

Season Options:

Introduction:

Dear Member Clubs,

Below we are presenting two season models to consider for a return to play. At present it is not fully clear when we may get the green light to return but it is important we plan now to give ourselves as much time as possible. Estimated return date is October 2020.

These details both the benefits and constraints of each model. We request you read these and discuss with your executive committee and provide us with your choice of model by Wednesday September 9th. We endeavour to provide all registered members with an overview survey of these options to gain a clearer picture on a preferred model.

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Season Options:

Option 1: 2020/21 Summer Season (October 2020 till April 2021):

When we emerge from Lockdown 2.0 at earliest will be early to mid-term 4, we would be due to commence our Summer Season. Whilst setting up a new season after we have just completed this seems daunting there are many positives in doing this.

Moving to a 2020/21 summer season commencing from Monday October 5th would allow teams to regain some normality and club committees to get a break during the Christmas holidays. The season would boast 15 rounds for Saturday competitions and 16+ for all other nights. There would be 10 rounds before Christmas before a 6 week Christmas break starting from Thursday December 18.

Benefits to Clubs in switching seasons now:

- Relief in Points System for summer season 2020/21.
- Re-align with normal season model including extended break over Christmas
- Up to date age group brackets
- Ability to incorporate cashless fees 5 weeks out from season.
- New season payment method would be team sheets for all competitions available to be paid via eftpos prior to the game or invoiced directly to the clubs. Invoicing directly to the clubs takes the stress away from team managers needing to collect fees as this could be completed in your club registrations.
- Extra support available from BB in setting up registrations, memberships and teams. Access to 6+ staff on job keeper hours dedicated to helping clubs in the setup phase
- Extra support from PlayHQ Support Centre. Ticket support system now available to get help directly from the developers. <https://support.playhq.com/conversation/new>
- All players to re-submit interest via play HQ which will include their insurance. Clubs will know players are covered to avoid sudden forfeits.
- Familiar with the protocols and procedures which will be in place for a return to play.
- Avoid setting up a new season during the Christmas break. A season which will span from February to September.
- Full grading process to occur post round 4 as normal.

Challenges for Clubs switching seasons now:

- Setting a fees structure to cover members for new season
- Setting registration links for their members to register (will be supported by BB staff in this)
- Change of age group would occur now for the incoming season.
- Making new teams
- Dealing with clearances which would need to open via an online portal (would close off 21/09/2020 giving clubs 5 days to finalise clearances and 5 days extra to submit/confirm their entries) clearances would close 9am on 21/9 and all clearances would be signed off by clubs by 5pm 25/9/2020. Entries would be required to be confirmed by 5pm on 30/9/20.

It must be noted that many of our players insurance membership would be due to run out mid-season (around December 2020 /January2021) which means anyone signing up to the new season that would expire in this period are prompted to pay. The new 365 days insurance won't officially kick in till the old one expires.

An example of this is I migrated across (didn't have to pay as I was already covered) to Play HQ with an expiry date of 30/9/2020. This date has been extended till late December due to the Covid-19 closedown (completed by BV). I would be required to pay a senior registration of \$39 now (or junior fees of \$25 if I was a junior) as my insurance/registration is due to expire mid-season. The system won't allow players to play unless they are fully covered for the season.

If I was a new player signing up over the last 2-3 months and was prompted to pay the amount (didn't have a migrating profile) you would be covered for this season option.

View of 2020/21 Summer Season model looks like:

2020/21 SUMMER SEASON														
Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday		Sunday		
1	5th OCT	1	1	6th OCT	1	7th OCT	1	8th OCT	1	9th OCT	1	10th OCT	1	11th OCT
2	12th OCT	2	2	13th OCT	2	14th OCT	2	15th OCT	2	16th OCT	2	17th OCT	2	18th OCT
3	19th OCT	3	3	20th OCT	3	21st OCT	3	22nd OCT	3	23rd OCT	3	24th OCT	3	25th OCT
4	26th OCT	4	4	27th OCT	4	28th OCT	4	29th OCT	4	30th OCT	4	31st OCT	4	1st NOV
5	2nd NOV			3rd NOV	5	4th NOV	5	5th NOV	5	6th NOV	5	7th NOV	5	8th NOV
6	9th NOV	5	5	10th NOV	6	11th NOV	6	12th NOV	6	13th NOV	6	14th NOV	6	15th NOV
7	16th NOV	6	6	17th NOV	7	18th NOV	7	19th NOV	7	20th NOV	7	21st NOV	7	22nd NOV
8	23rd NOV	7	7	24th NOV	8	25th NOV	8	26th NOV	8	27th NOV	8	28th NOV	8	29th NOV
9	30th NOV	8	8	1st DEC	9	2nd DEC	9	3rd DEC	9	4th DEC	9	5th DEC	9	6th DEC
10	7th DEC	9	9	8th DEC	10	9th DEC	10	10th DEC	10	11th DEC	10	12th DEC	10	13th DEC
11	14th DEC	10	10	15th DEC	11	16th DEC	11	17th DEC		18th DEC		19th DEC		20th DEC
	21st Dec			22nd Dec		23rd Dec		24th Dec		25th Dec		26th Dec		27th Dec
	28th Dec			29th Dec		30th Dec		31st Dec		1st Jan		2nd Jan		3rd Jan
	4th Jan			5th Jan		6th Jan		7th Jan		8th Jan		9th Jan		10th Jan
	11th Jan			12th Jan	12	13th Jan	12	14th Jan		15th Jan		16th Jan		17th Jan
	18th Jan			19th Jan	13	20th Jan	13	21st Jan		22nd Jan		23rd Jan		24th Jan
	25th Jan			26th Jan	14	27th Jan	14	28th Jan	11	29th Jan	11	30th Jan	11	31st Jan
12	1st Feb	11	11	2nd Feb	15	3rd Feb	15	4th Feb	12	5th Feb	12	6th Feb	12	7th Feb
13	8th Feb	12	12	9th Feb	16	10th Feb	16	11th Feb	13	12th Feb	13	13th Feb	13	14th Feb
14	15th Feb	13	13	16th Feb	17	17th Feb	17	18th Feb	14	19th Feb	14	20th Feb	14	21st Feb
15	22nd Feb	14	14	23rd Feb	18	24th Feb	18	25th Feb	15	26th Feb	15	27th Feb	15	28th Feb
16	1st Mar	15	15	2nd Mar	19	3rd Mar	19	4th Mar	16	5th Mar		6th Mar		7th Mar
	8th Mar	16	16	9th Mar	20	10th Mar	20	11th Mar	17	12th Mar	SF	13th Mar	SF	14th Mar
17	15th Mar	17	17	16th Mar	21	17th Mar	21	18th Mar	SF	19th Mar		20th Mar		21st Mar
SF	22nd Mar	SF	SF	23rd Mar	SF	24th Mar	SF	25th Mar	GF	26th Mar	GF	27th Mar	GF	28th Mar
GF	29th Mar	GF	GF	30th Mar	GF	31st Mar	GF	1st April		2nd April		3rd April		4th April

Option 2: Extend current Lightning Premiership season until December 2020:

An option is to extend our current season we set up through till December. This model offers flexibility to roll our currently formed teams through till the end of the year. Whilst teams may have been made to the return to play model it does mean clubs don't have to reset and make all new teams. If we were to extend this current season clubs would be able to delete teams or add teams but there would not be a grading period for teams currently listed as many teams are submitted on best position according to their club. It was the responsibility of clubs to honestly submit teams where they felt they needed to be.

Benefits of extending Lightning Premiership Season:

- Teams are already submitted so clubs only need to confirm their player's continuation in teams.
- No requirement for players to re-register or pay extra insurance

- less work for club administrators now with a return to the courts
- No change in age group to occur until 2021
- Same payment methods which were used in rounds 1 and 2 would continue through till the end of this season.

Challenges for Clubs staying with Lightning Premiership:

- During the Christmas break clubs would need to set up their teams for a new season which would commence post Australia Day 2021.
- All players would be required to pay insurance/registration leading into the new season commencing in 2021.
- Only a Grand Final day would be ran in December 2020 not a formal Finals series. Grand final day would be 1st on ladder plays second on the ladder, 3rd plays 4th and so on.
- Clubs would be setting up a season which will run from 1/2/2021 through till roughly 16/09/2021 to re-align with season models.
- New age groups will be in affect from the start of January 2021 through till 16/09/2021.
- Change of Payment options to be applied.
- Clearances would be available to players during the January period.
- 2021 Season spanning from February to September would be 22+ rounds across 3 terms.

View of Extended Lightning Premiership Season:

2020 CALENDAR - 2020 Championship Season													
Sar	Mon	Sar	Jar	TUES	Sar	WED	Sar	THUR	Jar	FRI	Jar	SAT	SUN
	20th JUL		1	21st JUL		22nd JUL		23rd JUL	1	24th JUL	1	25th JUL	26th JUL
	27th JUL		2	28th JUL		29th JUL		30th JUL	2	31st JUL	2	1st AUG	2nd AUG
	3rd AUG			4th AUG		5th AUG		6th AUG		7th AUG		8th AUG	9th AUG
	10th AUG			11th AUG		12th AUG		13th AUG		14th AUG		15th AUG	16th AUG
	17th AUG			18th AUG		19th AUG		20th AUG		21st AUG		22nd AUG	23rd AUG
	24th AUG			25th AUG		26th AUG		27th AUG		28th AUG		29th AUG	30th AUG
	31st AUG			1st SEP		2nd SEP		3rd SEP		4th SEP		5th SEP	6th SEP
	7th SEP			8th SEP		9th SEP		10th SEP		11th SEP		12th SEP	13th SEP
	14th SEP			15th SEP		16th SEP		17th SEP		18th SEP		19th SEP	20th SEP
	21st SEP			22nd SEP		23rd SEP		24th SEP		25th SEP		26th SEP	27th SEP
	28th SEP			29th SEP		30th SEP		1st OCT		2nd OCT		3rd OCT	4th OCT
1	5th OCT	1	3	6th OCT	1	7th OCT	1	8th OCT	3	9th OCT	3	10th OCT	11th OCT
2	12th OCT	2	4	13th OCT	2	14th OCT	2	15th OCT	4	16th OCT	4	17th OCT	18th OCT
3	19th OCT	3	5	20th OCT	3	21st OCT	3	22nd OCT	5	23rd OCT	5	24th OCT	25th OCT
4	26th OCT	4	6	27th OCT	4	28th OCT	4	29th OCT	6	30th OCT	6	31st OCT	1st NOV
5	2nd NOV			3rd NOV	5	4th NOV	5	5th NOV	7	6th NOV	7	7th NOV	8th NOV
6	9th NOV	5	7	10th NOV	6	11th NOV	6	12th NOV	8	13th NOV	8	14th NOV	15th NOV
7	16th NOV	6	8	17th NOV	7	18th NOV	7	19th NOV	9	20th NOV	9	21st NOV	22nd NOV
8	23rd NOV	7	9	24th NOV	8	25th NOV	8	26th NOV	10	27th NOV	10	28th NOV	29th NOV
9	30th NOV	8	10	1st DEC	9	2nd DEC	9	3rd DEC	11	4th DEC	11	5th DEC	6th DEC
10	7th DEC	9	11	8th DEC	10	9th DEC	10	10th DEC	GF	11th DEC	GF	12th DEC	GF
GF	14th DEC	GF	GF	15th DEC	GF	16th DEC	GF	17th DEC		18th DEC		19th DEC	20th DEC
	21st Dec			22nd Dec		23rd Dec		24th Dec		25th Dec		26th Dec	27th Dec

Pink highlight = Covid -19 break in season

Yellow highlight = school holidays

Red highlight = Melbourne Cup public holiday. Only in use for 2020 due to no Ballarat Show day in 2020