BENDIGO BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION INC.

Domestic Competition Policies & Guidelines

(Updated November 2026)

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REGULATIONS DEALING WITH THE CONDUCT OF PLAYERS, TEAM OFFICIALS, REFEREES AND SPECTATORS

1. Tribunal and Stadium Management

a. The Bendigo Basketball Association (BBA) Tribunal shall operate in accordance with the Tribunal By-Laws as laid down by Basketball Victoria. The Tribunal By-Laws are incorporated as part of the BBA By-Laws;

b. Tribunal times shall be set dependent on arrangements made by the Tribunal Secretary subject to availability of the tribunal members;

c. The Tribunal shall have the power to suspend, disqualify, fine or otherwise deal with any player, club or affiliated association official, Score bench official or spectator over any incident arising before, during or out of, any game played under the jurisdiction of the Association or with any matter delegated to the Tribunal by the BBA;

d. It is the duty of the game officials in any match to report any person who commits any reportable offence as outlined on the Basketball Victoria Report Sheet, and

e. In the event that an incident occurs that the game day officials were not witness to but the complaint is sent to the BSL sports Office the Sports office staff have the authority to report the matter to the tribunal for decision, and

f. It is the obligation of any person, to obey the directions given by BBA Sports Office, BBA Board Member, Referee or Referee Supervisor. It is the duty of officials to take charge of the stadium when basketball is being played. It is the duty of Officials to report any misconduct to the Tribunal.

REGULATIONS RELATING TO CLUB, TEAM OR PLAYER REGISTRATIONS

2. Registration of Clubs/Teams

a. Each Club/Team is to register by completing the required online Team Entry Form via the BBA website and by paying the prescribed registration fee with the BBA Sports Office by the due date (Registration Fees to be determined by the BBA prior to each season).

b. No team entering the BBA Domestic competition can have the name Bendigo in it unless an exemption is granted by the BBA. Additionally, no independent team may use any part of a name of a registered club within their team name in the BBA Domestic Competition.

3. Registration of Players

a. A player is deemed registered by being linked to a registered team and after payment of any Association Fees due.

4. Tournaments, Exhibition Games and Representative Teams

a. Any affiliated Club/Team or registered player to the Bendigo Basketball Association (BBA) desiring to take part in an interstate or intrastate tournament or exhibition games must apply in writing to the BBA Board for permission before the proposed date of the trip.

b. The application must give details of the management of the trip and an assurance that it will be properly conducted. This includes all representative sides under the control of the BBA. The BBA may refuse this request in the best interests of Basketball in Bendigo.
Link - Tournament Request Form

c. Players who have not made themselves available for selection to participate in a representative team of the Bendigo Basketball Association will not be endorsed for selection into any elite or high performance program conducted by Basketball Australia and its affiliates.

d. A club or team cannot enter a side into a tournament where a Bendigo Junior Braves side is entered for that age group and division.

e. Domestic sides are able to enter tournaments as long as there are no Bendigo Junior Braves sides represented within the same division.

f. Any affiliated Club/Team desiring to conduct a publicly advertised exhibition match or tournament, must apply in writing to the BBA Board for approval before the proposed date of the match or tournament.

i. Penalty: In the event of non-compliance with Sections 4, an offending Club/Team can be liable to suspension or fine, or both, as decided by the BBA Board.

REGULATIONS CONCERNING REFEREES

5. Referee Appointments

a. Appointment of a panel of Referees to control BBA games shall be made by BSL.

i. This responsibility will normally be carried out by the Technical Officials Committee.

ii. Referee Rosters may be altered in conjunction with the TOC Referee Supervisor.

6. Referee Feedback

a. All complaints and comments are to be directed to the BBA Board via the BSL Sports Office by completing a Formal Referee Feedback Form.

b. The BBA Board in consultation with the TOC may refer any complaint to a BVTOC Tribunal if deemed necessary; to investigate complaints of incompetence, misconduct, or non- attendance on the part of any appointed Referee.

c. The Tribunal is authorized to take disciplinary action against Referees who are found to have offended.

7. Referee Duties

a. Referees are to follow FIBA regulations.

b. Referees will be responsible for ensuring that when players enter the court they are in correct uniform as per this document.

c. Any behavioural technical foul is to be recorded and submitted via the digital form.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING BENDIGO BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION PREMIERSHIP GAMES

8. Timing and Game Regulations (excluding A Grade)

a. The games will be conducted under Official Basketball Rules of the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) with the following modifications;

b. A team can only commence a game with a minimum of four players;

c. For each minute or part thereof a team is late, their opponents are awarded one (1) point per minute (or part thereof) up to ten (10) minutes when the game will be declared a walkover (final scores to be shown as 20-0).

d. Late start penalty points are to be applied PRIOR to the commencement of the game;

e. The game clock is to be started at the scheduled time for commencement of the game provided the Referee is at the court. If Referees are late attending a game, and the players from either team are not ready to play, the game clock shall be set as if the game started on the scheduled time. If both teams are in attendance, the game clock shall be started when the referees arrive to take charge of the game;

f. It is the responsibility of teams and their captain (coach if under 18's or below) to ensure that the players' names are entered on the scoresheet or eScoring device prior to the start of each game. Failure to do this will incur the points penalty as detailed in point c.) above;

g. Timing rules for all games played in the BBA will be (excluding A Grade competitions) two twenty

(20) minute halves with a two (2) minute half time period. Two (2) time out periods for each team are permitted in each half where the clock continues to run (A Timeout is to be no longer than 1 minute), and no time out will be allowed during
the last three minutes of the first half. The time clock will be stopped for all whistles in the last two minutes of the second half only;

h. If the scores in any game, except finals, are equal at full time, the result will be treated as a draw. Overtime periods will only be played during finals.

i. Eight (8) team fouls may be attributed to a team in each half before a shooting penalty situation applies (i.e. shooting on the ninth (9th) team foul)

j. Team A shall be responsible for the game clock (scoreboard) and shot clock (when required). Team B shall be responsible for the PlayHQ electronic scoring.

k. In the event of a singlet colour clash, club teams take precedent over independent teams. Team A will be required to change to achieve a desired contrast. If Team B is an independent team (not a club team) then they will change.

9. A Grade Men & Women

a. The A Grade Men and Women's games will be played over four ten (10) minute quarters separated by a two (2) minute period at half time and a one (1) minute break at both quarter and three-quarter time.

b. Each team is permitted two (2) time out periods per game (one only in each half) where the clock continues to run, and the time clock stop will be stopped for all whistles in the last minute of the second quarter and the last two (2) minutes of the fourth quarter.

c. No time-outs permitted in the last 2 minutes of the first and third quarters.

d. A Grade men and women will play with a 24 second shot clock under the FIBA rules

e. Team A will be required to supply an operator for the 24 second shot clock.

f. If no extra operator available, the responsibility of shot clock operation still sits with Team A.

10. Junior Competitions Utilising Shot Clocks

a. Under 16 and Under 18 Division 1 Competitions will play with a 24 second shot clock under FIBA rules

b. Team A will be required to supply an operator for the 24 second shot clock.

c. If no extra operator is available, the responsibility of shot clock operation still sits with Team A.

11. Finals Timing Rules (excluding A Grade)

a. The timing rules (excluding A Grade) for all finals matches will be modified as follows:

b. The clock will be stopped for all whistles in the final (1) minute of the first half and the last three (3) minutes of the second half.

c. If scores are even at the end of normal time there will be a one minute break before overtime commences.

d. The overtime period consists of an extra 3 minutes where the clock will be stopped on all whistles in the last (1) minute.

e. Team Fouls from the second half of the game will continue in overtime.

f. Player Fouls will remain in place during overtime.

g. During the overtime period only one time out for each team is allowed.

h. If the scores are still level at the end of the first overtime, the overtime will commence as stated above again until a winner is declared.

12. A Grade Finals

a. For finals in the A Grade Senior competition the timing rules will be modified as follows:

b. In finals matches the clock will be stopped for all whistles in the final one (1) minute of the first, second, and third quarters and the last three (3) minutes of the final quarter.

c. If scores are even at the end of normal time there will be a one minute break before overtime commences.

d. The overtime period consists of an extra 3 minutes where the clock will be stopped on all whistles during the overtime period.

e. Team Fouls from the fourth quarter of the game will continue in overtime.

f. Player Fouls will remain in place during overtime.

g. During the overtime period only one time out for each team is allowed.

h. If the scores are still level at the end of the first overtime, the overtime will commence as stated above again until a winner is declared.

13. Heat Rule

a. When the court temperature reaches 35 degrees Celsius, game times will be altered by reducing each half by two (2) minutes.

b. The Referee must call a compulsory time out as close as possible to the half-way point of each half and the clock will be stopped.

c. Additionally, Stadium Staff as they see fit may make other alterations to the timing regulations where the court temperature reaches 30 degrees Celsius as per the Heat Policy on the BBA website.

14. Premiership Points

a. Premiership points will be awarded as follows;

ii. 3 points – Win

iii. 3 points – Bye

iv. 2 points – Draw

v. 1 point – Loss

vi. 0 points – Walkover or Forfeit

b. When games are impacted by weather conditions or for unforeseen circumstances e.g., water issues, and the game does not commence, then the match will be a draw and 2 points allocated to each team.

c. All registered players for each team will be credited with a played game.

i. When 50% or more of games in a particular grade are affected by weather or unforeseen circumstances then all games in that grade will be a draw and 2 points allocated to each team.

ii. This is to occur even if games are completed before other games in a grade are impacted by weather or unforeseen circumstances.

iii. All registered players will be credited with a played game for that round.

d. If a game is abandoned due to weather conditions or unforeseen circumstances, such as a serious injury before half time then the game shall be awarded as a draw.

e. If the first half of a game is completed by the game clock reaching half time, or is stopped part way through the second half, the score at the time of the game being abandoned will be judged as the final score.

f. No points are awarded or ladders are kept in the Mixed Social or Under 10 competitions.

15. Forfeits/Walkover

a. A walkover/notified fine is to be decided by BSL prior to each season.

b. Payment for forfeit shall be paid within 14 days of forfeiting the game.

c. Junior Forfeit Fees

i. Junior Forfeits with Over 48 Hour's Notice - $78

ii. Junior Forfeits with Under 48 Hour's Notice - $128

d. Senior Forfeit Fees

i. Senior Forfeits with Over 48 Hour's Notice - $83

ii. Senior Forfeits with Under 48 Hour's Notice - $143

16. Finals

a. The four leading teams shall comprise the Final Four, which will play in a format with 1v4 and 2v3 semifinal, with the winners of those games playing in the grand final.
b. Positions on the ladder will be determined on premiership points.
c. Ties for positions on points, will be decided on percentage (Including three way ties)
d. Ties for positions on points and percentage will then be decided by head-to-head results (For all games played against each other)
e. Bendigo Braves Junior Squad teams are not eligible to play in finals.
f. At the completion of the final round of the normal season, teams that finish below any Bendigo Braves Junior Squad Teams will move up place(s) to replace any Bendigo Braves Junior Squad team in the finals series.
g. Games throughout the normal season against the Bendigo Braves Junior Squad teams still count in relation to final ladder positions.
h. In special circumstances the BBA Sports Office may change the method of how finals are conducted for the benefit of the competition.

17. Scorers

a. Each team MUST supply a competent scorer (12 years of age or older) before their scheduled start time of the game.
b. The game is not to commence until two scorers are present.
c. If after the Referee has started the clock and ten (10) minutes has elapsed, and one team has not supplied a Scorer, then the opposing team will be awarded the game by forfeit, and the team that failed to supply a scorer will be fined the Walkover Fee.
d. If a team fails to supply a scorer by the official starting time then the opposing team will be awarded one (1) point for every one (1) minute that no scorer is present.
e. If both teams fail to provide a scorer after ten minutes then 'no game' shall be declared and both teams will be fined the Walkover Fee.
f. The point's penalty for not providing a scorer is to be added by the Referee BEFORE the commencement of the game.
g. If no non-participating (player/coach, etc) persons are present, then it can be mutually agreed that a player or a Coach may operate the time clock or control the clock/scoresheet/ eScoring device.
h. Team A shall be responsible for the game clock (scoreboard) and shot clock (when required). Team B shall be responsible for the PlayHQ electronic scoring.

18. Player Uniforms

a. A player who is not wearing the team's correct uniform will be penalized five (5) points per player. Should a team have more than one (1) player not in the correct uniform, then the team will be penalized five (5) points per player, up to a maximum of 15 points being awarded to the opposing team.
    i. Note 'Correct uniform – tops must be the same colour with permitted numbers (numbers must be legible) and will be of legal size, shape and material. Shorts must be the same colour.
    ii. Players must wear shorts that are free of pockets to ensure player safety. Shorts with visible pockets, whether open, closed, zipped, or otherwise modified, are not permitted.
b. Players who are not in the correct uniform by the completion of grading will be penalized points as described in paragraph 18 a).
c. The point penalty is to be added to the opposition score at halftime.
d. Each team member shall wear a shirt numbered on the front and back with numbers, of a solid

colour contrasting with the colour of the shirt.

i. The numbers shall be clearly visible and:
ii. The numbers on the back should be at least 20 cm high;
iii. The numbers on the front shall be at least 10 cm high.
iv. The numbers shall be at least 2cm wide.
v. Teams can use numbers 0 and 00 and from 1 to 99.
vi. Players on the same team shall not wear the same number.
vii. Any advertising or logo shall be at least 5cm away from the numbers.
viii. Shoes which mark the playing surface must not be worn.

e. Players will not be permitted to take the court wearing any item, which in the opinion of the Referee is considered dangerous

f. The following **ARE NOT** permitted:

g. Finger, hand, wrist, elbow or forearm guards, casts or braces made of leather, plastic, pliable (soft) plastic, metal or any other hard substance, unless approved by a referee.
ii. Equipment that could cut or cause abrasions (fingernails should be closely cut), and;
iii. Headgear, hair accessories and jewellery (wedding rings may be worn if taped).

i. The following **ARE** permitted;

i. Compressions sleeves provided they are of the same dominant colour as either the team singlet, black, white or beige and do not cause injury to other players;
ii. Compression stockings provided they are of the same dominant colour as either the team shorts, black or white or beige and do not cause injury to other players.
iii. Shoulder, upper arm, thigh or lower leg protective equipment if the material is padded so as not to cause injury to other players;
iv. Knee braces, if they are properly covered;
v. Protector for a broken nose, even if made of a hard material;
vi. Spectacles, if they do not pose a danger to other players, and;
vii. Headbands maximum 5cm in width, made of non-abrasive unicolour cloth, pliable plastic or rubber.
viii. T-Shirts worn under singlets must be either the same colour as the dominant colour of the singlets, black, white or beige.

19. Senior Playing Regulations

a. The outside (6.75) metre 3 point line shall be used in all Senior games.

b. A player must be 15 years of age or older on the date of the game to play in an open aged match within the Domestic Basketball Competition.

c. A senior female player may permanently play in a competition of the opposite gender with permission from the Director of Coaching for the purposes of development. (each player to be reviewed on a case by case basis at the sole discretion of the Director of Coaching).

d. No senior male player can participate in a female competition.

e. The ruling of the no charge semi-circle will be enforced.

f. Senior players may play two (2) games in one night; however; they can only play up or down 1 Division/Grade in the Senior Competition.
Example – A Senior Player can play for A Grade and B Grade however they cannot play for A Grade and C Grade. Alternatively a Sunday Men's 1 player can play in Sunday Men's 2 but not in Sundays Men's 3.

g. Note: A senior competition may be either the Graded competition conducted on Mondays or the Division competition conducted on Tuesdays or Wednesdays.

h. Additionally, to assist with the spirit and standard of the competition no senior Bendigo Braves player or any other player that has played in 'A' Grade in the current season may also play in the following grades:

i. Division 3 or a Division below this Division in the Men's competition.

ii. Sunday Men's Division 2 or below competition.
iii. C Grade or below this in the women's competition.
iv. If a player on the team bench commits an offence that, in the opinion of the Referee, warrants a Category 1 Technical Foul, the Referee may award the Technical Foul against that player. The Technical Foul shall be recorded against the player and shall count towards their disqualification from the game.

i. Specific Rules applying to the A Grade competition are;
   i. Four (4) team fouls may be attributed to a team in each quarter before a shooting penalty situation applies (i.e. shooting on the fifth (5th) team foul);
   ii. Referees are to complete Most Valuable Player (MVP) votes at the conclusion of each game.
   iii. No team shall have more than two (2) current senior Braves players in that team.
   iv. The team may have a total of five (5) Braves players, consisting of a maximum of two (2) current Senior Braves players and three (3) Big V Youth League players.
   - Note: A current Braves player is one that would be in the starting 10 for the previous season which will be determined totally on the minutes they played.
   viii. A player to be classed as a VBL (Formally Big V) Youth League player for this By-Law would have played 5 or more games in the VBL (Formally Big V) Youth League.
   ix. If a Braves player is classed outside the starting 10 but does spend an average less than 2 minutes per game on court and cannot play Youth League then for this by-law would be included within the same category as a Youth League player.

20. Junior Playing Regulations

a. The BBA Board strongly recommends that players play in their correct age group;

Junior Playing Team Entries

b. Bendigo Basketball Association Registered Clubs shall only be permitted to enter two (2) of their club teams in any one division, (i.e. Division 1; Division 2; Division 3 etc.) of each Competition.
c. The Bendigo Basketball Association will allow clubs to have more than 2 teams per division following the Grading games where a club team is graded to either a higher or lower division.
d. Clubs that have an excess of teams/players are to refer those teams/players to other clubs in the Bendigo Basketball Association that have not reached the quota of two (2) teams per division.
e. Where all clubs have achieved the maximum number of teams allowed and a club has additional teams to enter into any Division of the competition then this shall require the approval of the BSL sports office.
f. Junior club teams and independent teams shall enter in the division that is equal to that team's ability. The BBA Domestic Competitions Committee may grade a team up or down in the division in their correct age group. In the rare event of the BBA Domestic Competitions Committee grading a team to the next higher age group then that team shall play in the appropriate division according to their skill level;
g. Players that are selected in the Junior Braves program in the Under 12, 14 and 16 age levels must play with their club or independent team in their correct age group for both the Summer and Winter seasons.
h. Individual players may request to play in a lower age division, application shall be made by the club or independent team contact via email to the BSL sports office, and the decision shall be at the discretion of the BSL sports office.
i. A junior player must play with their own club in the correct age group before they can play with another club in a higher age group as follows:.
   i. If the player's club team has a team in the higher age division, then that player must play

for their club team in that division, and;

ii. If the player's club does not have a team or the team does not have room, in the higher age division, then that player must obtain a permit to play with another club/ team in that higher age division.

j. Junior players cannot play in a higher division with a Representative team unless they are currently playing with a team in a division in which they are eligible.

k. Junior players who take the court for any part of five (5) games in a higher division in any individual age group will be ineligible to play in the lower age division (e.g. U/16 Div 2, U/16 Div 3; U/12 Div 2, U/12 Div 3 etc.)

l. Junior players are not allowed to take part in two games within the same age group and division. (e.g. a player may not play for the Under 14 Boys Division 1 rockets and then take the court for the Under 14 Boys division 1 pumas) there will be an exemption for club teams throughout the grading period only.

m. Junior Braves Squad Players playing in the Under 18/20 competition are restricted to the following guidelines in their team structure:

i. No club/independent team, playing in its correct age group, shall have more than three (3) A squad players in that team. The team may have a total of five (5) Squad players, consisting of a maximum of three (3) A Squad players and 'B', 'C' or 'D' Squad Players. Those 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' Squad players shall be nominated before the commencement of the Summer Championship season competition each year and will be classed as a squad player for the period 1st October to 31st August each year.

n. Junior Braves Squad Players playing in the Under 12, Under 14 and Under 16 competition are restricted to the following guidelines in their team structure:

i. No Club/Independent team playing in its correct age group shall have more than two (2) 1st Squad Players in that team, that club team may also have two (2) 2nd Squad players, in total allowing four (4) - "1st" and "2nd" Squad players.

ii. Where a club can demonstrate to the BBA that all players nominated in the Club team entered in the competition are entered in their correct age division for which they are eligible and have played for the past (4) seasons exclusively for that same Club in their respective age group, the BBA will allow that Club Team to have three (3) 1st Squad players and two (2) 2nd squad players, maintaining the total Squad players in any club team at five (5) Squad Players.

For the purpose of this clause, a player who is required to obtain a temporary permit to participate for another Club because their registered Club does not have a team in the higher division in their age group, does not have room for the player in that team, or cannot accommodate the player due to the Junior Braves player restrictions, shall be deemed to have continued to play exclusively for their registered Club. The granting of such a temporary permit shall not affect the players homegrown status or the registered Clubs eligibility for the exemption provided under this Clause.

iii. Any Club Team requesting this exemption will apply to the BBA with the final arbiter being the BBA Coaching Director in consultation with the BSL sports office.

iv. No team can exceed the allowable squad player guideline by listing additional 1st or 2nd squad players and rotating (resting) a player each week to meet the guidelines.

v. Players playing in an under 12, 14 or 16 3rd, 4th or 5th Squad teams will not be counted as a squad player for this By-Law within the Under 12, 14 or 16 Competitions.

o. Those '1st' and '2nd' Squad players shall be nominated before the commencement of the summer season competition each year and will be classed as a squad player for the period 1st October to 31st August.

p. Players previously in the squad program are to be included as a Squad Player when the following occurs:

i. Where a player that played in the Squad program in the previous 12 months does not try-out

for the next squad season, the rules containing restrictions on current squad players in (20-p-i) may still be activated as follows:

q. If the player selected in a team had tried out for the Junior Braves and would have been, without doubt, selected in the 'A or B teams' of the Junior Braves in the age group they are eligible to compete, they will be counted as a Junior Squad Player for the following season.

r. In the case of this possibly occurring, the Director of Coaching in consultation with the BSL Sports Office will review the team list of these teams and make a decision on the team and individuals by the end of grading, or earlier if at all possible. The BSL Sports Office will make the final decision on former squad players that played in the program in the previous 12 months and categorising them as squad players for the sake of this by-law to ensure the BBA Domestic Competition encourages competitive matches and an appropriate number of teams in its Division 1 competition.

s. Players that are registered with another association representative program will be classed as "A" squad players and will count towards Junior Braves limits.

t. Players are classed as Junior Squad players after the squad selections are completed prior to the Summer season commencing. If a player is promoted during the season they are counted as a squad player in the original team they were selected e.g. a player that starts in a 'B' squad and is promoted and plays in the 'A' squad or plays VJBL due to injuries or the like will be classed as a B squad player for the current season and the Winter season.

u. Junior players must have a permit to play in any Senior team not affiliated with their club.

v. If a team in a junior (U12 - U18) competition Division 2 and below reaches a score which exceeds the opposing team score by 20 points or more shall not be permitted to play defence above the Half Court line again until the opposing teams score is within 15 points.

i. Penalty: A Technical Foul, Category 2, shall be awarded against the team after an initial warning

w. Specific rules applying to the U/10 (and below) competitions are;

i. Players shall not play a double team defence;

ii. Shots taken as free throws shall be from the broken line in front of the free throw line;

iii. Every Under 10 player from both teams shall take one shot from the free throw line during the half time period (a team with less players than its opposition will take additional shots to equal the number of free throws taken by its opposition);

iv. Every Under 8 player from both teams shall take two consecutive shots from the free throw line during the half time period (a team with less players than its opposition will take additional shots to equal the number of free throws taken by its opposition);

ix. A five second violation time will apply in the key;.

x. No backcourt violations will be called.

xi. No match points will be awarded and no ladders displayed.

xii. A Size 5 basketball will be used.

xiii. Division 1, Full-court man-to-man defence permitted, 10-foot rings. A 20-point mercy margin applies. Once reached, the defending team must retreat to half court.

xiv. Division 2, Full-court man-to-man defence permitted, 8.6-foot rings. A 20-point mercy margin applies. Once reached, the defending team must retreat to half court.

xv. Division 3 and Below, Half-court man-to-man defence only. Full-court pressure is not permitted, 8.6-foot rings.

x. Teams shall be permitted to play a 'Zone Defence' in the following junior age groups:

i. Under 16's all Divisions.

ii. Under 18's all Divisions.

iii. Junior Women's Competition (U16-U20)

y. Only the BSL Sports office can enforce the 'Zone Defence' rule, Any teams wishing to question an opposing team on a breach of the 'Zone Defence' rule must approach the BBA Sports Office (Referees are not to make an adjudication on the 'Zone Defence' rule).

i. If the BBA Sports Office believes you are in breach of the 'Zone Defence' rule then the BBA Sports Office will notify the coach of a warning for their breach.

ii. A continual breach of the rule after the warning will result in a Technical Foul, Category 2, being awarded to the Coach. Referees will be notified to issue a technical foul.

z. The three (3) point line will be recognized in competitions from Under 12's.

i. The 6.25 metre line will be used for all domestic games in Under 12's & Under 14's where applicable.

ii. The 6.75 metre line will be used for all domestic games in Under 16, Under 18 and senior games.

aa. A junior player may play in a competition of the opposite gender under the following guidelines;

i. A player in the Under 12s or below may play in a competition of the opposite gender with permission from the BBA Sports Office (as long as all other By-Laws are adhered to), as a fill in player only (not as a permanent player).

ii. Any player in the Under 12s or below, or any junior female player in the Under 14s or above may permanently play in a competition of the opposite gender with permission from the Director of Coaching for development purposes. (Each player to be reviewed on a case by case basis at the sole discretion of the Director of Coaching).

No male player in the Under 14s or above can play in a female competition. aa. The ruling of the no charge semi-circle will be enforced

21. Playing Regulations (Special Conditions)

In the situation where a club team, playing in its correct age division, is dominating that particular division, the club to self-regulate that team. The BBA reserves the right to intervene, where a club fails to act, in the opinion of the BBA Sports Office, in the best interests of the competition. The BBA shall also maintain a right to instruct clubs to re-organise teams in any age division to meet the Associations Objectives as stated in the Constitution.

a. Behavioural Category 1 Technical Fouls will be recorded.

b. Players and team staff will be suspended from games if incurring multiple behavioural technical fouls throughout the season.

3 = 1 game suspension
5 = 2 game suspension
6 = 3 game suspension

22. Sin Bin Rules

a. Any player, coach or team official who incurs a Category 1 Technical Foul, will be sent to the Sin-Bin for a period of five (5) minutes playing time (Sin Bin).

b. The five minutes does not include the break between quarters or halves.

c. For players that incur a first Category 1 technical foul they may sit on the team bench.

d. For a coach or team official that incur a first Category 1 technical foul they must remove themselves from the team bench at least 25 metres away and cannot communicate with the team during this period.

e. A second Category 1 Technical Foul will result in the player, coaching staff or team official being ejected from the game and subject to possible Tribunal action.

f. Note: The player/coach, etc must leave the playing area. They are not permitted to be in an area that enables them to view and/or interact with anyone on or off the playing area they were ejected from.

g. Game Referees are required to;

i. Penalize any obvious form of dissent, such as disputing calls, critical comments towards Referees or their calls and bad language with a Technical Foul.

ii. A second similar offence results in the player being disqualified from the game. (A 'similar' offence involves more criticism. Dissent etc. resulting in a second Technical Foul).

iii. Where a referee does not see or hear an incident but it is observed by the Referees Supervisor(s) on duty, they may notify the Referee of the indiscretion and the referee may then be obliged to enact the Sin Bin rule.

h. The player, coach or team official who is sent to the Sin-Bin is allowed to be substituted.

23. Finals Eligibility

a. To be eligible to play in finals a player must have 6 'played games' for the current season.

b. A 'played game' is defined when:

i. Each registered player has paid their game fees. The player then reports to the score bench prior to the start of the game to be ticked on the scoresheet or digital scoring device

ii. A registered player wins a game by the other team forfeiting;

iii. A registered player cannot play in a game due to the match being abandoned;

1. Due to adverse weather conditions,
2. For other unforeseen circumstances as seen fit by the BBA Board;
3. For those other reasons as listed below in By-Law 27.

c. Note that byes do not count towards the numbers of games played for finals eligibility.

d. Fill-in games will not count towards finals eligibility.

e. Referees in conjunction with scorers should untick the names of any person on the score sheet or digital scoring device who is not present for the match. Referees should check the digital scoring device at half time

f. For junior players, to be eligible to play finals in both the age of which they are eligible to play they must meet the finals eligibility for both age groups.

Example: 6 Games in the Under 14 Girls 1 and 6 Games in the Under 16 Girls 1.

g. The BSL Sports Office will provide a list of how many games player(s) have played in a season when requested.

h. Grading games count towards eligibility.

i. It is the responsibility of the player or club to contact the BSL Sports Office no later than 5 working days prior to the commencement of the relevant finals series to question or challenge their finals eligibility. Should the player not do this in the prescribed time they will be ineligible to play in the finals series and no further discussions will be entered into.

j. Injured players – in the case of an injured or sick player a club have the option of requesting an injury waiver for that player from the BBA. The injury waiver may be granted, subject to the following conditions:

i. The player must have played in 25% of the 'played games' and with the illness/injury waiver also still meets the requirements in 27h) with the time length of the medical certification.

k. Example: The team plays 16 games for the season. The injured player must have played in 25% of the team games = 4. With a Medical certificate for 2 games where the player did not play in those specific rounds the player would meet the 6 Played Games eligibility requirements.

i. Medical certification to the extent and term of the injury/illness is supplied by a certified medical practitioner or sports medicine specialist. The certification must also provide the dates the injury/illness covered.

ii. Additional medical certification and written notice is provided to the BBA to state the injured/ill player is medically fit to resume participation.

iii. Any application for an injury waiver must be received in writing by the BBA Sports Office no later than 5 working days prior to the commencement of the relevant finals series.

l. When a player misses a game due to being a BBA Board Member or sub-committee member of the BBA and their name is duly recorded in the minutes of the meeting, this will count as a 'played game'. The player must inform the BBA Sports Office within 3 working days

of the game missed due to the above mentioned meeting. The BBA Sports Office will then check the minutes of the meeting and update the playing records.

m. Where a referee is involved in a tribunal hearing that requires them to miss a match where they would have played, they will be credited with a match towards finals eligibility.

n. When a player misses games due to being pregnant the ruling that applies to points 27 also applies in relation to the player having played in at least 25% of played games. With this pregnancy waiver the player must also still meet the requirements of points 27 with the games missed due to being pregnant.

o. The decision of the BBA Board is final.

24. Clearances

a. If a player registered with an affiliated Club desires to transfer to another affiliated Club/or independent team, that player shall-apply to their former Club for a Clearance. This shall apply to both senior and junior players.

b. Applications for a Clearance must be lodged with the players existing Club, prior to the fourth round of the grading competition in the grade they are applying to play in, the Club team must deal with the Clearance prior to the first round of the season proper.

c. In the event it isn't processed within this period the players' Clearance will be deemed granted unless a satisfactory reason is provided to the BBA Board by the Club.

d. The agreed process for applying for a Clearance is to be adhered to as follows:

   i. Complete an online Clearance Form via the BBA website within the BBA approved timeframes;

   ii. The former Club Secretary/Committee to review the clearance;

   iii. The former Club either grants or refuses Clearance.

e. No official or player of an affiliated Club, or independent team, shall be permitted to offer any inducement to a player of another club, in an attempt to gain that player clearance.

f. Club/team officials and players must first obtain the permission of the Club Secretary of the player concerned prior to interviewing any player regarding a transfer to their Club/team.

g. If that Club refuses the Clearance then that player may lodge an appeal with the BBA Board.

h. The BBA Board can make decisions after hearing from all parties in person or in writing on a clearance or permit if it's refused by the club. The Board will require a quorum to make a decision without there being any conflict of interest from club allegiances. Should there be a conflict of interest, all cases of complaint are then referred to the Independent body for investigation.

i. Clubs or teams are not permitted to recruit players to the detriment of existing clubs. Clubs or teams cannot recruit via clearance or permit more than 3 players from another club or team in the same age group in a particular season. Exception to this clause will be made if the player's current club approves the transfer of more than 3 players from one team or club to another team or club.

j. Players shall not be entitled to play for another Club or team until their Clearance is granted or an appeal has been conducted and the appeal upheld. Should a player be refused a Clearance, and subsequently be unsuccessful in an appeal, then that player may stand out of basketball for a period of 20 regular playing weeks, from the date of initial application, to receive an automatic Clearance from their former Club.

k. Players applying for a Clearance must reconcile any outstanding financial obligations with their former Club prior to playing with their new Club/or independent team.

l. Players wanting to transfer from an independent team to another club or independent team are not required to gain a clearance. A club is defined as having 7 or more teams administered by a Committee on behalf of all the teams.

m. If any affiliated Club team disbands, all the players concerned will still be attached to that Club. Should the Club be unable to place the players in that team, in another of that Club's teams, then all those players shall be granted a Clearance or a Permit, subject to these By- Laws.

n. Should a player not compete in a BBA competition for a period of 12 months then that player shall be automatically declared unattached.

o. Approval of the clearance must be confirmed by the BSL Sports Office. Players shall not presume that a clearance has been granted.

p. A team found to be playing a player without a clearance, shall lose the premiership points that the team gained for any games in which the uncleared player participated.

q. Teams are not prohibited from requesting a player from another Club or independent team to act as a non-playing Coach.

r. No current Squad player shall be permitted to be cleared to play in another team during the period 1 October to 31 August.

25. Permits

a. Permits will only be granted to players in exceptional circumstances; the Permit process is not to be used in place of the Clearance process.

b. Junior players must have a permit to play in a senior team or a team in a higher division not affiliated with their Junior Club.

c. Note: Exceptional circumstances do not include a request for a permit to 'play with friends' or similar wording.

d. The agreed process for applying for a Permit is to be adhered to as follows:

   i. Complete an online Permit Form via the BBA website;

   ii. The former Club Secretary/Committee to review the Permit;

   iii. The former Club either grants or refuses Permit.

e. Application for Permits will be granted at the discretion of the BSL Sports Office.

f. Permits only last for the current season.

g. Appeals must be lodged with the BBA Board.

h. A temporary permit may be granted where:

   i) The player's registered Club does not have a team in the higher age division in which the player is eligible to participate;

   ii) The player's registered Club has a team in the higher age division but does not have capacity to accommodate the player; or

   iii) The player cannot be accommodated in their registered Club team due to the Junior Braves player restrictions.

i. A temporary permit granted under Clause 27.h shall only apply for the relevant domestic season and shall not constitute a Clearance or permanent transfer of the player's registration.

j. A player granted a temporary permit under Clause 27.h shall retain their homegrown status with their registered Club for the purposes of Clause 20.n.ii, provided the player otherwise satisfies the four (4) season requirement under that clause.

k. A player participating for another Club under a permit shall not acquire or be deemed to have homegrown status with the receiving Club as a result of that permit. The player's homegrown status, where applicable, remains with their registered Club. A home grown status will begin once they have received a clearance to join their new club.

l. The homegrown status protection under this clause does not apply where a player voluntarily requests to play for another Club where their registered Club has a team and capacity to accommodate the player, or where the player obtains a Clearance to another Club.

ii. **Ineligible Players**

   i. Any team, which is found to have been playing an ineligible player, shall forfeit all points gained for the games in which the player took part. This shall be enforced by the BBA Sports Office.

   ii. Players who are nominated in any one club team, playing in a Division of a particular age

group, are not permitted to play with another team in the same age group in that Division or lower, once the grading rounds have been completed.

iii. Where a team has insufficient players present to avoid a walkover, an ineligible player may be enlisted to allow the game to proceed but must be declared prior to the game.

iv. Players must pay the Basketball Victoria affiliation & insurance fee or they shall be deemed as ineligible.

v. Players can be requested to provide as condition of entry photo identification to prove identity. If a player was found to be playing under a false name they are automatically reported as well as the Team Contact.

vi. An automatic penalty of 8 weeks to apply to both the captain of senior teams and coach of junior teams and the ineligible player.

iii. **Protests**

i. Any team wishing to lodge a protest in respect of any game must endorse the scoresheet or place it in the game notes on PlayHQ eScoring in the presence of the Referee, signing the intention to protest or in the case of PlayHQ eScoring typing their name.

ii. The official protest must be lodged to the BBA Sports Office within seven (7) days of the game.

iii. The parties concerned shall be entitled to attend an arranged meeting of the BBA Domestic Competitions Committee at which the protest shall be heard. Members of the BBA Board connected with either team shall take no part in the proceedings. Any member of the BBA Board who was involved as an Official, shall not take part in any decision made in relation to an appeal.

iv. **Use of Equipment**

i. Any person found abusing or damaging equipment belonging to the BBA in the Bendigo Stadium shall be subjected to disciplinary action enforced by the BBA.

ii. A summary of the type of abuse/damage and the penalties are listed as follows:

i. Ball abuse (violently kicking/slamming into wall etc.)

ii. Grabbing nets/rings (not during game)

iii. Breaking backboards

iii. Penalties that will apply are:

i. Four (4) weeks banned from the stadium (automatic)

ii. Replacement cost if damaged beyond repair/or cost of repair

v. **Bond Payments**

i. Each team who enters the competition shall pay a Bond. All Bond payments received from domestic basketball teams will be held in trust.

ii. If a team forfeits without paying or in any way defaults on payment for a scheduled game then they will be asked to pay the charges. If they do this twice and fail to pay all outstanding charges before the next round then all of their bond will be forfeited to Bendigo Stadium and they will be removed from the competition.

iii. If a team doesn't draw down on its bond in a season then the bond may be rolled into the next season for use by a team of the same name.

iv. If the Stadium receives a signed request on the prescribed form to refund the bond at the end of the season then the stadium will pay the balance directly into the bank account of the team contact.

v. Bonds must be replenished prior to the commencement of a new season. Failure to do so will result in the team entry for the upcoming season being denied.

vi. **Weekly Player Fees and Outstanding Fees**

i. Junior and Senior Teams will have their Team Manager or designated person pay their weekly game fees of all players via Teampay before they leave the stadium.

ii. Teams that do not pay outstanding team game fees that are overdue and not paid by the

end of the following game will not be eligible to earn game points for any game after the missed payment until all outstanding payments are made.

iii. If the non-payment continues, they will be expelled from the competition.

vii. **Unusual Situation**

i. Should any matter arise for which provision has not been specifically made in these By-Laws, the BSL Sports Office shall take such action as is necessary to protect the interests of the Association and the conduct of Basketball in