

CRICKET VICTORIA COVID-19 UPDATE (March 23, 2020)

As you would be aware, CV continues to work through various communication / issues as they arise in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes working on collaboration with CA and other states/territories to develop advice, guidance & support where possible and this will continue. We will continue to provide ongoing information to you as it develops.

To follow is the latest update just received from CA as sent to all States / Territories.

Whilst the timing of the shut down was shattering for those in Grand Finals, we spare a thought for winter codes who will be dealing with this matter for several months. CV no doubt will have discussions with AFL Victoria and councils in regards to grounds access from October onwards should AFL competitions be keen to continue post September, however this isn't something to seek to resolve today and this may be something beyond our control anyway.

As we know a majority of cricket is played over summer however a number of regular cricket activities continue through winter. Certainly Indoor Cricket / Indoor Sport Centre owners are doing it very tough and we are working to support them where we can with CA / CV communication already shared with Indoor Centre stakeholders today and more planned today. Ross Gregory (Indoor Cricket Manager) and I are on a national Indoor Cricket COVID-19 working group as well. There is also some outdoor cricket programs / competitions due to be staged over coming months that are impacted as are club presentation nights / meetings. As we know licenced premises are currently under the state shut-down so many club presentations will not be able to be held due to the facility not operating during the shut-down.

FYI – Cricket Australia advised us of a club in Tasmania who has come up with the idea of conducting their awards via a facebook live event -

<https://www.facebook.com/169626049742747/posts/2980121015359889/?d=n>

The Club will develop a summary video of the season

- Messages from the president, coaches, key personnel with reports etc
- Include images and any footage captured of various grades
- A smaller revised vote count then slides of key award winners
- Sponsor and volunteer shout outs

The video will then go "live" on Facebook - they are still working through if this will be a "Watch Party" or just release the video at 6pm (the night of the scheduled dinner) for people to watch in their own time. Trophies to be presented at the start of the new season.

No doubt the current situation will uncover some innovative ideas.

FYI – Cricket Victoria continues to operate on a WFH basis that has been in place for while given the lack of access during the T20WC and then the planned GP.

Message from Cricket Australia

Cricket Australia and all of Australian cricket's thoughts are with all of the communities around the nation who have been impacted by the global coronavirus pandemic. These will continue to be uncertain times, but our number one priority is to the cricket communities that we lead and serve.

Upon consultation with government and expert medical advice from Cricket Australia's Chief Medical Officer, Dr. John Orchard, we're writing to you with an update on how Australian cricket is responding to and preparing all levels of the game plus the wider community during this global health crisis. Previously we communicated with all key cricket stakeholders of our recommendation that all cricket activity be cancelled from March 17, 2020.

The position of Australian Cricket has not changed with our expectation that all organised community cricket matches, training and events be cancelled. However, we are now able to give some greater confidence to those with matches and events scheduled to be played during autumn and winter months.

Australian Cricket is recommending that all organised community matches, training, programs and events remain suspended until at least the May 31, 2020. To ensure that we give activity the greatest chance to recommence on this date, we will commit to reviewing and communicating our position no later than May 1, 2020. We feel it is important that Australian Cricket continues to take a leadership position on this issue to reduce risk and slow the spread of the virus. At the same time, we understand that our community wants to be playing cricket and can understand that some may be disappointed with this decision, but in line with the broader community effort to 'flatten the curve', it is the right thing to do.

From now until May 1, we will be working hard to develop a range of resources and measures for those coordinating and participating in community cricket matches, training, programs and events. This will allow cricket in Australia to recommence as early and as safely as possible.

*Regards,
Belinda Clark
Executive General Manager Community Cricket*

Prepared by Paul Milo (Head of Member Services) – 23/03/2020