

BASEBALL VICTORIA APPEALS PROCESS

2026/2027

For appeals in relation to;

- Clearances
- Tribunal Hearing Decisions
- Code of Conduct Result Notices or
- Playing Conditions or By-Laws

The following process and timelines must be adhered to by the Appellant;

- All appeals must be made within twenty-four (24) hours of the determination being communicated to the Appellant
- All appeals must be accompanied by a non-refundable deposit (the exact amount indicated in each section of this document), which shall only be refunded if the appeal is upheld.
- All appeals must provide sufficient and/or relevant evidence not previously provided.
- All appeals processes are different and outlined in each section of this document.

CONTENTS

1. [Grounds for an Appeal](#)
2. [Once an Appeal is Lodged](#)
3. [Appeals Committee Structure](#)
4. [Appeals Committee Powers](#)
5. [Proceedings of Appeals Committee \(Clearances, Playing Conditions or By-Laws\)](#)
6. [Proceedings of Appeals Committee \(VSB LPC Decision in relation to Playing Conditions or By-Laws\)](#)
7. [Proceedings of Appeals Committee \(Tribunal and Code of Conducts\)](#)
8. [Appeal Form: Denied Clearance](#)
9. [Appeal Form: Competition Coordinator Decision](#)
10. [Appeal Form: Pennant Committee Decision](#)
11. [Appeal Form: Tribunal/Code of Conduct Decision](#)

1. Grounds for an Appeal

a) Clearances

A player whose clearance application has been denied, may appeal on the basis the reasons for making the appeal are clearly articulated and had not previously been presented or considered by the club/s in question, or the Competition Coordinator's decision was contrary to Baseball Victoria By-laws, Playing Conditions or Constitution.

Additionally, in the event that in the judgment of the VSBLPC Chair, the reasons for requesting a second appeal are significantly different from the reasons on which the first appeal was based, a second and final appeal may be heard if the new, significantly different evidence is provided within twenty-four (24) hours from the notification of the determination of the outcome.

b) Tribunal Hearing Decisions

A Player, Club/Association, Umpire or BV may appeal the decision of the Tribunal on one or more of the following grounds:

- An error of policy and/or procedure that had a material impact on the decision of the Tribunal has occurred,
- The decision of the Tribunal is so unreasonable that no Tribunal acting reasonably could have come to that decision having regard to the evidence before it,
- The classification of the offence by the MRO was manifestly excessive or inadequate,
- The sanction imposed by the Tribunal was manifestly excessive or inadequate.

c) Playing Conditions or By-Laws

An Appellant may appeal a decision of the Competition Coordinator or VSBLPC, however must be on the grounds that the decision was contrary to Rules of Baseball, Baseball Victoria By-laws or Playing Conditions and provide sufficient and/or relevant evidence not previously provided.

d) Code of Conduct

If pleading Not Guilty and the respondent is still sanctioned by way of receiving a Result Notice, the respondent may request an appeal against the sanction. An appeal may be lodged on the basis of;

- New evidence not previously presented (e.g. new video evidence, new witness statements, etc.) or
- Evidence that procedural fairness and/or natural justice was not provided to the offending person throughout the process

2. Once an Appeal is Lodged

- a) A non-refundable fee is required as part of any appeal lodgment;
 - i. Clearances: \$100
 - ii. Tribunal Hearing Decisions: \$200
 - iii. Code of Conduct Result Notices: \$200
 - iv. Playing Conditions or By-Laws: \$200
 - v. VSBLPC Appeals Committee Decision: \$500
- b) Upon confirming receipt of payment, The Chair of the VSBLPC will review all relevant documentation submitted and determine whether the grounds for appeal will be upheld and heard by the Appeals Committee.

- c) In the event that the Chair of the VSBLPC is conflicted/has been a direct part of decision making in relation to the original determination, they may delegate to another senior official within BV to chair the hearing.
- a) In the event the appeal is in relation to the VSBLPC Appeals Committee decision, unless it can be established the Appeals Committee failed to adequately follow these hearing procedures, thus resulting in a significantly different finding from that which may have resulted had the procedures been adequately followed. The grounds for appeal shall be forwarded to the BV CEO, who will form an additional Appeals Committee if grounds for appeal are upheld.

3. Appeals Committee Structure

If grounds for appeal have been upheld, unless otherwise outlined in any procedures below;

- b) The VSBLPC shall convene as soon as practicable to consider and determine an outcome to the Appeal in accordance with the VSBL Appeals Procedures.
- c) The Appeals Committee shall consist of three (3) members of the VSBLPC. The VSBLPC Chair is to be one of the 3 members and shall chair the Appeals Committee.
- d) Members of the Appeals Committee must not be associated with or an official of the Appellant or any other Club directly involved in the matter being appealed.
- e) In the event that the VSBLPC Chair is associated with or an official of the Appellant or any other club directly involved in the matter being appealed, the VSBLPC Chair shall appoint another member of the VSBLPC as a replacement on the Appeals Committee.
- f) In the event the VSBLPC Chair is excluded from the Appeals Committee, the VSBLPC Chair shall appoint a Chair from those members appointed to the Appeals Committee.
- g) In the event the appeal is in relation to the VSBLPC Appeals Committee decision, the grounds for appeal shall be forwarded to the BV CEO, who will form an additional Appeals Committee not featuring any of the initial Appeals Committee members if grounds for appeal are upheld or it is decided by the BV CEO for the matter to be reviewed otherwise.

4. Appeals Committee Powers

The Appeals Committee shall have the power to:

- a) Dismiss the appeal, thus resolving the decision; or
- b) Uphold the appeal, resolving to overturn or vary any decision in accordance with Clearances, Playing Conditions or By-Laws; refer a Code of Conduct to a Tribunal Hearing, or in relation to Tribunal Hearings, re-convene and conduct an additional, final hearing as required.

5. Proceedings of Appeals Committee (Clearances, Playing Conditions or By-Laws)

- a) A physical hearing shall not need to be convened for the Appeals Committee to consider the appeal.
- b) The Chair of the Appeals Committee shall ensure all relevant documents relating to the appeal, including an outline of the grounds established by the Appellant have been received by all members of the Appeals Committee.
- c) The Chair may request further information relevant to the outcome of the appeal.
- d) The Chair shall engage all members of the Appeals Committee via any means of communication practicable to convene for the purpose of considering the appeal.

- e) After consideration of the appeal has been given by the Appeals Committee, determination of the outcome shall be at the discretion of the Chair.
- f) The Chair shall be responsible for completing the detailed findings and informing the Appellant of the Appeal Committee's findings as soon as practicable.

6. Proceedings of Appeals Committee (VSBLPC Decision in relation to Playing Conditions or By-Laws)

- a) A physical hearing shall not need to be convened for the Appeals Committee to consider the appeal.
- b) The BV CEO shall ensure all relevant documents relating to the appeal, including an outline of the grounds established by the Appellant have been received by all members of the Appeals Committee.
- c) The Chair may request further information relevant to the outcome of the appeal.
- d) The Chair shall engage all members of the Appeals Committee via any means of communication practicable to convene for the purpose of considering the appeal.
- e) After consideration of the appeal has been given by the Appeals Committee, determination of the outcome shall be at the discretion of the Chair.
- f) The Chair shall be responsible for completing the detailed findings and informing the BV CEO of the Appeal Committee's findings as soon as practicable.
- g) The BV CEO will then inform the Appellant directly.
- h) Any outcomes in relation to the appeal shall be deemed final.

7. Proceedings of Appeals Committee (Tribunal and Code of Conducts)

- a) A hearing shall be convened to consider the appeal.
 - i. In the instance of Tribunal Hearings, penalties will not be set aside until the hearing.
 - ii. In the instance of Code of Conduct Hearings, penalties may be set aside at the sole discretion of the Appeals Committee, generally depending on the severity of the alleged conduct.
- b) All Tribunal hearings will be heard via online video conferencing platforms, such as Zoom or Teams. This will be communicated with any notice relating to the hearing in the leadup.
- c) All Tribunal hearings will be recorded.
- d) A Tribunal Panel will be formed, not including any members previously involved in the Appeals Process.
- e) An Appellant may take legal representation into a hearing. However, the Tribunal Chairperson may suspend such a hearing until it retains legal representation on its own behalf.
- f) The Chair of the Appeals Committee shall ensure all relevant documents relating to the appeal, including an outline of the grounds established by the Appellant have been received by all members of the Tribunal Panel.
- g) No further evidence or witnesses can be submitted within 24 hours of the hearing.
- h) The Tribunal Chairperson shall be responsible for completing the detailed findings and informing the Appellant and BV of the findings as soon as practicable following the hearing.
- i) Any determination from the hearing shall be final.

NOTICE OF APPEAL FORM – DENIED CLEARANCE

(To be completed by the club on behalf of the player and/or the player making application, or parent/guardian if under 18 years of age)

Form must be lodged with the Competition Coordinator competitions@baseballvictoria.com.au within 24 hours of any determination relating to the below only.

Name		
Date of Birth		(If U18, parent/guardian must sign)
I am currently registered with	Baseball Club in the	
	Baseball Association/League	
I wish to transfer to the	Baseball Club in the	
	Baseball Association/League	

I hereby declare that:

1. I am not currently under suspension by my current Club's Association/League, Baseball Victoria or Baseball Australia
2. I am debt free with my current Club, my current Club's Association/League, Baseball Victoria and Baseball Australia
3. An online Clearance Request was received by my current Club
4. My current club has denied the Clearance request with reasons for refusal (on GameDay Passport)

Note: False or misleading information may result in the request being denied, suspension of player and/or officials submitting this application.

Player Sign (If U18, Parent/Guardian must sign)		
Date		
Parent Name (If signed by Parent/Guardian)		

Payment for Appeal - \$100

Paying by (please tick appropriate box): ☐ Credit Card ☐ Bank Deposit

Baseball Victoria
BSB 633-000
Account 159 162 296

Card Number			
Expiry		CVV	
Card Type	☐ Visa	☐ Mastercard	
Name on Card			

Completed by the Pennant Committee:

Date this form received:		
Appeal	☐ Granted	☐ Refused
Signed		
Position		
Date		

NOTICE OF APPEAL FORM – COMPETITION COORDINATOR

(To be completed by the club)

Form must be lodged with the Competition Coordinator competitions@baseballvictoria.com.au within 24 hours of any determination relating to the below only.

Name of Appellant	
Phone	
Email	
Club	

I appeal the decision of the:

- ☐ Victorian Summer Baseball League Competition Coordinator: \$200

Made on (insert date) |

On the grounds that (note; evidence of the below must be provided with this submission);

- ☐ the decision was against the weight of evidence/new evidence not previously supplied has been made available
- ☐ the decision was contrary to Baseball Victoria By-laws, Playing Conditions or Constitution
- ☐ there was denial of natural justice
- ☐ the penalty applied was inadequate
- ☐ the penalty applied was excessive

And in support of this appeal make the submission/s returned with this form.

Appellant Signature	
Date	

Note: This form must be submitted within twenty-four (24) hours of the notification of the determination.

Payment for Appeal

Paying by

(please tick appropriate box)

☐ Credit Card

☐ Bank Deposit

Baseball Victoria

BSB 633-000

Account 159 162 296

Card Number			
Expiry		CVV	
Card Type	☐ Visa	☐ Mastercard	
Name on Card			
Signature			

NOTICE OF APPEAL FORM – VSBL PENNANT COMMITTEE

(To be completed by the club)

Form must be lodged with the Competition Coordinator competitions@baseballvictoria.com.au within 24 hours of any determination relating to the below only.

Name of Appellant	
Phone	
Email	
Club	

I appeal the decision of the:

☐ Victorian Summer Baseball League Pennant Committee: \$500

Made on (insert date) |

On the grounds that (note; evidence of the below must be provided with this submission);

☐ the panel failed to adequately follow the BV Appeal Hearing procedures as outlined in the Process

And in support of this appeal make the submission/s returned with this form.

Appellant Signature	
Date	

Note: This form must be submitted within twenty-four (24) hours of the notification of the determination.

Payment for Appeal

Paying by

(please tick appropriate box) ☐ Credit Card

☐ Bank Deposit

Baseball Victoria

BSB 633-000

Account 159 162 296

Card Number			
Expiry		CVV	
Card Type	☐ Visa	☐ Mastercard	
Name on Card			
Signature			

NOTICE OF APPEAL FORM – TRIBUNAL & CODE OF CONDUCT DECISION

(To be completed by the club)

Form must be lodged with the Competition Coordinator competitions@baseballvictoria.com.au within 24 hours of any determination relating to the below only.

Name of Appellant	
Phone	
Email	
Club	

I appeal the decision of the Victorian Summer Baseball League Tribunal: \$200

Made on (insert date) |

On the grounds that (note; evidence of the below must be provided with this submission);

- ☐ the decision was against the weight of evidence/new evidence not previously supplied has been made available
- ☐ the decision was contrary to Baseball Victoria By-laws, Playing Conditions, Constitution or Policies
- ☐ there was denial of natural justice
- ☐ the penalty applied was inadequate
- ☐ the penalty applied was excessive

And in support of this appeal make the submission/s returned with this form.

Appellant Signature	
Date	

Note: This form must be submitted within twenty-four (24) hours of the notification of the determination.

Payment for Appeal

Paying by (please tick appropriate box) ☐ Credit Card ☐ Bank Deposit

Baseball Victoria
BSB 633-000
Account 159 162 296

Card Number			
Expiry		CVV	
Card Type	☐ Visa	☐ Mastercard	
Name on Card			
Signature			