

# INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS

DATE: 11 DECEMBER 2020 FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA

SUBJECT: 2020/21 VSBL SEASON, REGISTRATION REMINDER, COVID-19

UPDATE, RAMP UP TO PLAY, MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES, BV

MEDIA, LIFEBLOOD

## 2020/21 VSBL Season

We enjoyed an excellent opening weekend as the 2020/21 VSBL season got underway after months of careful planning and preparation. It was awesome to see so many players and teams hit the diamond with baseball finally back in full swing. We are looking forward to a great summer of baseball while we stay safe and adjust to our COVID normal.

Click <u>HERE</u> to catch up on recaps from the first round on our website and don't forget to follow the <u>Victorian Summer Baseball League Facebook</u> page for results, updates and more.

As a reminder, the <u>VSBL Playing Conditions</u> were updated for the 2020/21 VSBL season with COVID rule updates. These changes comply with the <u>Baseball Victoria Return to Play Plan</u> and Victorian Government guidelines.

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

Details on the streamlined score submission process and timelines are available HERE.

Registration information is available <u>HERE</u> and all fixtures for the 2020/21 VSBL season are available <u>HERE</u>. Please note there have been several more fixture changes made this week after the first round as requested by clubs, and a comprehensive list of fixture updates is available <u>HERE</u>.

Information on the new <u>free QR Code Service</u> from the Victorian Government is available <u>HERE</u> for clubs to consider for visitors to changerooms, canteens and clubhouses.

Click <u>HERE</u> to view all of our VSBL updates and click <u>HERE</u> to view all of our COVID-19 updates.

We hope our Victorian baseballers have fun this weekend and we wish everyone the best of luck as the VSBL season continues.

#### **VSBL Return to Play Registration Reminder**

Now that the 2020/21 VSBL season has officially begun, 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 <u>HERE</u>.

We have updated our frequently asked questions with information on registering to return to play. Click <u>HERE</u> for details.

## **Baseball Victoria COVID-19 Update**

Following announcements made by Victorian Premier Daniel Andrews on Sunday, 6 December regarding the further easing of restrictions, Baseball Victoria confirmed how these changes apply to the 2020/21 VSBL season.

Full details of Premier Andrews' announcements include the <u>Premier's Statement</u>, the summary of <u>COVIDSafe Summer - How We Live</u> and <u>COVIDSafe Summer - How We Work</u>. For more details on these changes, please see the <u>Summary of COVIDSafe Summer Restrictions</u>.

An updated Return to Play COVIDSafe Plan with these changes can be accessed HERE.

Click <u>HERE</u> to view our frequently asked questions, which are regularly updated with answers regarding the VSBL season, National Showcase Series – Victoria, COVID safe protocols and more.

To view the outline on the easing of restrictions provided by the Victorian Government, click HERE.

Click <u>HERE</u> for more Victorian Government COVID-19 resources.

#### Ramp Up to Play - BV TV

Now that summer baseball is back, it's time to focus on training and getting ready for game day. We have plenty of training resources on the <u>BV TV YouTube channel</u>, including our <u>At-Home Baseball Training</u> and <u>Ramp Up to Play</u> series.

We also have many other playlists on BV TV such as <u>Victorian Baseball History</u> and <u>MLB pitcher Lewis Thorpe</u>. For more baseball content and to stay connected with us, please follow Baseball Victoria on TikTok HERE and Instagram HERE.



## **Mental Health Resources**

We are so pleased to be in a position to return to play, however, we acknowledge it hasn't been the easiest year for many people. As we enjoy summer baseball, we encourage our members to touch base with friends and family. The COVID situation has improved significantly but discussions around mental

health and emotional wellbeing remain extremely important moving forward with 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 <u>HERE</u>.

# **Baseball Victoria Media and Story Requests**

With a bright summer season ahead, we are excited to share highlights and stories with our Victorian baseball community. We encourage our members to follow along on our website and social media platforms for the latest news.

If something exciting happens at your club or you wish to see a fellow player, coach, volunteer or umpire recognised for their efforts, please feel free to submit your story ideas <u>HERE</u>.

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 <u>Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Teams Program</u>, 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. Thanks to the generous support of the Victorian baseball community, we surpassed our goal last month and have now saved 111 lives so far. While this is a great result, we are just getting started and we want to continue making 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 <u>HERE</u> 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 <u>donateblood.com.au</u>, on the Lifeblood app or on 13 14 95.

Click <u>HERE</u> 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

Craig Haydock - Club and Competitions Manager

Kellie Thomas - Operations Coordinator

Rachael Bouley - Communications and Digital Media Coordinator

Stewart Howe - Umpires Coordinator

**Greg Tinkler** – National Coaching Accreditation Coordinator

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