

A Message From Baseball New South Wales Regarding The Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Baseball NSW having been closely following the actions of international and national sporting codes and advise that, as a governing sporting body, Baseball NSW will be postponing all baseball related activities from **Wednesday, 18 March 2020 until, Thursday 30 April 2020.**

This decision, in relation to the health and safety of our baseball community, has been given careful consideration by Baseball NSW Management and the Baseball NSW Board of Directors. Advice has also been taken from the Federal and State Health authorities as well as the World Health Organisation, all who have been advocating extreme caution and diligence. From within the sporting community we have taken on consultation from the Federal and State Government, Sport Australia, Baseball Australia as well as our State and Territory baseball counterparts. As a result we will also be postponing our non-essential static gatherings as a precautionary action to assist in stopping the spread of this virus to the most vulnerable members of our communities.

Baseball NSW are advising that we will cease all training, organization activities, team meetings, events, tournaments and competitions during this period. Baseball NSW would therefore require that all our member clubs and associations do the same.

In addition to our regular baseball, this will affect the postponement of the following major events:

- **2020 Australian Women's Championships** – scheduled for 10-17 April 2020, has been postponed until further notice
- **2020 Performance Pathway Program** – scheduled trials for this were planned for April but will now be postponed into May
- **2020 Super Series** – scheduled to begin 19 April through to 31 May has been postponed until further notice
- **2020 Charter Little League State Championships**
 - **2020 Junior and Intermediate League State Championships** – scheduled for 10–13 April, this has been postponed until further notice
 - **2020 Little League State Championships** – scheduled for 16-19 April, has been postponed until further notice
 - **2020 Senior League State Championships** – scheduled for 21-24 April, has been postponed until further notice
- **2020 State League Finals**
- **2020 Womens League Finals**
- **2020 Winter League Competitions** – scheduled to begin in April will be postponed until Saturday, May 2nd

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This is a quickly evolving situation that changes every day, and that means a decision made today may be updated tomorrow. By clearly postponing events in our immediate future, we have the opportunity to make strong plans for the future that will ensure we can recommence baseball activities as soon as it is appropriate to do so.

The 2020 Australian Women's Championships will be rescheduled in consultation with Baseball Australia ([Read Baseball Australia's full statement HERE](#)). Prior to the recommencement of that program players will be consulted on their availability and we may need to make changes to the teams in order to replace any players whom are not available.

The 2020 Player Development Program, in which trials were to begin this April, will recommence at a date to be advised once the worst of this has been contained and we have a clearer understanding of the future ahead.

In regards to the 2020 Little League State Championships, we will continue to review how these can be restructured and rescheduled for a later date to hopefully allow participation in the National and International event(s).

All of these championship arrangements are fluid and further decisions will be made on the reschedule of state events based on the timelines provided by Baseball Australia regarding their national championships. Baseball Australia's timelines for review of its national events are contained in their full statement.

Baseball Australia is in an ongoing dialogue with Little League International with respect to eligibility, and the rules for timelines around participation in events, which all parties have conceded will need to be flexible as event timing continues to shift.

Currently the 2020 Winter Season with our various Associations is now scheduled to commence in early May. Consultation with the Winter Associations will be ongoing regarding the start of their seasons. We expect that training for the winter season will be affected by this hiatus, and as soon as it practical we will confirm the start time for the season, all training can recommence.

Please note that as of today, the Baseball NSW office has enacted its 'Work From Home Plan'. The Baseball NSW landline telephone will be diverted accordingly, and you can still call this number at any time. All staff are available directly via mobile and email.

You can find information on how to keep yourself and your family safe and healthy from the [NSW Health Services](#).

All further updates from Baseball NSW will be found [here](#) on the Baseball NSW website and will also be communicated by the Baseball NSW social media channels.