

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS
DATE: 15 OCTOBER 2021
FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA
SUBJECT: CEO APPOINTMENT, COVID-19 UPDATE, SHOWCASE COACHES,
BV BOARD DIRECTORS, RAMP UP TO PLAY, SRV FUNDING,
GET ACTIVE VICTORIA, LIFEBLOOD

Baseball Victoria Announces Appointment of Ritchie Hinton as Chief Executive Officer

Baseball Victoria is pleased to announce the appointment of Ritchie Hinton as its new Chief Executive Officer.

“Throughout the CEO recruitment process, the Baseball Victoria Board was committed to finding a highly qualified executive to lead the organisation forward through this next period of COVID recovery, strategic planning, and grassroots development,” Baseball Victoria President Meghan Mayman said.

“We found the ideal candidate in Ritchie, and we are thrilled to have him join Baseball Victoria. His two decades of experience in sport, law, and business management have shaped his strategic and operational strengths, making him a fantastic asset to Baseball Victoria as we look to further enhance participation in our safe, welcoming and inclusive sport.”

“Thank you to Sportspeople for their work and Rob Stanley for leading this successful CEO recruitment process, as well as all the Baseball Victoria Board Directors involved – Grant Weir, Amy McCann and Matt Nichol.”

Ritchie is a dedicated sports management executive with an extensive legal and commercial background. Originally from England, he studied English & European Law at university, going on to qualify and work as a solicitor in the UK before moving to Melbourne in 2005.

Ritchie most recently served as CEO of Table Tennis Victoria, leading the state sport governing body through the pandemic and overseeing the development of TTV’s Strategic Plan for 2019-2022. He has also worked as National Field Manager at Cricket Australia, Head of Football (Soccer) at TLA Worldwide, and a long-standing sports industry commentator, columnist and panellist.

Ritchie is excited to join Baseball Victoria and guide grassroots baseball through the next chapter of success on and off the diamond.



“I’m honoured to have been given the opportunity to join Baseball Victoria at such an exciting time in the sport, and to build upon their strong history of administering the sport in Victoria. I have watched the progress of the Australian Baseball League with interest from afar and I am particularly keen to work with all stakeholders to use the impetus from the national league to help drive participation and interest at the grassroots level in Victoria.”

Ritchie will commence as CEO of Baseball Victoria on Monday 8 November 2021.

Baseball Victoria COVID-19 Update

Victoria continues to make strides toward state vaccination targets that will trigger the easing of lockdown restrictions, and Baseball Victoria anticipates further announcements from the Victorian Government in the coming days. We expect to start the 2021/22 VSBL season on Saturday 13 November 2021, and we will provide details of our return to training once confirmed by the government.

Lockdown restrictions were lifted in Mitchell Shire this week, so Mitchell Majors join Ballarat Royals and Geelong Baycats as the three VSBL clubs in regional Victoria that can participate in the limited return to training with the minimum number required to train.

Please click [HERE](#) for all the latest information, including details on current restrictions, vaccination and testing.

For valuable mental health resources, including [R U OK?](#), [Headspace](#), [Kids Helpline](#), [Lifeline](#), and [Beyond Blue](#), please click [HERE](#).

Coaching Expressions of Interest Open For 2022 National Showcase Series – Victoria

Baseball Victoria is accepting applications for head coach and assistant coach positions for the 2022 National Showcase Series – Victoria. Applications close 18 October 2021 - click [HERE](#) to learn more about this coaching opportunity and apply today.

You can also view details on USA Coaching Accreditation and how to become an accredited coach [HERE](#).

Expressions of Interest Open for Baseball Victoria Board of Directors

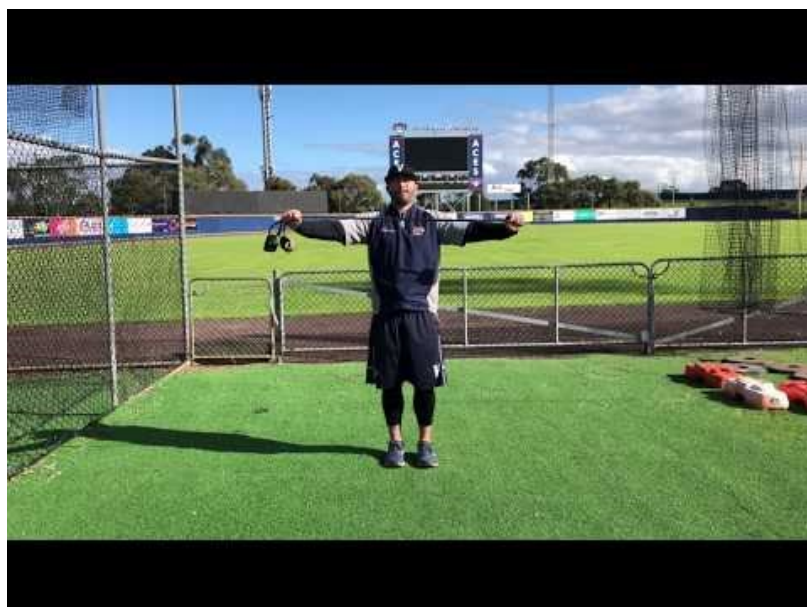
As a reminder, the Board of Baseball Victoria is seeking expressions of interest for board directors including the role of Baseball Victoria President. The recruitment process is being managed by Sportspeople, and to learn more and apply, please click [HERE](#).

Applications close at 5pm on Sunday 17 October 2021. Click [HERE](#) to read more.

At-Home Baseball Training & Ramp Up to Play on BV TV

We are preparing for a big summer of baseball, and we encourage all baseballers to get ready for our return to training with the [Ramp Up to Play](#) video series on [BV TV](#). Daily outdoor exercise is a great chance to focus on throwing and arm strength going into the VSBL season.

Keep up-to-date on all the latest Victorian baseball stories [HERE](#) and connect with us on [TikTok](#) and [Instagram](#) for more exciting baseball content from across our state and beyond.



Government Funding for Sporting Clubs

Applications are open for the \$10 million fourth round of the *Community Sport Sector COVID-19 Survival Package*. Clubs can apply for a grant of \$1,500 and local leagues and associations \$2,500 to cover costs and lost revenue associated with the cancellation of training, development programs and competition.

For more details, visit the [Community Sport Sector COVID-19 Survival Package](#) page.

Click [HERE](#) for a full list of available grants, including CADBURY Get in the Game Grants to support girls and women's sports and Engage! and FReeZA grants to support young Victorians.

Get Active Kids Voucher Program

The Victorian Government is helping Victorian kids get outside and be active with applications now open for the third round of the \$21 million Get Active Kids Voucher Program. To be eligible, children must be Victorian residents, aged 18 and under, and named on a valid health care card or pensioner concession card, as well as a Medicare card.

Applications in Round 3 of the program close at 5pm on Tuesday 30 November 2021, and expenditure can be backdated to 1 January 2021 to cover sporting memberships, registration fees, uniforms and equipment. Click [HERE](#) to learn more and apply today.

Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Teams Program

Baseball Victoria has saved 183 lives this year as part of the [Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Teams Program](#), which delivers life-saving blood and plasma donations to thousands of Australians annually. We look forward to saving more lives before the end of the year, as Australia needs 31,000 blood donations every week. Please sign up to save lives with the Baseball Victoria Lifeblood Team [HERE](#).



The BV Team

Gemma Scales – Interim CEO

Tania Newcombe - Financial Controller

Damian Shanahan – Talent Development Manager

Danny Haymes – VSBL Manager

Kellie Thomas - Operations Coordinator

Rachael Bouley - Communications and Digital Media Coordinator

Sam Gillett – Baseball Events Coordinator

Keli'i Zablan - Coach and Player Pathways Coordinator

