



RULES OF OPERATION

2025 WINTER SEASON

Rules of Operation	3
1) Competition Structure	3
2) Competition Entry	5
3) Player Registration, Team Lists and Player Movement.....	6
4) Player Eligibility	7
5) Playing Uniform	9
6) Playing Apparel	10
7) Match Officials, Venue Supervisors and Scoring Officials.....	11
8) Rules of The Game	12
9) Late Start Rule	14
10) Heat Policy & Timing Rules	14
11) No Zone Defence Rule	15
12) Mercy Rule	15
13) Basketball Codes of Conduct	16
14) Cancelled and Abandoned Games	16
15) Classification of Teams and Finals	17
16) Qualification For Finals	17
17) Disputes	19
18) Tribunals	19
19) Child Protection Policy.....	20
20) Complaint and Grievance Policy.....	21
21) Miscellaneous Policies	23
22) CBL Penalties and Fines	24

Mission

Camberwell District Basketball Association (CDBA) provides opportunities for all athletes and officials to develop their potential and compete at the highest levels. Our program enables players to practise and improve their skill level with our coaches and to contribute to a strong sense of team and sporting community.

The Community Basketball League (CBL) provides a grassroots opportunity for young men and women and junior boys and girls to compete in the sport.

Rules of Operation

1) Competition Structure

- a) Junior & Youth Age Groups
 - i) Summer Season (starts October): Under 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 22 on December 31 in the year the season ends. For example, for the 2024-25 Summer season, a player turning 12 in 2025 must play in U14s.
 - ii) Winter Season (starts April): Under 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 22 on December 31 prior to the season start. For example, a player turning 12 on December 31 is U14.
- b) Junior players may play in more than one age group subject to:
 - i) Players may only be registered to play in one team per age group (e.g., Under 10 Girls).
 - ii) A player may play in two teams in different age groups (e.g., Under 10 Girls and Under 12 Girls) provided they are eligible by age and gender.
 - iii) Players cannot play up more than one age group above their designated age group. For example, an Under 12-aged player may play in the Under 14 competition, but not in Under 16s (or older) unless granted an exemption from CBL Management.
- c) Age Group Exemptions
 - i) Exemptions may be granted for players to play outside of the age restrictions, at the complete discretion of CBL Management.
 - ii) For an application for a player to play in a younger age group to be considered, the following may be required to be provided by email:
 - (1) Rationale,
 - (2) Declaration by the Club/Team that the player will not pose a danger to opposition players due to being significantly physically larger, and
 - (3) Medical certificate explaining why the player in question should not play in their actual age group.
 - iii) For an application for a player to play up more than one age group above their designated age group to be considered, the following must be provided by email:

- (1) Rationale,
 - (2) Written permission from a Parent/guardian of the player, and
 - (3) Declaration by the Club/Team that
 - (a) the player will not be in any danger by being significantly smaller than opposition players, and
 - (b) that opposition players will not feel the need to compromise their style of play when playing against the player.
- d) Proof of Age
 - Any player may be called upon by CBL Management to supply proof of age.
- e) Gender
 - i) There will be a separate boys' competition and a separate girls' competition.
 - ii) Girls may register and play in boys' competition in the Under 8 to Under 12 age groups.
- f) Grades, Sub-Grades & Pools
 - i) Each Age Group may be separated into one or more grades. Grades will be identified as A, B, C, D and or E etc.
 - ii) Each Grade may be separated into one or more Sub-Grades i.e., B Grade may include Sub-Grades identified as B1, B2, B3, B4 etc.
- g) Grading
 - i) Initial grading of teams will be nominated by the Club/team and reviewed by CBL Management.
 - ii) CBL Management will grade/re-grade team entries to ensure fair competition.
 - iii) Promotion and/or relegation of teams will be at the discretion of CBL Management.
- h) Grading Points
 - i) Prior to the start of the season the CBL Competition Manager will decide the number of grading rounds.
 - ii) At the completion of grading rounds the teams will be placed in their final grade.
 - iii) For calculating adjusted premiership points, the results of each grading round will be assessed on the final grade in which each team is graded:
 - (1) If two teams who have played in the grading rounds finish in the same grade, then the result of that grading game will stand (three points for a win, two points for a draw, and one point for a loss or forfeit)
 - (2) If the two teams who have played in the grading rounds finish in different grades, then both the winning and losing team would both be allocated two points.

2) Competition Entry

a) Junior & Youth Teams

All junior players / teams register via an affiliated domestic club. Teams must register a minimum of five players on their team entry. Teams must make payment of the prescribed fees as specified by CBL Management.

b) Club-Based Membership

- i) Application by a Club for membership in the Community Basketball League must be made in writing to CBL Management. Applications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis in the best interests of Camberwell District Basketball Association (CDBA) and existing affiliated clubs. CBL Management may at its discretion reject any application by a club for membership.
- ii) Registration of club-based teams and members, and all consequential requirements, shall be the responsibility of the designated club administrator.
- iii) Teams and players registered via clubs covered by relevant insurance and bound to all policies governing the CBL.

c) Condition of Entry

All teams participating in the CBL shall adhere to the CBL Rules of Operation. All players, coaches, parents, referees and spectators must abide by Basketball Victoria's (BV) Codes of Conduct: <https://api.basketballvictoria.com.au/api/assets/byuip6j02lssg4ok>

d) Acceptance of Team Entry

- i) Receipt of the team entry and payment of the required fees does not guarantee acceptance of the entry into the CBL competition. Teams may be refused entry due to:
 - (1) non-payment of prescribed fees,
 - (2) competition exceeding venue / resource capacity,
 - (3) non-compliance with policies &/or acceptable standards of behaviour,
 - (4) unpaid fines
 - (5) proving unreliable in previous seasons,
 - (6) previous withdrawal from fixture competition, or
 - (7) CBL Management decision taken in the best interest of the competition.

e) Late Entries

Teams may be entered after the first (1st) round at the discretion of CBL Management. The registration fee applicable for all late entries will be charged at double the standard fee.

- f) Withdrawal of Entry
 - i) A team may be withdrawn at any time prior to the completion of the grading period, by notifying the CDBA, without penalty. However, if a team has already been fixtured and the CBL cannot find a team to fill the scheduled time, then the club shall pay the forfeit fee.
 - ii) If a team is withdrawn after the completion of the grading period, the club shall pay a withdrawal fine, in addition to walkover fines, if the CBL cannot fill the scheduled times.
- g) Disqualification from Competition
 - i) A team may be disqualified from competition at the discretion of CBL Management, when the team:
 - (1) gives two consecutive forfeits,
 - (2) gives three forfeits in a season,
 - (3) refuses to pay fines incurred, or
 - (4) breaches acceptable standards of behaviour by any reasons deemed not in the best interest of basketball by CBL Management.

3) Player Registration, Team Lists and Player Movement

- a) Player Registrations
 - i) Each new player registration must be entered online before the first game of the season.
 - ii) If a player is new or unregistered, a Team representative will need to add the player courtside at the game.
 - iii) Junior player registration via a Club remains valid unless a clearance is applied for, approved by both Clubs, and accepted by CBL Management.
- b) Late Player Registrations
 - i) Players not registered to a team prior to the first round of competition being played are deemed late registrations.
 - ii) Late registration of players will be permitted subject to the approval of CBL Management.
 - iii) Clubs/Teams must contact CBL Management when adding late registrations that may alter the competitive balance of the team.
 - iv) CBL Management may consult as appropriate and may:
 - (1) Refuse the late registration,
 - (2) Approve the late registration for a limited time,
 - (3) Approve the late registration subject to review and feedback over the subsequent weeks, or
 - (4) Approve the late registration unconditionally.
 - v) CBL Management may deny a late player registration that unfairly compromises the

integrity of the competition.

- vi) CBL Management may re-grade a team because of a late player registration; however, this decision remains solely at the discretion of CBL Management, pending factors such as competitive balance, time of season and impact on other teams within the competition.

c) Team Lists

All Teams are expected to enter their players online into the relevant team lists one week before the start of their first game of the season.

d) Player Clearances

- i) Once a player is registered with an affiliated Club, they may not register for another affiliated Club until they have received a clearance.
- ii) A clearance is not required if the players previous Club is no longer a member of the CBL.
- iii) Clearances must be completed in the manner advised by CBL Management.
- iv) Any player has the right to be cleared to another Club subject to paying all monies owed to their current Club.
- v) Where a player wishes to be cleared from one Club to another during the season, it will be subject to the approval of CBL Management, the granting of which will be at the CBL's absolute discretion.
- vi) Where a player is cleared from one Club to another during the season, finals qualification with the previous team is cancelled and the player requires five games with their new team to qualify for the finals.
- vii) Any player taking court without a clearance from their previous Club within the CBL will result in the team they have played in, forfeiting the game.
- viii) When any person is found to be in breach of this rule, they may be suspended from any involvement in the CBL including playing and/or coaching.
- ix) If a Club wilfully violates this rule, CBL Management may sanction that Club.

e) Player Movement

- i) A player is permitted to move teams freely, within or across age groups, with the written approval of CBL Management, until the end of the grading period.
- ii) A player may not move teams after the completion of the grading period without permission from CBL Management, the granting of which will be at the complete discretion of the CBL and will be granted only in special circumstances.
- iii) A player not listed in any team prior to the completion of grading will be considered a "fill in" player and will not be eligible to play finals without permission from CBL Management – the granting of which will be at the complete discretion of the CBL and will be granted only in special circumstances.

4) Player Eligibility

a) Starting Players

All teams must have four (4) players to start the game.

b) Ineligible Players

- i) An ineligible player is a player who:
 - (1) is suspended.
 - (2) is over age for the competition and has not been granted an exemption.
 - (3) is not eligible by gender.
 - (4) has not received a Clearance from another Club.
 - (5) infringes the player Fill In rules, or
 - (6) infringes the Player Movement rules.
 - ii) The game shall be declared a forfeit (game result change) if any player is ineligible.
 - iii) The referees do not have the jurisdiction to determine the eligibility of a player(s) for a game unless that ineligible player is over age or the incorrect gender.
 - iv) Ineligible players can be played to avoid a forfeit; however, it will result in a forfeit result.
 - v) It is a reportable offence to play under an assumed name, or to arrange for someone to do so.
 - vi) It is a reportable offence to play an over-age player under a false date of birth, or to arrange for someone to do so.
 - vii) If a team plays an ineligible player, then the game score will be changed to a 0–20 loss for the team fielding the ineligible player.
 - viii) If a game is played where both teams play ineligible players, a double forfeit will be applied. The score will become 0-0 and no premiership points will be awarded for either team.
- c) Fill In Players
- i) A player is deemed a “fill in” if they are:
 - (1) unregistered in the current season, or
 - (2) registered in the CBL current season for another team.
 - ii) Fill in players may participate subject to the following conditions:
 - (1) Players must be from a lower division. Eg. Under 10 B grade player can fill in for under 10 A grade but not for Under 10 C or D.
 - (2) A player currently playing for the same club may fill in for an older age group, provided they "fill in" for a team in a higher section, the same section or one section lower than the "player's team" eg. An U12 B Grade player can fill in for U14 A, B or C Grade but NOT D Grade.
 - iii) Representative players playing in Victorian Championship (VC), VJL1 or VJL2 in their current VJBL season are only permitted to be used as a fill in player in A Grade competition.
 - iv) Club-based teams should take every reasonable effort to obtain fill in players from within the same club.
 - v) A player can only play three (3) games as a fill in before they must register. All games played for that season will count towards finals eligibility.

5) Playing Uniform

a) Team Uniform

- i) All teams are required to provide their own uniform, comprising of singlet and shorts.
- ii) Teams should ensure they have reversible singlets or a second set available for colour clashes.
- iii) Singlets must be uniformly coloured in the same dominant/base colour and legally numbered front and back.
- iv) Shorts must be uniformly coloured.
- v) Different shades of a colour are considered different colours i.e., black, navy blue and royal blue are all considered different colours.
- vi) Each team shall register the colours of their uniform with CBL Management entering the competition. The colours registered shall be the dominant colour of the singlets and the dominant colour of the shorts. The registered colours shall comprise the registered uniform.
- vii) Any team wishing to make changes to the design or colour of their uniform or have new advertising / sponsorship must notify CBL Management in writing and will be required to provide a sample for approval.
- viii) A player cannot play unless clothed in playing uniform, other than in exceptional circumstances (e.g., the Blood Rule or permission granted by CBL Management prior to or during the game).
- ix) A uniform infringement will incur a fine for the first (1st) occurrence and further fines for subsequent offences.

b) Uniform Colour Clashes

- i) In the event of a colour clash of the nominated primary-coloured uniforms, the first-named team will change from its primary colour to ensure an appropriate contrast clearly exists. If a team is not in their nominated primary colour and there is a colour clash, they must change.
- ii) This rule also applies in finals. The game must still be played. Failing to ensure a clear contrast exists will result in a penalty as described in the fines list.
- iii) Players who are not clothed in the registered uniform singlet will be permitted to take the court, but a penalty, as described in the fines list, shall apply.

c) Permitted Playing Numbers

- i) Numbers 0-99 are permitted.
- ii) Duplicate numbers are not permitted.
- iii) Taped or hand-written numbers are permitted as a temporary solution.

d) Uniform Exemptions

- i) Any team seeking an exemption from the prescribed uniform requirements must submit in writing to CBL Management outlining the rationale and timeframe required to rectify the infringement.
- ii) An exemption will be granted based upon the information submitted at the discretion of CBL Management and reserves the right to withdraw an exemption at any time.
- iii) Requests will not be recognised by game day operations, including Supervisors or Referees, until a written response has been received from CBL Management.

- iv) No members of game day operations have the authority to issue a uniform exemption and must apply the penalties where no exemption exists.
 - v) Uniform penalties will not be retrospectively adjusted for an exemption granted after the application of a uniform points penalty.
- e) Uniform Points Penalty
- i) A team penalty is applicable for any player(s) identified to be infringing the prescribed uniform policies. The consequence shall be a match points penalty awarded in favour to the opposing team.
 - ii) The penalty will be two (2) points per infringing player to a maximum of 10 points.
 - iii) This penalty will be administered immediately upon discovery of an infringement and is not negotiable and is not at the discretion of the opposition or referees.
 - iv) Penalties will not be administered during the grading period.

6) Playing Apparel

- a) Prohibited Items
- i) Players shall not wear equipment (objects) that may cause injury to other players.
 - ii) All players must comply with the FIBA Official Basketball Rules unless an exemption is specified in these Rules of Operation.
 - iii) Referees are not to permit any player to wear objects that may cause injury to other players.
 - iv) T-Shirts may be worn under the playing singlet.
 - v) Sleeves must not extend beyond the elbow and the colour must be the same for all members of the team.
 - vi) Compression garments may be worn under shorts and/or singlets, however it is recommended they are black, white or a colour from the team uniform.
 - vii) Shorts may not have cuffs, pockets, belts, buckles, or external drawstring.
 - viii) Clothing must not have zips.
 - ix) Use of club uniforms by non-affiliated teams must have written consent from that club.
 - x) Tops do not need to be tucked into shorts.
 - xi) Socks can be any length and any colour.
- b) Protective Gear
- i) The wearing of approved protective equipment will be considered upon written application to CBL Management, providing a medical certificate is attached and the proposed prosthesis as described is considered safe for all participants.
 - ii) CBL Management will provide the player with a letter of exemption, which must be shown upon request.
- c) Fingernails
- i) Uncovered fingernails that protrude past the tip of the finger are prohibited.

- ii) Fingernails must be cut to a safe length prior to the player entering the game.
 - iii) Fingernails may be suitably covered (i.e., with medical tape) to the satisfaction of the referees.
 - iv) The wearing of approved gloves is permitted.
 - v) Players refusing to cover or cut their nails when requested to do so by the referee may not take the court.
- d) Jewellery
- i) Exposed jewellery is not to be worn during CBL games. This also includes any items that are used for decoration. e.g., rings, earrings/ studs, nose rings/lip rings/necklaces, bracelets, anklets, and watches.
 - ii) Jewellery must be removed or suitably covered (i.e., with medical tape) to the satisfaction of the referees.
- e) Hair and Hair Accessories
- i) Players with plaited ponytails must either roll the plait in a bun or remove the plait and play with a loose ponytail.
 - ii) If items in a player's hair are made from a non-abrasive, pliable material, they will be permitted to be worn, as they pose no threat of injury. This includes headscarves or other fabric articles worn for religious purposes held in place by bobby pins or snap clips.

7) Match Officials, Venue Supervisors and Scoring Officials

- a) Match Officials and Venue Supervisors
- i) CBL Management will appoint Match Officials and Venue Supervisors.
 - ii) CBL Management will endeavour to have two match officials wherever possible.
 - iii) Where there is no Venue Supervisor, the most senior Match Official will be the Venue Supervisor.
- b) Scoring Officials
- i) Each team shall provide one (1) competent bench/scoring official. Should disagreement arise over allocated duties then the following shall apply.
 - (1) First-named team – clock/timekeeping.
 - (2) Second-named team – Electronic Scoring System or paper scoresheet.
 - ii) Scoretable officials should be a minimum of 14 years old unless agreed otherwise by both teams and the match officials.
 - iii) If a team cannot supply a capable person to act as its score bench official, the captain of the team will nominate a player to act as its score bench official. This person may act as a substitute during the match but only if their replacement on the score bench is also a capable person.
 - iv) In the case of a team having only four (4) players and no capable person to act as score bench official, the opposing team shall perform the functions of both score bench officials to the best of their ability.
 - v) Failure to provide a score bench official will result in a ten (10)-point penalty being administered. This penalty is not negotiable and is not at the discretion of the

opposition or referees. The penalty shall be awarded against the infringing team at half time.

- vi) If neither team has a score bench official, the game shall not commence. Under no circumstances may either of the rostered match officials complete the duties of score bench officials.
 - vii) Score bench officials must work together to ensure the scoreboard and electronic scoring system are correct and remain at the score bench until one of the referees has completed and signed off the electronic scoring device or scoresheet.
 - viii) While fulfilling a role on the score bench, scorers are recognised as officials of the game and are expected to be always impartial and act professionally.
 - ix) Both score bench officials are equally responsible for the scoreboard and electronic scoring system. Should there be a disparity between the scoreboard and scoring system the score bench officials should attempt to resolve and correct the error.
 - x) In the event the score bench officials acknowledge the error and agree to the resolution but are unable to correct due to technical difficulties or limitations, they should call over the referees and/or supervisor for assistance.
 - xi) If a consensus cannot be reached between the score bench or teams, the official recognised result is what is recorded on the electronic scoring system (or paper scoresheet), not the scoreboard.
 - xii) If a team disputes the result, they should notify the supervisor who will lodge the dispute in the session report. The dispute will be investigated by CBL Management with resolution to be reached before the next scheduled round of competition.
- c) Electronic Scoring System/Scoresheet
- i) It is the responsibility of each team to ensure the full name (first name and family name) of all players who participated in the game are on the electronic scoring system.
 - ii) Where technical difficulties prevent the use of the electronic scoring system, or any other reason deemed appropriate by CBL Management, paper scoresheets may be used. Teams are required to ensure the following information is clearly written in the appropriate fields:
 - (1) Team name.
 - (2) Player first name and family name.
 - (3) Player jersey number.

8) Rules of The Game

- a) FIBA rules apply to all competitions unless otherwise specified in these Rules of Operations or in CBL policies.
- b) Timing Rules
 - i) Teams are to be given a two (2) minute warm-up before the game. Referees do not have discretion to vary this time without the agreement of both coaches.
 - ii) Games shall consist of:
 - (1) two (2) x 18-minute halves; and

- (2) a two (2)-minute half-time break.
 - iii) Three (3) time-outs per team per game, with a maximum two (2) per half. No time-out can encroach on the last minute of the first half.
 - iv) Clock stops on all whistles in the final two (2) minutes of the second (2nd) half. The clock will not stop if a team is winning by 15 points or more. Timing changes will apply for finals and will be communicated to CBL Clubs before each finals series.
- c) Basketball Size
 - i) Boys and Girls Under 8 to Under 12 — Size 5
 - ii) Boys and Girls Under 14 — Size 6
 - iii) Girls Under 16 to Under 22 — Size 6
 - iv) Boys Under 16 to Under 22 — Size 7
- d) Three-Point Line
 - i) Under 8 to Under 10 — not recognised.
 - ii) Under 12 to Under 14 — shortest-available three-point line.
 - iii) Under 16 to Under 22 — longest-available three-point line.
- e) Foul Line
 - i) Under 8 to Under 12 — Short foul line (advanced 1m).
 - ii) Under 14 to Under 22 — Regular foul line.
- f) Time in The Key
 - i) Under 8 to Under 10 — not applicable
 - ii) Under 12 to Under 22 — Three (3) seconds.
- g) Ring Height
 - i) Under 8 to Under 9 — Lowered height (where available)
 - ii) Under 10 to Under 22 — Regular.
- h) Semi-Finals and Grand Final Timing Rules
 - i) The clock will stop on all timeouts throughout the game.
 - ii) The clock will stop on all whistles in the last one (1) minute of the first half.
 - iii) The clock will stop on all whistles during the last three (3) minutes of the second half.
 - iv) If scores are level at the end of the game, an extra three (3) minutes will be played after a one-minute break to achieve a result. All fouls stand. One (1) timeout for each team is allowed. Clocks stops for all whistles and timeouts. Any subsequent extra periods will follow the same rule to achieve a result.
- i) Shot Clock – Pilot Program Winter 2025
 - i) Please refer to the Shot Clock Pilot Program – Rules of Operation

9) Late Start Rule

- a) Teams are required to be able to take the court at the published time for their game. A team may commence a game with a minimum of four (4) players.
- b) All pre-game administration (inclusive of uniform requirements) should be completed before the published start time for the game.
- c) The game officials will start the game clock at the published time or as soon thereafter as possible. Both teams must be ready to commence playing when the game clock is started.
- d) Any team failing to take the court with a minimum of four (4) players at the time of tip off will be penalised one (1) point per minute or part thereof up until 10 minutes have elapsed.
- e) Late start penalty points will be administered at the commencement of the game, is not negotiable and is not at the discretion of the opposition or referees.
- f) If a team fails to take the court after 10 minutes have elapsed the game shall be declared a forfeit.
- g) The non-offending team will be awarded a 20-0 victory with all registered players credited as played for finals qualification purposes.
- h) The offending team is awarded 0 competition points and no player credited as played.
- i) In the case of a forfeit by both teams – i.e., “double forfeit” – the result of the game shall be a double forfeit. A final game score of 0-0 shall be recorded and no players credited as played.
- j) The offending team(s) must pay the applicable forfeit fine fees; these will vary depending on the amount of notice provided.
- k) The game fee for the opposing team is fully refundable.
- l) Once notification of a forfeit has been provided, it cannot be revoked.

10) Heat Policy & Timing Rules

- a) All stadiums must be fitted with a thermometer.
- b) When the court temperature reaches 30oC, the Venue Supervisor will implement the heat rules.
- c) When the court temperature reaches 35oC, the Venue Supervisor must implement the heat rules.
- d) When the court temperature reaches 40oC, games must be abandoned.
- e) When the court temperature reaches 35oC, the referee must call an additional compulsory

timeout halfway through the half.

- f) Please refer to Basketball Victoria's Climate Policy for heat rules.
<https://api.basketballvictoria.com.au/api/assets/1e13qh2dadscosk4>

11) No Zone Defence Rule

- a) At no stage is a "Zone" defence permitted during Under 8 to Under 14 games.
- b) Definition of a zone: a method of defence, in which a member of the defensive team guards a specified area of the court, specifically around the key.
- c) For this rule, references to zone defences are specific to those played exclusively in the three-point area.
- d) For the purposes of these Rules, the "no zone" ruling does not preclude a team or its players from playing the following concepts:
 - i) Help defence
 - ii) Split line defence
 - iii) Full/Half court press
 - iv) Traps or double teaming
- e) Exception: A Zone Defence is permitted if a team has four or fewer players on the court.
- f) If a team plays a Zone Defence this should be reported to CBL Management via email or electronic form.
- g) No action should be taken on the day.

12) Mercy Rule

- a) The mercy rule is applicable to the junior domestic competitions from Under 8s to Under 22s.
- b) The junior domestic competitions are there to give all players an opportunity to have a go and enjoy their basketball. The mercy rule is in place to promote sportsmanship and to stop teams from dominating a particular game to the point of demoralising their opposition.
- c) The Mercy Rule is not applicable in the grading period or finals. This is to ensure teams can play at their full competitive potential and be graded to the most appropriate division.
- d) When a team leads by 20+ points they must play defence within the defensive three-point line on a made basket or dead ball.
- e) All players on defence are required to retreat to and remain within their defensive three-point line whenever their team is leading by 20 points or more.

- f) The team trailing by 20 points can opt for the rule to not be enforced.
- g) To enforce the Mercy Rule the referees may stop the game and instruct players to retreat back within the defensive three-point line.

13) Basketball Codes of Conduct

- a) All players, coaches, referees, officials, parents, and spectators are expected to abide by the Basketball Victoria Codes of Conduct:
<https://api.basketballvictoria.com.au/api/assets/byuip6j02lssg4ok>
- b) Behavioural Technical Foul
 - i) Any player who receives a technical foul must immediately leave the court and is not permitted to return to the game until five (5) minutes have elapsed on the game clock.
 - ii) Coaches, assistant coaches, bench staff and players who receive two behavioural technical fouls during a CBL season will be automatically suspended for one (1) game.
 - iii) For each subsequent behavioural technical foul, the person will be suspended for one (1) further game on each occasion.
 - iv) During a season, if a team accumulates five (5) technical fouls, the equivalent of one win (three points) will be deducted from a season's points tally.
- c) Spectator Behaviour
 At no point before, during or after a game are spectators permitted to approach a referee. All spectators must abide by the BV Spectator Code of Conduct (see above). If asked to leave the venue by a Venue Supervisor, the spectator must do so immediately.

14) Cancelled and Abandoned Games

- a) If a match is cancelled for any reason, the match will not be rescheduled. The match will be declared a 0-0 draw with registered players credited as played for finals qualification. Each team will receive two (2) premiership points.
- b) In the event of power restrictions or failure the Venue Supervisor will determine whether games will continue as fixtured.
- c) If more than 50% of scheduled games for a grade in a single round are cancelled, all scheduled games between two teams in the grade for that round will be declared a draw. If a team has been fixtured for a bye for the round, they will be awarded two premiership points.
- d) If the decision to cancel a game occurs after the completion of the first half, the game score recorded at the time of cancellation will stand.
- e) Where cancellation is necessary prior to the completion of the first half, the game is deemed to have not been played and both teams will be awarded a draw.

15) Classification of Teams and Finals

- a) Standings
 - i) The primary ranking of teams shall be made on points:
 - (1) Three (3) points for a Win.
 - (2) Two (2) points for a Draw.
 - (3) One (1) point for a Loss.
 - (4) Zero (0) points for a game lost by Forfeit.
 - ii) If there are two teams equal in this classification, the placing shall be determined using percentage from the results of all their games played in the group.
 - iii) If they have the same percentage, the next deciding factor will be based on head-to-head results between the two teams. Grading games do not count towards their head-to-head comparison.
 - iv) If the points difference is still the same, then the higher-placed team will be determined by which of them has scored the most points across the season.
- b) Finals Format
 - i) Semi-Finals
 - (1) Game A – 1st v 4th
 - (2) Game B – 2nd v 3rd
 - ii) Grand Final
 - (1) Game C – Winner A v Winner B

16) Qualification For Finals

- a) Games Qualification
 - i) For the sole purpose of game qualification, a player shall be considered to have played in that game when the player is in uniform and takes the court. Players may be made active at any stage of the game.
 - ii) The names of all players who participated in the game (both given name and surname) must be recorded on the scoring device/scoresheet for qualification purposes.
 - iii) To be eligible for finals, each player must:
 - (1) be registered to play in the CBL (inc. members registered via affiliated clubs)
 - (2) be registered to a team
 - (3) fulfil all registration requirements to the affiliated club (where applicable)
 - (4) participate and registered in a minimum of five (5) games in the regular season (including grading games).
 - iv) Playing under an incorrect name does not constitute grounds to contest finals eligibility.
 - v) All players entered in the electronic scoring system at a game will be credited with playing that game. Players that did not play must be removed from the ESS game

before match completion by the scorers.

- vi) Any disputes must be lodged with CBL Management within 24 hours of the completion of the game.
 - vii) Registered players at the time of a forfeit received will be credited with a game for finals eligibility.
 - viii) Byes count as qualifying games provided the scheduled dates of the byes are later than the date of the player's first game played for the season.
 - ix) In the case of the cancellation of a fixtured round/s of matches, all players registered to the team will be deemed to have played.
 - x) If a new player is ineligible to qualify for finals they are not permitted to play with the team, unless permission is granted in exceptional circumstances, by CBL Management.
- b) Medical Exemption
- i) Medical certificates may be accepted as evidence of injury/illness and can be used for exemption to game qualification criteria. For a player to be eligible to use a medical certificate, they must be nominated as a member of the team prior to the injury taking place.
 - ii) Injured players must have their medical certificates emailed to CBL Management. A medical certificate submitted must be received by CBL Management by close of business on the Monday before the last game of the regular season.
 - iii) Registered players may be granted an exemption and credited with games in particular rounds they were unable to play in due to a medical condition. Application for exemption must be supported by a medical certificate.
 - iv) There are no limits on the number of players that may receive medical exemption requests. However, each player must be registered to the team and have played at least two (2) games during the season.
- c) Special Permission for Finals
- i) If a team will have less than six (6) eligible players available (including medical exemptions), CBL Management may grant an exemption to the next most qualified and available player(s) so the team has six (6) players available to participate. These players must be registered to the team and have played at least two (2) games during the season.
 - ii) If a team can demonstrate to CBL Management it cannot field six (6) qualified players due to injury, CBL Management may grant permission for a player from a lower grade or age group to play.
 - iii) All finals exemptions and qualification issues must be lodged by email to CBL Management no less than five (5) days before the scheduled finals.
 - iv) Playing ineligible players during finals may result in automatic forfeiture of those matches and possible sanctions placed against the team / club.
 - v) Players that have missed games, including late-season registrations, for any other reasons should not presume to expect eligibility consideration.
 - vi) CBL Management reserves the right to assess individual circumstances on a case-by case basis that fall outside the finals exemption policy if it deems in the best interests of the team or competition to do so.

17) Disputes

- a) All disputes or protests must be lodged with CBL Management by 5pm on the next business day following the game. CBL Management will decide on any dispute or protest.
- b) Should any party disagree with the decision of the above they may lodge an appeal. This must be done within two (2) business days of the notification of the original decision.
- c) Match Day Scoresheet Errors
 - i) Errors CANNOT be corrected after the Referee has approved and signed off for the game.
 - ii) Only CBL Management may alter the result of a game after it has been signed off by the referees.
- d) Incorrect Application of Rules
 - i) In the case of incorrect application of penalties other than prescribed in the Rules of Operation, or failure to apply prescribed penalties in the Rules of Operation, CBL Management may amend the result of a game in conformity with the Rules of Operation.
 - ii) Should any matter arise for which provision has not been made in these Rules of Operation, the CBL Management shall take such action as necessary to protect the interests of the competition.
- e) Appeal Result of Game

The team shall send the relevant supporting information to CBL Management by 5pm of the next business day.

18) Tribunals

- a) Any member that fails to adhere to applicable policies will be subject to possible sanctions. These may include:
 - i) CBL Sanctions – these decisions are at the discretion of CBL Management for all CBL-governed programs and competitions.
 - ii) Basketball Victoria Tribunal Hearing – BV tribunals are comprised of an independent panel that oversees BV-related misconduct, with findings/outcomes applicable across all BV-affiliated leagues/programs.
- b) It is not a requirement that the referee notifies the person of their intention to report them at the time of the incident.
- c) Referees, Venue Supervisors and CBL Management have the power to report players, coaches, team managers and/or spectators in breach of BV codes of conduct.
- d) All reports from CBL matches shall be directed to CBL Management.
- e) The report form and all correspondence should be included with the report, along with known contact details of the persons involved.

- f) If a report is laid by a game official (completed report form) this will be passed to our independent chairperson to hold a tribunal. The tribunal's job is to decide which offences are relevant and which are not. The reporting official should also consider if it is a minor matter and if they believe it is they should indicate it on the front of the report form. This will then be considered by the tribunal chair who may make an offer to the reported person of a lower penalty than may normally be given and if accepted will mean there is no need for a hearing.
- g) This policy complements the BV Tribunal By-Laws by providing a mechanism for incidents to be investigated and acted upon where they are not observed by game officials or do not occur in the direct context of a basketball game. It should also be noted that once any game-based incident is acted on by game officials and the officials consider the matter dealt with, the association would only take further action under this policy in exceptional circumstances.
- h) It should be noted that a person who fails to appear before the Tribunal when summoned may incur an additional penalty.
- i) Those required to attend are:
 - i) The person reported.
 - ii) Any other person involved eg., victim of a striking charge
 - iii) The reporting official
 - iv) The other official
 - v) Witnesses called by the reported person, reporting official or the Tribunal
- j) A "junior" person (up to the age of 18) who makes a report or is reported has the right to have an adult attend as an observer and adviser.
- k) A reported person may have one (1) witness unless the Tribunal allows more than one.
- l) Any person may attend as an observer.
- m) All Tribunal Hearings are conducted under the Basketball Victoria Tribunal By-Laws. <https://www.basketballvictoria.com.au/resources/association-resources/governance#tribunal>

19) Child Protection Policy

- a) The Victorian Government has legislated those persons who work with children must undergo checks on their criminal records. Persons who have a conviction for a relevant criminal offence (sex, drug, and violent offences) will be prohibited from working with children.
- b) The Working with Children Act creates offences carrying very high penalties for non-compliance and those offences apply not just to the persons working with the children.
- c) but to their supervisors, organisations employing them and Committee/Board members of organisation in which the people work with children.
- d) The Act does have some exemptions. Police and teachers (who have separate checks) do

not have to get a Working with Children Check. However, they should give you some proof that they are police or teachers, such as a copy of the teacher's Institute of Teaching card. These exemptions will be recognised by Basketball Victoria.

- e) The Act also exempts parents where their children are playing in the team in which the parent is involved as a coach etc. Also exempt are adults where all children in a team are closely related to the person. However, Basketball Victoria requires those parents or close relatives to have Working with Children Checks. This is in line with most sports and this sort of measure has the support of the Working with Children Office.
- f) The Act requires all persons working with children to have the check if they have or are likely to have individual and unsupervised contact with children. This will include coaches, team managers and drivers and will also include referees and referee coaches.
- g) Clubs are urged to err on the side of caution in deciding who should be screened and screen a person if there is any doubt on whether they are required to be screened. All Committee/Board members are also required to be screened, regardless of whether they have individual and unsupervised contact with children.
- h) Persons under 18 are not required to be screened.
- i) Further information can be obtained from: www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au
- j) For more information, please refer to the Association Resources page on the Basketball Victoria Website – www.basketballvictoria.com.au/resources/association-resources/child-safe-standards

20) Complaint and Grievance Policy

- a) Definitions
 - i) A complaint is a general expression of dissatisfaction with a situation or the behaviours of other person(s) within the association – generally a complaint will be able to be managed within an individual program.
 - ii) A grievance is a more specific and serious feeling of wrongdoing that relates to harassment, discrimination, or vilification by person(s) within the CBL or external to the CBL – generally a grievance will be managed at Association level. The terms “harassment”, “discrimination” and “vilification” are defined in the Member Protection By-law of Basketball Victoria.
 - iii) Mediation is the attempt to affect a peaceful settlement between disputing parties via the facilitation of another independent third party, with all parties and the mediator present at the same time. A mediator can be appointed by mutual agreement between the parties, or failing such agreement, by CBL Management. The parties involved in the dispute determine the resolution themselves rather than have it imposed on them.
- b) Complaints Procedure
 - i) Any person who feels unhappy with a situation or the behaviours of other person(s) within the CBL should raise a complaint either verbally or in writing with their Club/Team to attempt to resolve the matter.

- ii) Any person who feels dissatisfied with an action or outcome from their Club/Team should raise the matter in writing with CBL Management, which will initiate a review by an appropriate official and decide if there is further action required.
 - iii) If the officer, after discussions/meetings with the parties involved, decides there is a case, they will complete a report and advise the parties of the next steps to resolution.
 - iv) CBL Management must attempt to mediate the matter within two weeks of receiving the complaint – this may include meetings between affected parties and involve other relevant people.
 - v) At a mediation, each party must be given the opportunity to be heard. At a mediation, the mediator must ensure that natural justice is accorded to the parties throughout the mediation process.
 - vi) Should a mediation hearing between parties resolve a complaint, then no further action is required.
 - vii) If the complaint is not resolved at mediation, the complainant may lodge a grievance with CBL Management by email.
 - viii) Should either party be unhappy with the outcome of the complaints process, they may lodge a grievance with CBL Management by email within seven (7) days of the finalised complaints process outcome.
- c) Grievance Procedure
- i) CBL Management will only receive grievances by email or electronic form and will log all grievances in an appropriate register to record the date of receipt, name of the complainant and general nature of the grievance. CBL Management must initially assess a grievance within seven (7) days of receipt of the grievance.
 - ii) Following the initial assessment, CBL Management must adopt one of the following courses of action:
 - (1) determine that the grievance is vexatious or trivial. In these circumstances, the complainant should be notified in writing and the grievance closed,
 - (2) determine that a grievance is more appropriately handled as a complaint and refer the matter to be dealt with by the relevant person between the parties, or
 - (3) determine that a grievance to be in need to action.
 - iii) In these circumstances, CBL Management must convene a Grievance Panel – the Panel should consist of three people who are impartial to the event and may include but is not limited to: CBL Management, members of the Board, external parties. The recommended size of this panel is three (3) but not restricted to.
 - iv) The following will apply to Grievance Panel hearings:
 - (1) The Panel must meet within one month of being formed.
 - (2) The Panel will invite all parties in the matter to be heard.
 - (3) All parties will be advised in writing of the outcome of the Panel hearing once recommendations are ratified by the Board.
 - (4) The Panel Chair has the discretion to determine if the Panel hearing should be conducted in the form of a mediation, or as a tribunal (where parties present their views separately without the other present).
 - (5) The CBL notes that the Basketball Victoria Member Protection By-Law states that whether behaviours are Harassment or Bullying is determined from the point of view of the person receiving the harassment.

- (6) All internal processes for hearing a grievance should be completed within three (3) months of the initial grievance being lodged.
- (7) Once an outcome of the grievance is determined, CBL Management should close the grievance in the register and record the outcomes of the matter. If a matter that has been dealt with as mediation and fails to deliver an acceptable resolution to both parties, then it will refer to the tribunal format and the panel can decide whether this is held at a set time over a period to gather further facts and may or may not require the parties central to the dispute to provide further accounts.
- (8) Should the aggrieved party not be satisfied with the outcome, they should advise CBL Management by email and the grievance should be escalated to Basketball Victoria under the provisions of the Member Protection By-Law. All participants should be aware of the very clear definition of harassment, discrimination or vilification contained in the Member Protection By-Law of Basketball Victoria as ignorance is not an excuse.
- v) Any complaint of a member protection issue must be sent directly to Basketball Victoria. THE CBL will act as a conduit between the two (2) parties.

21) Miscellaneous Policies

- a) Drugs and Alcohol
 - i) The use of performance enhancing drugs is prohibited by the Basketball Victoria Drugs in Basketball By-Laws. Lists of banned substances are distributed by the Australian Sports Drug Agency.
 - ii) No alcohol to be permitted within the playing precinct at Junior Games.
- b) Blood Rule and Safety Procedure
 - i) If a basketball has blood on it, it may not continue to be used.
 - ii) A player who is bleeding shall leave the court. If the wound continues to bleed, the player may not re-enter the court unless the wound is covered.
 - iii) A player may not enter the court or remain on the court in a uniform with blood on it but may replace the uniform with a makeshift top or shorts without penalty.
- c) Photography and Video
 - i) All persons attending should be aware that photographs taken at games may be published by the CBL for promotional purposes.
 - ii) Basketball Victoria recognises that there are many legitimate reasons why still and
 - iii) video photography at sports is very common and does not wish to unnecessarily restrict or curb that photography.
 - iv) It is perfectly normal and acceptable for parents to want to film their children's sports to keep as a memento of their growing up. This is becoming increasingly so with the technology being widely owned.
 - v) Coaches who wish to video their own team's games or training for training purposes should also normally be allowed to do so. As a courtesy, opposing team coach and/or team manager should be informed before a match commences if any member of the team intends to film/take photography during the game.

- vi) Parents of the coach's own team should be advised by the coach if it is intended to regularly video games or training and the reason for it.
 - vii) Should any person take objection to the photographing or videoing, they should be asked the reason why they object. It should be explained to them that normal policy in these circumstances is that the photography or videoing should be allowed. If the person objecting has a legitimate and strong reason why the objection is made, then a bar should be placed on the photography or videoing. A strong reason may be that the child concerned is the subject of contested custody proceedings or has been the subject of violence or threats and publication of a video or photograph may compromise the safety of the child.
- d) Live Streaming
- All persons attending should be aware that live streaming of games may be published by Basketball Victoria and CBL for promotional purposes.
- e) Sports Insurance
- The CBL competitions are covered by the Basketball Victoria Sports Insurance Policy. Parents and guardians are advised that the coverage assumes that participants will be able to claim through normal health insurance.
- <https://www.basketballvictoria.com.au/resources/association-resources/insurance>

22) CBL Penalties and Fines

- a) CBL will publish a list of offences and fines payable.
- b) Exceptions to these rules and penalties (including loss of premiership points and financial sanctions) for breach of competition rules are at the discretion of CBL Management.

Date of rules update: October 7, 2024