

INSIDE THE BV ZONE

TO: BASEBALL VICTORIA MEMBERS

DATE: 5 NOVEMBER 2021 FROM: BASEBALL VICTORIA

SUBJECT: 2021/22 VSBL SEASON, UMPIRE UPDATE, SHOWCASE SERIES,

COACHING UPDATE, RAMP UP TO PLAY, GET ACTIVE VICTORIA,

LIFEBLOOD

2021/22 VSBL Season

We are counting down to the start of the 2021/22 VSBL season and we hope all our Victorian baseballers are ready to get back on the diamond for an awesome summer of baseball.

As a reminder, <u>VSBL fixtures</u> are live and return to play registration is open <u>HERE</u> as all participants must be registered before taking the field.

Following further clarification from the Victorian Government, the Baseball Victoria Return to Play COVIDSafe Plan has been updated and is available HERE.

As outlined in the BV COVIDSafe Plan, this return to community sport includes:

- Community sport permitted indoors and outdoors, regardless of vaccination status, with the minimum number required and up to 30 spectators in line with public gathering limits.
- Masks remain mandatory indoors but are no longer required outdoors, although it is highly recommended to wear a mask outdoors where you cannot socially distance.
- Travel allowed between regional Victoria and metropolitan Melbourne.
- Canteens and bars operate under hospitality restrictions; therefore, all members must be fully vaccinated to use an indoor canteen/bar at a community sport facility.

Read our latest updates **HERE** and view VSBL forms and resources **HERE**.

As restrictions ease and we adjust to life out of lockdown, remember to look after yourself and your friends, family, and teammates.

To access mental health support resources, including <u>R U OK?</u>, <u>Headspace</u>, <u>Kids Helpline</u>, <u>Lifeline</u>, and <u>Beyond Blue</u>, please click <u>HERE</u>.

Baseball Victoria Board Update on Umpires

The Baseball Victoria Board of Directors has made changes to the umpiring structure for BV programs and has ratified the decision to take over payment of umpires and development of umpires on top of our existing scheduling responsibilities for the 2021/22 VSBL season and beyond.

Please click HERE for the full board update on umpires and view our umpiring FAQ HERE.

2022 National Showcase Series - Victoria

Baseball Victoria is pleased to confirm plans for the 2022 National Showcase Series – Victoria. This follows Baseball Australia's announcement on the cancellation of the 2022 Australian Youth Championship in January due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

The National Showcase Series – Victoria will be held at Melbourne Ballpark from Monday 10 January – Sunday 16 January 2022.

Similar to the traditional AYC tournament, this Victorian event will take place during the January school holidays and include the Under 16 and Under 18 age brackets with a combination of showcasing and a series of games.

Tryouts for the National Showcase Series – Victoria will be held from 27 November, with specific dates and times to be confirmed. Teams will be finalised after the end of the tryout process in mid-December.

Register <u>HERE</u> for the tryouts and learn more about the showcase <u>HERE</u>.



BV Coaching Update

With final preparations for the 2021/22 VSBL season underway, we wish to remind all coaches to check if their accreditation is up-to-date. We have a variety of valuable coaching resources that align with Baseball Australia's USA Baseball Certification, which was introduced in 2020 and is available to complete online.

Click <u>HERE</u> to read our full coaching accreditation update and learn more about coach education resources.

Baseball Victoria is also accepting coaching expressions of interest for the <u>2022 Charter State</u> Championships and Australian Women's Championship, with applications closing soon.

Ramp Up to Play on BV TV

While you get ready for summer baseball, make sure to check out new <u>At-Home Baseball Training</u> throwing drills and our entire <u>Ramp Up to Play</u> video series on <u>BV TV</u>.

Connect with us for more baseball content on <u>TikTok</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

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 5:00pm on Tuesday 30 November 2021, and expenditure can be backdated to 1 January 2021 to cover sporting memberships, registration fees, uniforms and equipment.

Click <u>HERE</u> to learn more and apply today.

For a full list of available grants and funding opportunities, click **HERE**.

Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Teams Program

Baseball Victoria has saved 192 lives this year as part of the <u>Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Teams</u>

<u>Program</u>, which delivers life-saving blood and plasma donations to thousands of Australians annually.

We hope to save 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 <u>HERE</u>.



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





