2020
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: 2020/21 VSBL SEASON, REGISTRATION REMINDER, ORMOND GLENHUNTLY REMINDER, TEAM VIC OFFICIALS, RAMP UP TO PLAY, MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES, BV MEDIA, LIFEBLOOD

[2020/21 VSBL Season – COVID Rules, Score Entry and Fixture Updates](#)

Baseball Victoria is excited for opening weekend of the 2020/21 VSBL season. After months of planning and preparation, it will be great to welcome so many players and teams to the field for the start of a big summer of baseball.

Please note we have finalised the [VSBL Playing Conditions](#) for the 2020/21 VSBL season with COVID rule updates, and these updated rules apply only to this upcoming season. These changes have been made to comply with the [Baseball Victoria Return to Play Plan](#) and Victorian Government guidelines.

“Participant safety remains our top priority heading into this summer season, and the VSBL Playing Conditions have been modified where necessary to ensure we can have a COVIDsafe competition for all players and officials,” Baseball Victoria CEO Kristie Middleton said. “We look forward to a safe and successful season for Victorians of all ages and skill levels.”

Click [HERE](#) to view the updated COVID rules for the 2020/21 VSBL season and click [HERE](#) for a summary of changes as a single document. The updated Little League Playing Conditions are also available [HERE](#).

Baseball Victoria has also streamlined the process for entering scores for the 2020/21 VSBL season. In place of phoning in scores, clubs will be required to enter scores via SurveyMonkey, and match sheets may be submitted via SurveyMonkey or email. All details on the score submission process and timelines are available [HERE](#).

Registration information is available [HERE](#) and all fixtures for the 2020/21 VSBL season are available [HERE](#). Please note there have been multiple fixture changes made this week as requested by clubs, and a comprehensive list of fixture updates is available [HERE](#).

Information on the new [free QR Code Service](#) from the Victorian Government is available [HERE](#) for clubs to consider for visitors to changerooms, canteens and clubhouses.

Click [HERE](#) to view all of our VSBL updates and click [HERE](#) to view all of our COVID-19 updates.

Best of luck to our Victorian baseballers this weekend – we hope everyone enjoys getting back on the diamond!

[VSBL Return to Play Registration Reminder](#)

As the 2020/21 VSBL season gets underway, we wish to remind our members that all players must be registered to play before participating in any games to comply with Victorian Government and Baseball Victoria COVIDSafe guidelines, found in our Return to Play Plan [HERE](#).

If they haven't done so already, players who registered for the free return to training may now finalise their return to play registration by clicking [HERE](#).

Players who have not yet registered to return to training and would like to do so before committing to play this season may register [HERE](#).

Fees for Baseball Victoria and Baseball Australia are frozen at the same rates as last summer and the senior team fees are reduced by 50% with the junior team fees completely removed – junior teams are free for 2020/21. These significant reductions have allowed clubs to determine their fees with these reduced costs and pass those onto players as part of their overall club fees. Exact club fees have been determined by clubs and may appear online as part of clubs' SportsTG registration.

We have updated our frequently asked questions with information on registering to return to play. Click [HERE](#) for details.

Ormond Glenhuntly Reminder – No Metal Cleats

As a reminder for all teams playing at Ormond Glenhuntly this season, the club's diamond has a synthetic mound and therefore metal cleats are not permitted. Those teams that are scheduled to play at the ground will have a reminder sent to them via email beforehand in addition to reminders provided by the club.

Applications Open: Team Vic Officials for Girls Baseball Team

With the postponement of the School Sport Australia Baseball Championships in 2021, [School Sport Victoria](#) is planning to offer the chance for students to register for trials for a Team Vic 18 Years and Under Girls Baseball team. In preparation, the following positions are currently advertised on the [SSV website](#) for positions with the Team Vic Girls Baseball team:

- **Baseball 18 Years and Under Girls Coach**
- **Baseball 18 Years and Under Girls Assistant Coach**
- **Baseball 18 Years and Under Girls Manager**

Applications close Friday, 11 December. Job descriptions, key selection criteria and links to apply online are available [HERE](#).

Ramp Up to Play – BV TV

Keep up with your training all summer long with videos on the [BV TV YouTube channel](#), including our [At-Home Baseball Training](#) and [Ramp Up to Play](#) series.

We also have many other playlists on BV TV such as [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

While this year has undoubtedly been challenging, it's great that baseball is back and we hope everyone enjoys this summer as we return to the sport we all love.

With restrictions easing, we wish to remind our members to stay in touch and check in with friends and family. It's good to talk about mental health and emotional wellbeing even as we adjust to our COVID normal in Victoria.

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](#).

Baseball Victoria Media and Story Requests

We look forward to sharing lots of great stories throughout the summer season, and we encourage our community to follow along on our website and social media platforms for the latest updates. If something exciting happens at your club or you wish to see a fellow player, coach, volunteer or umpire recognised for their contributions, please feel free to 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 surpassed our goal last month with 102 lives saved so far. This is an excellent result, but we are just getting started and can continue to make a difference to the community. All blood types are needed daily, and now's the time to get involved and save lives through a great cause.

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

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

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