



TO: MEN'S STATE LEAGUE CLUBS
FROM: FV COMPETITIONS
DATE: WEDNESDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2021
SUBJECT: 2021 - MEN'S STATE LEAGUE STRUCTURES UPDATE & PRELIMINARY FIXTURE RELEASE

Dear Clubs,

Football Victoria (FV) would like to communicate updates regarding the 2021 Men's State League structures and are pleased to announce that the 2021 Men's State League (MSL) preliminary fixtures have been released and are available for clubs to review.

We ask that these documents are treated as commercial in confidence for club administration purposes and not be distributed outside of the club until the final fixture release is confirmed.

MEN'S STATE LEAGUE STRUCTURES UPDATE

FV can confirm that the following teams have formally withdrawn from the Men's State League competition.

- St Kilda SC (MSL 1 South-East)
- Broadmeadow Stars SC (MSL 5 North)
- RMIT FC (MSL 5 North)

In line with the Rules of Competition FV will not fill the vacancies created and the following is a result of the above withdrawals:

- MSL 1 South-East will be an 11-team league and incur a bye due to St Kilda SC withdrawal
- MSL 5 North and MSL 5 East will be an 11-team league and incur a bye due to the two withdrawals from MSL 5 North resulting in Alphington FC moving from MSL 5 East to MSL 5 North.

The vacancies may be filled following the 2021 competition season. Please [click here](#) to view the updated 2021 Men's State League structures.

Note: League structures are at the sole discretion of FV.

CLICK BELOW FOR THE PRELIMINARY FIXTURE RELEASE (SENIORS AND RESERVES)

MEN'S STATE LEAGUE 1 – NORTH/WEST

MEN'S STATE LEAGUE 1 – SOUTH/EAST

MEN'S STATE LEAGUE 2 – NORTH/WEST

MEN'S STATE LEAGUE 2 – SOUTH/EAST

MEN'S STATE LEAGUE 3 – NORTH/WEST

MEN'S STATE LEAGUE 3 – SOUTH/EAST

MEN'S STATE LEAGUE 4 – NORTH

MEN'S STATE LEAGUE 4 – SOUTH

MEN'S STATE LEAGUE 4 – EAST

MEN'S STATE LEAGUE 4 – WEST

MEN'S STATE LEAGUE 5 – NORTH

MEN'S STATE LEAGUE 5 – SOUTH

MEN'S STATE LEAGUE 5 – EAST

MEN'S STATE LEAGUE 5 – WEST

REVIEWING PRELIMINARY FIXTURES

As previously communicated to Clubs, the preliminary fixtures have been based on the 2020 MSL pattern. FV competitions have also reviewed the Club's fixture information and where possible have made the following amendments based on the fixture information submitted.

- Home fixtures kick off times for seniors and reserves
- Preferred day of play (e.g. Friday, Saturday, Monday etc.)
- Ground availability (due to Council allocation/works/ground sharing)

REQUESTING FIXTURE AMENDMENTS

Clubs have one final opportunity to review the fixtures, please be aware that the draw in its current format is unlikely to change. FV will however, consider club requests in regard to their own home game kick off times, day of play and/or change of venue (excluding the final round).

Please make sure you take into consideration all factors when reviewing your own home fixtures date, day and kick off times. These fixtures are currently in draft form. Please refrain from making arrangements (i.e. functions/ events) around the fixtures until the final versions are public.

Based on the preliminary fixtures, clubs may request the following items from their own home fixtures which are to be submitted in writing to the FV competitions team by **5pm Tuesday 16th February 2021**.

DAYS OF PLAY & KICK OFF TIMES

Clubs may request amendments to kick off days and or times as per the below table. Please note fixtures commencing after 3:00pm must have an approved lighting audit prior to FV approval.

Default Day	Kick off times
*Friday	6:15pm – 8:30pm
Saturday	12:30pm -8:30pm
**Sunday	12:30pm -8:30pm
*Monday	6:15pm – 8:30pm

* Subject to approved lighting audit & opposition Clubs are within 50km of each other.

** Excluding MSL 1, Sunday fixture may be considered subject to written opposition approval.

LIGHTING CERTIFICATION – NIGHT FIXTURES

Clubs may be permitted to host night fixtures provided pitch lighting meets the requirements outlined in the *Football Lighting Policy & Requirements* ([click HERE](#)). Clubs are reminded of the following Lighting Certification deadlines in order to gain approval to host night fixtures in 2021 in the instance your Lighting Certification has expired, or is set to expire prior to the start or during the 2021 season:

Please note if your clubs requested a night fixture, Clubs must provide an approved lighting audit as per the following date and send to competitions@footballvictoria.com.au.

- Tuesday 16th February 2021 - if the completed Lighting Audit is received by FV Competitions on this date and approved, all requested fixtures may be moved to nominated evening kick off time without opposition consent.
- Thursday 25th March 2021 - if the completed Lighting Audit is received by FV Competitions during this period and approved, all requested fixtures except those falling in Rounds 1 and 2 may be moved to nominated evening kick off time without opposition consent.
- Post Thursday 25th March 2021 - if the completed Lighting Audit is received by FV Competitions and approved after this date, clubs will be required to seek opposition consent as per the Rules of Competition to change any Regular Season FV Competition Fixture, unless otherwise approved by FV at its sole and absolute discretion.

TO BE CONFIRMED FIXTURES

In the situation a fixture has been listed as to be confirmed (TBC), FV are continuing to work with the respective club and council to confirm fixture details. Once fixture details are confirmed FV will inform the relevant clubs within the league.

CHANGES TO VENUE AVAILABILITY

If your home venue availability has since changed, Clubs are required to contact the FV Competitions Department immediately to ensure fixture can be amended. Please note, if in the situation, a change is required, FV may consider the following options.

- Fixture may be moved to a midweek date
- Club may be required to source an alternate venue
- Fixture may be reversed at FV's sole discretion

In the first instance, fixtures will not be moved to the catch-up round(s).

FINAL FIXTURE RELEASE

Presuming there are no major adjustments required and feedback is received in a timely manner, FV intends to formally release the final Men's State League Competitions fixtures shortly after the feedback deadline being Friday 19th February 2021.

Clubs are reminded that feedback is to be submitted in writing to competitions@footballvictoria.com.au by **5pm Tuesday 16th February 2021** for FV consideration.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact the competitions department on 9474 1800 and press '2' for community competitions when prompted or contact us via email competitions@footballvictoria.com.au.



Kind Regards,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Tessa Sernio".

Tessa Sernio
Community Competitions Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "David Zucchet".

David Zucchet
Fixturing Manager