



COMPETITIONS BY-LAWS

19 SEPTEMBER 2023

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A. INTRODUCTION

1. Introduction

The following By-Laws are to be read in conjunction with FIBA rules and Basketball Victoria's interpretation. These By-Laws apply to all teams and clubs competing in competitions conducted by the Southern Basketball Association.

2. Definitions

In these By-Laws:

"SBA" means Southern Basketball Association.

"Board" means SBA Board of Directors.

"CEO" means Chief Executive Officer of the Southern Basketball Association.

"Club" means a Club consisting more than five (5) teams.

"Team" means individual team governed by a Club or SBA.

"Entity Team" means a team that is not a member of a Domestic Clubs registered at the SBA.

"Junior Domestic Competition" means Competition from U9 through to U18.

"Senior Domestic Competition" means all competitions above U18's.

"Junior Player" means a player eligible to play in the junior competition.

"Representative Player" means a player currently playing in competitions administered by the Victorian Junior Basketball Competition (VJBL), Big V & NBL1 previously known as SEABL.

"Scoring system" means method of collection of match scores and fouls, submitted to the competition administration.

"Age Group" is the age group determined by year of birth from 1 January – 31 December of that calendar year.

3. Variations to these By-Laws

The By-Laws may be amended by the Board as it seems fit with the following provisions.

3.1. The Board may change these rules from time to time by:

- Amending something in these rules;
- Deleting something in these rules or adding something to them;
- Revoking these rules and adopting new rules in their place.

3.2. Notwithstanding 3.1, any club may request the Board to consider an amendment to these rules providing that such a request is made in writing, is accompanied by a supporting document which clearly states the grounds for the requested amendment.

3.3. These rules constitute a contract between each club, entity team and the SBA, accordingly each party is required to comply in all aspects with these rules.

4. Items Not Provided For

Any matter not covered by the scope of these Rules, provided it comes within the objects of the Competition shall be dealt with by the Board.

5. Communication to the Association

The Association requires that all junior teams communicate to the SBA via their Domestic Club representative only. Communication from Entity teams to the SBA should be via the nominated Team

B. REGISTRATION

6. Team/Club Eligibility to Play

6.1. A Club or individual team will not be eligible to register for a new season of competition until all outstanding payments have been made to the Association. All payments due must be made to the Association by 5.00pm the Friday prior to the closing of registrations for the new season. Should a team have registered for the new season with payments outstanding, the SBA reserves the right to withdraw the team from competition and hold any registration money paid until all outstanding payments have been made. The SBA also reserves the right to reinstate such registration once full payment has been made. No new teams are permitted to join the competition once the grading period has been completed unless an exemption has been granted by the CEO.

6.2. The SBA individual player registration fee will need to be paid when a player registers their details online for the coming season. The fee is payable by each player in the team for both Winter and Summer seasons separately.

6.3. For Senior Teams:

To register for a new season the following payments must be made in full prior to registration:

- Prior Season's Registration
- Prior Season's scoresheet payments
- Prior Season's forfeit payments
- Prior Season's finals payments.

6.4. For Junior Clubs/Entity Teams (Invoice by Season):

To register for a new season the following payments must be made in full prior to registration:

- Prior Season's Registration
- Prior Season's scoresheet payments
- Prior Season's forfeit payments incurred Prior Season's finals payments.
- Any other amounts outstanding and due from season[s] prior.

If full payment has not been made, then a Club/Entity Team is considered ineligible to register.

7. Team Entries for Junior Competition

7.1. Applications by Clubs and Entity Teams to enter the junior competition are to be lodged online using the online system by the due date, as advised by the SBA. Details of the teams, age groups, grades and gender must be lodged with the system online by the due date.

7.2. All junior team entries must have a minimum of seven (7) registered players prior to the commencement of the season.

7.3. All junior entity team Coaches and Team Managers shall complete the following and forward copies of all documentation to admin@southernbasketball.com.au prior to the season starting. Coaches and Team Managers are not permitted to participate in any official capacity until all documentation has been submitted to the SBA.

1. [Working with Children's Certification](#)
2. [Basketball Victoria Member Declaration](#)
3. [Play by the rules - Child protection](#)
4. [Play by the rules - Harassment and discrimination](#)

Further information on SBA's Child Safety requirements and obligations for Coaches and Team Managers can be found on the [website](#).

8. Team Entries for Senior Competition

- 8.1. Applications by Clubs and Entity Teams to enter the Senior competition are to be lodged online using the online system by the due date, as advised by the SBA. Details of the teams, age groups, grades and gender must be lodged with the system online by the due date.
- 8.2. All seniors team entries must have a minimum of seven (7) registered players prior to the commencement of the season.
- 8.3. The SBA is not bound to accept applications. It may reject applications in respect of individuals, teams or clubs, or impose limitations on the number of teams or other conditions as it sees fit. Where applications for a team/teams are not accepted, the prescribed fees will be returned/cancelled/credited to the team account.
- 8.4. Any team withdrawing after the fixtures have been created will incur a withdrawal penalty (refer 32. Penalties).

9. Late Entries

Late entries for Junior & Senior Competitions will only be accepted up until round three and those teams/clubs will be charged a late entry fee of \$50.00. Teams will only be accepted if there is capacity within the fixture to accommodate late entries.

10. Age Limits

- 10.1. Age limits for competitions shall be specified by the Association.
- 10.2. For junior competition, the criteria for eligibility is as follows:
 - Autumn and Spring Seasons – a player must be under the age stated in the relative age group by the 31st December in the year of the completion of that season.
 - To be eligible to participate in Junior Domestic Competition players must have turned 6 years of age prior to the official commencement date of the season.
- 10.3. Over 35 Senior competition players must have already attained the age of 35 years from the date of the first round of the season to be eligible to play.
- 10.4. Proof of date of birth may be required for all competitions.

C. COMPETITION

11. Grading

- 11.1. Once grading has commenced no players may change teams without prior approval from the SBA. Any request must be lodged by the Team Manager in writing to the CEO of the SBA.
- 11.2. Within each age group, the competition is divided into grades. Teams will be nominated into specific grades by their Club/Team Manager at the time of team entry. In conjunction with the Association, grading secretaries will evaluate all team entries and allocate teams to grades during the grading phase. Teams are graded based on their ability to compete in that grade.
- 11.3. Any team who qualified for the Grand Final in the previous season must be registered in a higher grade for the following season, unless they are entering in a higher age group.
- 11.4. Grades will usually range from A, B, C & D etc. with the most skilled teams placed in A grade and the least skilled in the lower grades to promote competitiveness.
- 11.5. Wherever possible, grades during the grading phase will consist of eight (8) teams of similar skill level, allowing those teams to play each other.
- 11.6. Grading of junior teams within each age group will be completed by the end of the fourth round in each season. Any later re-grading must be approved by the SBA CEO.

- 11.7. Whilst most re-grading occurs by round 4, re-grading of teams, both up and down, may be necessary after round 4 but no later than round 7.
- 11.8. Once Grading has concluded, all Teams revert to 0 points and 0 points percentage (PP%).
- 11.9. Requests for teams to be moved to a different grade can be made in writing but may only be approved by the SBA CEO.
- 11.10. Each player must play at least three (3) grading games. Teams must notify the SBA if a player is injured or away and won't be able to play the required three (3) grading games. If a player is joining the team after grading, approval must be sought from the SBA.

12. Restriction on Representative Players

- 12.1. Whilst playing representative basketball it is important that all players show a commitment to the SBA domestic competition. All eligible junior players that play representative basketball for Sandringham Sabres must be registered with a domestic club prior to grading and play on a regular basis for that club in the SBA competition. At a minimum a Representative Player would play enough games during a season to enable that player to qualify for the domestic finals of that age group.
- 12.2. Any request for variation of this rule must be applied for in writing. An [Exemption Request form](#) is available from the SBA website. This completed form must be returned electronically to the SBA CEO for consideration.
- 12.3. All Representative Players must continue to participate in the SBA competition until formally advised if the exemption has been approved. Players undertaking basketball at State Level or Australian Level, certain medical grounds with proper medical certificates & reports, would be some of the grounds that the exemptions would be considered. Training squads do not necessarily qualify for exemptions. These exemptions MUST be reapplied for each season. They are not based on approval or circumstances from any prior season.
- 12.4. Any player that misses participation in SBA competition scheduled games whilst representing their State in National Junior Championships or representing Australia on official national duties at national camps or playing for Australia shall have those games missed due to participation, included in the calculations for finals eligibility. The player must have played a minimum of four (4) games for that club to be eligible to have the missed games included in the calculations for Domestic finals eligibility. Application in writing to the CEO at least 14 days prior to the start of the final's series stating the details of games missed must be included.
- 12.5. Any Representative Player that would qualify for exemption 12.4 must play at least three (3) of the four (4) grading games of the current season.
- 12.6. The following restrictions will be placed on Representative Players that participate in the junior domestic competitions.

The intentions of these restrictions are to:
 - Better facilitate the participation of non-representative players into the domestic competition.
 - Spread the Representative Players across more domestic teams.
 - Make the competition more even.
- 12.7. The on-line registration form will require teams to declare all players that are currently playing representative basketball, the Association they play with, Team (e.g. McKinnon 14.1) and the competition division in which they play.
 - Examples of representative clubs locally are: Southern Peninsula 'Sharks', Mornington 'Breakers', Casey 'Cavaliers', Frankston 'Blues', Chelsea 'Gulls', Keysborough 'Cougars', Dandenong 'Rangers', McKinnon 'Cougars', Waverley 'Falcons', Melbourne 'Tigers' and Sandringham 'Sabres'.

- Representative Players will be assigned a 'points value' based on the team in which they play. The team's 'points value' will be the sum of all players points for that team.

12.8. Teams will be allocated a maximum 'points value' of:

- 14 Points for competition.
- There are not to be more than two (2) Representative Players with a point value of four (4) points per team.
- All teams with current representative players must be entered in the A or B Grade competition. This includes representative players with 0 points (in 5th team and below).
- Bottom age players moving up will carry their current points.

12.9. Points for Sabres players will be allocated as follows:

- 1st Team (4 Points)
- 2nd Team (3 Points)
- 3rd Team (2 Points)
- 4th Team (1 Point)
- 5th team and below (0 points)

12.10. For Representative Players from other Associations, their points will be based on the level at which they are playing at compared to the Sabres teams. If they are between levels of the Sabres teams, they will be allocated the points of the higher ranked team they are between.

Example:

Sabres first team is in Vic Championship.

A player is in the Melbourne Tigers second team who competes in VJL1.

Sabres second team competes in VJL2.

That player will be allocated 4 Points.

A Player is in McKinnon first team who competes in VJL2.

Sabres second team competes in VJL2.

That player will be allocated 3 Points.

12.11. All junior Representative Players must play in their year of birth age group. If a player chooses to play up an age group in a second team, they will carry full points.

12.12. For a Representative Player who voluntarily exits representative basketball but continues to play in junior domestic competitions, that player's points will not carry over for the following domestic season or the season after.

12.13. For a Representative Players who has been cut from the representative program, their points will not be allocated for the remainder of the current season they are playing in.

12.14. SBA reserves the right to pre-allocate new representative players and emergency players points.

12.15. Any request for exemptions or variations to these rules must be made in writing to the SBA CEO using the [Exemption Request Form](#).

13. Playing Up/Second Game/Multiple Teams

13.1. A junior Representative Player must play in the designated year of birth age group before playing in a higher age group. Any exemptions must be submitted for approval by the SBA CEO using the [Exemption Request Form](#) accompanied by any other supporting documentation.

13.2. Any player who is eligible to play in the junior domestic competition may play in no more than one age group above their current age competition.

Example:

A player eligible in U14 can only play up to U16 competition. That player **cannot** play in the U18 competition.

- 13.3. No junior player may play more than two (2) junior domestic competition games in any one week except where By-Law 14 applies.
- 13.4. An eligible junior player over the age of 16 years wishing to play in the senior domestic competition must apply to the SBA and their parent or guardian must complete the [Junior to Play in Senior Competition Form](#).
- 13.5. A junior player is not permitted to play in two teams in the same age group. If a junior player is playing up a grade as an emergency or fill in, they can play up to three games per season in a higher grade. If they play a fourth game in the higher grade they are no longer eligible to play in the lower graded team.
- 13.6. The player that has requested permission to play in seniors cannot commence playing in the senior domestic competition until they have been given written approval from the SBA.
- 13.7. Anyone 15 years or under cannot play in the senior domestic competition, this includes U20's and above.

14. Emergency / Fill in Player

From time to time a team may be required to use a fill in player so a team can take the court. If any of the following clauses are breached it will result in a forfeit for the offending team.

- 14.1. The emergency player clause can only be implemented if a team has less than five (5) players eligible to play that game.
- 14.2. Should a sixth player registered with that team enter the court, the emergency player will then be substituted off the court for the rest of the game.
- 14.3. All emergency players can play one game unregistered with the SBA.
- 14.4. All emergency players must be registered with the SBA prior to taking the court before their second game and can be from any club or entity team. Failure to register will result in a forfeit for the offending team.
- 14.5. The fill in player clause can only be implemented if a team has less than six (6) players eligible to play that game. If a 6th registered player for the team arrives anytime during the game, the fill in player is to remove themselves from the game.
- 14.6. For junior players and U20 – U23s a fill in player must be registered with the same club. Failure to be registered will result in a forfeit for the offending team. A player can only fill in once for a team and then must be registered to that team to continue playing. Game will be changed to a forfeit if they play more than one game as a fill in.
- 14.7. For men's and women's senior teams, a fill in player is allowed to play one game unregistered. Prior to playing a second game the fill in player must be registered with the SBA. Failure to register will result in a forfeit for the offending team.
- 14.8. A junior fill in player may play up to three (3) games a season in a higher grade of the same age group in a junior competition. Once the player plays a fourth game in a higher grade, they are no longer eligible player in the lower grade. Junior players are not permitted to play in a grade lower than the team they have registered to play in. When a fill in player plays in an older age group (for example an U14's player filling in U16's), all registered players in the lower age group in A and B Grade can only play up an age group in A and B Grades, C and D Grade players can play in A – D Grades.
- 14.9. A fill in player may play for a team as long as the addition of the said player does not exceed the total representative points allocation for that team (14 points).

- 14.10. A fill in player's representative points may take the place of an existing player's representative points if the existing player is not playing. The fill in player's points cannot exceed the team limit, or the player's points they are replacing. A junior player may not play in a lower grade if they are already playing in a higher grade.

15. Late Player Inclusion in Team

- 15.1. A late player registration may be added to the list of players registered for a team after the commencement of each season. Before that player's first game with the team, their club will need to register their details online and add them to the team. The player's name will automatically be added to the scoring system.

Note: If a player is joining after grading season, written approval must be granted by the SBA CEO.

- 15.2. A player must not take the court and play under another player's name. A forfeit will be issued to any team that breaches this rule.

16. Clearance for Junior Players

- 16.1. A clearance is required for all junior players to change from one club to another club.
- 16.2. Any Junior player transferring from one Club to another is required to complete and lodge the prescribed Transfer Request. All clearances must be finalised prior to the commencement of the Grading Period.
- 16.3. Clearance requests lodged during or after the grading period must have approval from both club and the SBA, there is no guarantee these will be approved.
- 16.4. If a representative player leaves the domestic team within the grading period, then the team may seek approval from CEO to have that player replaced with another representative player but only if the points limit is not exceeded.
- 16.5. A forfeit will be applied to any junior team who allows a player to play without first obtaining a clearance under By-Law 16.2.
- 16.6. A club may refuse a clearance for a player if they are nonfinancial or has not returned club owned property. There are no other grounds for refusal to clear a player. The current club has ten (10) business days to action the application for the clearance in writing, If no action has been taken within the ten (10) business days, the clearance will be automatic.

17. Timing

- 17.1. The game will consist of two halves of 20 minutes (unless Heat Policy is invoked).
- 17.2. Half time break is two (2) minutes for all junior competition and one (1) minute for seniors.
- 17.3. If, after ten (10) minutes has elapsed from the scheduled start of the game, a team fails to take the court, the other team is awarded a win by forfeit and a '20-0 walkover' is applied.

18. Commencement of Play

- 18.1. Each team must have a minimum of four (4) players on the court at the commencement of play.
- 18.2. For Mixed Competition, a minimum of four (4) players are required at the commencement of play with no more than three players of any one gender on the court at any time (clause 28.1).

19. Scoring

- 19.1. Each team is responsible for correctly entering players and their correct numbers into the scoring system prior to the commencement of the game. It is the scorer's responsibility to ensure the correct points and fouls are awarded to the players. No changes will be made after the game has been finalised.
- 19.2. Each team must provide one competent scorer aged 14 years or above prior to commencement of play.

A team without a scorer will incur a 10-point penalty, this will be applied no later than half time. This penalty must be applied courtside by the referees.

Alternatively, the team can sit one of their players off to score, playing with four players on the court in order to avoid the 10-point penalty. This player can be substituted, the player who takes their place then becomes the scorer.
- 19.3. Referees MUST not score and MUST apply any penalties for breaching this clause.
- 19.4. Scoring queries must be raised with the referee during play by either Coach or Team Contact (for Junior Competition) or Team Contact (for Seniors).
- 19.5. If there is any conflict between the score on the scoreboard and the scoring system, the scoring system will take precedence. Scores cannot be changed after the game has been finalised unless a forfeit is awarded due to a breach of By-Laws.
- 19.6. During the game a scorer is recognized as a game official and must act impartially. Referees reserve the right to remove any scorer from the score bench and have them replaced by another scorer.
- 19.7. Scorers and referees may not leave the score bench until the final score is checked, agreed upon and finalised in the Scoring System.

20. Time Outs/Substitutions/Time in the Key

- 20.1. Each team may have two (2) timeouts per half, each of one-minute duration. The game clock does not stop during these time outs.
- 20.2. For all competitions a timeout is NOT allowed in the last three (3) minutes of each half.
- 20.3. For all competition's substitutions must be completed by the last two (2) minutes of each half. This does not apply for an injured player or a player that has (5) personal fouls.
- 20.4. Restrictions for time in the key is as follows:
 - Under 12s and below Five (5) Seconds
 - Under 14s and above Three (3) Seconds
- 20.5. In senior competition, if the score is within ten (10) points during the last three minutes of the second half, the clock will stop for substitutions, time outs and fouls only.
- 20.6. In Semi Finals the clock will stop in the last three (3) minutes only of the second half for substitutions, fouls, foul shots and time outs for all competitions.
- 20.7. In Grand Finals the clock will stop for all time outs and during the last three (3) minutes of the second half for substitutions, fouls, foul shots and time outs for all competitions.

21. Balls and Ball Sizes

- 21.1. For all Junior Domestic competitions, NO balls are to be brought into the stadium at any time. Two (2) balls will be provided for warm up for each court by the referees which must be returned

to the referees. The clock will run but the game will not commence until this has occurred.

21.2. Ball sizes for each competition as follows.

- Size 5 - U8 & Modified, U9 & Modified, U10, U12
- Size 6 - Boys Under 14
- Girls Under 14 up to Senior Women's
- Size 7 - Boys Under 16 up to Senior Men's

22. Injuries

- 22.1. A bleeding player must leave the court immediately and may not resume playing until the bleeding has stopped. Blood must be removed from the player and uniform before the player can resume playing. A blood kit is stored in the referee's room during competition. The blood kit should be used with dealing with spilt blood on the floor, benches and equipment. Blood kit should only be used by the referees or referee supervisor.

NOTE: Play cannot commence until any blood spills have been cleaned.

- 22.2. Each team is responsible for attending to their own injured player, coach and spectator. If an ambulance is required, either the player or team representative must accept responsibility for payment of ambulance fee.
- 22.3. All fingernails must be trimmed to avoid injury to other players. Tape or appropriate gloves may be used instead of cutting nails. Spot checks can be called at any time by the referees and players not in compliance may be asked to leave the court.
- 22.4. Any gloves or other soft material products worn by players must be fixed to the players skin. e.g. taped or elastic. The referees have the right to request any player to remove items which they have deemed an injury risk to the player or other players on the court.

23. Competition Points/Eligibility for finals/Finals

23.1. Competition points are awarded as follows:

- Win 3 Points
- Draw 2 Points
- Loss 1 Point
- Bye 0 Points
- Forfeit 0 Points (forfeit received team will receive 3 Points)

- 23.2. Ladder Positions will be determined by points percentage (PP%). The PP% is calculated by the points a team has been awarded, divided by the games played.

Example: A team has played 10 Games, Won 7 and lost 3.

Equation: $(7 \times 3 \text{ Points}) + (3 \times 1 \text{ Point}) = 24 \text{ Points}$

$24 \text{ Points divided by } 10 \text{ Games} = 2.4 \text{ PP\%}$

- 23.3. Where teams finish level on points ratio at the end of the season, ladder positions will be determined by head-to-head results. If teams are still level, after head-to-head positions will be determined by percentage. Head-to-head is determined by win/loss. If the teams have only played each other once the team that won will progress. If they have played each other more than once, whoever has won the most games out of these games will progress. If they have equal wins/loss the total winning margins will be added up and the team with the highest winning margin will progress.

The online system (ladders) do not have the facility to calculate head to head positions, this will be manually entered by the SBA during the week entering finals.

- 23.4. A team with insufficient qualified players to compete in the final's series will forfeit its place.

- 23.5. A player must play in seven (7) of the fixtured games for the season to be eligible to play finals. Byes do not count as games played.

In exceptional circumstances a Domestic Club Administrator can apply for dispensation on behalf of one of their members from this By-Law. Dispensation can be sought by applying in writing to the CEO detailing reason/s why dispensation should be granted at least ten (10) days prior to the final's series commencing.

- 23.6. Medical Certificates may be accepted as evidence of injury/illness and can be used to support an exemption for a player from the usual qualification criteria. Medical certificates must be submitted to the Association within ten (10) days of the diagnosis and are accepted up to and including the last round of competition.

For the female players, pregnancy is deemed to be an exemption on medical grounds provided a doctor's certificate is submitted. A pregnant player would require a medical certificate to play in finals.

- 23.7. When a team has received a forfeit, this will count as a game played to qualify for the finals.
- 23.8. If a team forfeits a semi-final, then all teams will be pushed up a position.

Example If team B forfeits their semi-final:

<u>Original Placings</u>	<u>New Placings for finals</u>
1st. Team A	1st. Team A
2nd. Team B	2nd. Team C
3rd. Team C	3rd. Team D
4th. Team D	4th. Team E
5th. Team E	

- 23.9. The finals format:
- | | |
|-------------------|-------|
| First Semi Final | 1 v 4 |
| Second Semi Final | 2 v 3 |
- Winners progress to the Grand Final.

If the Grades are combined (Example A/A reserve):

Third Semi Final	5 v 8
Fourth Semi Final	6 v 7

Winners play for the "Reserve" Grand Final.

- 23.10. Players entered into the Daytime Ladies competition and the Over 35's competitions will be required to have played five (5) games to qualify for finals.

24. Uniform

- 24.1. Team singlets and shorts must be of a consistent colour, design and style. Team colours must have written approval by the CEO. The 'Uniform Request Form' is located on the SBA [website](#).
- 24.2. Each Singlet must have a number on both the front and the back. Teams can use the numbers 0, 00 through to 99.
- 24.3. Singlet numbers must be printed or sewn. Taped or written numbers are not permitted.
- 24.4. Compression or performance tights are the only garments allowed to be worn under teams' uniforms. They shall be black, white or the same dominant colour as the playing singlet. No other clothing is allowed without the written approval from the CEO.
- 24.5. There will be no penalties imposed for incorrect uniform until the end of round 3.

- 24.6. If there is a clash of team colours, the first team listed on the scoring system must wear a different colour uniform or a distinguishing coloured bib for that game.
- 24.7. To minimise the risk of injury, pockets, zips or buckles in shorts are not permitted.
- 24.8. The SBA recognises that in circumstances where religious and cultural beliefs conflict with the standard dress code, modification to that dress code may be required.
- 24.9. Headscarves are permitted to be worn, as long they do not pose a threat of injury. This includes head scarves or other fabric articles worn for religious purposes held in place by bobby pins or snap clips. It is recommended that the colours of head scarves or other garments should resemble the registered colours of the team the player is representing.

25. Fall Back Rule/Man-to-Man Defence in Junior Competition

- 25.1. The SBA requires all junior teams under 14 and below to play Man-to-Man Defence. i.e. requires teams to play at least Quarter Court (3-point line) Man-to-Man defence for the whole game.
- 25.2. Teams failing to play Man-to-Man defence will receive one warning from the referee and/or Referee Supervisor. Consistent breaches in this rule will incur a penalty of two (2) Shots and possession to the opposing team at the half court.
- 25.3. When the Fall Back Rule applies, the leading team must fall back to inside the 3-point line when the opposition gains clear possession.
 - Up to and Inc U10 15+ Points
 - U12 & U14 20+ Points
 - U16 & Above 30+ Points
- 25.4. The coach of the trailing team may elect to not have the Fall Back Rule apply and can instruct the referees not to apply it.
- 25.5. Teams breaching the Fall Back Rule will receive one warning from the referee, consistent breaches in this rule will incur a penalty of two (2) Shots and possession to the opposing team.

26. Free Throws

- 26.1. For junior age groups, up to and including Under 12, a player may shoot free throws from the modified free throw line, estimated to be approximately one (1) metre in front of the FIBA free throw line.
- 26.2. If no line is present, the referee will be responsible for providing the distance a player may shoot from in a consistent and fair manner.
- 26.3. All other competitions must use the designated FIBA Free Throw line and remain behind it during free throws as per the FIBA rules.

27. Under 8 and Under 9 Competitions

- 27.1. Players must have turned six (6) years of age prior to the Under 8 competition season commencement date.
- 27.2. Players must have turned seven (7) years of age prior to the Under 9 competition season commencement date.
- 27.3. Under 8 and 9 Modified competitions will be played with the rings lowered.
- 27.4. A player can only play one season only in the Under 9 modified competition.
- 27.5. The SBA reserves the right to move teams from competitions as required.

28. Open Mixed Competition

- 28.1. At any time no more than three (3) players of any one gender can take the court at any time.
- 28.2. Only female players are allowed into the key. If a male player is found entering the key a violation will be called and side ball awarded to the opposing team.
- 28.3. No player can score more than ten (10) points unless all players in that team have scored ten (10) points. Players can then score another ten (10) points and so on. Prior to all players scoring ten (10) points, if a player is on nine (9) points and field goal is scored, only one point will be awarded.
- 28.4. If a player is on ten (10) points and shoots and scores, then a violation is declared with a side ball throw-in to the opposition.
- 28.5. If a player on ten (10) points is fouled and awarded free throws, then they may nominate another player on their team (on less than ten points) to take the free throws.

29. Forfeits and Walkovers

- 29.1. If, after ten (10) minutes has elapsed from the scheduled start of the game, a team has failed to take the court, the opposing team will be awarded a win by forfeit (a 20-0 walkover). In the case of a forfeit by both teams the result will be declared a double forfeit (0-0 walkover). Refer clause 32 for Penalties.

30. Game Abandonment

- 30.1. If a game is abandoned, the final decision as to the grounds upon which an abandoned game is cancelled or postponed, lies with the Referee Supervisor on duty.
- 30.2. A 20 + point margin will mean that the result will stand at the score line when the game was abandoned, at any point of the game.
- 30.3. A margin less than 20 points before half time will mean the game is abandoned.
- 30.4. The Association, at its discretion can determine the actions to be followed on games that can't commence or be completed.

31. Extreme Heat Policy

- 31.1. The Referee Supervisor on duty will activate the [SBA Extreme Heat Policy](#) at their discretion or when the temperature on any court reaches 35 degrees Celsius. The Association has installed digital thermometer/clock in the stadium between courts 2 & 3, which complies with Basketball Victoria Participants' Protection By-Laws. This thermometer will monitor the temperature on courts inside the stadium when the weather is hot.
- 31.2. Under this policy the following timing rules will be implemented:
 - Game halves will be reduced by two (2) minutes.
 - Half time will be extended to five (5) minutes.
 - Referee will call a mandatory timeout approximately at the halfway point of each half, regardless of the number of timeouts called by each team.
 - Players should be monitored by officials, team members, coaches and spectators to ensure they consume adequate fluids and watch for any signs of heat stress.
 - If the temperature inside the stadium reaches 40 degrees Celsius, games will be cancelled. Teams or Club contact will be notified advising them of any cancellations. A notice will be displayed in the website.

D. CONDUCT AND PENALTIES

32. Penalties

- 32.1. Penalties may be imposed by the Association upon individual players, teams, members of clubs

or game officials. Penalties may be in the form of fines, loss of premiership points, suspensions or disqualification from fixtures, or any other penalty deemed appropriate.

- 32.2. For late starts, a penalty of two (2) points per minute or part thereof will be applied against the team responsible for the late start. If a team cannot take the court after ten (10) minutes have elapsed, then By-Law 17.3 applies
- 32.3. For incorrect uniform, a penalty for five (5) points per player in both Junior and Senior competitions will apply against that team. This is not applicable for grading games.
- 32.4. Penalty points must be applied before the start of the second half. Should a player in incorrect uniform take the court after half time, penalties will be applied at that time.
- 32.5. Penalties are fixed and referees must apply these penalties.
- 32.6. For a walkover a team fine of \$150 for both senior and juniors is payable to the SBA. The fine must be paid within seven (7) days of receipt of invoice. A late fee of \$50 will be applied to late payments.
- 32.7. The walkover fine will be waived if seven (7) days prior notice is given to the Association that the game is to be forfeited.
- 32.8. All players must have their details entered into the scoring system. Any player failing to do this will result in the team forfeiting that game.
- 32.9. A team withdrawing from the competition will incur a withdrawal fee of \$100 for both juniors and seniors. Individual players or a withdrawing team are not eligible to play in any affiliated competition until payment of the withdrawal fee has been made. Should extenuating circumstances arise, any request for consideration must be made in writing to the CEO.

33. Disputes

Disputes regarding the interpretation and application of these By-Laws or any other disputes may be raised in writing to the CEO. All disputes for junior competition must be made through your club representative.

34. Team Conduct and Referee Conduct

- 34.1. Each team is responsible for their own players, scorers, coaches and supporters. Teams may be penalised with a technical foul for unsportsmanlike conduct outside of the spirit of the game. Codes of Conduct can be found [here](#).
- 34.2. For junior competition only, the team coach or team manager (if a coach is absent) can approach the referee during the game for clarification of any rulings made by the referee. This must be done at time outs, half time and full time. If they are not satisfied with this outcome or have other concerns, they may approach the Referee Supervisor.
- 34.3. For senior competition only:
 - Teams are not permitted to question or comment on a referee's call during play. One warning will be given and if the behaviour is repeated a behavioural technical foul will be issued with two shots awarded to the opposing team and possession. The coach or designated team contact can approach the referee during time outs and half time only. If they are not satisfied with this outcome or have other concerns, they may approach the Referee Supervisor and request they observe the game.
 - Players may not dispute decisions by calling out to the Referee Supervisor during play as this is still disputing referee decisions and will fit the same criteria as above.
 - Spectators are not permitted to question or comment on a referee's calls during a game. The referee will stop the game and give a warning in the first instance. If the behaviour is repeated, the game will be stopped until the Referee Supervisor can engage with the spectator; at no time during this process will the clock stop.

- Players are not permitted to question or comment on a referee's call at any time. One warning per team will be given and if the behaviour is repeated a behavioural technical foul will be issued with two shots awarded to the opposing team and possession. Players can request that their coach or designated team contact approaches the referees to discuss a particular call at time-outs and half time only.
- All technical fouls called in a game will be recorded by the referees and logged with the Referee Supervisor at the end of each game.
- If a player, coach or designated team contact receives two or more behavioural technical fouls per season, the following sanctions will apply:
 - 2 technical fouls – 1 week suspension
 - 3rd technical foul – 2 additional weeks suspension
 - 4th technical foul – 3 additional weeks suspension
 - 5th technical foul – the remainder of the current season.
- A suspension applies to all SBA competitions including junior, senior and Sabres representative, and if applicable, includes suspension from working as a referee during the suspension period.

35. Care of Venue

Any club, team, player, official or spectator responsible for causing damage to a venue may be required to pay the reasonable costs or repair, as determined by the CEO. Any person affected by this clause shall be entitled to present their case in writing and to attend a hearing determining the outcome of the case.

36. Tribunal Attendance

Reported persons must attend the Tribunal after proper notification has been received. The Tribunal has the right to penalise any person for non-attendance. A junior player may have one witness and either a parent, guardian or club official to guide them.

37. Coaching Accreditation and Child Safety Obligations

37.1. All junior Domestic Club coach and Assistant coaches are required to achieve the following accreditations and conditions in order to be compliant and permitted to coach in any SBA Junior Domestic competition:

- Working with Children's Check – renewed every 5 years
- Child Protection (Online course) – renewed every 2 years
- Harassment and discrimination (Online course) – renewed every 2 years
- Member Protection Statutory Declaration (Basketball Victoria) – renewed every 2.5 years
- Community Coaching Course (Level 0) - once only

Further information on SBA's Child Safety requirements and obligations can be found on the [website](#).

37.2. The SBA will introduce random checking of Coach and/or Assistant Coach accreditations during the season to ensure that compliance requirements are maintained. If a coach or an assistant coach is deemed to not be compliant and has failed to rectify the situation within a 7-day notification period, then that team's current domestic season points will be reset to zero at that point.

37.3. An exemption can be requested for the Community Coaching Course - Level 0 only, however evidence is required that the next available course has been booked by the individual.