

BALLARAT BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (INCORPORATED)

GENERAL BY-LAWS

CONTENTS

BY-LAW	SUBJECT	PAGE
	DISCLAIMER	3
1	INTERPRETATION OF RULES	3
2	AMATEUR LAWS	3
3	CLUB OFFICIALS RECOGNISED BY B.B.A.	3
4	TEAMS AND CLUBS	3
4.1	Team entries	3
4.2	Uniforms	3
4.3	Junior team entries	3
4.4	Grading teams	4
4.5	Withdrawal of teams after publication of draws	4
4.6	Addition of teams after publication of draws	4
4.7	Disbanding of teams	4
4.8	Amalgamation of clubs	4
5	UNIFORMS	4
6	PLAYER AFFILIATION AND INSURANCE REGISTRATION	5
7	HALF-WAY MARK OF SEASON	5
8	ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS	5
8.1	Senior	5
8.2	Social	5
8.3	Junior	6
8.4	Forfeiting a match	6
8.5	Eligibility for finals	6
8.6	Interchange of players	6
8.7	Exceptional circumstances	7
9	INELIGIBLE PLAYERS	7
10	COMPETITION REGULATIONS	7
10.1	Number of players	7
10.2	Late arrivals	7
10.3	Time-outs	7
10.4	Timing rules	7
10.5	Fingernails	8
10.6	Junior "common-sense" condition	8
11	RE-SCHEDULING OF GAMES	8
12	PROTESTS	8
13	SCORETABLE REPRESENTATIVE	8
14	PREMIERSHIP POINTS	9
15	WALKOVERS	9
15.1	Notification of walkovers	9
15.2	Number of walkovers	9
15.3	Forfeiture of match	9
16	FINES PAYMENT	10
17	APPROACHES TO PLAYERS	10
18	CLEARANCES	10
18.1	Lodgement of clearance	10
18.2	Duties of association and clubs on receiving a clearance application	10
18.3	Clearances general	10
18.4	Association clearances	11
19	APPEALS	11
19.1	Appeals	11
19.2	Appeals body	11

	19.3	Method of lodging and dealing with appeals	12
	19.4	Procedures for appeals hearings – (clearances)	12
	19.5	Eligibility to attend appeals (clearances) hearings	12
	19.6	Regulations governing appeals (clearances) hearings	12
20		REGULATIONS DEALING WITH CONDUCT OF PLAYERS	12
	20.1	Tribunal	13
	20.2	Powers and jurisdiction of tribunal	13
	20.3	Reportable offences	13
	20.4	Duties of official making a report	13
	20.5	Duties of the association official on receiving a report	13
	20.6	Eligibility to attend a tribunal	14
	20.7	Procedures of tribunal hearings	14
	20.8	Team reports	15
	20.9	Non-attendance, failure to carry our duties listed	15
	20.10	Penalties	16
	20.11	Appeals against tribunal decisions	16
	20.12	Enforcement of penalties	17
21		REPORTING AN OFFICIAL	17
	21.1	Referees – reporting procedures	17
22		RIGHT OF ENTRY/STADIUM MAMAGERS	17

DISCLAIMER

Because sentences using "he\"she" become cluttered and difficult to understand, "he" has been used to represent both sexes. What is said applies equally to both he and she.

1 INTERPRETATION OF RULES

- 1.1 The Committee of Management shall determine the interpretation of the association rules and shall have the power of deciding, using common sense guidelines, all questions not provided for in the Rules of the Association.

2 AMATEUR LAWS

- 2.1 The amateur laws of the B.B.A. shall be those adopted from time to time by the International Basketball Federation (F.I.B.A.) or as modified by Basketball Australia or Basketball Victoria.
See Operations Manual (Codes of Conduct)

3 CLUB OFFICIALS RECOGNISED BY B.B.A.

- 3.1 Only ONE Delegated Official will be recognised from each Club and all official BBA matters will be dealt with through that person, although Clubs with more than 25 entries may nominate an additional contact for specific purposes, such as Juniors or Women. Delegated Officers who will be unavailable for more than seven (7) days should notify the Basketball Manager (BM) of the name and address of a replacement official and the period for which the Delegated Officer will be unavailable.
See Operations Manual (Club Officials)

4 TEAMS AND CLUBS

4.1 TEAM ENTRIES

- 4.1.1 Teams shall be entered by:-
 - 4.1.1.1 The completion of a team entry form, with a minimum number determined by the Basketball Manager.
See Operations Manual (Teams – Entry criteria)
 - 4.1.1.2 The lodging of the entry forms with the Basketball Manager.
 - 4.1.1.3 The payment to the Association of a guarantee fee. This fee will act as a safeguard against Clubs who fail to pay accounts during the season. If all accounts are paid, the guarantee will carry over from season to season.
See Operations Manual (Current list of fees and charges)
- 4.1.2 Teams will be accepted into competitions based on the entry criteria as set out in the Operations Manual.

4.2 UNIFORMS

- 4.2.1 Each team shall specify on the entry form, the details of the playing uniform. These are subject to the Basketball Manager's approval. If the Club desires to alter uniform colours, written application must be made to the Basketball Manager.
See Operations Manual (Registered uniform list)

4.3 JUNIOR TEAM ENTRIES

- 4.3.1 Clubs entering teams in Junior Divisions must enter in A Grade or B Blue. Any additional teams may be included in B Red and/or C Grade. Variations on this policy need to be submitted in writing to the Basketball Manager on the entry form.

4.4 GRADING TEAMS

4.4.1 The Association will grade teams into such divisions as are necessary; taking into account, the number of entries in a division, the number of byes created on a given competition day, the relative strength of teams (as determined by grading processes), the number of teams that one Club has in a division and the past performance of a team in a division.

See Operations Manual (Grading processes)

4.5 WITHDRAWAL OF TEAMS AFTER PUBLICATION OF DRAWS

4.5.1 A Club which enters the B.B.A. Competition and then has a team\teams withdrawn either by the Club or by the Association after the publication of the final draw in a division will be fined.

See Operations Manual (Current list of fees and charges)

4.6 ADDITION OF TEAMS AFTER PUBLICATION OF DRAWS

4.6.1 A club, which seeks to add a team/teams after the publication of the final draw in a division, will incur an administrative fee. Clearances will not be permitted to any member of such Club until all fines are paid.

See Operations Manual (Current list of fees and charges)

4.7 DISBANDING OF TEAMS

4.7.1 A Club shall be considered disbanded when it has not taken part in Association matches for twelve (12) months or when notification of disbanding has been given by the Delegated Officer of said Club, in writing, to the Basketball Manager.

4.8 AMALGAMATION OF CLUBS

4.8.1 Where a player's Club amalgamates with another Club or Clubs, the player shall automatically become a member of the combined Club.

5 UNIFORMS

5.1 A club must apply for registration of the colour and design of its uniforms.

5.2 The Basketball Department shall maintain a register of approved colours of uniforms.

See Operations Manual (Registered uniform list)

5.3 The Basketball Department shall draw up a list of priorities in cases where the uniforms registered indicate a clash of colours.

5.4 The club with the longer record of continued participation in competitions conducted by the Association shall have a priority over a club with a shorter record.

5.5 Each team shall specify clearly on the team entry form the details of the playing uniform of the team and of an alternative uniform to be used when required by the Basketball Department, if the uniforms of the two competing teams are similar.

5.6 It is the responsibility of each club to see that its representative teams have alternative uniforms available as required.

5.7 The lower priority team shall be obliged to change when two teams of the same or similar colours meet in a game.

5.8 If a dispute arises over the changing of singlets, Team B on the official draw will be obliged to wear an alternate singlet.

5.9 A change of shorts is not regarded as a change of uniform.

5.10 Referees and coaches have no discretion to set aside this rule.

5.11 Any player who is not clothed in the team uniform, according to guidelines set down by the Basketball Department, shall not be eligible to play.

5.12 Any team which fails to wear an alternative uniform when directed shall lose the match.

5.12.1 An appeal may be lodged where, due to a fixture change, the forfeiting team was not aware of the team they were playing, or where a temporary fixture does not show the team names.

5.13 Official numbers are 4 to 15 and numbers beyond that range, provided the digits do not exceed 5, i.e. 20-25, 30-35, 40-45, 50-55. Duplicate numbers are not permitted. The size of the numbers in uniforms must not be less than 20cm on the back and not less than 10cm on the front of the playing singlet.

5.13.1 In the instance of two players having the same playing number, one player must purchase a stick-on '3' from the canteen prior to commencing in the game. Failure to do so will have that player deemed ineligible and the team subject to monetary penalties.

See Operations Manual (Team Uniforms)

6 PLAYER AFFILIATION AND INSURANCE REGISTRATION

6.1 A player is registered with the B.B.A, by virtue of the completion of a B.B.A. registration card and the payment of a match fee ticket or team sheet fee (and subsequently having their name recorded as a legitimate player on the appropriate scoresheet). This payment contains a proportion of money for BBA registration, for insurance and for affiliation.

6.2 A player becomes registered with the Senior or Junior Club or team, with which that player first plays. All clearance matters relate to that Club or team, and not to any Social teams with which that player may also play.

6.3 Any player, who finishes playing with a Senior or Junior Club or team and commences or continues to play only at a Social level, must discharge all obligations with their original Club before becoming eligible to play in Social Competitions.

7 HALF-WAY MARK OF THE SEASON

7.1 For eligibility purposes the Basketball Manager shall determine one date in each Premiership and Championship season which shall be the half-way mark of the season for all grades and age groups. The date shall be arrived as the average of the dates for the senior and junior competitions.

See Operations Manual (Current season dates)

8 ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

8.1 SENIOR

8.1.1 Senior Competition is Open Age Competition in Grades designated by letters A, B, C etc. A player shall be permitted to play in more than one match in the same week, commencing on a Monday, provided that the additional game/s are in designated social competitions as declared by the Basketball Manager.

See Operations Manual (Social Competitions)

8.1.2 New Ballarat Basketball Club players arriving in Ballarat (Miners/Lady Miners) and "allocated" players must register with the BBA in the first instance and will then be allocated to local teams by the Basketball Manager.

See Operations Manual (Allocated players)

8.1.3 Senior A Grade Clubs may nominate two players as development players who may play in both A and A1 each week.

8.2 SOCIAL

8.2.1 The BBA has designated Social Competitions which exist to encourage new players and teams into the Association, and which also allow existing players to play second or additional games in a week. The Basketball Manager reserves the right to exclude players from Social Competitions in the interests of fair and even competition.

See Operations Manual (Social Competitions)

8.3 JUNIOR

Junior Competition is identified by Competition Titles having restricted age-structures, up to a maximum age limit of Under 20. New players arriving in Ballarat with the intention or potential to be Ballarat Representative Players must report to the BBA in the first instance and then be allocated to local teams by the Basketball Manager. Any player by virtue of his age who is eligible to compete in the under age grades will be recognised as a junior player.

- 8.3.1 In all Junior Grades, a player's age is determined by that player's age at 31 December *that* year.
- 8.3.2 A junior player is able to play a second game in an older age group. However, where that player plays in an A level competition in the younger age group, that player is not eligible to play in an older C Grade and /or B Red section if one or both exist.
- 8.3.3 Any junior player, having reached the age of 15 years, may take part in only one senior match in the same round. A Junior player is restricted to three (3) games in a week, and may not play in more than one (1) Senior and more than one (1) Social game in any given week, which commences on a Monday and concludes on a Sunday, other than the nominated development players who may play both A Grade and A1.
- 8.3.4 Any junior player who plays more than three (3) Senior A Grade competition games in any one season may not play in any Junior B Grade competition, unless that player's Club does not have a Junior A Grade team in any of the ages that the player is eligible for.

8.4 FORFEITING A MATCH

- 8.4.1 If a team is awarded a match by notified forfeit, the winning team's players will be credited with having played a match.
- 8.4.2 In the case of a match being awarded to a team without play commencing, those players named on the scoresheet shall be considered to be qualified as having played a match.

8.5 ELIGIBILITY FOR FINALS

- 8.5.1 To be eligible to play in the finals' series of a season a player must have played in no less than the minimum number of games prescribed by the Basketball Manager for that season. The prescribed minimum number of games to be played in a season is determined as follows:-
 - * Subtract the maximum number of byes for any one team in the competition.
 - * Divide the result by two.
 - * Round down to the nearest whole number.
- 8.5.2 In order to play in the final's series for any grade or age group, a player must qualify in each of the grades that the player elects and is eligible to play in.
- 8.5.3 Under no circumstances can games played in various age groups / or grades be summed together to achieve a minimum prescribed number of games for a particular grade.
- 8.5.4 Any requests for waiver of qualification conditions must be lodged on the required form with the Basketball Manager by 5.00 p.m. on the Monday of the week prior to commencement of finals. Supporting medical or other relevant evidence should be supplied.

See Operations Handbook (Finals)

8.6 INTERCHANGE OF PLAYERS

- 8.6.1 Where a Club has more than one team in the Association, a free interchange of players shall be permitted up to and including the halfway round of matches in any one season, after which, no player, junior or senior, may change down without permission.

- 8.6.2 Where a Club has more than one team in any one grade, a free interchange of players shall be permitted up to, and including, the fourth week, after which there will be no interchange of players.
- 8.6.3 Senior A Grade teams may nominate two(2) development players from their A1 team(s), who may play two(2) senior games in the same round, including finals, providing that their position in the A Grade team is that of a bench player (player 7-10 in team ranking), and the players are 22 years of age and under in the year of competition. The Basketball Manager must approve the teams' nominations prior to the commencement of the season, and reserves the right to withdraw this special status in the event of a player being regularly used by their Club in a role other than developmental.
- 8.6.4 Teams may choose to nominate their development players from Junior team(s), in which case the only rules which are applicable relate to Juniors playing Senior games.

8.7 EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

The conditions stated in Section 8 may be waived under exceptional circumstances as determined by the Basketball Manager (or a delegated body, consisting of Basketball Manager and two SPRC members). Each case shall be considered on its individual merits.

9 INELIGIBLE PLAYERS

Any team which is found to be playing or have played an ineligible player/s may be fined, and shall forfeit all matches in which the player took part and the opposing team awarded the premiership points.

See Operations Manual (Current list of fees and charges)

10 COMPETITION REGULATIONS

The matches will be conducted under the Official Basketball Rules of Basketball Australia with the following modifications, which apply to all matches.

For additional matters, which relate to Finals see Operations Manual (Finals)

10.1 NUMBER OF PLAYERS.

The referees will direct that a match commence at the designated time if the minimum number of four (4) players per team are in attendance.

10.2 LATE ARRIVALS

- 10.2.1 If a team is more than ten (10) minutes late, the match is forfeited. The Venue Supervisor may vary this time if circumstances permit.
- 10.2.2 For each minute, or part thereof, the team is late, its opponent is awarded one point.
- 10.2.3 For all grades the clock is started at the scheduled time for commencement of the match, provided that the referee is ready at the centre.
- 10.2.4 For all grades, players' names may be added to the scoresheet up to the end of the half time break of the game after which no player's name can be added.

10.3 TIME-OUTS

- 10.3.1 Each team is allowed two time-outs per half. Time-outs will be of 30 seconds duration.
For Finals see Operations Manual (Finals).
- 10.3.2 The clock shall stop for all charged time-outs and referees' time-outs.
- 10.3.3 During hot weather, the BBA Heat Policy will determine when a time out is to be taken in a half.

10.4 TIMING RULES

- 10.4.1 During the last one minute of the second half the clock is stopped on all whistles.
For finals see Operations Manual (Finals)
- 10.4.2 The half-time interval shall be 1 minute. **For finals see Operations Manual (Finals).**
- 10.4.3 For any unusual delay including injury, the referee will order that the clock be stopped, and in exceptional circumstances will order a time out.

10.4.4 The Basketball Manager shall have the power to alter any timing rules as considered necessary.

10.5 FINGERNAILS

Taping of fingernails, using specially designed, soft tape, which is endorsed by the B.B.A. is permitted to be used. Nails, if no tape is available, must be cut to a safe length prior to the start of the game. Players refusing to cut or tape their nails, when requested by officials, are not permitted to take the court.

10.6 JUNIOR “COMMON-SENSE” CONDITION

The BBA has a “common-sense” playing condition in Junior Basketball matches, which restricts the defensive plays of a team once it has gained a lead of thirty(30) points or more in a game.

See Operations Manual (Junior Basketball playing conditions)

11 RE-SCHEDULING OF GAMES

Only under extreme circumstances will an application from a Club for an alteration to a fixture be approved. In such cases.

11.1.1 The other team involved must agree to the change.

11.1.2 The application must be in writing and must relate to one of the prescribed events eligible for a reschedule as determined by the Basketball Manager.

11.1.3 A suitable venue, date and time is to be arranged by the Basketball Manager, in consultation with the other team.

11.1.4 The Referees Administrator is to be advised by the Basketball Manager.

11.1.5 The venue in which the game was to be played must be notified at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the original scheduled match, and an appropriate compensation shall result as a consequence of the change.

11.1.6 The game, wherever practicable, should be played within one (1) week of the fixtured date.

11.1.7 The venue in which the rescheduled game is to be played must be specified in writing, to all parties, at least three (3) days prior to the date of the rescheduled match by the Basketball Manager.

11.2 The Basketball Manager has the power to re-fixture any game that it deems necessary.

See Operations Manual (Games)

12 PROTESTS

Any team desiring to lodge a protest in respect to any match, must lodge such protest in writing with the Basketball Manager within forty-eight (48) hours of the match, who in consultation with the Chairperson of the SPRC will determine if a protest meeting is required. The parties concerned shall be entitled to attend any such meeting at which the protest shall be heard.

13 SCORETABLE REPRESENTATIVE

13.1 It is the responsibility of each team to provide a competent and attentive scorer and/or timekeeper for the match in which it is competing. In the event of a dispute over who will do which task, the first named team on the scoresheet will complete the scoresheet.

13.1.1 If scorers are not available, the clock will be started and the offending team will be penalised one (1) point per minute late.

13.1.2 In games played with a 24-second clock, the scoretable will be manned by three scorers, two of whom will represent the first named team on the scoresheet, and one of these scorers will operate the 24 second clock.

13.1.3 If scorers are not present, the clock will be started and the offending team will be penalised one (1) point per minute late.

- 13.1.3.1 At the three minute mark, if a scorer(s) is still not present, the BBA may appoint a scorer(s) at the offending team's cost.
- 13.2 In senior A Grade no players listed on the game scoresheet may participate in the games scoretable duties.
- 13.3 A player will be deemed ineligible if any of his given name, surname or number is not written legibly and accurately on the scoresheet.
See Operations Manual (Scoretable)

14 PREMIERSHIP POINTS

- 14.1 Premiership points shall be allotted as follows:-
WIN - 3 points
LOSS - 1 point
DRAW - 2 points
WIN BY FORFEIT - 3 points
LOSS BY FORFEIT - nil
BYE - 3 points
- 14.2 In the event of an uneven number of byes, the ladder stands as is at the end of the season.
- 14.3 The four competing teams that have obtained the highest proportionate number of points at the end of the minor round of matches shall compete in the final series of matches.
- 14.4 If two or more teams are equal in points at the end of the minor rounds, their respective positions shall be determined by percentage.

15 WALKOVERS

15.1 NOTIFICATION OF WALKOVERS AND FINES

15.1.1 SENIOR COMPETITION

15.1.1.1 Notified before 12.00 noon on game day.

See Operations Manual (Current list of fees and charges)

15.1.1.2 Notified after 12 noon on same day.

See Operations Manual (Current list of fees and charges)

15.1.2 JUNIOR COMPETITION

15.1.2.1 Notified 6 hours before game time.

See Operations Manual (Current list of fees and charges)

15.1.2.2 Notified less than 6 hours before game time.

See Operations Manual (Current list of fees and charges)

15.2 NUMBER OF WALKOVERS

A team giving in excess of two (2) walkovers in any one season may be asked to meet with the Basketball Manager to discuss the possible termination of acceptance of that team in the Association's competitions.

15.3 FORFEITURE OF MATCH

If a team forfeits a match by default by refusing to continue to play, the offending team may be liable for a fine.

See Operations Manual (Current list of fees and charges)

16 FINES PAYMENT

- 16.1 Any fine or charge incurred by a Club MUST be paid within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the account. Fines and/or charges not paid within fourteen (14) days may attract an additional penalty per week for each week the account is overdue.

See Operations Manual (Current list of fees and charges)

17 APPROACHES TO PLAYERS

- 17.1 A player who is registered and playing with a Club may not train or negotiate a transfer with another Club without written approval of the Club with whom the player is registered.
- 17.2 It is the responsibility of the receiving Club to ensure that the player has the written approval.
- 17.3 No Club should approach a player during the season without first having contacted the Club with which the player is registered.
- 17.4 If a Club has allowed a player to train without permission this will be grounds for:
- (a) Refusal of the registration of that player with the Club until the end of the following season.
 - (b) The receiving club to be fined at a rate determined by the Basketball Manager.

18 CLEARANCES

18.1 LODGEMENT OF A CLEARANCE

- 18.1.1 Any player desiring a clearance from his Club must lodge with the Basketball Manager such application on the prescribed form. Clearance forms for junior players must also be endorsed by his parent/guardian.
- 18.1.2 Any Clearance application must be accompanied by the prescribed fee
- See Operations Manual (Current list of fees and charges)**

18.2 DUTIES OF ASSOCIATION AND CLUBS ON RECEIVING A CLEARANCE APPLICATION

- 18.2.1 The Basketball Manager shall record for the Association the details set out on the clearance form and note the date of receipt and dispatch of the form to the Club's Delegated Officer.
- 18.2.2 The President or Delegated Officer of the said Club must return the acknowledgement of receipt form to the Basketball Manager or his delegate within seven (7) days.
- 18.2.3 The President or the Delegated Officer of the said Club must sign any Clearance and return it to the Basketball Manager or his delegate within fourteen (14) days of receipt.
- 18.2.4 If the application for a Clearance is not dealt with and returned to the Basketball Manager or his delegate, within fourteen (14) days, then the player shall be granted an automatic clearance by the Basketball Manager except in extraordinary circumstances where a longer period of time is allowed by the Basketball Manager.

18.3 CLEARANCES GENERAL

- 18.3.1 Until a player has been notified of the outcome of his clearance application by the Basketball Office he is not permitted to play with a new Club.
- 18.3.2 No application for a clearance shall be lodged with the Basketball Manager after the first working day following the last Grand Final of a season, subject to two (2) variations.
- (a) If a player has not played in the previous season and both Clubs agree to a clearance, then it may be processed up to and including the halfway mark of the season.
 - (b) the Basketball Manager reserves the right to review any requests outside these guidelines, especially in relation to any events which arise up to and including the fourth week of competition in a season.

- 18.3.3 Only one (1) clearance will be granted per season unless covered under the provision for an Association Clearance. An Association Clearance can be granted at any time.

18.4 ASSOCIATION CLEARANCES

- 18.4.1 A player who is too old to play junior grade basketball and comes from a Club, which has only junior teams must apply for an Association Clearance.
- 18.4.2 Any player from a disbanded Club must apply for an Association Clearance to be eligible to play with another Club. The Clearance application form is to be labeled "Association Clearance".
- 18.4.3 If a period of at least thirty-six (36) calendar months has elapsed since a player last played basketball with any B.B.A. Club, and provided he is not at that time still under disqualification and is financial with his Club, then a Club clearance may be dispensed with and an Association Clearance granted.
- 18.4.4 The procedure for the processing of an Association Clearance will be as follows:
- (a) Association Clearance lodged by the player.
 - (b) Association registration records, which are kept for three years, will be checked and the player's former club notified of the clearance application.
 - (c) The Club will have seven days in which to advise the Association if the player is unfinancial. Full details of the amount outstanding and what the sum represents must be provided.
 - (d) The player will then be advised of any outstanding amount and notified that this amount must be paid prior to the Association Clearance being granted. Should there be disagreement between the former Club and the player regarding that player's financial status then the dispute will be resolved by the SPRC.
- See Operations Manual (Clearances)**

19 APPEALS

19.1 APPEALS

- 19.1.1 Under the provisions relating to Clearances enforced by Basketball Victoria, the ability to appeal has been restricted to grounds which relate to whether a player has fulfilled their obligations to a Club. The obligations which are commonly created relate to payment of fees, return of Club property and written commitments to play for a particular season.
- 19.1.2 Should a player be disqualified or suspended by his Club, he shall have the right of appeal.
- 19.1.3 The Tribunal and Appeals Committee will hear no appeal unless the applicant has discharged all financial obligations to his Club.
- 19.1.4 Where a player has given his club a written commitment to play with that club in a particular season, he shall not be entitled to have a contested clearance heard by the Tribunal and Appeals Committee until the end of that season.
- 19.1.5 The Tribunal and Appeals Committee will hear appeals if the facts relating to the obligations are in dispute.

19.2 APPEALS BODY

- 19.2.1 Three (3) independent members of the Tribunal and Appeals Committee shall form the Committee, which shall deal with all appeals. The Committee shall have a Secretary appointed by the Committee of Management who shall control all business pertaining to appeals and keep such records of all hearings as are necessary. An independent Director of the B.B.A. may be requested to attend an appeal hearing by the Tribunal and Appeals Committee as an adviser to the Committee.
- 19.2.2 The Tribunal and Appeals Committee shall hear any appeal within seven (7) days of same being lodged. A bond may be requested by the Tribunal and Appeals Committee

and if the request is proved to be frivolous, at the discretion of the Committee, then the bond shall be forfeited.

See Operations Manual (Current list of fees and charges)

19.3 METHOD OF LODGING AND DEALING WITH APPEALS

- 19.3.1 All appeals lodged with the Basketball Manager or his delegate must be accompanied by the requisite deposit, and must set out the grounds of appeal.
- 19.3.2 Immediately upon receipt, the Basketball Manager or his delegate shall proceed to arrange for the hearing within the period allowed under these rules.
- 19.3.3 The Basketball Manager or his delegate shall notify each affected party of the date, time and place of the hearing.
- 19.3.4 In the case of absence of any person eligible to attend, the case will proceed in that person's absence provided the Committee is satisfied that all notification procedures have been carried out.

19.4 PROCEDURES FOR APPEAL HEARINGS - (CLEARANCES)

- 19.4.1 The appellant will be asked if he accepts the members of the Committee as impartial and independent or whether he wishes to raise objection to any member.
- 19.4.2 The appeal will be read out in the presence of all persons eligible to be present.
- 19.4.3 The appellant will be asked if the appeal as read correctly represents his intentions.
- 19.4.4 All persons eligible to be present may remain in the hearing while all the evidence is given.
- 19.4.5 The appellant will present his case.
- 19.4.6 The representative of the losing Club will present his Club's case.
- 19.4.7 The appellant will be asked if he has any questions of his Club Representative.
- 19.4.8 The representative of the losing Club will be asked if he has any questions of the appellant.
- 19.4.9 The Committee shall be empowered to question any person giving evidence.
- 19.4.10 All will be asked to leave while the Committee deliberates.
- 19.4.11 The decision of the Committee shall be announced in the presence of all.
- 19.4.12 The Committee's decision shall be final.

19.5 ELIGIBILITY TO ATTEND APPEAL (CLEARANCE) HEARING

- 19.5.1 Those eligible to attend are:-
 - 19.5.1.1 The appellant.
 - 19.5.1.2 One representative from the club from which the player is requesting a clearance.
 - 19.5.1.3 One representative of the Club to which the player is applying for a clearance. (This person has no rights at the Appeal Hearing and is only present to answer questions put to him by the Committee.)

19.6 REGULATIONS GOVERNING APPEAL (CLEARANCE) HEARINGS

- 19.6.1 Criteria for Consideration.

The B.B.A. Tribunal and Appeals Committee shall hear and determine evidence from the player and the Club and shall determine the player's right to obtain a clearance in its sole discretion and shall have as its foremost consideration the following:-

 - 19.6.1.1 The contractual or other written arrangement between the player and the Club and their respective efforts to clarify and to comply with that obligation.

20 REGULATIONS DEALING WITH CONDUCT OF PLAYERS

20.1 TRIBUNAL

- 20.1.1 A Tribunal consisting of not less than two (2) members, and not more than five (5) members shall be the disciplinary body with jurisdiction over all players with the B.B.A. Wherever possible each charge shall be heard by three members. The Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining a record of the Tribunal's proceedings and decisions, and will make this register available to Basketball Victoria on demand.
- 20.1.2 The Tribunal shall be appointed by B.V. acting on the recommendations of the B.B.A., and will act according to the following BBA regulations, which use the B.V. Tribunal by-laws as their basis.

20.2 POWERS AND JURISDICTION OF TRIBUNAL

- 20.2.1 The Tribunal shall have the power to suspend, disqualify, fine and ban or otherwise deal with any player, club, Association official, scorebench official or spectator regarding any incident arising from a match conducted by the B.B.A. or an Affiliated Association. The incident may have occurred before, during or after the game.
- 20.2.2 The Tribunal may also deal with any disciplinary matter delegated to it for adjudication by another Association.
- 20.2.3 The Tribunal shall have the power to amend any charge laid before it providing all parties involved have had the time to prepare their case relating to the amended charge. This may mean that an adjournment is necessary. The Tribunal may amend the charge to a similar charge of a lesser nature without notice.

20.3 REPORTABLE OFFENCES

- 20.3.1 Game/Association officials may report any person or team who commits offences listed in By-Law 20.10.7.
 - 20.3.1.1 Assaults another player, referee, official or spectator.
 - 20.3.1.2 Uses offensive language or otherwise misconducts himself during the progress of the game.
 - 20.3.1.3 Kicks or spits at another person, intentionally trips, or violently pushes an opponent, or plays with undue roughness.
- 20.3.2 Association officials, scorebench officials and referees listed for duty are also authorised to report offences as listed in By-Law 20.10.7.

20.4 DUTIES OF OFFICIAL MAKING A REPORT

- 20.4.1 The referee, official, or Association official must endeavour to note all particulars in connection with the report so that a clear account may be given to the Tribunal when dealing with the report. A special report form is provided, on which the details of the offence must be entered. The fact that a player is to be reported must be entered on the scoresheet. It is the duty of the delegated official of each team to inspect the scoresheet after each game.
- 20.4.2 The referee, official or Association official shall notify the player of his intention to report him at the time of the incident or as soon as possible thereafter.
- 20.4.3 To notify any other person involved in the incident, the other official, and any referee on bench duty that a report is to be made.
- 20.4.4 To lodge the report form with the person, nominated by the Association, to take charge of reports or, if that is not possible, to leave the report at the stadium office marked to the attention of that official, within twenty-four (24) hours of the match.

20.5 DUTIES OF THE ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL ON RECEIVING A REPORT

- 20.5.1 The B.B.A. shall designate an official to be responsible for notification duties in connection with reports. The duties of this official are –

- 20.5.1.1 To notify the player and his Club's delegated official of the date, time and place of the tribunal hearing. This may be done by telephone conversation, and the time and content of the telephone conversation noted. The B.B.A. shall require each team entered in competition to designate on the entry form the telephone number of the Club's Delegated Official to be used for notification of reports. Written confirmation must also be forwarded to the player.
- 20.5.1.2 To notify the player and his Club's Delegated Officer that he may read the charges listed on the report form at the stadium office at a suitable time arranged for mutual convenience or be issued with a copy of the report form.
- 20.5.1.3 To notify any player involved, and his Club's Delegated Officer, of the date, time and place of the tribunal hearing and to ask for a reply as to whether he will attend or will be unable to attend because of work commitments or other valid reason.
- 20.5.1.4 To notify the reporting official and any other officials or witnesses required to be in attendance of the date, time and place of the tribunal hearing. Where a junior official is involved, then they are advised that they have the right to have an adult with them at the tribunal hearing as an observer and advisor.
- 20.5.1.5 To notify each of the above persons of the consequences of non-attendance and the procedure to be followed in each case.
- 20.5.1.6 To notify the Secretary of the Tribunal that a report has been received, and to deliver to the Secretary of the Tribunal, the report form, scoresheet and any other information relevant to the case.
- 20.5.1.7 To ensure that sufficient report forms are available to referees officiating at matches and to other Association officials.

20.6 ELIGIBILITY TO ATTEND A TRIBUNAL HEARING

- 20.6.1 Those required to attend are:-
 - 20.6.1.1 The person reported.
 - 20.6.1.2 Any other person involved if requested by the Tribunal Secretary.
 - 20.6.1.3 The reporting official.
 - 20.6.1.4 The other official.
- 20.6.2 The following are also eligible to attend:
 - 20.6.2.1 One witness called by the person reported.
 - 20.6.2.2 One witness called by the reporting officials.
 - 20.6.2.3 Additional witnesses, observers, and Association representatives may be called if special permission is granted by the Tribunal.
- 20.6.3 If a person under the age of 18 years is charged, then they are to be advised that they have the right to have an adult with them at the Tribunal hearing, as an observer and advisor. The advisor may be allowed to ask questions only at the discretion of the Tribunal Chairperson.
- 20.6.4 Any person summoned who fails to attend may be penalised.
- 20.6.5 Any person who, in the opinion of the Tribunal, gives false evidence may be penalised.
- 20.6.7 Neither an advocate nor legal representation is allowed.

20.7 PROCEDURES OF TRIBUNAL HEARINGS

- 20.7.1 The person charged will be asked whether he accepts the members of the Tribunal as impartial and independent or whether he wishes to raise objection to any member.
- 20.7.2 The charge will be read out in the presence of all persons eligible to be present.
- 20.7.3 The reporting official/s will be asked whether the charge correctly represents his/their intention and the person charged will be asked if the charge is understood.
- 20.7.4 The person charged will be asked to plead.
- 20.7.5 The person charged and the reporting official/s will remain in the Tribunal Room while all evidence is given except when an official is giving evidence. Then the other official

must leave the Tribunal Room. Any witness who has not given evidence may be asked to leave the Tribunal Room until such a time as he is called to give evidence.

- 20.7.6 The reporting official will present the charge. The second official will be called in to give evidence. One witness may be called. Additional witnesses may be called in to the hearing at any time subject to discretion of the Tribunal Chairperson.
- 20.7.7 The person charged will present his defense. One (1) witness may be called. Referees may ask the charged person, or any witnesses, questions, and the charged person may ask the referees, or any witness, questions. The Tribunal shall be empowered to question any person giving evidence.
- 20.7.8 Where a person under the age of eighteen (18) years exercises his right to have present an adult observer/advisor, an opportunity for consultation shall be provided.
- 20.7.9 Video tapes can be admitted as evidence.
 - 20.7.9.1 Any party can submit video evidence to a tribunal.
 - 20.7.9.2 The Tribunal must hear all the verbal evidence before the video evidence is viewed. The video will be viewed in the presence of all.
 - 20.7.9.3 The Tribunal, after viewing such videos, will then have the discretion as to whether they accept the video as admissible evidence.
 - 20.7.9.4 To ensure the validity of any video evidence the B.B.A., through a B.B.A. official, can immediately impound any video taken on Association property if either party to a report requests they be held for evidence.
 - 20.7.9.5 In the event of either party to a report requesting use of videotape then all parties will have the right to view such video at the stadium under B.B.A. supervision.
- 20.7.10 All will be asked to leave while the Tribunal deliberates.
- 20.7.11 If the Tribunal is not satisfied that the particular charge has been proved, but is satisfied that a lesser charge has been established, then the Tribunal may find such lesser charge established and shall apply the penalty applicable to the lesser charge. The decision of the Tribunal will be announced in the presence of all, by the Tribunal Chairperson. A statement of how the penalty is assessed shall be included taking into account the activities of the person charged if necessary.

22.8 TEAM REPORTS

- 20.8.1 If clear evidence is put before a tribunal that a particular player was not involved in an incident for which his team has been reported, that player should not be penalised if the tribunal accepts that he was not involved.
- 20.8.2 When a team is charged, the members are to be given the option of appointing a spokesman, who is a member of the team, or conducting their own defence as individuals. The fact that some members wish to use a spokesman does not prevent others from speaking for themselves.
- 20.8.3 All team members, whether representing themselves or being represented by a spokesman, are entitled to and should be encouraged to remain in the tribunal room and hear all the evidence against them.
- 20.8.4 Team members will be given the option of pleading to charges as a team or individually.

20.9 NON-ATTENDANCE, FAILURE TO CARRY OUT DUTIES LISTED

- 20.9.1 If any witness fails to attend, the case will proceed in his absence.
- 20.9.2 If the player charged fails to attend, but notified the Association Official of his nonattendance, the case shall be deferred for a maximum of one week. If the player charged fails to attend, and does not advise the Association Official, the case will proceed in his absence provided that the Tribunal is satisfied that all notification procedures have been carried out.
- 20.9.3 If a Reporting Official or Association Official inadvertently fails to carry out any duties, the charge will not be dismissed for this reason, but may be deferred to allow the

omission to be rectified. Where possible the Tribunal will take the failure into account and make suitable allowance.

20.10 PENALTIES

- 20.10.1 Charges should be confined to the listed categories, wherever possible.
- 20.10.2 Persons having a good record may incur the smaller of the ranges of penalties on a first offence. In exceptional circumstances the Tribunal may issue a reprimand.
- 20.10.3 A penalty to a person may be increased by a maximum of eight (8) weeks if he has incurred a previous penalty from the tribunal.
- 20.10.4 An additional penalty of up to sixteen (16) weeks may be incurred if injury is caused or for other special reasons decided by the tribunal and notified when the decision is announced.
- 20.10.5 More severe penalties may be imposed when a team or group is involved in a brawl. Refusal of future admission of such teams to competition may be recommended to the controlling Association.
- 20.10.6 Charges arising from one particular incident shall be considered together. The maximum penalty for a composite offence shall be for the most serious of the offences.
- 20.10.7 Current Charges and Standard penalties are encompassed within the Basketball Victoria Report Form, used by BBA Referees. The details can be obtained by viewing a form at the Basketball Office or by visiting the Basketball Victoria website. The date when the player can resume playing is fixed by the Tribunal on the basis that the player will be debarred from playing for the number of weeks appropriate to the penalty. This should be carefully worked out in the case when a Tribunal is held just prior to Christmas holidays.
- 20.10.8 Suspended sentences or fines, in lieu of suspensions for players, are not permitted. A fine may be imposed on a non-player. A fine may be imposed on a team. A player may be placed on a good behaviour bond by a Tribunal. A team may be placed on a good behaviour bond by the Tribunal.

See Operations Manual (Current list of fees and charges)

- 20.10.9 The range of penalties for Big V League or equivalent players shall be on the basis of number of matches in which his team is involved in the following competitions replacing weeks by matches in the above penalties.

- Victorian Championships First Division
- Conference Competitions/National Competitions
- Australian Championships
- Matches against visiting International teams
- Victorian Country Championships/Premierships
- If already selected in the State team, such matches, as he will miss in the Australian Championships.

In addition the player would be precluded from playing in any matches in any competition conducted by any Affiliated Association for the duration of his penalty.

20.11 APPEALS AGAINST TRIBUNAL DECISIONS

- 20.11.1 There shall be no appeal from a decision of a B.B.A. Tribunal unless the person seeking to appeal satisfies the President of BV, or his nominee, in sole discretion that one or more of the following grounds of appeal is satisfied:
 - 20.11.1.1 That significant new or additional evidence has become available.
 - 20.11.1.2 That the penalty imposed by the tribunal is not in accordance with the provisions of clause 22.10 of the B.B.A. By-Laws.
 - 20.11.1.3 That the tribunal failed to follow the procedures or requirements of these By-Laws to the significant detriment of the person seeking to appeal.
- 20.11.2 A letter stating full details of charges and results thereof and stating in full the grounds of appeal must be lodged with the designated B.B.A. official within seven (7) days of

the tribunal hearing. The designated Association official shall forward the letter of appeal together with the original or a copy of the relevant scoresheet, report form and Tribunal decision to the President of BV as soon as possible.

- 20.11.3 The person appealing shall be notified as to whether an appeal hearing is to be granted and the time, date and place of the hearing in the event that it is granted.
- 20.11.4 The hearing of the appeal shall be delegated to the Judiciary Committee or to a regional Tribunal independent of that Tribunal, which made the decision, appealed against.
- 20.11.5 In granting an appeal in accordance with BV By-Law 4.24.11.1 the President, or his nominee, shall direct that the Appeal take place in one of the following forms:
 - 20.11.5.1 A complete re-hearing of the charge, or;
 - 20.11.5.2 An investigation of a specific area designated by the President or his nominee.

In the event that this latter course is adopted, the Tribunal hearing the appeal shall be empowered to overrule the earlier decision and make its own finding and impose its own penalty or to refer the further hearing to the original Tribunal with a direction that it rehear the charge and adopt a particular procedure in the course of that hearing.

- 20.11.6 The designated Association official shall be notified of the decision of the Appeal Tribunal.

20.12 ENFORCEMENT OF PENALTIES

- 20.12.1 Details of decisions of any tribunal shall be forwarded by the tribunal secretary to BV and hence circulated without delay to all Affiliated Associations. The decision of any Tribunal approved by BV shall be enforced by all Affiliated Associations.
- 20.12.2 A person, who is suspended, shall not be permitted to play, coach, referee or do scorebench duties in a competition conducted by Basketball Victoria or any of its Affiliated Associations, for the duration of the period specified by the Tribunal.
- 20.12.3 A person who is disqualified shall not contact his team directly, or indirectly, from fifteen (15) minutes before the game. He must sit on the side of the court opposite to the player bench. Any person banned must not enter any stadium or venue of a Basketball Victoria affiliated Association. Any violations may be reported to Basketball Victoria by the Court Manager and may entail additional suspension.
- 20.12.4 Where a fine is imposed, or a team placed on bond, the amount shall be forwarded to the Association official responsible for deposit in the B.B.A. account.

21 REPORTING AN OFFICIAL

21.1 REFEREES-REPORTING PROCEDURES

- 21.1.1 A player or team (through its captain) may report any official for any misconduct such as listed in 20.3.1
- 21.1.2 A letter, or report form (player report form can be used) giving details of the Officials, signed by the captain, shall be lodged with the designated Association Official or Basketball Manager, within 24 hours of the match.
- 21.1.3 The complaint shall be considered by the Basketball Manager. Unless deemed frivolous, it shall be heard by a Referee Tribunal convened by BV. Members of the BBA Tribunal may be co-opted.

22 RIGHT OF ENTRY/STADIUM DUTY MANAGERS

- 22.1 The B.B.A. reserves the right to refuse admission to, and eject from, the Stadium any person at any time.
- 22.2 It is the duty of each player, referee, official or spectator to obey the directions given by the B.B.A. Official appointed to take charge of the stadium.
- 22.3 The Committee of Management may discipline any person who is proved guilty of any breach of good conduct in any stadium controlled by the Association.