

Tournament Regulations

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1 Competitions and Divisions

1.1 Competitions

1.1.1 The tournament consists of two (2) competitions, Championship and Participation.

1.1.2 The Championship Competition consists of the champion school from each state competition. In the case that the champion school from a state does not accept their nomination, the state association may nominate the second placed team to represent their state in the Championship Competition.

1.1.3 The Participation Competition is open to all Australian Secondary Schools. International school teams may participate subject to eligibility clauses.

1.1.4 The tournament shall have separate competitions for boys and girls. Only females may play in the girls/women competitions. Only males may play in the boys/mens competitions.

1.2 Age Groups

1.2.1 The tournament will offer three (3) age groups:

1.2.2 Under-20 (Senior): These students must be under 20 years of age as of 31 December in the year of competition (born prior to 1 January 2007).

1.2.3 Under-17 (Junior): These students must be under 17 years of age as of 31 December in the year of competition (born prior to 1 January 2010).

1.2.4 Under-15 (Freshman): These students must be under 15 years of age as of 31 December in the year of competition (born prior to 1 January 2012).

1.2.5 Athletes must be a minimum of 12 years of age to compete. Athletes under 12 years of age will be accepted to play subject to receiving written approval from their guardians and subject to approval by the Australian School Championship Organising Committee (ASCOC).

1.3 Divisions

1.3.1 Each age group will be divided into divisions to allow for varying levels of ability.

1.3.2 The ASCOC will determine what divisions are available prior to opening registrations each year based on expected attendance.

1.3.3 A division must have a minimum of five (5) team registrations to be valid.

1.3.4 The ASCOC reserves the right to merge or create new divisions subject to nominations.

2 Eligibility

2.1 Teams

2.1.1 The Australian School Championships (ASC) is open to all Australian Secondary Schools.

2.1.2 International teams may be accepted into the tournament subject to approval by the ASCOC.

2.1.3 International teams must provide a letter of support from their relevant National Federation.

2.1.4 A school may only enter one (1) team in each division offered unless it is the lowest available division in the age group.

2.1.5 The ASCOC reserves the right to amend the division to which a team nominates to.

2.1.6 Teams are required to have a minimum of eight (8) players and a maximum of twelve (12) players.

2.1.7 Teams are required to have a minimum of one (1) team staff and a maximum of five (5) registered.

2.1.8 In exceptional circumstances the ASCOC may permit schools to enter a combined team with another close by school if they do not have enough athletes to field a team on their own.

2.1.9 Applications for the above must be made in writing to the ASCOC with supporting evidence.

2.2 Players

2.2.1 A player will be eligible to participate in the ASC if they:

2.2.2 Are under the specified age in their division as at 31 December in the year of the Championship, in accordance with Section 1.2 - Age Groups.

2.2.3 Attended the school they wish to represent on a full-time basis for at least three (3) months immediately prior to the commencement of the championship

2.2.4 A player competing in the Championship Division must have attended the school they wish to represent on a full-time basis for at least three (3) months prior to their team's qualification to the Championship Division.

2.2.5 A player may not be under any sanctions or be banned from participating in basketball from any affiliated association.

2.2.6 A player may only compete in one team in the event.

2.3 Centre of Excellence and NBA Global Academy Players

2.3.1 Only two (2) Centre of Excellence (COE) or NBA Global Academy (NBAGA) players are permitted to play for Lake Ginninderra or other Canberra-based schools. These athletes must be nominated by the end of March each year. They are permitted to be replaced in the event of injury or national team duty.

2.3.2 Australian-based COE/NBAGA players who are not selected to represent their Canberra-based school is eligible to play for their previous school.

2.3.3 Centre of Excellence players who are released from scholarship before the end of the school year, requiring them to change schools, are eligible to play for their new school without completing the three (3) month eligibility.

2.3.4 If a player declines to play for their Canberra-based school they are deemed ineligible to play for their previous school.

2.4 Coaches and Team Staff

2.4.1 It is desired that coaches at the ASC are a minimum of 'Club' Level coaches.

2.4.2 All coaching and team staff must hold the relevant working with children checks from their home state.

2.4.3 All coaches and team officials must be registered on PlayHQ and formally listed against the respective team(s) for which they are responsible.

2.5 Exceptions

2.5.1 In exceptional circumstances a team may request an exception to eligibility in writing to the ASCOC. All decisions made will be final.

3 Entry Process

3.1 Team Nominations

3.1.1 All team nominations must be completed online via the nominated registration form.

3.1.2 Teams will receive confirmation of registration through an automated system containing their team code and password once the process is complete.

3.1.3 Team nominations are not considered finalised until payment has been made.

3.1.4 Nominations will close on the prescribed date.

3.1.5 Nominations received after the closing date will be subject to acceptance by the ASCOC. The ASCOC reserve the right to refuse entry to teams if the planning has proceeded to such an extent that the inclusion of additional teams is impractical.

3.1.6 Nominations received after the closing date will incur a $100 late fee per team.

3.2 Championship Division

3.2.1 State Associations will advise the ASCOC of the teams nominated into the Championship Division to represent their State following their State Championships.

3.2.2 These teams will then receive a link to register directly to the Championship Division online via the nominated registration form.

3.2.3 Wildcard Placings

3.2.3.1 If a state declines to nominate a team to the Championship Division the spot will become open to wildcard applicants.

3.2.3.2 All wildcard applications must be in writing to the Championship Organising Committee.

3.2.3.3 Any team seeking wildcard entry must be nominated in, and willing to compete, in Under-20 Division 1 if unsuccessful.

3.2.3.4 A Wildcard team that enters the championships division will be required to cover their portion of the Championship Referees Equalisation.

3.3 Payment of Fees

3.3.1 All team nominations carry a fee.

3.3.2 All fees must be paid in full prior to being included in a Division. . Non-payment of fees will result in withdrawal from the competition.

3.4 Individual Registrations

3.4.1 All participants (including players, coaches and support staff) are required to complete the online individual registration form.

3.4.2 Individual registrations are due four (4) weeks prior to the start of the championships.

3.4.3 In completing the registration form, all participants agree to comply with the tournament policies and codes of conduct.

3.5 Confirmation of Entries

3.5.1 Following the closing of the individual registration period, Basketball Australia will send each team a confirmation of their entry and all registered participants.

3.5.2 Teams are required to respond to confirm all details are correct. Non-response may result in exclusion from the tournament.

3.6 Technical Meeting

3.6.1 All teams must read the Technical Meeting notes. A link will be provided to register completion of this requirement.

3.6.2 Failure to do so may result in exclusion from the tournament.

3.6.3 Any additional registrations on the day of the technical meeting are subject to acceptance by the ASCOC.

3.7 Withdrawal of Teams

3.7.1 Any team withdrawing from the competition will be subject to the below penalties

3.7.1.1 After 30 September and before 30 October = 50% of team entry fee withheld

3.7.1.2 After 1 November = No refund available.

3.7.2 Any team who withdraws during the tournament or fails to show to scheduled match will incur a forfeit fee of $200 per game. Where teams can provide evidence that they have been prevented from playing due to circumstances beyond their control, no fine will be applied. Flight bookings are not considered circumstances beyond control – all efforts should be made to follow advice from the ASCOC on flight time bookings.

3.7.3 Any team forfeiting their final game will be subject to the above forfeit fee as well as face possible disqualification from the following years championships.

4 Competition Rules

4.1 Application of FIBA Official Rules

4.1.1 Except where explicitly stated or limited by the venue playing conditions, the current FIBA Official Basketball Rules shall apply.

4.2 Timing

4.2.1 Participation Division

Warm up – 5 minutes
Playing Time - 4 x 8-minute quarters fully timed
Half Time Break – 3 minutes
Quarter & Three-quarter time – 2 minutes
Extra Time – 3 minutes (all games must have a result – no ties will be permitted)
Extra Time Break – 2 minutes
Time outs – 2 per half
Shot clock will only be used in Senior Division 1

4.2.2 Championship Division

Warm Up – 15 minutes
Playing Time – 4 x 10 minute quarters fully timed
Half Time Break – 10 minutes
Quarter & ThreeQuarter Time Break – 2 minutes
Extra Time – 5 minutes (all games must have a result – no ties will be permitted)
Extra Time Break – 2 minutes
Time outs – 2 in first half, 3 in second half, 1 only in extra time

4.3 Draw

4.3.1 The draw will be set by Basketball Australia and released no later than four (4) weeks out from the start of the Australian School Championships.

4.3.2 All teams will have a minimum of one (1) game per day.

4.3.3 Games will be scheduled to start no earlier than 8:00am and no later than 8:30pm. If in the event of delays the Technical Committee may determine to start a game after 8:30pm.

4.4 Classification & Countbacks

4.4.1 Teams will receive two (2) championships points for a win and one (1) championship point for a loss.

4.4.2 In the event of a tie, it will be resolved in accordance with FIBA rules in following order:

4.4.2.1 Head-to-Head – the winner of the game between the two tied teams will determine the higher placing

4.4.2.2 Higher Goal Difference in games between tied teams only – the teams will be ranked according to their goal difference taking into account only the games between the tied teams

4.4.2.3 Higher number of goals scored in game between tied teams only – the teams will be ranked according to the number of goals scored taking into account only the games between the tied teams

4.4.2.4 Higher Goal Difference of all games in the group – the teams will be ranked according to their goal difference of all games in the group

4.4.2.5 Higher number of goals scored in all games in the group – the teams will be ranked according to the number of goals scored in all games in the group

4.4.2.6 If at any level a team is classified, the procedure starts from the beginning

4.4.3 Points Differential & Countbacks (U15 Girls Only):

4.4.3.1 In the event of two (2) or more teams finishing with the same win/loss record, score differential will be used as a tiebreaker to determine final ladder positions.

4.4.3.2 For preliminary crossover games between Division 1 and Division 2 teams, a maximum score differential of +/-30 points will apply for ladder calculation purposes.

4.4.3.3 Any winning margin greater than 30 points will be capped at 30 points when calculating score differential for the division standings.

4.4.3.4 The score differential cap will apply only to ladder calculations and will not alter the official game score.

5 Match Attendance

5.1 Team Arrival

5.1.1 Teams are required to be present at the venue a minimum of 20 minutes prior to the fixtured start time of their game.

5.2 Forfeiture for Late Arrival

5.2.1 Teams not present at the scheduled game time are considered to have forfeited the game.

5.3 Approval of Game Delays

5.3.1 The ASC Technical Committee may approve the delay to a start time due to exceptional circumstances and this decision shall be final.

5.4 Uniforms

5.4.1 Uniform requirements of team members are in accordance with FIBA Rules:

5.4.2 Singlets are to be the same dominant colour front and back and shall be numbered front and back in a contrasting colour. The numbers must be clearly visible, on the back the number must be at least 20cm high, on the front it must be at least 10cm high.

5.4.3 Uniforms may be numbered 0-99, 00 is also permitted.

5.4.4 Shirts/Singlet's must be tucked in at all times.

5.4.5 Shorts/Bodysuit (lower body) of the same solid colour shall be worn by all players.

5.4.6 An alternate set of uniforms in a different colour is essential, the preference is that one is distinctly light and one distinctly a dark colour. The same playing numbers are allocated to players in both strips.

5.4.7 Each team is required to carry at least 2 spare playing singlets and shorts/bodysuits in case a uniform is spoilt by blood. These spare playing singlets and short/bodysuits are to be of different numbers to those already listed on the scoresheet.

5.4.8 Compression sleeves and stockings are permitted in the same dominant colour as the uniform under which they are worn, or black, or white however all members of the team must wear the same.

5.4.9 Ankle or Knee braces may be work but must be transparent (skin) colour, or black, or white however all members of the team must wear the same.

5.4.10 Strapping tape may be the same colour as the dominant colour of the uniform, or black, or white however all members of the team must wear the same.

5.4.11 No T-Shirts to be worn under singlets.

5.4.12 Exceptions – Medical certificate or other extenuating circumstances presented to the Championship Technical Committee and approved. If permission is given, T Shirt must be of the same single colour as the playing singlet, or black or white and if numerous players have approvals all must have same colour under garments. This decision is final and not subject to appeal.

5.4.13 Team A (first listed in draw) has the right to wear their main colour, if there is a clash Team B must change.

5.5 Team Benches

5.5.1 Team A (first listed on fixture) will sit on the left-hand side of the bench, when standing behind scoretable and facing the court, team B on the right.

5.5.2 Teams will warm up in front of their bench and will score at that end for the first half.

5.6 Change Rooms

5.6.1 Championship Division teams will be allocated change rooms

5.6.2 All other change rooms will be public use for all teams.

5.7 Basketballs

5.7.1 All game balls will be provided.

5.7.2 The Referee on each match will bring this to the game.

5.7.3 Teams must supply their own warm up and training basketballs.

5.8 Finals

5.8.1 Medals will be presented immediately after the conclusion of each Medal Match

5.8.2 Any team not present will forfeit their right to receive their medal.

6 Officiating

6.1 Referees

6.1.1 Each State association is asked to provide a set number of referees to both the Championship and Participation Division.

6.1.2 For the Championship Division, State associations are to provide one (1) referee per team nominated.

6.1.3 For the Participation Division, nomination is open to all referees in Australia, with nominees vetted by their state to confirm suitability

6.2 Referee Coaches

6.2.1 A Referee Coach will be allocated to all Championship games. Referee coaches will be appointed to as many Participation games as possible.

6.2.2 Referee Coaches will provide support and feedback to the referees under the control of the Technical Commissioner and Referee Commissioner.

6.2.3 Basketball Australia will appoint the Referee Coaches for the Championship Division.

6.2.4 For the Participation Division, nomination is open to all referee coaches in Australia, with nominees vetted by their state to confirm suitability

6.3 Scoretable & Duty

6.3.1 All participation division teams must provide one (1) person to run scorebench for each of their games. This person can not be a player in the team playing.

6.3.2 One person will run Stadium Scoring, the other the scoreboard.

6.3.3 Basketball Australia will provide a qualified scorebench person to run the shot clock on Senior Div 1 games.

6.3.4 Scorebench officials will be provided for all Championship Division games.

6.4 Statisticians

6.4.1 Statistics will only be recorded and provided for the Championship Division Games.

6.4.2 Basketball Australia will appoint Statisticians to each relevant game.

7 General Policies

7.1 Technical Committee

7.1.1 The Technical Committee will consist of at least three (3) members from the following: the Australian Schools Championship Manager, BA's Competition Managers, Host State representative if needed, the Technical Commissioners.

7.1.2 If any of these are unavailable for the duration of the championship the respective organisation will appoint a suitable replacement.

7.1.3 The Technical Committee may invite other knowledgeable parties to advise where required.

7.1.4 The Australian Schools Championship Manager (or Basketball Australia Representative) will chair the Technical Committee.

7.1.5 The Technical Committee shall be authorised to deal with any matter, including disciplinary action relating to the participants and their decision shall be final.

7.1.6 All appeals and protests will be heard by the Technical Committee.

7.2 Opening Ceremony

7.2.1 The Opening Ceremony will be held on the evening prior to the first game.

7.2.2 All teams are required to attend and participate in the Opening Ceremony.

7.3 Training

7.3.1 No training times are available in 2026.

7.4 Code of Conduct

7.4.1 All participants are bound by the **BA Code of Conduct for Elite Level Participants** which can be found here:
https://resources.basketball-australia.pulselive.com/basketball-australia/document/2024/01/09/51817a72-5701-470c-ae8c-a679983fe495/Code-of-Conduct-Elite-Participants-1-January-2023.pdf

7.5 Appeals and Tribunals

7.5.1 All appeals and tribunals will be managed in accordance with the Basketball Australia policy found on the Basketball Australia Website.

7.6 Photo Policy

7.6.1 In completing the registration forms all participants agree to have their photograph taken by Basketball Australia and affiliated media sources and understand these photos may be used for promotional purposes

7.6.2 Non-media personnel are required to only photograph the child and child's team the are there to support. They are not permitted to photograph any other persons and must follow any directive given by BA to cease photography/videography.

7.7 Concussion Policy

7.7.1 Basketball Australia concussion policy applies to this event.

7.7.2 BA Concussion Policy can be found here: https://resources.basketball-australia.pulselive.com/basketball-australia/document/2025/02/25/ac6ebbed-3569-4dfc-81d5-9907580829d9/BA-Concussion-Policy-v1.0-Dec-2024.pdf