



**RESPECT
THE GAME**



BASKETBALL NSW

2027 WARATAH JUNIOR LEAGUE RULES OF OPERATION

AS AT 21 SEPTEMBER 2026

BNSW.COM.AU



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DISCLAIMER

Notwithstanding the above, Basketball NSW retains the right to rule on any matter not specifically covered by these Rules of Operation, and to take action on decisions pertaining to the junior competition. The intent of a Rule is to be considered when a decision is to be made using the League Rules of Operation. Furthermore, BNSW reserves the right to make any changes it deems necessary to the Rules of Operation in order to uphold the integrity and competitiveness of the League.

A League Delegate can lodge an appeal to Basketball NSW when a ruling is made that is not covered by these Rules of Operation. Please refer to the Management of these Rules of Operation section of this document.



PART / – INTRODUCTION



PART 1 – INTRODUCTION

1. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Waratah Junior Leagues (The Leagues) are managed by Basketball NSW (BNSW).

BNSW is responsible for the administration of the Leagues on behalf of the participating Associations and is empowered to adjudicate on all matters pertaining to the Leagues not covered in the Rules of Operation.

The BNSW Board has appointed the Waratah League Advisory Committee (WLAC) to advise on the management and strategic direction of the Leagues. The WLAC consists of:

- Chairperson (appointed by BNSW Board)
- 2 Metropolitan Association representatives
- 2 Country Association representatives
- 2 BNSW representatives (appointed by BNSW CEO)

The WLAC's purpose is to:

- Provide advice to BNSW on the management of the Leagues in accordance with the Rules of Operation, as endorsed by the BNSW Board;
- Review operational matters, decisions and rule interpretations referred to it by the Leagues Manager and their decision is final; and
- Perform such other roles or responsibilities as determined by the BNSW Board.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE LEAGUE

The Waratah Junior Leagues provide representative competitions for affiliated member Associations of BNSW and the Australian Capital Territory Basketball Associations (BACT), fostering player development and participation.

The Leagues are dedicated to promoting and developing junior basketball throughout New South Wales, establishing an inspirational pathway for Players, Coaches, and Technical Officials. Concurrently, they strive to cultivate a competitive environment that engages the community and elevates basketball's recognition and prominence as a major sport in New South Wales.

3. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The rules, compliance requirements, and penalties outlined in this document are designed to uphold the integrity, fairness, and consistent standards of the League. The intent is to foster a professional, safe, and competitive environment for all associations, players, officials, and spectators.

This framework serves to ensure equitable participation and accountability across the League. The intent of these Rules of Operation shall be considered when making decisions regarding their application, with the ultimate goal of preserving the quality, integrity and reputation of the League.



4. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS AND MEMBER OBLIGATIONS

- 4.1. Only affiliated member Associations approved by BNSW and BACT may compete in the Waratah Junior Leagues.
- 4.2. To support BNSW's obligations under the Basketball Australia National Integrity Framework, all Associations hosting representative games, whether home-and-away fixtures or central venue rounds, are required to have appropriate personnel attend a BNSW Court Supervisor Workshop. Workshops dates to be confirmed but intended to be completed before the first league commences.

Only individuals who have completed the required workshop may be appointed as a Court Supervisor on game day. Associations are therefore responsible for ensuring they have a sufficient number of trained Court Supervisors available to meet their hosting requirements throughout the season.

BNSW Member Protection, Zero Tolerance and Sports Rage and Codes of Conduct are available on the website www.bnsw.com.au/resource-directory/

- 4.3. Breaches of the Rules

The penalty for breaching any of the rules outlined in these Rules of Operation and Regulations or infringement of the FIBA Rules, may lead to the loss of any allocated standing points by the offending team.

Fines may also apply (see Schedule 1).

5. RISK WARNING AND LIABILITY

All participants should be aware that there are risks of injury associated with playing basketball, as there are with other sports. Risks will arise in the context of the activities of running, catching, throwing, passing, and shooting the ball plus guarding opposing players. While BNSW aims to minimise risk, it is not possible to eliminate them all. As an addition to this warning, BNSW highly recommends that all participants use a mouthguard.

6. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

BNSW operates seven (7) regional Leagues, these are:

- a. Waratah State Championships (WSC)
- b. Metro Junior League (MJL)
- c. Northern Junior League (NJL)*
- d. Eastern Junior League (EJL)*
 - i. North-Eastern Junior League (NEJL)
- e. Southern Junior League (SJL)
- f. Western Junior League (WJL)

- 6.1. Players are required to play in a team from within their own region.
- 6.2. The player must be domiciled or boarding at a school within the region.
- 6.3. If a region doesn't have an appropriate aged team, a player may request for BNSW to consider their circumstances to allow them to play "outside" of their region, these will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- 6.4. Upon application to BNSW, an Association can request team(s) to play in another region if extenuating circumstances arise.

** Subject to the number of nominations in divisions, Northern and Eastern Leagues may need to combine.*



7. COMPETITION FORMAT AND PATHWAYS

The junior competitions are conducted as follows:

7.1. Round One

Regional Junior Leagues played either Home or Away or at Central Venues, along with a finals series. The winners from Division 1 regional Leagues (NEJL, SJL & WJL) in the Under 18s (U18s), Under 16s (U16s) & Under 14s (U14s) will advance to compete in the State Cup. Winners and runners up of the Under 12s (U12s) SJL and NEJL leagues will advance to the U12s State Championships.

Metro Junior Leagues will be played in a Home and Away style format, along with a finals series.

Waratah State Championships will be played in a hybrid format of Home and Away and Central Venue rounds.

7.2. Round Two – Waratah State Championships Finals & Waratah State Championships for U12s

Waratah State Championships Finals will consist of the top four (4) teams from each Waratah State Championships age group for both boys and girls. Finals will consist of semi finals and a grand final for each age group.

U12 State Championships will consist of the top four (4) U12 Metro Division 1 teams.

7.3. Round Two – State Cup

- a. The State Cup will consist of the top four (4) teams from Metro Division 1, along with the winners of the U18, U16, and U14 Division 1 regional leagues (NEJL, SJL & WJL).

The runner-up team from one of the three Division 1 regional Leagues (NEJL, SJL, or WJL) will also be invited on a rotational basis.

- b. The selection process of the Country U12 teams will be determined after nominations have been received and the competition formats for each of the regional Leagues have been announced.
- c. The top four (4) U12 Metro Division 2 teams will advance to compete in the State Cup.

7.4. Attendance at the State Cup

For Associations that qualify for the State Cup, participation is compulsory. Under extenuating circumstances a team can choose to forfeit their position in the State Cup. Any such request must be made in writing to BNSW in at least 1 month prior to these competitions taking place.

If approved, BNSW will then offer the spot to the respective runner up, if they decline the offer, then this spot may revert to a wildcard spot.

If BNSW is unable to fill the spot, then the team that originally won the right to compete and then withdrew may be issued a fine for non-attendance.

7.5. The Page Play-off system

May be used for Leagues, where the top four teams advance to the playoffs, which are played over three rounds with one team being eliminated in each round.

The format progresses as follows:

- In Game 1, the third- and fourth-placed teams play against each other. The loser is eliminated.
- In Game 2, the first- and second-placed teams play against each other. The winner qualifies directly for the grand final.
- In Game 3, the winner of Game 1 plays against the loser of Game 2. The loser is eliminated.
- Game 4 (the grand final) is then played between the winners of Games 2 and 3.

BNSW may implement alternative formats where necessary.



PART *2* – LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION



PART 2 – LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION

8. ACCEPTANCE OF LEAGUE ENTRY

In accepting entry into junior Leagues, all Associations, teams and individuals entered shall be bound by the Rules of Operation, team nomination form entry criteria and policies issued for guidance of the Associations and their members. The competitions and divisions offered each year will be listed in the team nomination form.

9. VARIATION AND AMENDMENT OF RULES

Rules of Operation are reviewed every two years, and associations are provided opportunities to submit feedback on the Rules of Operation via their respective annual league meetings.

The Rules of Operation may be amended during a two-year cycle after consultation with the WLAC.

10. LEAGUE COMPETITION COORDINATOR

10.1. The League Competition Coordinator(s) will be employed and appointed by BNSW.

10.2. The duties and responsibilities of the Competition Coordinators shall include and are not limited to the following:

- a. Responsibility for the administration and operation of the League.
- b. Compiling the draw for the League.
- c. The recording and management of the financial affairs of the League.
- d. Ensuring that the League Rules of Operation as laid down are strictly adhered to.
- e. Organisation of the finals series for the competitions, tournaments and cups.

11. INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION OF RULES

11.1. The League Competition Coordinator shall, in the first instance, be responsible for the interpretation and application of these Rules of Operation and shall make decisions based upon them.

11.2. In exercising this responsibility, the League Competition Coordinator may determine any matter not specifically provided for within these Rules of Operation and may make rulings consistent with the intent and spirit of the competition.

11.3. Any interpretation or decision made by the League Competition Coordinator shall remain in effect unless otherwise varied by BNSW in accordance with its governance processes.



12. APPEALS AND REVIEW OF ANY COMPETITION DECISIONS

If an Association wishes to seek a review of a decision made by BNSW, it may do so and any such review will be undertaken by the WLAC. The WLAC's decision in relation to this review is final and binding, and no further appeal avenues will be considered.

Association League Delegates should familiarise themselves with matters that are reviewable under the FIBA Official Basketball Rules and these Rules of Operation. Referee judgement decisions are not reviewable; however, matters involving the application of rules or administrative decisions may be reviewed in accordance with the procedures below.

12.1. Request for Review of a Decision

- a. Only the Association League Delegate can request a Review of a Decision and can be received by either the nominated email address or on an association letter head and must be received within a 7-day window of receiving the initial decision.
- b. Upon receipt of a Request for Review, BNSW will:
 - i. Issue the Association with an invoice (see schedule 1 for fees) which must be paid in full before a Request of Review can be heard.
 - ii. Will provide the association with an online form to complete, the information submitted on this form will be made available to the WLAC.
- c. Reviews will be considered as soon as reasonably practicable.
- d. The original penalty or decision remains in effect until the review is heard and determined.

12.2. Considering the Request to Review

- a. The WLAC will review all documentation provided and may determine the appeal via circular resolution or video conference.
- b. At the discretion of the WLAC Chair and after reviewing the request to Review the Decision, the Association League Delegate may be requested to attend the meeting with the WLAC.
- c. BNSW staff and the Competition Coordinator shall not participate in WLAC deliberations relating to appeals.
- d. If the review is upheld in favour of the Association, the review fee will be refunded in full.

12.3. Integrity of the Review Process

Associations found to have altered, concealed, or fabricated information after requesting a review will be subject to disciplinary action.

Any attempt to influence the outcome of an appeal may result in the imposition of further penalties on the Association, which may include:

- Fines
- Loss of competition points
- Suspension
- Expulsion from the League



12.4. Notice of Review Decision

The outcome of a review will be communicated directly to the Association by the Competition Coordinator.

There will be no public announcement of the review decision unless the decision involves:

- The imposition of a fine.
- The deduction of competition points; or
- The removal of a participant, Team, or Association from the competition.

In such cases, BNSW reserves the right to publicly communicate the outcome as necessary to uphold the integrity and transparency of the competition.

13. REPORTS, TRIBUNAL AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

- 13.1. Court Supervisors are required to report any instances of misconduct by players, coaches, spectators or other persons on the same day as the incident occurs. Referees must submit their incident reports within 48 hours of the incident.
- 13.2. A Tribunal Manager appointed by BNSW shall deal with any reported individuals, this may be by disciplinary tribunal or other. In some cases, the League/BNSW may choose to have any incident investigated by an independent person.
- 13.3. BNSW Tribunal procedures will be used in all cases and circumstances.
- 13.4. All players and/or team staff must be clear of any penalties imposed by any basketball authority or indirectly affiliated with Basketball Australia.

14. PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS FRAMEWORK

14.1. General Penalties

BNSW may impose penalties on any Association, Team, Player, Coach, Referee or Technical Official for breaches of the following:

- Rules of Operation;
- National Integrity Framework;
- Registration By-Laws; and
- Respect The Game.

Standard offences and penalties are set out in Schedule 1 – Standard Offences and Penalties. The League Competition Coordinator may determine and apply the appropriate penalty having regard to Schedule 1 and the circumstances of the breach.

Penalties may take the form of fines, competition points deductions, suspension, or disqualification from the League.

Penalties may be imposed against an Association in its entirety, a specific team, or named individuals including players, coaches and officials. Where a penalty is imposed against a spectator, this will be managed outside of these Rules of Operation.

The League Competition Coordinator will notify the relevant Association of any penalties relating to breaches of these Rules of Operation.

For breaches of any other BNSW policies or frameworks, notification may be issued by another BNSW staff member.



14.2. Association Compliance Penalties

Association compliance penalties are a mechanism for the Competition Coordinator to maintain League standards and ensure compliance with these Rules of Operation.

Where the Competition Coordinator detects a breach of these Rules of Operation, they will determine and apply the appropriate penalty having regard to Schedule 1 – Standard Offences and Penalties.

Where an Association incurs a penalty, the Competition Coordinator will inform the Association of the penalty and the Association shall have the right to request a review in accordance with these Rules of Operation.

Should an Association exceed three offences in one season, the Competition Coordinator may investigate the Association's overall compliance to determine an appropriate penalty. This may include restrictions on future participation in the League, determined with regard to the nature and frequency of the ongoing offences

14.3. Administrative and Procedural Fines

The Competition Coordinator is empowered to issue fines for:

- Failure to respond to administrative requests within the timeline provided;
- Failure by an Association representative to attend any League meeting deemed compulsory by the WLAC or BNSW, provided at least fourteen (14) days' notice of the meeting has been given.

15. GAME DISPUTES OR PROTEST PROCEDURES

Any game disputes or protests shall be managed in accordance with Appendix C – Protest Procedure of the FIBA Official Basketball Rules, with the following additional provisions applying:

- 15.1. The team intending to lodge a protest must notify the Court Supervisor within thirty (30) minutes of the conclusion of the game.
- 15.2. The Association's nominated contact must then notify the Competition Coordinator by telephone (SMS or call) within thirty (30) minutes of the conclusion of the game to advise that a protest is to be lodged.
- 15.3. The official protest must be submitted on the Association's letterhead; an email sent from the Association's email address is also acceptable, and must be received by BNSW no later than midday on the next Business Day.
- 15.4. Upon receipt of the protest, BNSW will issue the Association with an invoice for \$500 on the next Business Day. This fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld.
- 15.5. All protests shall be reviewed and determined in the first instance by the League Competition Coordinator.
- 15.6. All protests shall be conducted in accordance with the current FIBA Official Basketball Rules and FIBA Internal Regulations.



16. FORFEITS

16.1. Forfeits

16.1.1. A team shall lose the game by forfeit if:

- a. Fifteen minutes after the starting time the team is not present, or
- b. Is not able to field five (5) players to commence the game, or
- c. It refuses to play after being instructed to do so by either the Referee, Court Supervisor or BNSW staff member, or
- d. By its actions or those of its supporters, prevents the game from being played, or
- e. Fails to supply referees of sufficient standard for a game, or
- f. If a team allows an unregistered player, team official or referee to participate in a game.

16.2. Penalty

- a. The game is awarded to the opponents and the score shall be twenty (20) to zero (0). Further, the forfeiting team shall receive zero (0) points in the classification.
- b. For a two game (home and away) total point series, the team that forfeits in the first or second game shall lose the series by forfeit.
- c. The forfeiting team will be marked with a forfeit on the competition ladder.
- d. If a team has forfeited a game during the season and finishes on equal percentage with another team(s), the forfeiting team shall receive the lowest possible ranking, irrespective of the head-to-head results between the teams concerned.
- e. In the event of a forfeit, the Association responsible will have the fines incorporated into their next instalment of game fees, or will be invoiced via BNSW.
- f. Any team which forfeits a match will pay a forfeit fine (see schedule 1).
- g. Associations claiming expenses incurred as a result of a forfeit are to direct their claim to the Competitions Coordinator within thirty (30) days of the forfeit occurring. Evidence of expenses may be required.

17. GAME LOST BY DEFAULT

17.1. A team shall lose a game by default if, during the game, the team has fewer than two (2) players on the court ready to play.

17.2. Penalty

- a. If the team to which the game is awarded is ahead, the score shall stand as at the time when the game was stopped. If the team to which the game is awarded is not ahead, the score shall be recorded as 20 to 0 in its favour. The defaulting team shall receive 1 point in the classification.
- b. For a 2 game (home and away) total point series (aggregate score), the team that defaults in the first or in the second game shall lose the series by 'default' (e.g. playoff matches for U14s).



18. FIXTURE CHANGE REQUESTS

Once the fixture is announced and published on Basketball Connect, any Association wishing to request changes to the draw (e.g., date, time, or venue) and the season has commenced must adhere to the following requirements:

- a. Submit a written application to BNSW detailing the reasons for the request at least seven (7) working days prior to the game. This must be completed prior to any contact with the opposition.
- b. Obtain approval from their opponent's Association.
- c. In extraordinary circumstances BNSW will make a ruling.
- d. Games cannot be changed without BNSW permission.
- e. A fee of \$300 will apply for each request.

19. PAYMENT OF FINES AND CONSEQUENCES FOR NON-PAYMENT

All penalties and charges incurred must be paid within fourteen (14) calendar days of receipt of account, except when a required date of payment is otherwise advised on the fine notification or agreed.

If after a reasonable time period, payment remains outstanding the Association will be declared unfinancial, and the Competition Coordinator may take any of the following action:

- a. Prior to the competition commencing, the Association shall be ineligible for entry, participation or progression in the competition.
- b. If the Association becomes unfinancial during the competition, its teams shall cease to earn results until the matter is resolved. When the matter is resolved, the points lost in the unfinancial period cannot be regained.

20. CONDUCT DETRIMENTAL TO THE LEAGUE

20.1. Any Association, Coach, Player, Association support staff, spectator, or Technical Official who behaves in a manner that adversely affects, or is likely to adversely affect, the promotion, reputation, integrity, or operation of the League may be referred to the BNSW Tribunal, as appropriate.

In particular, a person may be referred to the BNSW Tribunal for breaches of any of the following:

- BNSW Zero Tolerance Policy;
- BNSW Constitution;
- BNSW Waratah Junior League Rules of Operation; and
- BNSW Registration Rules of Operation.

20.2. The image and reputation of basketball and the League shall be upheld by all participants.

Public comments that are abusive, offensive, misleading, defamatory, sexist, racist, or otherwise likely to damage the integrity or reputation of the League, Associations, Coaches, Players, or Technical Officials are considered matters of concern.

This includes the use of public address systems, game programs, social media platforms (whether personal or public accounts), and other media outlets.



- 20.3. Any member of an Association, including coaches, players, management and other participants, who publicly makes comments or engages in conduct that brings, or is likely to bring, the League into disrepute may be subject to penalty.
- 20.4. Associations and individuals may be held responsible for adverse media or public comments originating through these channels.
- 20.5. Any Association member or spectator found to have pursued or harassed A Referee or a Technical Official before, during, or after a game will be subject to such penalties as determined appropriate by the Competition Coordinator.
- 20.6. The Competition Coordinator may impose a fine, or recommend expulsion, where adverse comments or conduct are reported and, following investigation, are substantiated. The League Competition Coordinator shall have discretion regarding the amount of any fine imposed.
- 20.7. Breaches of the National Integrity Framework (NIF) will be dealt with under the processes outlined in the NIF, which may involve independent investigation and disciplinary action by Basketball Australia or BNSW.
- 20.8. Public Disclosure of Penalties

Where a Coach, Player, Technical Official, or Association is penalised and it is deemed to be in the public interest, and in the interests of League integrity and transparency, the League Competition Coordinator may authorise BNSW to release a public statement outlining the circumstances giving rise to the penalty and the penalty imposed.

21. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

The following conduct is prohibited:

- a. Any conduct that is in breach of the BA National Integrity Framework or any other rule, regulation, policy or code of BNSW.
- b. Engaging in, attempting to engage in, or being a party to any action that seeks to fix, manipulate, or improperly influence the result, progress, outcome, conduct, or any other aspect of a BNSW competition.
- c. Deliberately failing to perform to the best of one's abilities, including through "tanking," in any BNSW competition.

Sanctions may be imposed on any team, player, coach, or Association found to be in breach of these provisions.

22. LEAGUE FINANCES

- 22.1. BNSW is responsible for the financial management of all leagues. Nomination fees, game fees, and any other applicable fees plus payment schedule will be determined by BNSW as part of its annual budget cycle and confirmed in the Team Entry Guide.
- 22.2. Associations, teams, or registered participants with outstanding payments may be ruled unfinancial by BNSW and refused entry to competitions or ruled ineligible to progress.
- 22.3. Associations are responsible for adhering to the payment schedule for all fees specified, including nomination and game fees.



22.4. Withdrawal

Associations should be aware that withdrawing a team after it has been nominated into a BNSW competition may result in a financial penalty and may be considered when assessing future competition entries.

BNSW recognises that circumstances can arise that may affect an Association's ability to field a team. However, withdrawal penalties may increase depending on the stage of competition planning at which the withdrawal occurs. Associations are strongly encouraged to contact BNSW at the earliest opportunity if there are concerns about the viability of a team or its ability to participate.

Current Season Fines	Fines (per team)
Withdrawing a team PRIOR to the nomination deadline	Nil
Withdrawing a team AFTER the nomination deadline	(see schedule 1)
Withdrawing a team AFTER the draw is released	(see schedule 1)
Withdrawing a team DURING the competition	(see schedule 1)
Forfeits (per game)	(see schedule 1)
Failure to attend League Finals or State Championships	(see schedule 1)

Please note that all fees are reviewed on an annual basis and are adjusted accordingly. All fines are ex GST.

- 22.5. Teams withdrawing from the State Championships (U12s) or State Cup after having qualified via their Junior League, will be subject to a fine, please refer to the competition formats section of these Rules.

23. LEAGUE TRADEMARKS, BRANDING AND SPONSORSHIP OBLIGATIONS

23.1. League Trademark (Logo)

The League shall have an official trademark (logo).

Unless otherwise advised by BNSW, Associations may only use the League trademark (logo) in accordance with the applicable Style Guide.

Associations must use the League trademark (logo), including any approved sponsor name and trademark (logo), on match programs and promotional material as directed by the Competition Coordinator.

23.2. Sponsorship Obligations

All member Associations are required to promote any sponsor or sponsors of the League in accordance with the guidelines issued by BNSW.

Associations must use the correct naming rights sponsor references in all media, promotional material, and communications relating to the League.

24. LEAGUE ANNUAL MEETING

Following the completion of each Season, a League Annual Meeting will be held. Attendance is compulsory for all Associations that participated in that Season.

Associations seeking entry into the Waratah Junior League may be invited to attend.

The League Annual Meetings will be conducted online or where possible at the BNSW office.

The agenda for the League Annual Meeting will be circulated no later than two (2) weeks prior to the meeting date.



PART 3 – ASSOCIATION ADMINISTRATION



PART 3 – ASSOCIATION ADMINISTRATION

25. ASSOCIATION LEAGUE DELEGATE

For the efficient operation of the Leagues, each Association is required to appoint a League Delegate and notify the League of their name and contact details. The Delegate is empowered to make decisions and act as the focal point for all official League communication, which will be directed from the League office staff to this nominated person. This is a position of importance and should be filled by someone experienced in basketball administration.

26. TEAM NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

26.1. Participation in Waratah League Competitions is for affiliated member Association of BNSW and to teams from the Australian Capital Territory Basketball Associations (BACT).

26.2. Associations entering in a junior League must be compliant with the BNSW Registration By-Laws. Policy is available by visiting www.bnsw.com.au/resource-directory/

26.3. The Association must be able to demonstrate the ability to sustain and support entered team(s), via feeder programs, this includes the running of domestic competitions, pathways for players, coaches, referees and other technical officials.

26.4. Planning Guide

Associations must adhere to the requirements and timelines outlined in the Waratah Junior League Planning Guide. This guide outlines all essential requirements and timelines for participating in BNSW competitions. The Team Entry Information Guide is available to associations by September.

26.5. Associations shall receive notification in July of the initial/tentative number of representative teams they are eligible to nominate for the following season. Please note that this number is indicative only and is subject to change by the time official nominations are lodged later in the year.

26.6. Associations must provide BNSW with a draft list of BNSW qualified referees and coaches to be included with their team nominations for the following season.

27. COMPLIANCE RATIOS

27.1. Metro Junior League Compliance Ratio

Associations wishing to compete in the Metro Junior League will be required to comply with the compliance ratio. The compliance ratio is set at 25%. NOTE: This includes metro teams nominated for Waratah State Championships.

27.1.1. To calculate an Association's compliance ratio, BNSW will, as at 31 August each year, count the total number of primary registered 8-17-year-olds, multiply by 25%, then divide by 10 players to return the maximum number of teams that Association can nominate in the following year's competition.

Example:

$920 \text{ (8-17-year-olds)} \times 25\% \div 10 \text{ (players per team)} = 23 \text{ (teams can be entered).}$



27.2. Country Compliance

To support associations in planning their representative programs, BNSW will provide each association with a year-on-year comparison of primary registration numbers for players aged 8–17 years, as at 31 July each year. This report will indicate whether an association is tracking above, below, or on par with its previous year's registered numbers, providing meaningful lead time to address any participation gaps prior to the trial period opening.

BNSW encourages all associations to conduct their representative trials within a consistent window each year. BNSW shall announce the dates for this window annually upon the release of the subsequent year's competition calendar.

27.2.1. The formal compliance calculation will be conducted as at 31 August each year. BNSW will count the total number of primary registered players aged 8–17 years, multiply by 40%, and divide by 10 players to return the maximum number of teams that association may nominate in the following year's Regional League competition.

The date range is 1 September (previous year) to 31 August (current year).

27.2.2. Once the above number has been determined, the next step is that the association also has a sufficient number of coaches (Rule 32) and referees (Rule 38) to support those teams.

27.3. Local Government Area Residency Requirement

In addition to the Country Compliance Ratio, a minimum of 80% of players rostered on any Country Junior League team must reside within the association's recognised operating boundary, being the Local Government Area or areas formally assigned to that association by BNSW. Residency will be determined by the registered home address recorded in BNSW's registration system as at the relevant nomination date.

Grandfather Clause: Players who are returning to the same team or association are exempt from this residency requirement. This exemption does not apply to new associations or new teams.

An association that cannot demonstrate compliance with the 80% residency requirement for a nominated team may have that team's nomination refused or withdrawn at BNSW's discretion.

28. VENUE MINIMUM STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS

28.1. Venue Compliance Requirement

All venues nominated by Associations for sanctioned BNSW competitions must comply with the requirements outlined in this Rule and any current FIBA regulations applicable to facilities and equipment. Venues are subject to annual audits by BNSW. Associations may be required to relocate fixtures, or may face suspension from competitions, if venues are found to be non-compliant.

28.2. Court Markings and Dimensions

- a. All court markings must be clearly visible and comply with current FIBA regulations, including line width, colour, and placement.
- b. The court dimensions must be 28 metres by 15 metres.
- c. A minimum of 2 metres of unobstructed boundary space must be maintained on all sides of the playing court.



28.3. Court Infrastructure

- a. Each court must be equipped with the following:
 - i. Scoreboard with game time, team scores, period, and team fouls;
 - ii. Two 24-second shot clocks, visible and installed according to FIBA regulations;
 - iii. A scorer's table and team benches positioned in compliance with FIBA court layout;
 - iv. Regulation FIBA backboards and snap-back rings with required padding;
 - v. Clearly designated substitution zones and coaching boxes
- b. Backstop units (fixed or mobile), must be securely installed, fully padded, and not intrude into the required 2-metre safety zone.
- c. Associations must conduct an inspection of all equipment to verify its functional status and promptly report any deficiencies to BNSW prior to the commencement of the season or any scheduled fixture.

28.4. Lighting Requirements

- a. Courts must have quality lighting that provides uniform illumination suitable for competitive basketball.
- b. Lighting must not produce glare or obstruct visibility for players, officials, or spectators.
- c. Emergency lighting must be present and functional in case of power failure.

28.5. Change Rooms and Officials' Facilities

- a. Venues must provide separate team change rooms, each with toilets and showers, located in proximity to the courts.
- b. A separate officials' change room must be provided, with adequate privacy and facilities for both male and female referees.
- c. Change rooms must be maintained in a clean and hygienic condition at all times.

28.6. Seating

- a. Each Association must provide seats for all League officials when advised of their attendance in advance.
- b. The Home Team can allocate preferential seating for its members but must make every attempt to accommodate the Visiting Team with suitable seating.

28.7. Safety and Medical Provisions

- a. A blood kit must be available and located at the scorer's table for each game.
- b. Venues must ensure the availability of a designated first-aid area or medical room accessible from the court, and that ice is available and easily accessible.
- c. BNSW encourages all teams to carry their own first aid kits for use in emergencies.



28.8. Obstruction-Free Playing Area

- a. No fixed or temporary obstruction (including walls, seating, equipment, or signage may be located within 2 metres of the court boundary lines.
 - i. Where the court run-off area is 2 metres or less, protective padding and/or crash mats must be installed along the baselines.
- b. Spectator seating, advertising boards, and any other infrastructure must be positioned outside the 2-metre safety zone and comply with local safety codes.
- c. Ceiling height must allow unobstructed play, with a minimum clearance of 7 metres above the court surface.

28.9. Venue Amenities and Services

- a. Venues must provide clean, accessible toilet facilities for players, officials, and spectators.
- b. Adequate ventilation, heating, and cooling must be provided where necessary.
- c. Venues must comply with all relevant local building, health, and safety codes, including accessibility standards.

28.10. Equipment Storage and Access

- a. Venues must include secure storage areas for basketball equipment and scorer's table materials.
- b. All equipment must be safely stored when not in use and not obstruct playing or access areas.

28.11. Venue Maintenance and Inspections

- a. Venue surfaces, equipment, and lighting must be maintained in safe and serviceable condition at all times.
- b. Associations must ensure all required equipment is functional prior to the start of games.
- c. BNSW reserves the right to conduct inspections and issue improvement notices where necessary.

28.12. Non-Compliance

- a. Failure to comply with the requirements of this Rule may result in:
 - i. Temporary or permanent disqualification of the venue from hosting BNSW competitions;
 - ii. Reallocation of scheduled fixtures;
 - iii. Disciplinary action against the nominating Association, as determined by BNSW.



PART 4 – TEAM AND PLAYER ADMINISTRATION



PART 4 – TEAM AND PLAYER ADMINISTRATION

29. INTENT TO TRIAL

- 29.1. Players registered with one Association may not trial with another Association without an Intent to Trial form being completed.
- 29.2. It is the responsibility of the player/parent or guardian to complete the online form before trialling at a new Association.
- 29.3. An intent to trial form is not a clearance and players may not play in any BNSW conducted competitions without a processed clearance.
- 29.4. Players must also comply with the clearance requirements contained in Rule 31. All players must submit proof of clearance from their last Association prior to participating in the competition.
- 29.5. It is recommended that all parties retain a copy of this agreement.

30. PLAYER REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY

30.1. Registration Requirements

All participants must be registered members of BNSW through an affiliated Association.

The BNSW Registration By-Laws are available on the BNSW website and apply to all participants in the League.

30.2. Age Requirements

All players must be under the age of their nominated age group as at 31 December in the relevant calendar year.

Players in the U12s division must be a minimum of nine (9) years of age as at 31 December of that same calendar year in which they seek to participate in the Waratah Junior League.

30.3. Playing an Ineligible Player

Where an ineligible player participates without approval, BNSW may declare the game a forfeit and/or apply any other penalty provided for under these Rules of Operation.

30.4. Temporary Player Movement Due to Extenuating Circumstances

If, due to extenuating circumstances approved by BNSW, a team roster falls below its normal number of players during the regular season, an Association may request approval for a player from a lower division or younger age group within the same Association to play up. A maximum of two (2) players can be borrowed for a round (regional competitions) or a game (MJL/WSC).

Once approved, the player may participate in a maximum of three (3) games with the higher team. Upon participating in a fourth game, the player shall become a permanent member of that team for the remainder of the season, including Finals, and shall no longer be eligible to play in the lower division or lower age group.

WSC teams can borrow players from a lower age WSC team or from any MJL or regional league team. MJL teams cannot borrow WSC players from any age group. Teams can only borrow players in a lower division or lower age group. When borrowing players from a lower age group, the division must be the same or one division lower than the borrowing team's division, i.e. an U18 Division 2 team can only borrow Division 2 or Division 3 players.



30.5. **Playing for Multiple Teams in the Same Round**

Except as otherwise provided in these Rules, a player shall not represent more than one team during the same day or round.

In the NEJL, a player may represent a maximum of two teams during the same day or round where a team roster contains fewer than eight (8) players, subject to approval by BNSW or its representative. This provision applies only to central venue rounds.

In the NEJL, and only for central venue rounds, BNSW may approve a player representing a maximum of two teams during the same day or round where exceptional circumstances exist.

Such approval is entirely at the discretion of the Competition Coordinator and will only be granted where it is considered to be in the best interests of the competition.

A player may only receive approval under this Rule on a maximum of two (2) occasions during a competition season.

30.6. **Playing Up Age Groups**

A player moving up more than one age group must have written permission from their parent or guardian.

The Association may be required to provide BNSW with evidence that the player movement has been approved by the Association Board or Representative Committee.

A player may play up a maximum of two (2) age groups.

30.7. **Participation in Senior Competitions**

A junior player may participate in both a senior competition and a junior competition within the same round.

30.8. **Same Age Group – Multiple Divisions**

Prior to the commencement of the season, where a player is registered in both Division 1 and Division 2 within the same age group, the League Delegate must nominate the player's primary team.

If the higher division team is nominated as the player's primary team, the player's registration with the lower division team shall be removed.

If the lower division team is nominated as the player's primary team, the player may participate in a maximum of three (3) games with the higher division team, including official pre-season or grading games. Upon participating in a fourth game, the player shall become a permanent member of the higher division team for the remainder of the season, including Finals.

30.9. **Playing Up One Age Group**

A player participating in a higher age group may play a maximum of three (3) games with that team. Upon participating in a fourth game, the player shall become a permanent member of the higher age group team for the remainder of the season, including Finals.

Where an Association has more than one team in the same division, no player movement between those teams shall be permitted.

30.10. **Illegal Players**

Where an illegal player participates, including a player who is unregistered or who has not received the required clearance, BNSW may declare the game a forfeit and impose any other penalties considered appropriate.

30.11. **Player Transfers Between Associations**

A player shall not represent more than one Association during the same playing season unless otherwise approved by BNSW following an appeal.



31. CLEARANCES

31.1. Clearance Requirement

BNSW Junior Leagues abide by the applicable BNSW clearance procedures and forms.

All junior players have open transfer rights, except where the Association the player is transferring from believes the transfer may contravene the guidelines set out in these Rules of Operation or the relevant BNSW By-Laws.

Where a composite team is approved by BNSW, a clearance is not required.

31.2. Grounds for Denying or Contesting a Clearance

An Association may deny or contest a clearance where:

- the player has outstanding financial obligations to the Association;
- the transfer would cause proven undue hardship to the Association; or
- the transfer is not considered to be in the overall interests of basketball, including where one or more transfers to an Association from one or more other Associations may create a “super team” or composite team that would dominate a junior competition to the detriment of other participants.

31.3. Transfer Limits

The following transfer limits apply:

Competition	Division	Max Transfers
Waratah State Championships	All	1
MJL	Divisions 1 - 2	1
MJL	Divisions 3 and below	3 (max 2 from same association)
Country Regional Leagues	Division 1	1
Country Regional Leagues	Division 2 and below	3 (max 2 from same association)

31.3.1. Divisional Restriction

A player transferred into a team must remain in the division they were transferred into for the duration of that competition season. A transferred player may not play in a higher division within the same age group, nor may they join a team that has already reached its maximum number of transferred players.

For example, if a player transfers into a Division 2 team, they must remain in that Division 2 team for the duration of the competition season.

31.3.2. Free Transfer Provision

A player who did not participate in representative basketball in the previous competition season does not count toward a team's transfer limit. This applies where the player:

- Was not selected in any representative team; or
- Chose not to participate for personal reasons.

This provision does not apply to a player who was selected for a representative team but was unable to participate due to injury prior to or early in the season.

A team can have a maximum of 1 Free Transfer per season.



31.3.3. Exemptions

An association may apply to BNSW for a transfer exemption. A maximum of one (1) exempted player is permitted per team per season. Exemption applications must be submitted to BNSW by the League Delegate prior to the relevant competition deadline and are subject to BNSW approval.

31.3.4. New Association – Transfer Amnesty

In their first two (2) competition seasons, a new Association will be granted amnesty from transfer limits for junior players who reside within the Association's allocated Local Government Areas (LGAs) and are currently playing elsewhere, provided those players participate in the Association's domestic competition.

The following conditions apply:

- a. The Association's domestic competition must have been operating for a minimum of two (2) years prior to nominating for representative basketball.
- b. New Associations may only enter teams in U12 and U14 age groups, unless they can demonstrate they meet all eligibility criteria for U16 and U18 without requiring exemptions.
- c. The amnesty period applies for two (2) seasons only. Standard transfer limits apply from the third season.

31.3.5. Existing Association – First-Time Representative Entry

An existing Association nominating for representative basketball for the first time may only enter teams in U12 and U14 age groups, unless they can demonstrate they meet all eligibility criteria for U16 and U18 without requiring exemptions.

31.4. **Proof of Clearance**

All players must submit proof of clearance from their previous Association prior to participating in the competition.

31.5. **Breach of Clearance Requirements**

If a player participates with another Association before complying with this rule, the receiving Association shall be held responsible.

In the first instance, the team will lose the game by forfeit and the Association must pay the applicable forfeit fine to BNSW.

Further disciplinary action may also be taken against the Association.

31.6. **Contested Clearances**

If a player's clearance is contested and the matter is not resolved within fourteen (14) days, the BNSW Competitions Department will investigate the matter.

Associations will be required to provide evidence to support any denial or contesting of a clearance.

31.7. **Clearance Submission During the Season Deadline**

An Association wishing to request a transfer during the season must submit the request by close of business Thursday prior to the relevant competition weekend.



32. REGISTRATION OF COACHES AND TEAM OFFICIALS

32.1. Coach Accreditation

All Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches must hold a current Competition Coach accreditation and must be registered with BNSW through an affiliated Association.

32.2. Working With Children Check Requirements

All adult Team Staff and Officials, including Coaches, Assistant Coaches and Team Managers, must hold a current Working With Children Check that has been verified in accordance with BNSW requirements.

32.3. Registration Requirements

All Team Staff and Officials must:

- a. Be currently registered with BNSW;
- b. Be allocated to their team through Basketball Connect; and
- c. Have agreed to the applicable terms and conditions.

32.4. Minimum Team Staff Requirements

For Metro and Country Leagues each team must register:

- One (1) Head Coach; and
- One (1) Team Manager.

Where possible, teams may also register a maximum of two (2) Assistant Coaches on the registration platform.

For Waratah State Championships each team must register:

- One (1) Head Coach;
- One (1) Assistant Coach (maximum of 2)
- One (1) Team Manager.

32.5. Changes to Team Staff

Where an Association seeks to replace a Coach, Assistant Coach or Team Manager, notification must be provided to BNSW.



33. TEAM NOMINATION LIMITS AND WARATAH STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS ELIGIBILITY

- 33.1. In Metro Junior League (Division 1) and Waratah State Championships, Associations can only nominate one team per age group, unless a position becomes vacant and BNSW can invite a team of suitable strength.
- 33.2. Country Associations wanting to nominate in the Waratah State Championships, must also nominate the same number of teams of the opposite gender in either the Waratah State Championships or their respective regional League.
- 33.3. Special consideration may be given to Associations in particular for the number of girls teams nominated, subject to Associations being able to demonstrate they are actively delivering Learn to Play (Aussie Hoops) for both boys and girls and domestic competition for U12 and below for both boys and girls.
- 33.4. Interstate or Territory teams who have competed in the Waratah State Championships season are able to compete in the Waratah State Championships finals.
- 33.5. Team Lists

As part of the nomination process, Associations must submit a provisional team list to BNSW at the time of nomination. Team lists must include a minimum of ten (10) players.

Where an Association is unable to confirm a minimum roster of ten (10) players at the time of submission, BNSW may consider the nomination subject to the following:

- a. Team lists of eight (8) or nine (9) players must be accompanied by a written request for consideration, outlining the circumstances and a plan to meet the minimum roster requirement prior to the competition commencing.
- b. Team lists of seven (7) players or fewer will generally not be accepted. BNSW retains discretion to consider such nominations only in exceptional circumstances.

The Competition Coordinator will assess all incomplete nominations and may approve, conditionally approve, or decline the nomination based on the information provided. Associations will be advised of the outcome prior to the competition draw being finalised.

The Competition Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that all players' details are entered online into the relevant team lists prior to the start of the season.

- 33.5.1. All new participants will be required to 'join' your Association's representative team by using the online form created by BNSW. This is separate from the obligation to register.
- 33.5.2. All team staff e.g. coaches, assistant coaches, managers must 'join' your representative team each season and agree to the special terms and conditions. They must be approved by BNSW.
- 33.5.3. Each team can have a squad list of no more than twelve (12) eligible players active at any one time.
- 33.5.4. Teams may field up to ten (10) players per game.



33.5.5. In the event of any duplication of player names on the registration forms of two (2) or more Associations, the names of the player(s) involved shall be eliminated from all teams by BNSW. Players may be reinstated or replaced following consideration of written submissions received within seven days of the date of any elimination notice by BNSW.

33.5.6. Just prior to the start of the League (dates will vary), BNSW will remove Association League delegates' ability to modify team lists.

- a. BNSW will then circulate a full list of all players eligible to play, Association League delegates will be required at this time to endorse this list as their OFFICIAL team list(s).
- b. All additions to team lists must be requested to BNSW by COB the Thursday before the round is scheduled to be played.

If a player is not eligible to play and is added without a request made and approval, then the game may be forfeited and a forfeit fine may be imposed.

34. COMPOSITE TEAMS

Composite Teams may be considered where an Association is unable to field a team independently and other Associations within the same region are experiencing similar circumstances. In these situations, Associations may request approval to combine eligible players to form a Composite Team.

Composite Teams are intended to provide participation and development opportunities for players in regional areas who may otherwise be unable to compete. They are not intended to provide a competitive advantage or enable Associations to combine players for the purpose of creating a stronger or "super" team.

All requests to form a Composite Team will be considered by BNSW on a case-by-case basis. Entry into the NSW State Championships is not automatic and may be subject to additional eligibility requirements, including participation in the pre-season competition.

BNSW may also seek to form composite teams where nominations in a division are insufficient.

BNSW in reviewing applications for the inclusion of a composite team(s), will take the following into consideration:

- a. The players must be domiciled in the region, and
- b. That their primary Association has chosen not to enter a team into the regional League, and
- c. That the teams consist of both bottom and top age players.
- d. That the combined team has equal numbers (or close to) from each Association.



35. REPLACING AN INJURED PLAYER

- 35.1. In the case of an injured player, an Association has the option of requesting an injury replacement for that player from the Competition Coordinator and is subject to the below:
- The injury was reported by either the Player or League Delegate via the online injury report form, this form should be completed by the next business day from the date of injury.
 - The League Delegate must provide medical certification from a certified medical practitioner or sports medicine specialist confirming the extent and expected duration of the injury and written medical clearance for the player's return after the minimum three (3) game absence.
 - The replacement player satisfies the competition's standard eligibility requirements, including participation in at least 40% of games to qualify for finals.
 - If the replacement player exceeds the team limit of 12 players, the League Delegate unassigns a player on Basketball Connect, so that the team limit does not exceed 12 players.
 - If the injured player after missing three (3) consecutive games is going to recommence playing again, then the player that was approved and added to the team list, shall have their eligibility status revoked and can no longer continue to play for that team.

36. FINALS QUALIFICATION

- 36.1. To be eligible to represent a team in the final, a player must play a minimum of 40% of games with any team. In the case that 40% would not be a round number then the total will be rounded up (e.g. 7.2 games would become 8 games).
- 36.2. Where a player by virtue of injury fails to qualify for the finals series, the League Delegate may apply in writing to BNSW a minimum of 14 days prior to the start of the Finals for permission to play. No applications will be considered outside of these timelines. In considering the application, the Association/player must:
- Have played a minimum of two (2) games during the current season. This does not include any games prior to the commencement of the actual League.
 - The validity of the injury prevents the player from otherwise qualifying to play.
 - Medical evidence as to the extent of the injury must be provided to BNSW by no later than two (2) weeks after the injured player has resumed playing.
- 36.3. Players may only play in one division/grade in Junior League Finals series and State Championships/ State Cup, unless specified in League Specific Rules section of these By-Laws. Associations may request for an exemption if their team roster is less than their normal number of players.
- 36.4. Any Player that misses participation in a fixtured game whilst:
- Representing their State or Territory in Australian National Championship, or
 - On official national team duties, including 3x3 or playing for their country in FIBA recognised tournaments.
- 36.5. Shall have those games missed due to participation, included in their finals eligibility, subject to:
- Being approved as a player for the team prior to commitments as outlined in 36.4. a) or b).
 - Has played a minimum of 4 games during the regular season.
 - The League Delegate applies for the exemption either as soon as it is known the team has qualified for finals, or by no later than 14 days prior to the start of the finals.



37. PLAYING UNIFORMS AND ATTIRE

- 37.1. Associations wishing to purchase new uniforms must have the colour palette and design approved by BNSW before the season commences (Schedule 2 - Style Guide).
- a. Associations shall have two uniform sets available for each team. Teams must travel with both sets of uniforms.
 - b. Team's alternate set of uniforms must be the opposite colour palette of their main uniform, e.g. If the main set consists of dark colours, then the alternate set should consist of light colours, preferably white.
 - c. All players shall be correctly dressed in the team's uniform colours. Warm-up apparel must be the same colour as the team uniform, otherwise teams must warm-up in their playing uniforms.
 - d. All players must be in the same uniform i.e. singlet and shorts.
- 37.2. In the event that a clash of approved uniform colours occurs, team B must wear their approved alternate colours.
- a. If team B does not have an alternate uniform, they shall:
 - i. Wear uniform/bibs supplied by the home team or host Association.
 - ii. In the event of team B refusing to wear such uniforms, the game shall be deemed a forfeit.
 - b. At a central venue round, team B may be fined and team A will be asked to change to their alternate uniform.
- 37.3. Team uniform regulations are as per FIBA rules and regulations with the following variations.
- a. Teams shall use numbers as per FIBA rules.
 - b. Player shorts are to display the BNSW Waratah League logo on either leg.
 - c. Failure to display the Waratah Logo may result in a fine.
- 37.4. T-Shirts regardless of style may not be worn under shirts, even if the player has written medical permission.
- 37.5. Undergarments - The following compression garments are permitted to be worn.
- a. Sleeved (short or long) tops black
 - b. Calf sleeves black
 - c. Arm sleeves black
 - d. Quad sleeves black
 - e. Any compression garments worn on the legs or arms must be black in colour
 - f. Headgear can be worn (must be black, no pins, buttons or attachments that create risk)
- 37.6. Headwear worn for religious or cultural reasons (e.g., hijabs and yarmulkes) is permitted, subject to the following safety requirements:
- a. The headwear shall not entirely or partially cover any part of the face (eyes, nose, lips, etc.).
 - b. The headwear shall not be dangerous to the player wearing it or to other players.
 - c. The headwear must not have opening/closing elements around the face or neck and shall not have any parts extruding from its surface.
 - d. The headwear must be black or white.



PART 5 – TECHNICAL OFFICIALS



PART 5 – TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

38. REFEREE QUALIFICATIONS

38.1. Minimum Referee Standards

The acceptable minimum standards are as follows.

Age Group	Waratah State Championships	Division 1	Division 2, 3, & Below
U18 Boys	S1	C3/S1	C3/S1
U18 Girls	S1	C3	C3
U16 Boys	C3/S1*	C3	C3
U16 Girls	C3/S1*	C2/C3	C2/C3
U14 Boys & Girls	C3	C2	C2
U12 Boys & Girls	N/A	C2	C3

**Exemptions at BNSW discretion.*

39. REFEREE PANEL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- 39.1. The NSW Waratah Junior Panel comprises all eligible referees nominated by their Association to officiate in BNSW Waratah Junior League competitions.
- 39.2. BNSW manages referee availability, appointments, and payments through an online platform. Referees will be informed of platform access and requirements through their Association's Program Manager and at the Referee Pre-Season Clinic held prior to each competition season.
- 39.3. Associations are reminded of the following eligibility criteria when nominating referees:
- Be a minimum of 14 years of age (minimum age for any Waratah State Championships game is 15 years), and
 - Be registered with BNSW through an affiliated Association.
 - Be actively officiating within their local domestic competition, and
 - Be available for 75% of the full season (specific to the number of games and/or Central Venues in their region), and
 - Officiate in the approved League uniform, and
 - Have attended a BNSW Referees Pre-Season Clinic and completed a fitness screening if officiating any age group in Waratah State Championships or U18 Boys, U18 Girls and U16 Boys divisions in all other Junior Leagues.



39.4. Association Referee requirements when Nominating Teams

Associations when nominating teams to compete in any BNSW Waratah Junior League competition must comply with the following;

- Nominate an Technical Officials Program Manager (TOPM). This person will need to make themselves available to work with both BNSW and their respective League Program Manager to ensure rosters are covered for the entire duration of their respective competition.
- Associations are encouraged to nominate referees on a 2:1 ratio. A minimum of two (2) referees for every team nominated. This ensures adequate coverage across the competition season, recognising that referee availability may vary due to personal, work, or other commitments.

BNSW will determine if the referees are of an appropriate standard for the age group nominated. Associations will be required to indicate the following when nominating their referees for consideration.

- Referee only
- Player/Referee
- Coach/Referee
- Manager/Referee
- If they are regularly rostered on NBL1 East and/or Waratah Senior League games.

39.5. Referee Assessments for Inclusion

Yo-Yo Test	U18 Boys/Girls	U16 Boys	U16 Girls, U14 Boys/Girls	12 Boys/Girls
Waratah State Championships	23	17	17	N/A
All other Divisions	17	17	Attempted*	Attempted*

**Attempted – there is NO minimum level required but the referees must attempt the Yo-Yo and do the best they can.*

39.6. Referee Appointments

Referee appointments are managed through BNSW's online platform. Referees must confirm their availability through the platform prior to each round in accordance with the deadlines set by BNSW.

Competition	Format	Appointment Responsibility
MJL / Waratah State Championships	Home and Away rounds	Home Association appoints referees via the platform
MJL / Waratah State Championships	Pre-season & central venue rounds	Referees confirm availability via the platform; League Referee Program Manager makes appointments.
All Country Regional Leagues	All rounds	Referees confirm availability via the platform; League Referee Program Manager makes appointments.
State Cup	All rounds	Referees confirm availability via the platform; League Referee Program Manager makes appointments.



Referee Unavailability

Where a panel member has committed to a round and subsequently becomes unavailable, their home Association is responsible for sourcing a suitable replacement from the approved NSW Waratah Junior Panel.

Replacement officials may be drawn from the same or another region, provided they are not already appointed that round. Any associated accommodation and ground transport costs will be the responsibility of the home Association and must be coordinated through BNSW.

39.7. Referee Rates of Pay

Age	Round Games	Finals Games
U12s & U14s	\$35.00	\$35.00
U16s & U18s	\$40.00	\$40.00

39.8. Referee Supervisor Appointments

Referee Supervisor appointments and payments are managed in accordance with the following:

Competition Format	Appointment Responsibility	Payment Responsibility
Home & Away rounds	Home Association	Home Association
Central Venue rounds	BNSW	BNSW
Pre-Season & State Cup	BNSW	BNSW

Referee Supervisors are responsible for overseeing officiating standards at venues on game day. A Referee Supervisor must not be actively refereeing or coaching while fulfilling this role, but may also serve as the Association's Referee Contact.

40. REFEREE FINALS APPOINTMENTS AND ELIGIBILITY

Competition	Appointment Responsibility	Payment Responsibility
All Finals & State Cup	BNSW	BNSW

40.1. For all Finals

Referees who have met the eligibility criteria will be required to confirm their availability in the online platform to be considered for finals appointments.

- Finals eligibility – Referees must have met the Referee Requirements outlined in 39.1.

40.2. Waratah State Championships Finals

BNSW will appoint a Waratah State Championships Finals Panel and appoint referees to games from this Panel. To be eligible for Waratah State Championships Finals selection officials must:

- Attend a minimum of 2 (two) central venue rounds. If due to unforeseen circumstances, exemptions can be made by BNSW.
- Meet Referee Requirements specified in 39.1. Exemptions may be made by BNSW if one of these requirements is not met.



- c. Selection for the Waratah State Championships Finals Panel will be based on performance from Waratah State Championships rounds, MJL, NEJL, SJL & WJL Finals and recommendations from League Referee Program Managers.
- d. Officials who are part of the SRDP may also be appointed to attend Waratah State Championships Finals.
- e. BNSW will appoint referee supervisors and referee instructors to venues.

40.3. State Cup

BNSW Technical Officials Team will appoint a State Cup Panel and appoint referees to games from the Panel. To be eligible for State Cup selection officials must:

- a. Meet Referee Requirements specified in 39.1. Exemptions may be made by BNSW if one of these requirements are not met.

Selection for the State Cup Finals Panel will be based on performance from the regular season rounds games, MJL, NEJL, SJL & WJL Finals, and recommendations from League Referee Program Managers.

Referees selected to the U16s & U18s Waratah State Championships Finals Panel will not be eligible for the State Cup. BNSW will appoint referee supervisors and referee instructors to venues.

41. SCORETABLE STAFFING AND OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

41.1. Each participating team is required to provide two (2) suitable trained scoretable officials for their games.

- a. Team A will be responsible for the game clock.
- b. Team B will be responsible for Basketball Connect.
- c. The 24 second operator and the time keeper should be sitting next to each other.
- d. The chairperson should sit in the middle of the scoretable, with the scorer to their right and the time keeper to their left.

If bench personnel (from either team) hold a Level 2 or above accreditation, they will be eligible to perform ANY position, as required on the scoretable.

BNSW recommends that Associations host or facilitate a scoretable course at the beginning of each season, and consider the appointment of qualified chairpersons to each home game to assist with in-game training of scoretable personnel to minimise complaints.

41.2. Waratah State Championships Grand Finals

- a. BNSW will be responsible for appointing officials to all grand final games.
- b. Teams failing to fulfil their bench commitments at the U12s State Championship round games are liable to be fined \$50.00.

41.3. Junior League Grand Finals

Depending on the location and availability of accredited scoretable officials, BNSW Scoretable Committee will either appoint scoretable officials to all grand final games or a supervisor to oversee all grand finals.



PART *6* – GAME OPERATIONS



PART 6 – GAME OPERATIONS

42. PRE-SEASON PARTICIPATION

- 42.1. Subject to the number of nominations received, BNSW will determine whether a pre-season tournament is required for each competition. Where BNSW determines that a pre-season tournament will be held, participation is mandatory for all nominated teams in that competition.

BNSW will advise Associations of pre-season requirements as part of the competition nomination process.

- 42.2. Decisions regarding the selection of teams, as determined by BNSW and the pre-season grading committees, shall be final and are not subject to appeal.

43. FIXTURING

- 43.1. All regular season games shall commence no earlier than 8:00am on Saturday or Sunday.

To ensure fairness and accommodate travel, teams with the longest travel distances for central venue rounds will not be scheduled for the opening game on Saturday or the final game on Sunday (applies to round games only).

- 43.2. Out of Round Games

Where BNSW approves a game to be played outside its scheduled competition round but during the same competition season, and the participating Associations agree to arrange and meet all costs associated with conducting the game, including court hire, Court Supervisor, Referee Supervisor (where applicable), and referee payments, no BNSW game fee will be charged for that fixture.

44. OUT OF SEASON GAMES

For any games conducted out of season involving junior representative teams, the Association hosting the game(s), must notify BNSW of the game. This does not include games against non-representative teams. BNSW reserves the right to ratify the appointment of referees to those games.

45. BASKETBALL CONNECT - PLATFORM REQUIREMENTS AND GAME DAY USE

- 45.1. BNSW administers all of its competitions using the Basketball Connect platform, all League Delegates will be required to access Basketball Connect to complete some of their duties and responsibilities.
- 45.2. Host Association will be required to ensure that all games load correctly, according to the BNSW fixture.
- 45.3. At least 5 minutes prior to tip-off, the team coach or manager will be required to confirm their team list with the scoretable.
- 45.4. Only eligible players listed on Basketball Connect, prior to the game commencing can participate in the match.
- 45.5. The Head Coach must be listed on Basketball Connect.



- 45.6. On game day and in the event of an approved player(s) name not appearing in Basketball Connect, the host Association's League Delegate or Court Supervisor must contact BNSW for approval to add the player to Basketball Connect. If a player participates without prior approval, the game will be deemed a forfeit.
- 45.7. At the completion of the game, the device used will need to be connected to the internet before closing the Basketball Connect application or prior to moving to the next game, to allow the game files to be electronically uploaded to the internet.
- 45.8. If for any reason Basketball Connect cannot be used then the scoretable will revert back to paper FIBA standard scoresheets.

46. TEAM BENCH DRESS CODE

46.1. Overall standards

All Players and non-playing officials shall be required to dress in a way that clearly distinguishes them as part of the Team and from other game officials.

Players participating in the game must be wearing the Team playing uniform.

46.2. Coaches and Assistant Coaches

Coaches and Assistant Coaches must wear Association-provided or approved apparel that clearly identifies them as a member of the team.

At a minimum, this must include an Association-branded polo shirt displaying the Association logo. In colder weather, an Association-branded jumper, hoodie, tracksuit top or jacket may be worn, provided it also clearly displays the Association logo.

Where pants are not provided as part of the Association's team apparel, Coaches and Assistant Coaches must wear neat and appropriate pants that complement the Association's approved colour palette.

Footwear must be appropriate, clean and presentable.

46.3. Team managers

Recognising that team managers have different responsibilities, the bench dress code standard can be modified slightly.

A team manager may wear an Association tracksuit provided it is the same colour as the warm-up tracksuit for the players and that it is a complete tracksuit (matching top and bottom). The tracksuit top must display the Association brand/logo.

If the team manager is wearing a tracksuit, runners are permissible.

46.4. Players

BNSW takes pride in the culture and presentation of its competitions. Associations are encouraged to foster a sense of pride and professionalism among their players by arriving and departing games in neat, tidy clothing.

Associations are strongly encouraged to support their players in representing their Association through branded apparel, whether that be a polo shirt, hoodie, jacket, or tracksuit. Presentation at competitions reflects the values of the Association and the wider basketball community.



46.5. Other Team Staff

Other team staff must comply with the dress bench code standard for coaches or team managers. Any non-playing individuals wishing to be part of the team bench must dress to these standards. If they do not comply with the requirements, they should be seated with spectators and not on the team bench.

46.6. Squad Players

Non-participating squad members are permitted to wear track pants or athletic pants while on the bench, provided they are wearing an Association branded polo shirt, jacket, or jumper. To ensure they are clearly distinguished from participating players, non-participating squad members must not wear the team playing uniform.

47. GAME ABANDONMENT

Where a game needs to be abandoned (e.g. due to loss of power at the stadium, extreme weather, unsafe playing surface or incident within the venue or surrounds), the following determines who makes the decision to abandon the game and actions to be implemented.

The below is not definitive but highlights that the Referees' official duties commence 20 minutes prior to tip-off.

Time (before tip-off)	Who
60 mins +	- The Court Supervisor informs the Competition Coordinator by phone. - The Competition Coordinator makes the decision.
60 mins	<i>The appointed game officials should be onsite.</i>
60 – 20 mins	- The Court Supervisor informs both the Competition Coordinator by phone and the game officials. - The Competition Coordinator in consultation with the Crew Chief makes the final decision.
20 mins – until the final siren.	The Match Officials review the situation; the Crew Chief makes the final decision.

47.1. Result of the Game

Stage of the Game	Decision
1st – 3rd Quarter: 20 points or more	The result of the game will be recorded at the point when the game was abandoned.
1st – 3rd Quarter: 19 points or less	The game will be rescheduled; the abandoned game will be treated as if it hadn't occurred.
4th Quarter or Overtime	The game will be ruled as finished and the score at the time of the game being abandoned shall stand.
4th Quarter or Overtime: Score tied	- If the result of the game has no bearing on Teams qualifying for finals, the game will be ruled as finished and the score at the time of the game being abandoned shall stand. - If the result of the game will have a bearing on Teams qualifying for Finals. The game will be rescheduled from the point where it was abandoned, that is, the time that was left of the clock. - Only the Players recorded as playing in the abandoned game are permitted to play in the resumed/rescheduled game.

47.2. Game abandoned due to behavioural matters

If the game is abandoned due to behavioural matters of one or both Teams, it shall be deemed a forfeit, and a report must be lodged by the game officials with BNSW.



48. CANCELLED GAMES (WEATHER/WASH OUT)

Where a scheduled game is postponed due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of BNSW and the participating teams, reasonable efforts will be made to reschedule the game, either later that day, the following day or on another suitable date.

Where the game cannot reasonably be rescheduled, it will be declared a washout and recorded as a 0–0 result. Neither team will be deemed to have forfeited the game or incur any penalty associated with a forfeit.

49. PLAYING RULES

The BNSW Junior League competitions shall be played under the Rules and Regulations as set out by FIBA, unless otherwise specified in the BNSW Waratah Junior League Rules of Operation.

49.1. Timing Rules

FIBA rules apply to all competitions with the following amendments:

49.1.1. U18 & U16 competitions (all divisions)

- Warm up – 5 minutes (minimum)
- Playing time – 4 x 10 minutes (fully timed)
- Half time interval – 5 minutes
- Intervals between 1st & 2nd and 3rd & 4th quarters – 2 minutes
- Extra time – 5 minutes
- Interval between extra time – 2 minutes
- Time outs (per team)
 - First half – 2
 - Second half – 3 (maximum of 2 in the last 2 minutes of the last quarter)
 - Overtime – 1
- 24 second rule applies. No 14 second shot clock

49.1.2. U14 & U12

- Warm up – 5 minutes (minimum)
- Playing time – 4 x 8 minutes (fully timed)
- Half time interval – 5 minutes
- Intervals between 1st & 2nd and 3rd & 4th quarters – 2 minutes
- Extra time – 3 minutes
- Interval between extra time – 2 minutes
- Time outs (per team)
 - First half – 2
 - Second half – 2
 - Overtime – 1
- 24 second rule applies to U14s Waratah State Championships - shot clock will commence when both the player and the ball have entered the front court. No 14 second shot clock.

**49.2. Match Ball**

49.2.1. BNSW will advise brand of ball used for the Leagues. No other brand is to be used.

49.2.2. Each team shall provide a match ball of the designated quality, size and brand required by the League.

	U12's	U14's	U16's	U18's
Boys	Size 5	Size 6	Size 7	Size 7
Girls	Size 5	Size 6	Size 6	Size 6

49.2.3. Each team is to provide their own basketballs for warm-up. BNSW will advise brand of ball to be used in the warm-up.

49.2.4. The Referee will make the decision on which basketball will be the match ball.

49.3. Metro Specific Rules**49.3.1. Teams**

Associations can only nominate a maximum of 4 teams per age group, with only one team in Waratah State Championships and one team in Division 1. This will be reviewed every 2 years.

For Division 2 and below, only two (2) teams per Association can compete in the one (1) division. This means that if your nominated Division 1 team is regraded to Division 2 and you already have two (2) teams in this division, one of your nominated Division 2 teams must move to Division 3. If there is no division for them to slide to, BNSW will discuss options.

Special consideration may be given to Associations in particular for the number of girls teams nominated, subject to Associations being able to demonstrate they are actively delivering Learn to Play (Aussie Hoops) for both boys and girls and domestic competition for U12 and below in both boys and girls.

49.3.2. Nominations

Nominating for Waratah State Championships U12, U14, U16 & U18s

Associations who have met the MJL Regulations can nominate for Waratah State Championships if they have either;

- Participated in Waratah State Championships the previous season, or
- Participated in division 1 two seasons prior in the age group below, or
- Finished in the top 4 from division 1 the previous season of the same age group, or
- Finished in the top 4 one age group below in division 1, two seasons prior.

If the team has four or more players returning (same team and division) then the last season ladder position may be included.

BNSW reserves the right to promote a team when a team has over performed in the division below pre-season competition.

50. SPECIAL RULES

BNSW has the power to vary, change or introduce special rules into the Rules of Operation of the junior League competitions at any time.



50.1. U12s

- a. All players in the U12 division are to take the court in each half of the game. The scoretable are to police the rule by placing an X in the appropriate box on the U12s Record Sheet beside the player's name as they take the court.
 - i. Teams who fail to play all players in each half of the game may lose the match by forfeit.
 - ii. Please note: Where Associations fail to comply, a penalty may apply.
- b. The modified free throw line for all U12 games will be measured 4m from the backboard or 60cm in front of the free throw line. It will be the width of 5cm and length of 30cm.
- c. There will be no 3 point rule, all field shots will be awarded two points irrespective of where they are taken.
- d. Coaches are to refrain from communicating with the officials on U12 games. They can communicate with scoretable. Issues must be directed to the referee supervisor. The referee supervisor will not stop the game immediately.

50.2. Zone Defence (U12s & U14s)

As there is general acceptance that the consistent use of zone defences in the younger age groups adversely affects the development of both defensive and offensive skills in younger athletes, the use of a zone defence is banned.

- a. Definition
 - i. Any defence played in the half court which does not incorporate normal man-to-man defensive principles shall be considered to be a zone. For this purpose trapping defences which rotate back to man-to-man defensive principles shall be acceptable.
- b. Violations of Man-to-Man Defence
 - i. The use of man-to-man defence is integral to all competitions run by BNSW. Therefore, when observing games, observers should be concerned about determining players or teams who are not executing acceptable man-to-man defensive principles.

Specifically violations fall into one of the four categories listed below:

- i. One or more player(s) was/were not in an acceptable man-to-man defensive position in relation to their man and the ball.
 - ii. A cutter moved all the way through the key and was not defended using acceptable man-to-man defensive techniques – for example, bumped, switched or followed.
 - iii. Following a trapping or help and recover situation, the team made no attempt to re-establish man-to-man defensive positioning.
 - iv. The team zone pressed and did not assume man-to-man defensive positioning once the ball had been advanced into the quarter court.
- c. Notes for observers – in any judgement
 - i. Take into account the intention of the defensive team.
 - ii. Take into account the time and the state of the game.
 - iii. Deliberate and pre-meditated use of zone defence at a critical time in a game should be acted upon immediately.
 - iv. Where there is any doubt, the benefit of doubt must be given to the defence, i.e. be sure of the violation.
 - v. If a zone is in effect, observer must warn the head coach and call an official's time-out to allow the coach to notify their players.



d. Who can enforce penalties for playing zones?

Neutral observer(s) who are qualified to determine whether or not a zone is in place, such as a BNSW Official, Court Supervisor or Referee Supervisor.

e. Automated Camera Technology

- i. BNSW reserves the right to review game footage, and may declare a forfeit if a team is found to have consistently employed a zone defence.

f. Implementing Penalty

- i. Warning.
- ii. 1st Violation – if a coach is found to be using a zone defence after the warning, the Court Supervisor or BNSW representative, they are to approach the Scoretable Chairman for an official's time-out to stop the game.
- iii. The referees are then informed that a violation of the NO ZONE RULE has been detected.
- iv. The offending coach is then informed and subsequently charged with a Technical Foul.
- v. 2nd Violation – if a coach is found to be using a zone defence for the second time during a game, the Court Supervisor or BNSW representative is to approach the Scoretable Chairman for an official's time-out to stop the game.
- vi. The referees are then informed that a second violation of the NO ZONE RULE has been detected.
- vii. The offending coach is then informed and subsequently charged with a second and disqualifying Technical Foul and will be required to leave the playing area.

50.3. Mercy Rule

Once the game has entered the second half and the score differential reaches 30 or more points, the following may/will occur:

- a. Only referees are authorised to instruct the scoretable regarding the mercy rule. Coaches must communicate all requests for the mercy rule through a referee.
- b. U12s
 - i. The game will now automatically become a “running clock”, the clock will only stop for time-outs and fouled out players.
 - ii. If the margin between the two teams reduces to 20 point or fewer, the game will revert back to being a “fully timed” game and the clock will stop as per the normal game rules.
- c. U14s (All other Leagues), U16s & U18s
 - i. The losing coach may invoke the mercy rule, the game will now become a “running clock”, and the clock will only stop for time-outs and fouled out players.
 - ii. If the margin between the two teams reduces to 15 point or fewer, the game will revert back to being a “fully timed” game and the clock will stop as per the normal game rules.

The Mercy Rule does not apply to the Waratah State Championships.

50.4. Coach

Only one coach (either the Head Coach or an Assistant Coach) is permitted to stand at any given time during Waratah Junior representative basketball games; all other coaching staff must remain seated on the bench.



50.5. Disruption of game

- a. Aerosol horns, drums, pool noodles, whistles, vuvuzelas and megaphones may disrupt games and are not permitted at League games. Streamers, feather boas, pom poms and other material items that could cause excessive mess are also not permitted.
- b. Other noisemakers such as party horns and percussion instruments are conditionally permitted into the venue subject to the game technical officials being able to effectively officiate the match. Should the use of these items interfere with the audibility of game calls, the Referee may stop the match and request their use be discontinued or removed via the Supervisor and/or BNSW representative.

50.6. Respect the Game

In 2026 BNSW introduced its respect campaign called, “Respect the Game”.

Which consists of a number of elements, those being:

- a. Education
- b. Awareness
- c. Zero Tolerance
- d. Reinforcement
- e. Review

In regard to point Zero Tolerance, the BNSW Disciplinary Committee has the right to overrule these Rules of Operation and enforce further penalties for continued breaches of the “Respect the Game” campaign, e.g. loss of competition points, or even expulsion from the League.

In regard to point reinforcement, each month BNSW will publish a story to highlight any matters that have occurred, and penalties issued, Associations will be named in these reports.

There are NO grounds for appeal for penalties issued under the “Respect the Game” campaign.

51. HOME TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES

51.1. Definition – Host Association

The host Association is the BNSW affiliated Association responsible for managing the venue operations and game day delivery for all Junior Waratah League fixtures conducted at that venue.

51.2. General Responsibilities

The Host Association is responsible for ensuring that all venue, staffing and game day requirements contained within these Rules of Operation are met for all fixtures conducted at its venue.

Without limiting the above, the Host Association must ensure:

- a. Court Supervisor requirements are complied with in accordance with Rule 51.3;
- b. Referee Supervisor appointments are made in accordance with Rule 39.8;
- c. Venue safety, medical and equipment requirements are maintained in accordance with Rule 28;
- d. The venue is opened and operational no less than forty-five (45) minutes prior to the first scheduled game; and
- e. The playing area remains free from obstructions that may interfere with play or create a safety risk.



51.3. Court Supervisor Responsibilities

Court Supervisors act on behalf of BNSW and are required to:

- a. Manage digital game results by ensuring that all scores are uploaded via Basketball Connect either:
 - i. Immediately following each game, or
 - ii. At the conclusion of the final game of the day.
- b. Submit game day paperwork, including:
 - i. Referee payment forms,
 - ii. Behavioural incident reports, via email to BNSW by the conclusion of the round, with originals to be mailed within five (5) business days.
- c. Enforce the BNSW Zero Tolerance Policy, taking immediate action to address inappropriate conduct by any player, coach, spectator, or official.
- d. Be available to call emergency services (e.g., ambulance), when required.
- e. Wear a clearly visible BNSW Court Supervisor vest at all times for identification.

51.4. Technical Issues – Basketball Connect

In the event of technical difficulties with the Basketball Connect platform:

- a. The Court Supervisor must immediately contact BNSW to attempt to resolve the issue.
- b. If the issue cannot be resolved, the host Association must revert to manual scoresheets, and:
 - i. Manually enter results via the competition website;
 - ii. Scan and email all paperwork (scoresheets, referee reports, etc.) to their Junior League Competition Coordinator by the end of the day.

51.5. Incident Reporting Requirements

In the event of any of the following, the Court Supervisor must scan and email all relevant paperwork to the Junior League Competition Coordinator immediately after the conclusion of the game:

- a. Any player disqualified from the game (including technical foul disqualifications);
- b. Any coach disqualified from the game;
- c. Any significant incident involving unacceptable behaviour, injuries, or venue disruption.

51.6. Non-Compliance

Failure to meet the responsibilities outlined in this Rule may result in:

- a. Relocation of scheduled or future fixtures to alternative venues;
- b. Suspension or removal of the host Association's venue from future Junior Waratah League consideration;
- c. Additional disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by BNSW.

52. TEAM BENCHES

52.1. Bench Allocation

Team A on the draw shall sit on the left-hand side of the scoretable, with Team B on the right-hand side, and warm up at the basket in front of their respective bench.

The sides of the scoretable are determined from the perspective of the scoretable facing the court and shall remain constant unless otherwise directed.



52.2. Bench Occupancy

During a game, the Team bench may only be occupied by the Coach, Assistant Coaches, Players (including non-playing Players), Team Manager and other Team Staff, to a maximum of sixteen (16) seats.

All persons occupying the Team bench must be registered in accordance with Part 4 – Team and Player Administration.

53. SPECTATOR CONDUCT

- a. Spectators will understand as a Condition of Entry that they may be asked to leave the venue by either the Court Supervisor, venue management, security or BNSW Staff. This Condition of Entry must be displayed at the ticket office and/or at entry.
- b. If a referee believes that a spectator's behaviour is inappropriate and worthy of a caution, then they will inform the Court Supervisor to issue the spectator with a warning. If the same spectator continues to act in a like manner, they will be ejected by the Court Supervisor at the direction of the referee.

The referee shall then lodge an incident report to the League on the spectator's offences.

- c. If a referee believes that a spectator's behaviour is reportable, they should inform the Court Supervisor to automatically eject that person from the stadium and make a report to the Tribunal.

The referee shall then lodge an incident report to the League on the spectator's offences.

- d. Any spectator who intentionally makes inappropriate, unwanted, or non-consensual physical contact with a referee before, during or after a game must be immediately removed from the venue by the Court Supervisor or their representative and may be referred to the BNSW Tribunal or other appropriate disciplinary process.
- e. In accordance with Basketball Australia's Courtsiding Policy, posters stating that courtsiding is prohibited must be displayed and anyone engaging in courtsiding must be asked to leave the venue immediately by the Game Commissioner.
- f. Any spectator incidents will be referred to the BNSW Disciplinary Committee as part of our rules, 50 and 50.6 Respect the Game.

54. COMPETITION LADDER

54.1. Regular Season

- a. For the purpose of displaying each competition's ladder during the regular Season:
 - i. If no forfeit has occurred, Teams shall be placed in order of competition points record or
 - ii. If a forfeit has occurred, the team that has forfeited will be awarded a loss and the non forfeiting team will be awarded a win with a 20-0 scoreline.
- b. If two (2) or more Teams have the competition points as appropriate, the ladder order of the tied Teams will be determined by the Teams' points differential.

54.2. Competition points will be awarded as follows:

- Two (2) points for a win
- One (1) point for a loss
- Nil (0) points for a forfeit



54.3. End of Regular Season

- 54.3.1. If a team has forfeited a game throughout the season and finishes on equal points with the team(s) it forfeited against, it will receive the lowest ranking of these 2 or more teams that are tied, irrespective of results between the teams concerned.
- 54.3.2. If 2 or more teams have the same amount of competition points of all games in the group, the game(s) between these 2 or more teams shall decide on the classification. If the 2 or more teams have the same win-loss record of the games between them, further criteria will be applied in the following order.
- Higher point difference of the games between them.
 - Higher number of points scored in the games between them.
 - Higher point difference of all games in the group.
 - Higher number of points scored in all games in the group.
- If these criteria still cannot decide, a draw shall decide on the classification.
- 54.3.3. If at any level of these criteria one or more team(s) can be classified, the procedure of 54.3 shall be repeated from the beginning for all the remaining teams not classified yet.
- BNSW adopts FIBA's rules and procedures to determine the standings when more than 2 teams finish on equal points.

55. DISQUALIFIED AND EJECTED PLAYERS OR COACHES

55.1. Disqualified Players or Coaches

- 55.1.1. When a disqualifying foul is imposed on any player, coach or team official or they are removed from the game, a report must be submitted on the incident by the referee or game official before leaving the venue. The report is to be forwarded to BNSW by email (to your respective League Competition Coordinator) with the originals posted by first available mailing date. Child protection issues may be dealt with separately and/or in a different format.
- 55.1.2. Any player, coach, team official or person associated with any team or Association may be reported by either an official of an Association participating in the competition, a BNSW staff member, or anyone appointed by BNSW, for actions deemed inappropriate which have brought the game or the sport into disrepute.
- 55.1.3. When an official reports a person, it is the responsibility of the host Association supervisor to ensure that the reported person or their Association representative has been made aware of the report.

55.2. Administration of a disqualified participant

- 55.2.1. The host Association is required to contact the BNSW office with the details of the charge at the first available opportunity after the incident.
- 55.2.2. Where teams play more than one game for the weekend (central venue round), the referee or Court Supervisor must contact BNSW immediately for further advice, BNSW will advise if the disqualified person can continue to participate. This may depend on the nature of the charges and any previous history.
- 55.2.3. Tribunals may be organised in the following week.
- 55.2.4. The BNSW Disciplinary Tribunal By-Laws will apply.



PART **7** – GENERAL PROVISIONS



PART 7 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

56. AUSTRALIAN U14 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

56.1. Basketball Australia allocates the number of teams each State is entitled to on an annual basis. This allocation is done based upon the results of the previous year's Australian U14 Club Championships.

To qualify for Australian U14 Club Championships, teams must be NSW Association based, that compete in the Waratah State Championships.

4 teams

1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th from Waratah State Championships

5 teams

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th from Waratah State Championships

6 teams

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th from Waratah State Championships

Should ACT finish in an Australian U14 Club Championships qualifying position in any of these scenarios, then BNSW may require a challenge game to be played to determine the appropriate NSW Association teams to qualify. This game will be played on the final day of Waratah State Championships Finals (State Championships).

Waratah State Championships Associations have agreed to determine the qualifying teams after the completion of the regular season.

56.2. Seeding of teams

Where the calendar and scheduling permits, seeding may be determined at the Waratah State Championships Finals. If the schedule does not permit, then paper seeding may be utilised.



SCHEDULE 1 – STANDARD OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

The penalties listed below represent the standard penalties for each offence. BNSW and/or the League Competition Coordinator reserve the right to impose a lesser or greater penalty having regard to the severity, frequency, and circumstances of the breach.

Offence	Penalty (per offence)
Unacceptable behaviour towards BNSW Staff. Any abusive, offensive, or threatening communication directed at staff members will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to: • Abusive, aggressive, or offensive emails. • Abusive, aggressive, or offensive text messages. • Abusive, aggressive, or offensive phone calls.	• Immediate termination of the call, meeting, or communication. • Issue of a formal written warning. • Suspension of services or participation privileges. • Escalation to BNSW's Disciplinary Committee, which may include suspension or expulsion from programs and events.
Administrative and procedural fines	\$150
Forfeit	\$300
Change to fixture (central venues)	\$50
Appeal	\$100 bond
Conduct Detrimental to the League	Subject to the outcome of the BNSW Tribunal Hearing
League finance	
Failure to provide a copy of an Association budget on request	\$150
Withdrawing a team PRIOR to the nomination deadline	NIL
Withdrawing a team AFTER the nomination deadline	Nomination fee
Withdrawing a team AFTER the draw is published online	\$1,000
Withdrawing a team DURING the competition	\$1,200
Forfeits (per game)	\$300
Failure to attend League Finals or State Cup	\$1,000
Playing uniform not displaying the League logo	\$50 (per uniform)
Playing an Ineligible, Restricted, Unregistered, Uncleared or Finals-Ineligible Player	Forfeit if game won and/or \$250 if game lost
Unregistered Coach, Assistant Coach or other Team Staff	\$200
Spectator conduct	Subject to the outcome of the BNSW Disciplinary Committee



SCHEDULE 2 – UNIFORM STYLE GUIDE AND APPROVAL REQUIREMENTS

1. UNIFORM APPROVAL

Associations wishing to introduce a new playing uniform, or make changes to an existing approved uniform, must obtain written approval from BNSW before the uniform is manufactured, ordered or worn in any League fixture.

This includes any change to the uniform design, colour palette, logos, player numbering or manufacturer. Proposed uniforms must be submitted to the relevant League Competition Coordinator and the Head of Leagues and Competitions for approval, including details of all proposed changes.

BNSW approval is required to ensure playing uniforms comply with these Rules of Operation and the current FIBA Official Basketball Rules.

2. UNIFORM DESIGN STANDARDS

2.1. Colour Palette

- a. Playing shirts and shorts should be the same dominant colour.
- b. Where shorts are a different colour to the playing shirt, prior written approval must be obtained from BNSW.
- c. Each team must have two (2) approved playing uniform sets available for every game.
- d. The alternate uniform must be the opposite colour palette to the primary uniform.
- e. Where the primary uniform is predominantly dark, the alternate uniform should be predominantly light in colour, preferably white.

2.2. Player Numbers

Each player must wear a clearly visible number on the front and back of the playing singlet.

Player numbers must:

- a. contrast clearly with the colour of the playing singlet;
- b. comply with the current FIBA Official Basketball Rules;
- c. be unique within the team; and
- d. allow all players to be readily identified by referees, Technical Officials and spectators.

Any sponsor, manufacturer or Association logo must be positioned in accordance with the current FIBA Official Basketball Rules.



3. LEAGUE BRANDING

3.1. Waratah Junior League

The official Waratah League logo must appear on both the playing shirt and playing shorts. The logo must be displayed on the front left of each garment and must not exceed 32 cm² in size.

4. UNIFORM SPONSORS

Sponsor logos are permitted on League playing uniforms, provided their size and placement comply with the current FIBA requirements. Associations must notify BNSW of any sponsor logos they propose to include on their playing uniforms and obtain written approval from BNSW prior to production.

Sponsors must be appropriate for junior sporting competitions.

Without limitation, sponsorship from the following categories will not be approved:

- a. Tobacco;
- b. Alcohol;
- c. Gambling;
- d. Adult products or services; or
- e. Any other organisation considered unsuitable by BNSW.

BNSW reserves the right to refuse any proposed sponsor that is inconsistent with the values, image or objectives of the League.

5. VISUAL GUIDE

The visual guide contained in this Schedule forms part of these Rules of Operation and is provided to assist Associations in complying with the uniform requirements outlined above.

5.1. PLAYING SHIRTS

Playing Shirts (Front) Regulations

- 5.1.1. Playing shirts must conform to the Official Basketball Rules.
- 5.1.2. The front of the playing shirt shall conform to the following provisions:
 - a. **Manufacturer's Trademark:** provided that it occupies an area of maximum twenty (20) cm².
 - b. **FIBA or Competition Logo (portrait version):** Must appear on the front of the playing shirt; it will be provided by FIBA and its size may change at FIBA's discretion (approx. 32 cm²).
 - c. **Player's Number:** Must appear and be clearly visible. It must have a height of minimum ten (10) cm and must be placed below the association name or badge, at a distance of five (5) cm. Any other markings on the front of the playing shirt must be at a distance of minimum five (5) cm from the player's number.

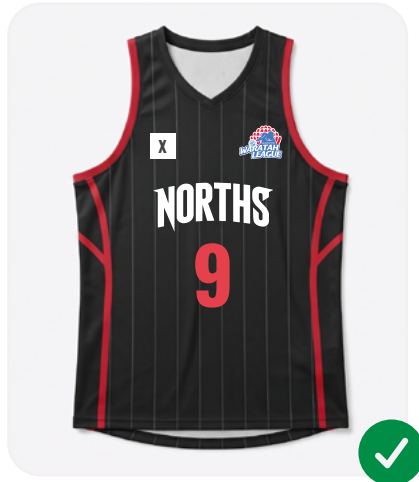


- d. **Association Name:** Must appear, and an additional country badge/symbol may appear, on the front of the playing shirts as follows:
- Position:** Above the player's number.
 - Letter Height:** If the written text comprises one (1) line, the letters shall be of maximum eight (8) cm in height; if the written text comprises two (2) lines, the letters on each line shall be of maximum six (6) cm in height. In case of doubt or controversy regarding the name of the country to appear on the uniform, FIBA shall decide.
- e. **Sponsor Advertising:** Permitted as follows:
- Size:** The written text or the sponsor's logo must occupy an area of maximum three hundred and twenty (320) cm².
 - Position:** Must be placed below the player's number.



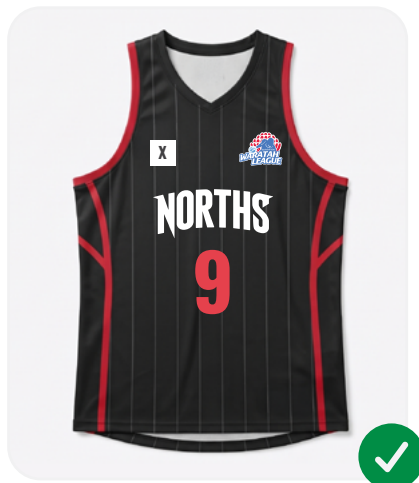


Front Layout Guidelines & Rules



Manufacturer Trademark Position

The manufacturer's trademark is optional and shall be placed on the top left corner of the uniform.



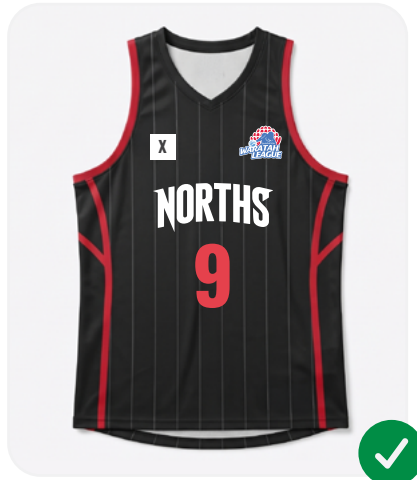
FIBA / Competition Logo Position

The FIBA or competition logo is mandatory and shall be placed on the top right corner of the uniform.



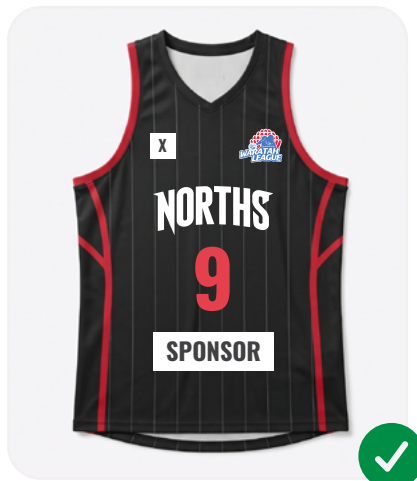
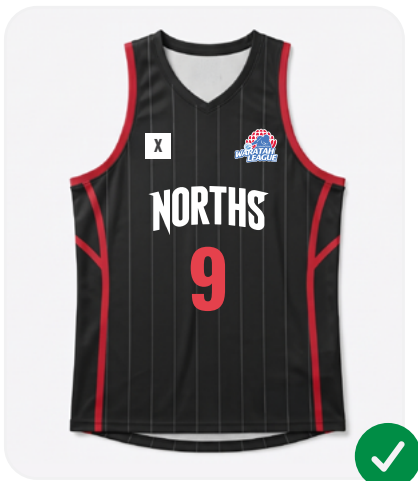
Association Name Position

The association name is mandatory and shall be placed in the center of the uniform, above the player's number.



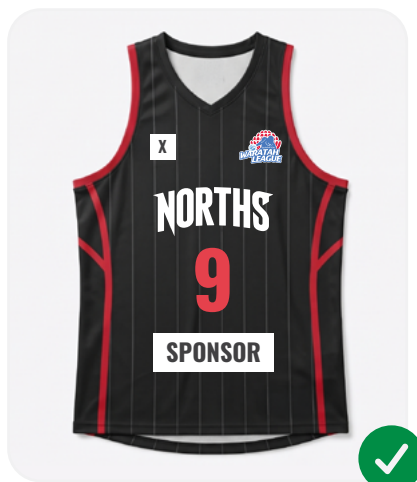
Player Number Position

The player's number is mandatory and shall be placed in the centre of the uniform, below the association name.



Sponsorship Advertising Position

Sponsorship advertising is optional and shall be placed in the center of the uniform, below the player's number.



Sponsorship Spot Limit

Only one (1) sponsor advertising spot is allowed on the front of the playing shirt.



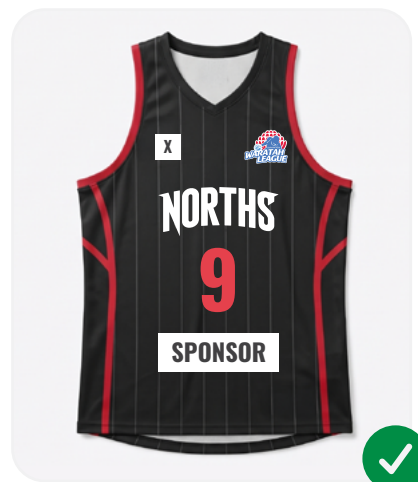
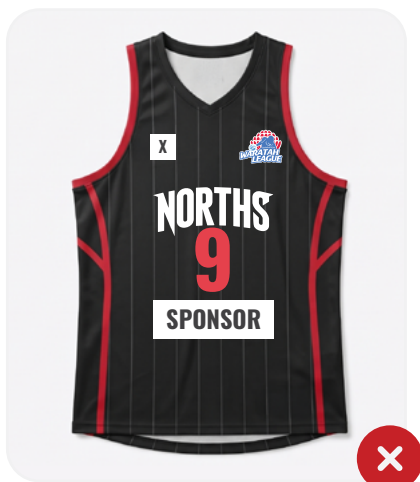
Sponsor Logo Consistency

Sponsor's logo on the front side of the playing shirt shall be the same in both the light and dark colored uniforms.



Uniform Marks Consistency

All marks on the front of the playing shirt shall be the same in both the light and dark colored uniforms.



Clear Zone

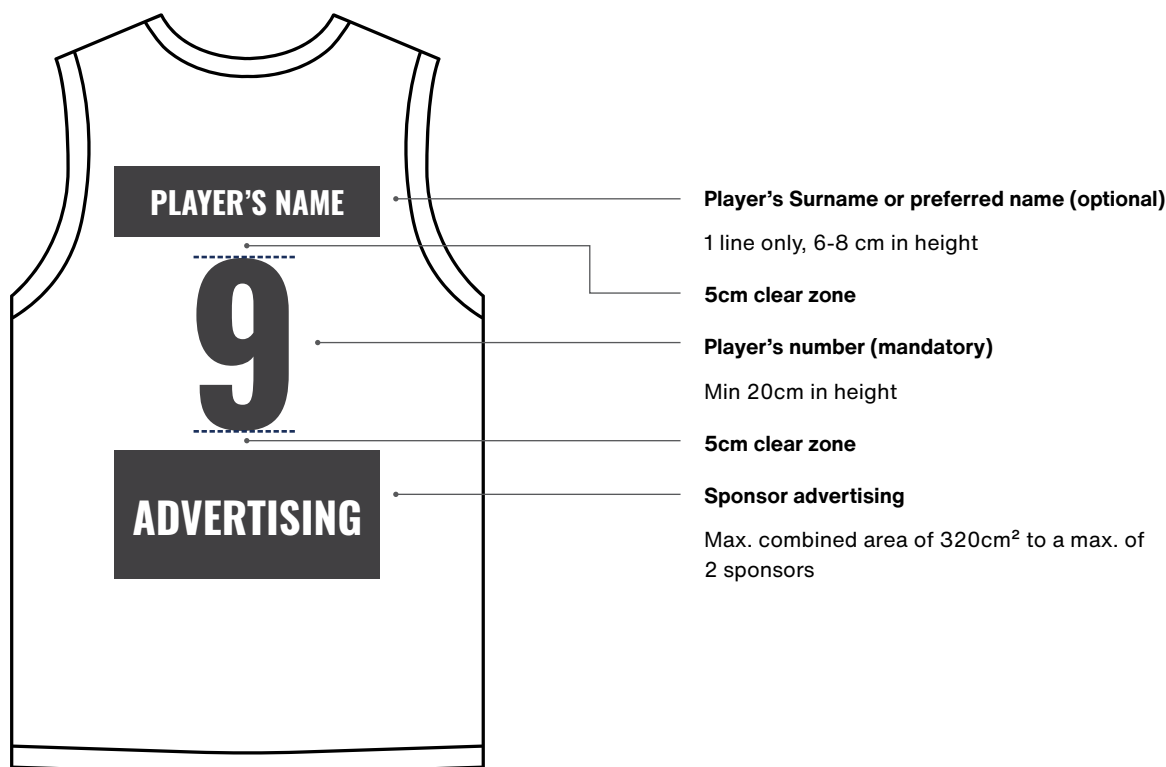
There shall be a clear zone of at least 5 cm between the association name and the player's number, and between the player's number and the advertising spot on the front of the playing shirt.



Playing Shirts (Back) Regulations

5.1.3. The back of the playing shirt shall conform with the following provisions:

- a. **Player's Name:** The player's name (surname or preferred name) is optional and it should appear above the player's number and shall comprise only one (1) line of text. The height of the writing must be of minimum six (6) cm and maximum eight (8) cm. In case of doubt or controversy regarding the name of the player to appear on the uniform, FIBA shall decide.
- b. **Player's Number:** Must appear and be clearly visible; it shall have a height of minimum twenty (20) cm; any other markings on the back of the playing shirt must be at a distance of minimum five (5) cm from the player's number.
- c. **Sponsor Advertising:** Permitted provided that it occupies an area of maximum three hundred and twenty (320) cm². The advertising space shall be used as follows:
 - i. **Option 1:** In one (1) block of maximum three hundred and twenty (320) cm² with one (1) sponsor's written text or logo; or
 - ii. **Option 2:** Split into two (2) different sponsors' written text or logos, provided that the combined total size does not exceed three hundred and twenty (320) cm².
- d. **Advertising Position:** In both options, any advertising logo(s) must be placed below the player's number.
- e. **Restrictions:** No other marking is permitted on the back of the playing shirt.



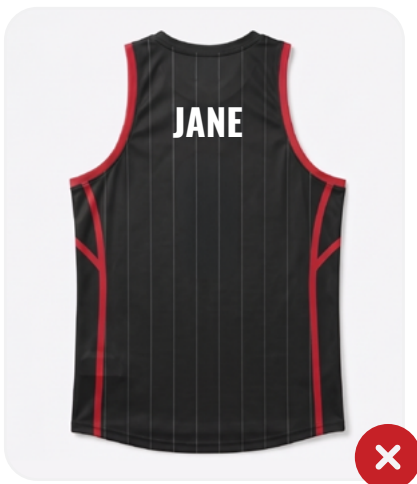


Back Layout Guidelines & Rules



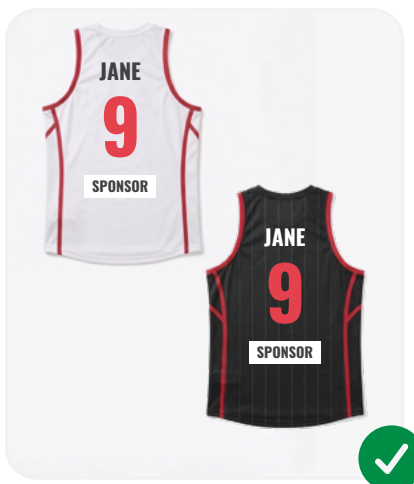
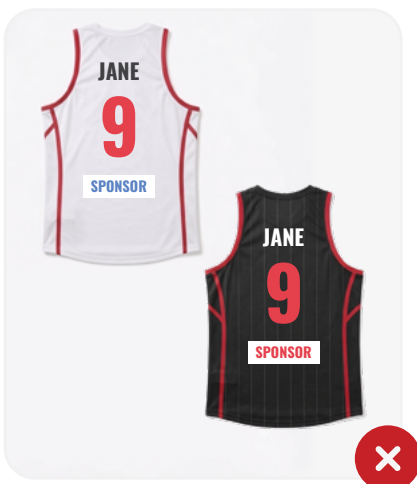
Player Name Position

The player's name is optional on the back of the playing shirt and shall be located above the player's number.



Player Number Position

The player's number is mandatory on the back of the playing shirt and shall be clearly visible and located below the player's name.



Sponsor Logo Consistency

Sponsor logo(s) on the back side of the playing shirt shall be the same on both the light and dark uniforms.



Sponsorship Spot Limit

A maximum of two (2) sponsor advertising spots are allowed on the back of the playing shirt.



Manufacturer TM Restriction

The manufacturer's trademark is not allowed on the back of the playing shirt.



FIBA / Competition Logo Restriction

The FIBA or competition logo is not allowed on the back of the playing shirt.

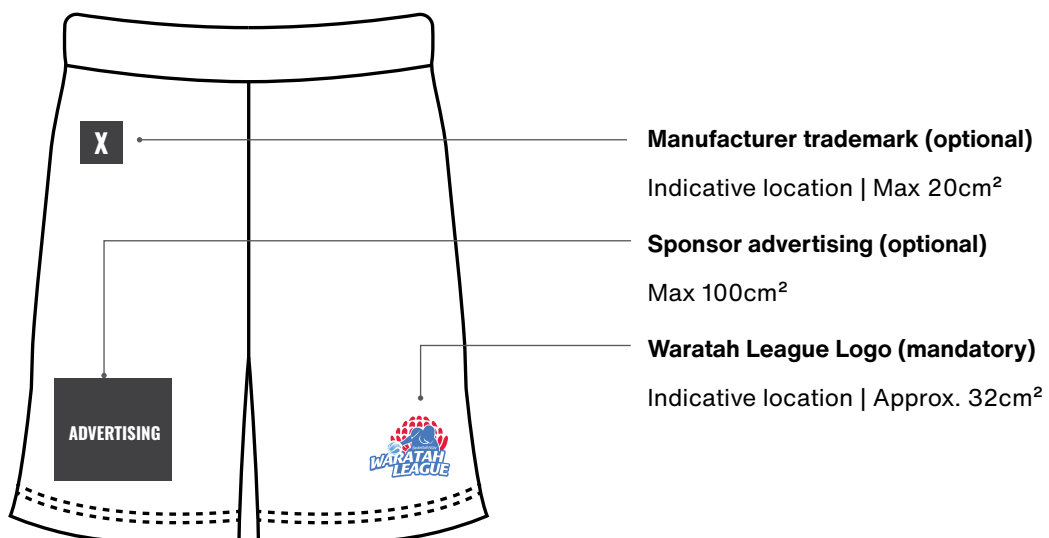
**Clear Zone**

There shall be a clear zone of at least 5 cm between the player's name and the player's number, and between the player's number and the advertising spot on the back of the playing shirt.

5.2. PLAYING SHORTS

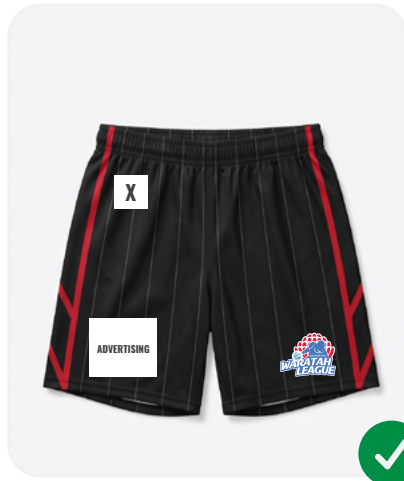
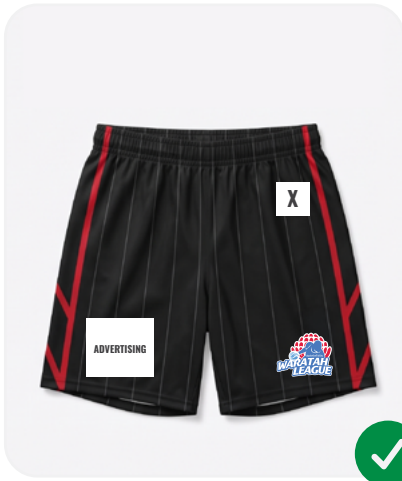
Playing Shorts Regulations

- 5.2.1. Playing shorts must conform to the Official Basketball Rules (Article 4.3).
- 5.2.2. Playing shorts shall conform to the following provisions:
 - a. **Manufacturer's Trademark:** May appear once, provided that it occupies an area of maximum twenty (20) cm².
 - b. **Sponsor Advertising:** Advertising of only one (1) sponsor is permitted on the front of the shorts, on the right leg, provided that the sponsor's written text or logo occupies an area of maximum one hundred (100) cm².
 - c. **Sponsor Variation:** The sponsor advertised may be different from those advertised on the playing shirt.
 - d. **Additional Markings:** No other markings may be placed in this area.
 - e. **Player's Number Restriction:** For the avoidance of doubt, the player's number is not permitted on the shorts.
 - f. **Association Name Integration:** The association name may be integrated as part of the design of the shorts, subject to FIBA approval.



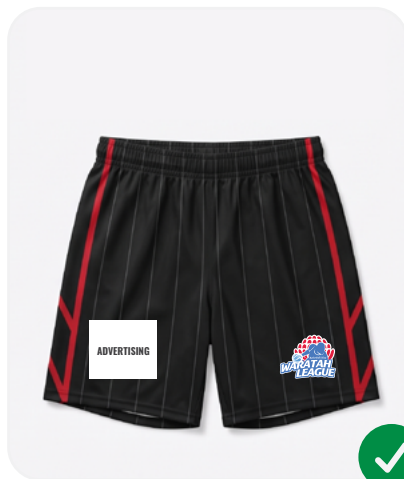


Shorts Layout Guidelines & Rules



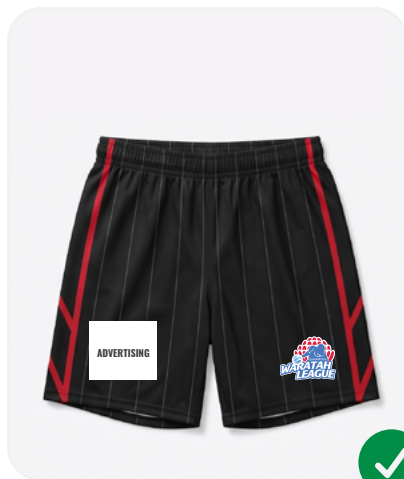
Manufacturer Trademark

The manufacturer's trademark is optional on the front of the playing shorts (Max 20 cm²).



FIBA / Competition Logo

The FIBA or competition logo is mandatory on the front of the playing shorts. It must occupy an area of approx. 32 cm² and be placed on the front left leg of the shorts.



Sponsor Advertising Position & Size

A maximum of one (1) sponsor advertising spot is allowed on the front of the playing shorts and shall be placed on the front right leg of the shorts (Max 100 cm²).



Sponsor Selection

The sponsor might be different from the one advertised on the playing shirt.



Player Number Restriction

The player's number is not allowed on the playing shorts in any position.

#WEARENSW



Basketball NSW acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout New South Wales and their connections to land, sea and community in which we gather, meet and play. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.



Basketball NSW is a proudly diverse organisation, we actively celebrate LGBTIQ+ diversity and inclusion. Basketball is everyone's game!



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