



A.S.U *in* AIRLINES

Australian Services Union • National Airlines Division Bulletin

Virgin Blue • Number 24

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Negotiations continue at Virgin Blue

The ASU and TWU officials and Delegates are working to finalise an agreement for you which will deliver clear benefits and protections for the life of the agreement.

What's on the table?

The ASU is seeking a range of improvements to your agreement. A table summarising these Claims can be found on the back of this bulletin.

What happens next?

Negotiations are continuing. Virgin blue are very keen to hear from you on just what is important to you. Management will also be running a survey on how long you think the next agreement should run for 2 or 3 years.

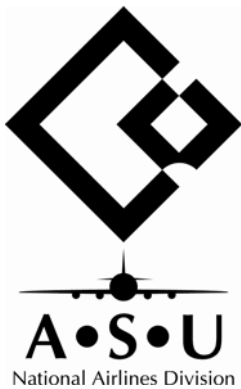
The ASU view is that the economic times we are currently in mean that if you take a longer agreement the economy may well pick up and you could be behind. If you take a 2 year agreement, this will mean bargaining will have to occur again sooner but you will know what the economy is doing and you will have a chance to improve your conditions.

You should contact your local ASU Organiser

You may have questions about the progress and what happens next in the bargaining process. To get the latest up to date information and details on your agreements process contact your local ASU Organiser.

State	Organiser	Mobile
QLD	Jenny Sleba	0404 820 628
NSW	Julie Griffiths	0419 128 497
NSW	Clare Raffan	0417 177 266
VIC	Jo Katsoulas	0409 778 890
SA	Charles Wright	0413 444 685
WA	Debbie Butler	0401 109 011

Authorised & Printed by: Linda White
Assistant National Secretary, ASU National Office
116 Queensberry Street
Carlton South VIC 3053
E-mail: airlines@asu.asn.au
Tel: 03 9342 1400



ASU Claims	Virgin response
Part time hours	Some progress – negotiations continue
Positive sick leave management	Virgin Blue says they manage sick leave positively and they have a policy.
Wage increase no less than 4% or CPI whichever is the greater at the July quarter annual figures.	3% per year of the agreement
Increases to allowance and wage related payments at 4% or CPI whichever is the greater at the July quarter annual figures.	No
Rostering protections	Some progress – negotiations continue
Increase to superannuation of 1%.	No
Maintenance of all ASU Award conditions not improved through negotiations.	No – Virgin Blue say the ASU Award is not the right one. We say this is because they do not want to pay you based on the correct wage rates which are higher than the current Award being used.
Introduction of grooming and uniform allowances for employees working face to face with the public.	No
Introduce paid buddy allowance.	No
Introduce arrangements to assist work life balance including double leave/half pay, purchased leave, ability to adjust start/finish times for those employees not on rostered duties.	No
Direct employment by Virgin Blue of relief staff in temporary positions to improve job security for permanent employees.	Some progress – negotiations continue
Parental Leave – 14 weeks paid leave for primary care giver, 4 weeks paid leave for secondary care giver; and	No
Virgin Blue paid parental leave to be paid in conjunction with the Federal Government Paid Parental Leave scheme. Virgin Blue will also pay superannuation for the duration of the Government scheme and top up employees' wages from the government rate to full base rates.	No
Union rights – Delegate training, Delegates full time and access to employees paid meetings, access to all inductions,	