

CRICKET VICTORIA COVID-19 UPDATE (March 19, 2020)

Just another quick update in respect to COVID-19 and the impacts for local Associations – in this case re: the awarding of Premierships.

Whilst we appreciate that many Associations had already completed their seasons, many seasons (including Premier Cricket) still had matches to complete the 2019/20 season. Associations that had not fully completed the season will have their own rules and processes to help make a determination in respect to the awarding of Premierships in the divisions that were abandoned either mid match or before starting. Those Associations will likely have made their decisions in accordance with their own rules. For any Associations though that may still be looking for some guidance from Cricket Victoria, please note the attached Media Release circulated earlier today for Premier Cricket.

Premier Cricket Premier winners were determined based on the existing competition rules (Premier Cricket rules 5.1 & 5.2) that sees the higher ranked teams progressing on to the next round (or the Premiership being awarded to the highest ranked team if the game was the Grand Final) where a match is abandoned. This is effectively the same way that a match is abandoned for any another reason (normally wet weather). A Premier has been declared for all divisions for Mens and Womens Premier Cricket as per the attached Media Release.

Please feel free to share with any of your Associations that you are aware of that may be still yet to determine their respective Premier. To re-affirm it is clearly the call of the respective Association to make based on their rules / best judgement.

Message from Cricket Victoria to Premier Cricket re: Finals

Latest Premier Cricket News

CRICKET VICTORIA ANNOUNCES DECLARATION OF PREMIERSHIPS

To All Premier Cricket Clubs,

Cricket Victoria can today confirm the final premiership outcomes in Victorian Premier Cricket.

These decisions – both the declaration of all premierships and the cancellation of the remainder of this season's finals campaigns in all competitions - are unprecedented in Victorian cricket history.

Australian Cricket has taken a leadership position in response to the public health challenges posed by COVID-19 transmission which resulted in the cancellation of the season and finals.

In our view, this remains in the best interests of the broader Victorian community.

That said, it is important to recognise that this decision has had a significant impact on clubs who were ready to play Finals matches over the coming weeks. Many hours of planning, preparation and training were completed by teams to reach the Finals. Cricket Victoria's Board and Management empathise with all clubs who had secured a Finals berth and are now denied the chance to pursue a Premiership title on the field.

Without a precedent for the impact of a global health pandemic on our competition, Cricket Victoria management relied on the existing rules (Rule 5) of the Premier Cricket competition in making this determination. The final determinations were unanimously supported by the Board.

Further to the announcement of Premiers and following the Federal Government's announcement of a ban on non-essential social gatherings of more than 100 people in an indoor environment, Cricket Victoria has formally cancelled this season's Premier Cricket Awards as a public event.

The winners of the Jack Ryder Medal and Una Paisley Medal and other club and player awards will be announced to clubs and the general public in coming weeks.

The Premiership declarations are as follows:

2019-20 Women's Premiers

- First XI 2019-20 One Day Premiership: **Essendon Maribyrnong Park Ladies Cricket Club**
- Second XI 2019-20 One Day Premiership: **Box Hill Cricket Club**

2019-20 Men's Premiers

- First XI Premiership: **Melbourne Cricket Club**
- Second XI Premiership: **Prahran Cricket Club**
- Third XI Premiership: **Ringwood Cricket Club**
- Fourth XI Premiership: **Dandenong Cricket Club**

Cricket Victoria and the Premier Cricket Management Team wishes to thank all Premier Cricket players, coaches, club officials, umpires, scorers and volunteers for their commitment and time through what has been a productive but at times difficult season. There have been many challenges involving weather and the ability to prepare grounds, but our key community challenge now is supporting each other as we come to terms with the realities of COVID-19 Coronavirus and what it means for the months ahead.

Prepared by Paul Milo (Head of Member Services) – 19/03/2020