



Joint Statement regarding the 2021 Hockey Season – Sydney Women's Hockey League & Sydney Hockey

10 August 2021

To Club President's, Officials and Players,

Due to the continuing COVID-19 lockdown in the Greater Sydney region, including Sydney, the Blue Mountains, Central Coast, Wollongong, Shellharbour and Newcastle regions, the Sydney Women's Hockey League (SWHL) and Sydney Hockey (SH) Committees have agreed to abandon the 2021 field season for both the women's and men's competitions.

While the current lockdown is due to end on 27 August 2021, the continued escalation in case numbers and the concern around the level of restrictions which may be imposed when the lockdown ends have made this decision inevitable. Both competitions cover the whole of Greater Sydney with participants from all over Sydney across many regional Local Government Areas. Whilst it is not yet known what the post-lockdown restrictions will look like, it is believed that these will include gathering limits and a delayed start to community sport. These factors make planning for the post lockdown period extremely difficult.

These factors have led to the committees agreeing to abandon the 2021 season for SWHL and SH competitions. While it is disappointing that the 2021 season has ended this way, we feel this decision provides some certainty in very uncertain times. The health and safety of the entire community is the top priority.

Both Committees hope that all members of the hockey community will return to our great game with renewed enthusiasm for the 2022 season, which we are sure will be bigger and better than ever. One other thing we can all do to help get back to normal is to get the vaccination when we are eligible to do so. Please check the Government advice and the Vaccine Eligibility Checker to see when you are eligible, and if you have any concerns, seek some professional medical advice.

We know that this time can be unsettling for many and impacts us all in different ways. If you are struggling or just need someone to talk to please reach out to one of the many confidential organisations available such as Lifeline or BeyondBlue

Further organisational details will be sent to competing clubs soon from each Committee. We would like to remind everyone to follow the Government's Public Health Orders.

Kind regards

Robin Gorton
SWHL, Chairperson

Peter Busch
SH, President