



**COBRAS**

# 2024 CESSNOCK COBRAS JUNIOR REP

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Cessnock Basketball runs a representative basketball program for the juniors of Cessnock with aspirations to compete at a higher level. Our Cessnock Cobras representative teams compete in Basketball NSW competitions, plus a range of preseason events.

### SEASON OVERVIEW

- September – Trial and team selections
- October-February – Pre-season
- March-June – Regular season
- July – Finals

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## TRIALS

Cessnock Basketball will hold its junior rep trials on Friday, the 22nd of September and Sunday, the 24th of September.

- U12 Boys (born 2013 or 2014) – Friday, September 22nd 5:00 – 6:00 pm, and Sunday, September 24th, 3:00 – 4:00 pm
- U14 Boys (born 2011 or 2012) – Friday, September 22nd, 5:00 – 6:00 pm, and Sunday, September 24th, 3:00 – 4:00 pm
- U16 Boys (born 2009 or 2010) – Friday, September 22nd, 6:00 – 7:00 pm, and Sunday, September 24th, 4:00 – 5:00 pm
- U18 Boys (born 2007 or 2008) – Friday, September 22nd 6:00 – 7:00 pm, and Sunday, September 24th, 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Players can register for the trials at <https://www.cessnockbasketball.com.au/rep-trials/>.

Cessnock Basketball will select up to two teams (Div 1 and Div 2) in each age group. Teams will consist of a maximum of 10 players. Each team may select up to two development players.

Cessnock will select players using the following criteria:

- Potential to compete at a higher level.
- Athletic ability.
- Desire and commitment to working hard to improve basketball skills.
- Be receptive to coaching.
- Ability to perform within a team environment.
- Demonstrated commitment to the Cessnock Cobras representative program.

Subjectivity is an unavoidable element of the selection process. Team selection is based on these criteria with consideration to the balance and makeup of the team.

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It is an expectation that all athletes attend all trials if aiming for selection. However, any player who believes they have a legitimate reason for being unable to participate may appeal (send appeals to [rep@cessnockbasketball.com.au](mailto:rep@cessnockbasketball.com.au)) to be considered in the selection process. Cessnock Basketball reserves the right to consider each case on its merits, and the decision of Cessnock Basketball will be final.

In exceptional circumstances where Cessnock Basketball deems that changes benefit the representative basketball program, Cessnock Basketball may decide to add additional players after the selection process.

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## GAMES

Teams will compete at the Central Coast Basketball Coastal Classic preseason tournament. Dates are to be confirmed, but this is expected to be the last weekend of the Christmas School Holidays (end of January).

Coaches may arrange one-off preseason games against nearby associations such as Maitland, Newcastle, and Central Coast.

Teams will compete in the 2024 Spalding Waratah North-Eastern Junior League (NEJL). Tentative dates follow.

### NEJL U16s & U18s

- Round 1.1 – 9th & 10th March
- Round 2.1 – 6th & 7th April
- Round 3.1 – 18th & 19th May
- Round 4.1 – 29th & 30th June

### NEJL U12s & U14s

- Round 1.2 – 16th & 17th March
- Round 2.2 – 27th & 28th April
- Round 3.2 – 1st & 2nd June
- Round 4.2 – 22nd & 23rd June

### NEJL ALL AGES

- Finals – 27th & 28th July

Teams will compete at the John Martin Country Tournament (JMCT), June Long Weekend, 10th – 12th of June. Again schedule, venues and acceptance are to be confirmed by Basketball NSW.

NEJL and JMCT venues will be determined, but travel will be required. In 2023, teams travelled to Port Macquarie, Tamworth, Maitland, Newcastle, and the Central Coast.

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## TRAINING

Player attendance and participation in training sessions are essential. **Training sessions are compulsory**, and players unable to commit to training should not commit to being a Cessnock Cobra.

Each team will have 1–2 weekly training sessions (dates and times to be advised). Extra training sessions may be scheduled, especially leading up to finals.

If a player cannot attend a training session for any reason, parents should give advanced notification to the team coach.

Injured players should attend training sessions to learn from watching and listening.

Players should arrive at training at least 10 minutes before the start time, be in the correct training uniform, and be warmed up and ready to go when the session begins.

Specialised intensive skills and strength and training sessions will be arranged throughout the season. These sessions may incur an extra cost. While not compulsory, players are strongly encouraged to attend these sessions.

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## LEVIES

Player levies help contribute to the costs, training fees and equipment associated with the Cessnock Cobras junior representative basketball program. Cessnock Basketball subsidises the program to help make representative basketball more accessible for our juniors. Player levies contribute to:

- Coastal Classic preseason tournament fees.
- BNSW North-Eastern Junior League nomination, game and association fees.
- BNSW John Martin Country Tournament fees.
- Referee fees and travel.
- Court hire fees for training.
- Team equipment.
- Presentation night.

Levies will be payable in instalments during the season.

### PLAYER LEVY

The levy is \$750, payable in three instalments. The first instalment of \$150 is due by the 1st of October, 2023, to confirm a player's place in the 2024 Cessnock Cobras Junior Representative program. The second instalment of \$300 is due by the 12th of January, 2024. The third instalment of \$300 is expected by the 8th of March, 2024.

### DEVELOPMENT PLAYER LEVY

The levy for development players is \$250, payable in two instalments. The first instalment of \$150 is due by the 1st of October, 2023. The second instalment of \$100 is expected by the 12th of January, 2024.

### BNSW MEMBERSHIP

Players must have an up-to-date BNSW membership to participate in BNSW-endorsed competitions.

### HARDSHIP

Cases of financial hardship can be brought to Cessnock Basketball's attention so that payment options can be discussed and agreed upon. Any requests will be dealt with in confidence and on a case-by-case basis. Please get in touch with the Treasurer ([treasurer@cessnockbasketball.com.au](mailto:treasurer@cessnockbasketball.com.au)).

Players with an outstanding levy from a previous season will be deemed non-financial. They will not be permitted to represent the Cessnock Cobras or play in the Cessnock Basketball local competition. Nor will they be given a clearance to play at any other Association.

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## UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

All players are expected to be in full uniform. It is the responsibility of the individual to purchase these items.

Compulsory uniform items must be ordered soon to ensure they arrive at the beginning of the season. Further information on how to order will be provided as soon as possible.

All players should have a Cessnock Basketball reversible singlet. This will be the player's training uniform.

A guide on costs follows.

- Reversible playing singlet - \$55 (compulsory)
- Playing shorts - \$45 (compulsory)
- Cessnock Basketball reversible singlet - \$50 (compulsory)
- Short sleeve warm-up top - \$50 (optional)
- Long sleeve warm-up top - \$60 (optional)
- Cessnock Basketball t-shirt - \$30 (optional)
- Cessnock Basketball hoodie - \$60 (optional)
- Polo shirt - \$50 (optional)

Cessnock Cobras players, coaches and volunteers should be in Cessnock Basketball branded tops (hoodies, warm-up tops, t-shirts, or polos) when coming to and from games. These should be their outermost layer of clothing. This helps build our culture and professionally represent Cessnock Basketball.

Uniforms can be ordered at <https://www.cessnockbasketball.com.au/cobras-uniforms/>.



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## PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents will be required to help with score table duty on a rotational basis on competition weekends.

For further information on how to help with score table duty, please visit our website <https://www.cessnockbasketball.com.au/scoretable>.

It is essential that parents support the coach. Coaches have to make hard daily decisions concerning the welfare of the association, the team and individual players. Unless parents demonstrate 100% faith in their child's coach, it is unlikely that the child will develop and progress as they should.

We do encourage parents to be vocal in support of our teams. However, please do not comment negatively on the opposition, the referees or other team members. Without these parties, we don't have a game. At the core of Cessnock Basketball are positive players and positive parents.

If you wish to discuss any issues with the coach, please get in touch with your team manager to arrange a meeting with the coach. Approaching the coach before, during or immediately following a training session or game weekend is inappropriate unless it has been previously arranged and agreed upon.

If your issue cannot be resolved with the coach, concerns should be placed in writing and emailed to the Cessnock Basketball Board ([board@cessnockbasketball.com.au](mailto:board@cessnockbasketball.com.au)).

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## COURT TIME

Representative basketball is an elite program. **Playing time is never guaranteed.** Playing time is guided by the level of competition, the role of the player in each game, and the importance of the game.

For disciplinary reasons, a coach may reduce court time if a player:

- does not attend all training sessions;
- is not punctual for all training sessions and games;
- does not give 100% effort at training sessions and matches;
- is disruptive at training sessions or games;
- displays poor sportsmanship towards the coach, other players, officials, or spectators; or
- is found to be behaving in a manner that will negatively affect the reputation of Cessnock Basketball Association.

Coaches and Cessnock Basketball may also demote a player to a lower division team or remove a player from the Cessnock Cobras representative program for disciplinary reasons.

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## CESSNOCK BASKETBALL LOCAL COMPETITION

A competitive representative program is built from a healthy local competition. Cessnock Cobras representative players are expected to continue to participate in the Cessnock Basketball local competition to be eligible to play representative basketball.

Coaches may enter their team in the local competition to aid with team development. It is an expectation that players participate if this happens.

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## REPRESENTATIVE PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT AND BEHAVIOUR FORM

Selection to the Cessnock Cobras Representative Program is a privilege not to be taken lightly. It reflects high individual skills or the potential to develop them. It also implies a sound understanding of the positive philosophies of development, teamwork and sportsmanship required for a successful program.

This agreement defines the minimum standard of performance and behaviour expected of all participants.

All players, families, officials and spectators must abide by the Codes of Conduct adopted by Cessnock Basketball and BNSW and the Zero Tolerance Policies for all competitions.

1. I understand and accept that participation in Cessnock Basketball and BNSW-conducted events is a privilege and honour. I always agree to maintain the highest standard of effort, performance and behaviour.
2. I accept, without reservation, the appointment to any role of the coaching staff, administrative staff and authorised personnel by Cessnock Basketball and BNSW and agree to abide by any decisions made by those appointed.
3. I understand that my behaviour and performance reflect on Cessnock Basketball and accept the right of Cessnock Basketball to consider further action should I fail to fulfil my obligations under this agreement.
4. I agree without reservation to participate fairly and in a sportsmanlike manner at all times in any fixture and at any venue within the Representative Program, whatever role my participation may take at the time.
5. Considering my team or Cessnock Basketball and BNSW objectives, I understand and accept without reservation that the final decision regarding my participation, in any event, is entirely that of the appointed coach or an authorised representative of Cessnock Basketball.
6. I agree to abide by any rules, policies, by-laws and guidelines governing the operation or administration of the Cessnock Basketball Representative Program, including any rules, policies, by-laws and procedures set forth by BNSW, the governing body of the sport in NSW.
7. I accept that there are risks of injury associated with playing basketball, as with most sports. Dangers will arise in running, jumping, catching, throwing and guarding opposition players. While we aim to minimise risks, it is not possible to eliminate them all.

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8. I understand that I must hold a current registration and compete regularly in the Cessnock Basketball domestic competition, and I am responsible for ensuring my registration is current.
9. I agree to support Cessnock Basketball and BNSW's policy and guidelines of the statutory requirements of the NSW legislation about child protection and Cessnock Basketball and BNSW's sports rage guidelines. For further Child Protection information, please visit [www.dsr.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au), [www.playbytherules.net.au](http://www.playbytherules.net.au) or contact your local Member Protection Officer.
10. I agree to make every effort to meet any conditions or requirements about the administration of my team, including attending all team meetings and training sessions on time.
11. As a parent/guardian of a Representative Program participant, I accept full responsibility for the supervision and welfare of my child before and after training or team meetings and scheduled fixtures.
12. As a parent/guardian of a Representative Program participant, I agree to set an appropriate example of sportsmanship and leadership by being fair and sportsmanlike in my attitude, actions and behaviour. I agree to make every effort to ensure that my attitude, actions, and behaviour are of the highest standards at all times.
13. As a parent/guardian of a Representative Program participant, I agree to share the associated responsibilities and obligations of the team, including transport, fundraising and score bench duties to ensure maximum enjoyment for all and fair contribution by all.
14. I agree to meet all financial obligations as and when they fall due or to communicate any difficulty in meeting them in writing by the specified date.
15. As an official, I agree to perform my duties professionally, with impartiality and courage, to the best of my ability. I undertake to accept criticism of my performance without malice, to help all participants in the game gain a greater understanding of the rules of basketball and their associated spirit, and to always strive for the highest standard of performance on my part.

I have read and understand the guidelines contained within this Representative Agreement. I accept the right of Cessnock Basketball to consider further action should I fail to practice fair sportsmanship or meet my obligations to my team and Cessnock Basketball as outlined in this agreement.

.....  
Player Name

.....  
Parent/Guardian Name

.....  
Player Signature

.....  
Parent/Guardian Signature

.....  
Date

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## ABOUT CESSNOCK BASKETBALL

Cessnock Basketball Association Inc is a not-for-profit organisation with a vision to grow, promote and nurture the love of basketball within the greater Cessnock community. Cessnock Basketball is committed to excellence in providing basketball competitions, training, camps and other programs for boys and girls, men and women of all ages and abilities.

Email: [play@cessnockbasketball.com.au](mailto:play@cessnockbasketball.com.au)

Phone: 0240094060.

Web: <https://www.cessnockbasketball.com.au/>

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/cessnockbasketballassociation>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/cessnockbasketball/>

NSW Incorporation Number: INC2200267

ABN: 23410029321

Registered Trading Names: Cessnock Basketball, Cessnock Cobras

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