

2022 NEWSLETTER

VBL UPDATE

Dear Bands,

Entries for the [2022 State Solo & Ensemble Championships](#) and the [2022 State Band Championships](#) are now open!

The Victorian Bands' League is thrilled to be holding in-person events again (for the first time since 2019!) and looks forward to welcoming soloists, ensembles and bands from around Victoria and Australia to these events. All the details for both these events can be found on Page Two of this newsletter.

Unfortunately the Winter Festival was cancelled due to a lack of available bands. We received lots of positive feedback from bands about the event and look forward to including it in our 2023 events calendar.

Last weekend was the Bendigo Eisteddfod and it was great to see so many bands back on stage! Congratulations to all bands who took part and a big thank you to all the wonderful volunteers at the Bendigo Competitions Society who made this event possible. [You can find the results here.](#)

Yours in banding,
Megan Stapleton
President

Save the Date!

Lock these dates into your diary for 2022

State Solo & Ensemble Championships
Saturday July 30th

State Band Championships
Saturday August 20th and Sunday August 21st

Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod
Saturday September 10th and Sunday September 11th

Bandstand Sunday - Sunday October 16th

VSYBB Rehearsal Dates & Events

There is still time to sign up for the new Victorian State Youth Brass Band! All brass and percussion players aged 25 and under are welcome. [More information here.](#)

June

Friday June 17th to Sunday June 19th
Alpine Brass Festival – Bright

Sunday June 26th – Thursday June 30th
Rehearsal Camp – Bright

WBG Music Camp

The 50th Annual Wimmera Bands Group Music School now has enrollments [open on their website](#). This will be a history making event for banding not only in the Wimmera but across the state of Victoria.

It's a time to recognise the amazing contributions to the banding world of Joe and June Lofts, Wilf Dyason, Vic Boyle and Colin Harris.

If you haven't enrolled to take part in this history making event head over to [their website](#) and enroll today.

General Reminders

Child Safety Paperwork

It's important that every band has a child safety policy and reviews it annually. New Child Safe Standards come into effect on July 1, 2022, You can find more information [here](#). All bands must have these new standards as part of their Child Safe Policy.

Promoting your band events online

Got a band concert or event coming up? Email a picture and few lines of information to president@vbl.org.au and we'll share your event on our social media accounts.

Grants

It's a double election year this year (state and federal) and that often means increased grant opportunities. Need money for new equipment or to cover COVID cleaning costs – reach out to your local member to see if they can assist.

Local Councils also run grant programs for local groups. If you would like a letter of support for a grant application please email president@vbl.org.au

Music for All Community Grants – NOW OPEN

Music For All welcomes opportunities to directly support or partner with community groups and organisations that are engaged in delivering projects and initiatives that bring, develop or sustain music-making, learning or participation to the communities in which they serve. [Find more information here](#)

Creative Victoria Music Works Grants – NOW OPEN

The Music Works program provides funding for projects – including new ideas and new approaches – that will support Victoria's position as a world-leading state for contemporary music.

[Fine more information here](#)

2022 NEWSLETTER

2022 STATE SOLO & ENSEMBLE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Entries for the 2022 State Solo & Ensemble Championships are now open!

We're excited to welcome back soloists and ensemble performers to our first in person State Solo & Ensemble Championships since 2019! The event will be held on Saturday July 30 (please note the change of date) at Methodist Ladies College in Kew.

[All the details \(including entry forms\) can be found here](#)

There have been some rule changes since the last event was held. A summary is below:

- A Junior is now someone who is under 22 years of age on January 1st, 2022
- The Masters section has been renamed to Senior
- An individual can now compete in more than one quartet/quintet/ensemble

[You can read the full Contest Rules here](#)

This event has a section for everyone! There are sections with age criteria (under 10, under 12, Juvenile, Junior etc). There are the Open Championship sections for those looking to challenge themselves. There is also the non-Championship solo section for those players who are looking to compete in a more relaxed section.

For those not wanting to compete as a soloist, there are the Duet/Trio, Quartet, Quintet and Ensemble sections.

[You can find the full list of sections in the 2022 Schedule](#)

Entries close on Sunday June 26th

2022 STATE BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Entries for the 2022 State Band Championships are now open!

We look forward to welcoming brass and concert bands from around the state to come together to compete for the title of State Champion Band!

The event will be held at Founders Theatre at Federation University Australia, Chancellor Dr, Mount Helen over the weekend of August 20th and 21st.

[All the details for the event, including entry forms, can be found here](#)

There have been some rule changes since the last event was held. A summary is below:

- Members of Junior Bands can now include anyone who is under 22 years of age on January 1st, 2022
- There are now limits on how many times percussion players can compete in each grade for Open A, B and C Grade bands
- Open Grade Concert Bands are now required to prepare a Hymn, Major Work, Concert Item and March (the same as Open Grade Brass Bands)

[You can read the full Contest Rules here](#)

The music selection for the 2022 State Band Championships is own choice.

Open Brass & Concert Bands must perform four pieces as follows:

- Major Work, March, Sacred Item/Hymn and Concert Item

Junior Brass & Concert Bands must perform three pieces as follows:

- Major Work and 2 Contrasting Concert Items

Entries close Sunday July 3rd