

Hi All

Another week of the goal posts moving with a number of umpires not able to train at Hanmer due to the Victorian Government locking down 12 postcode areas. If you live in one of these areas, as defined by your details in Schedules, please train at home, which you are allowed to do, until restrictions are lifted. The entire WRFL umpires group depends on everybody meeting the COVID requirements. If we do the right thing now, we will all benefit and hopefully still have a 2020 season.

In response to the new restrictions the WRFL has moved the 2020 season start date back two weeks until Sunday 9 August (see below). This will allow all clubs affected to have a period of group training and re-assess their position in wishing to remain in the season or withdraw. In support of those who are unable to train we will also postpone training for a further week. In that, we will re-commence training from Tuesday 14 July, and this will give us four weeks to develop the skills of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year umpires as this period of training will have a skills-based focus.

#### Revised 2020 WRFL Season

<b>Week Commencing Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday (Training)</b>	<b>Thursday (Training)</b>	<b>Weekend</b>
<b>6 July (School Holidays)</b>	No training	No training	
<b>13 July</b>	<i>Training re-commences</i> 5.30-6.15pm Goal 6.15-7pm Field and Boundary	<i>Training re-commences</i> 5.30-6.15pm Goal 6.15-7pm Field and Boundary	
<b>20 July</b>	Training	Training	
<b>27 July</b>	Training	Training	
<b>3 August</b>	Training	Training	Round 1
<b>14 September</b>	Training	Training	Round 7
<b>21 September</b>	Training	Training	Finals 1
<b>28 September</b>	Training	Training	Finals 2

The WRFLUA and the WRFL have agreed in a pay rate reduction of 10%. Given the WRFL clubs pay your match payments that is incredible support of the WRFL umpires. The challenge now sits with us to provide the umpires to officiate across the 2020 WRFL season. If you click on this link that will take you to the match payments for 2020.

<http://www.wrfl.com.au/umpires/appointments/pay-rates/>

In relation to finals, the same match payments will apply, and we will also be supplying boundary and goal umpires to the all U14 and U12 mixed and U16 and U14 girls finals. U12 girls' finals will also have 1 field, 2 boundary and 2 goal umpires appointed. As state last week, there is NO RANKING in 2020. It is a year to develop the group and all finals/grand finals will have a spread of experience appointed.

There will be no awards in 2020, again we will focus on developing our younger umpires.

We will detail match day requirements, coaches, mentors, possible practice matches and cover laws and interpretations etc over the next few weeks. I will survey umpires in the coming weeks in relation to your intention to umpire for season 2020.

Again, if you have any questions please contact me.

Catch you on the track

Mark