

## 2023 NEWSLETTER

## VBL UPDATE

Dear Bands,

Hard to believe it is almost June! Where has 2023 gone?! This newsletter is packed full of information for all the competitions and events for the rest of the year, so please read carefully.

This weekend will see our first Victorian competition for the year – the Bendigo Eisteddfod. [You can find the schedule for the event here.](#)

That was not the first competition for the year though! Victorian bands held their own on the national stage at the recent National Band Championships in Newcastle. A special mention to our two National Champion Bands: Hyde Street Youth Band (Junior B Grade Brass AND Open D Grade Brass National Champions) and Boroondara Brass (Open B Grade Brass National Champions).

Entries are currently open for the State Solo & Ensemble Championships and close on May 28<sup>th</sup> (THIS SUNDAY). See page two of the newsletter for more information or [click here](#)

Entries are also open for the State Band Championships and close on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Further information can be found on page two of this newsletter or [click here](#)

Finally, Bandstand Sunday is back in 2023. [You can find all the information here](#)

Yours in banding,  
Megan Stapleton  
President

## Save the Date!

Lock these dates into your diary for 2023

[Bendigo Eisteddfod](#)  
[Sunday May 28<sup>th</sup> – EVENT SCHEDULE HERE](#)

[State Solo & Ensemble Championships](#)  
[Saturday July 29<sup>th</sup> – ENTRIES NOW OPEN](#)

[State Band Championships](#)  
[August 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> – ENTRIES NOW OPEN](#)

[Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod](#)  
[September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> – ENTRIES NOW OPEN](#)

[Bandstand Sunday](#)  
[Sunday November 26<sup>th</sup> – ENTRIES NOW OPEN](#)

## VSYBB Rehearsal Dates &amp; Events

Get involved with the Victorian State Youth Brass Band! All brass and percussion players aged 25 and under are welcome. [More information here.](#)

## June

June 4<sup>th</sup> – Monthly rehearsal - venue TBC  
June 17<sup>th</sup> – performance at Alpine Brass Festival

## General Reminders

## Child Safety Paperwork

It's important that every band has a child safety policy and reviews it annually. New Child Safe Standards came 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](mailto:president@vbl.org.au) and we'll share your event on our social media accounts.

## Grants

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](mailto:president@vbl.org.au)

## Community Enterprise Foundation

The Foundation facilitates a wide range of grants for eligible charities and not-for-profit organisations in Australia. [You can find details here.](#)

## City of Melbourne – Community Grants

The City of Melbourne offers many funding opportunities to support and empower people and communities to become engaged, to connect and to take local action. [You can find details here.](#)

## 2023 NEWSLETTER

**2023 VIC STATE SOLO & ENSEMBLE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The Victorian Bands' League warmly invites you to participate in the [2023 Victorian State Solo & Ensemble Championships](#) to be held at Methodist Ladies College, Kew on Saturday July 29th.

Entries close Sunday May 28th with late entries still being accepted until Sunday June 4th. Please note that late entries will attract a late fee of 50% of the entry fee.

Sections are broken into Age Categories which are Under 10 Years, Under 12 Years, Juvenile, Junior, Open, and Senior. Some sections are for specific instruments while others require a certain type of piece to be played (e.g. Air & Variations, Popular Song) or composer (Australian Work) be chosen.

Where no specific requirements are given then you are free to perform any piece of music you wish. Ensemble sections require a certain number of performers to be performing together. Please see the 2023 Schedule for more information. A few items to note are below:

- There is no limit to the number of sections a competitor can enter however a different piece must be performed in each section.
- A competitor may only compete once in the duet/ trio section however may compete more than once in the Open and Junior Quartet/Quintet and Ensemble sections.
- The Slow/Sacred Melody section requires a piece that is purely melodic. The tempo generally will not exceed 80 crotchet beats per minute.
- The Australian work section requires a piece by an Australian composer
- The Popular Song section requires a piece that is instantly recognisable and was made popular in the last 70 years.

Entries are now open! Please read the event schedule carefully for all event information and entry requirements

[2023 Schedule](#)

[Entry form is available here](#) (please complete a separate form for each section you enter)

**2023 VIC STATE BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS**

WHEN: August 19th and 20th , 2023

WHERE: Loreto College, 1600 Sturt Street, Ballarat Central

The VBL, in conjunction with the Royal South Street Society, is pleased to announce that the [2023 State Band Championships](#) shall be held in Ballarat on the weekend of the 19th and 20th of August. The adjudicator for the event will be Maureen Cameron. [You can read more about her here.](#)

**Provisional Schedule**

The provisional schedule for the 2023 State Band Championships is as follows. Please note that this schedule is not confirmed and changes are possible depending on entry numbers in each grade.

Saturday 19 Aug

Open & Junior Concert Bands, Junior Brass Bands, Open B Grade Brass Bands, Open D Grade Brass Bands

Sunday 20 Aug

Open C Grade Brass Bands, Open A Grade Brass Bands

Entries close June 16.

Relevant entry information for the 2023 State Band Championships can be found below:

[2023 Schedule](#)

[Entry Form for all grades](#)