

## **Guidelines for Selection of Domestic Teams – Summer 2025-26**

### **Purpose**

At the Collingwood Basketball Association (the Club), we recognise that children join a basketball club for a range of reasons. These can typically be expected to include the development of basketball skills as well as providing an avenue for social development in an environment that also promotes health and fitness.

The Club aims to deliver a domestic program that recognises this range of aspirations and provides an environment where players are provided with an opportunity to develop their skills and enjoy the social aspects of team and club sport.

The aim of these guidelines is to set out the principles for determining domestic team composition.

### **Background and Principles**

These guidelines aim to clarify our team selection criteria, whilst acknowledging that player aspirations are varied and can change over time. Aspirations include:

- Player development
  - o Playing in teams that compete at the highest standard in the EDJBA
  - o Supporting the Representative program through developing players towards future Representative selection
  - o Improving skills to enable progression to higher grades within the EDJBA
- Socialising within a supportive sporting environment
  - o Playing in teams with an existing group of friends
  - o Making new friends

When determining domestic team composition, the Club will be guided by:

- the preferences of players communicated to the Club through the completion of the registration form
- Playing ability
- Team balance
- Development for future seasons (Domestic & Representative)
- Ability to attend Domestic training

## **Guidelines for Domestic Team Selection**

There are many variables that are considered when determining domestic team composition including:

- The Club's desire to accommodate the varied preferences of our players. Where possible team composition will reflect the preference of the player identified on the registration form.
- The desire by the Club to build stronger links between the Representative and Domestic junior basketball programs. When selecting the higher level Domestic teams, the composition will balance the preferences of players with the opportunity to provide improved developmental opportunities. This does not mean that these teams will be made up of only Representative squad players. It is most likely that these teams will be made of a mix of players best structured to be able to play in the higher Domestic grades.
- The availability and desire of players to train and the importance the Club places on encouraging teams to train together. The Club very strongly encourages players to attend training sessions and will provide a variety of ways a player and their team may train including domestic squad training or potentially a team training session. It is recognised that some players may not be able to train at all and this will be considered when determining teams.
- For ages U8-U14 we will pick teams based on like skills. Players may nominate up to two friends in a team.
- For ages U15-U21 we allow for social teams, especially at lower levels. Players should be at a similar level so everyone gets the most out of the program

## **Size of Team**

Subject to the limitations of registered players in each age group, the Team Composition Sub-Committee will aim to build teams with 8 players.

Club experience shows that older teams often require 9 players to field a full team each week due to conflicting commitments of the players whilst younger teams have a preference for a maximum of 8 players.

## **Playing Time**

An overriding principle of the Club Domestic basketball program is that, except for extenuating circumstances, all players will have approximately equal court time. Extenuating circumstances may include as a consequence for unsportsmanlike

behaviour or other disciplinary reasons, or a continual lack of attendance at training without explanation.

Whilst recognising the preferences of players, the team composition process also needs to consider the need to create teams where playing equal time for all players will not disadvantage the performance of the team.

### **Playing Out of Age Group**

Occasionally, players or their parents/carers may request that players are included in a team out of their age group.

- The preferred position of the Club is that players are expected to play in their age group
- Players should only be able to play out of age if this makes the teams at both age groups more viable
- A parent must make a written request to the Chair of the relevant Team Composition subcommittee, giving reasons, if they want their child to play in a higher age group. This should occur before the composition meetings take place.
- It will not be the responsibility of the player's former team manager to communicate the player and parent's wish to play up i.e. it is between the parent and the Club
- A player will be allowed to play up if the team composition sub-committee believes they have the ability and maturity to fit into the higher aged team and after considering the impact of this decision on the viability of other teams

Occasionally, the Club believes it is appropriate for a player to play out of their age group. Parent/Carer approval would be sought in these situations.

### **Implementation**

Before the commencement of each season, two Team Composition Sub-Committees will be formed, one for boys and one for girls.

A team composition sub-committee member is not required to be a committee member.

Team composition meetings will be held approximately 2-3 weeks before the full team lists need to be submitted to the EDJBA.

Only financial players will be considered through this process (see Pay and Play Policy).

Players who register after the first meeting will be considered in the context of existing teams and the team composition selection principles. (See Pay and Play policy)

The final team composition is to be determined by the Team Composition sub-committee.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

### **New Players**

All new players from U8 up to and including U14 age group will be required to attend a Welcome to the Club session on 31<sup>st</sup> August. Older players are also welcome to attend. The purpose is to establish player development across the younger age groups and to identify like skills at this stage of the player's development. If a player is unable to attend this session, please contact [juniordomestic@collingwoodbasketball.com.au](mailto:juniordomestic@collingwoodbasketball.com.au).

## **TERMS & CONDITIONS**

Conduct must be in accordance with Basketball Victoria's Codes of Conduct and Collingwood Basketball requirements of Players, Parents and Spectators published on Basketball Victoria and Collingwood web sites. These are based on respect for all participants and due processes according to the Club's Grievances Policy when grievances arise and avoidance of violence or abuse even where there is provocation.

By enrolling & signing the enrolment form players & parents are agreeing to the following conditions:

- Co-operate with the requirements of coaches and club officials in games, practices and other Club events.
- Parents are responsible for the supervision of their own children.
- Respect the property of venues at which they play and practice and will be required to pay for any damages they cause.
- Parents acknowledge that there are risks to all participants in an active team sport.
- Parents must advise the club of any relevant medical conditions and in an emergency authorise the club to obtain medical treatment for the child.

Once teams have been published any requests for team changes can only be directed to age group convenors. All requests must come from the family concerned to the relevant convenor.

We understand that under possible circumstances, your child may need to withdraw from playing basketball here at the All Stars. Please read and become aware of our refund policy which applies to all participants within the All Stars.

## **Additional Information**

### **Training Times and Venues**

Each team has a weekly 45-minute training session held at a local venue, typically held after 4:30pm from Monday-Thursday. You can list your child's availability on the registration form, however the more available your child is to train, the more likely they are to be placed in a suitable team.

### **Playing Times and Venues**

Matches are played throughout the day from 8:30am-8:10pm, although as a general rule the younger a team is, the earlier they play. For example, U8-9s play almost exclusively between 8:30am and 12:40pm, although afternoon games for these age groups can sometimes be arranged by request.

Half of Collingwood teams' matches are played at 'home' venues (Collingwood College, Bundha Sports Centre), with the remainder played at neighbouring clubs including Bulleen, Doncaster, Balwyn, Darebin, Ivanhoe, Banyule, Eltham, Blackburn, and Warrandyte.

### **The Uniforms**

All Stars Saturday domestic playing uniform consists of a reversible singlet (\$65.00) and a pair of Collingwood basketball shorts (\$55). Both items can be purchased from the Uniform Shop located at Collingwood College, 10 McCutcheon Way. We will advise via email and social media at a closer date, when and how uniforms will be available to purchase.

### **Sports Insurance**

All players and officials are covered by BV Sports Insurance within their season registration fee and is valid for 12 months. However, the benefits, particularly medical benefits, are minor and all participants are advised to take out other health insurance. Parents are expected to supervise young children when at venues or arrange for another parent to do so.

### **Coaching**

We are a growing club and want our membership to have coaching that represents our community.

We strongly encourage and welcome applicants from all diverse backgrounds. The club will provide support and education, no experience necessary, just the love for community basketball.

We value the unique backgrounds, experiences, and contributions that each person brings to our community. For more information of our coaching pathways, please contact

[juniordomestic@collingwoodbasketball.com.au](mailto:juniordomestic@collingwoodbasketball.com.au)

### **Fees**

Payment for Junior Domestic:

From the Summer 2025/26 season, the cost of season fee is \$360 to allow Collingwood Basketball to provide fully supervised venues on game day.

Keeping basketball affordable for our community is important to Collingwood All Stars.

Basketball Victoria licence, including Insurance is \$32 for junior players and is valid for 12 months.

### **We Welcome Your Assistance**

You can assist as referee, coach, fundraiser, team manager, sponsor, etc. Please indicate ways you can help. Let the office know if you can help, it would be greatly appreciated.

### **Referees**

There is always a need for well-trained referees. New courses are advertised on the website and around the stadiums.

Referees deserve our RESPECT. This Club never approves of abuse of referees.