



**ROCKINGHAM BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION
REPRESENTATIVE HANDBOOK**

This handbook covers all RBRA and BWA related competitions.

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INTRODUCTION

The Rockingham Basketball Recreation Association (RBRA) is represented in the Western Australian Basketball League (WABL) under the team name of “*Rockingham Flames*”. This *Representative Handbook* has been produced to provide the WABL Program procedures, guidelines, roles and responsibilities and parameters.

Where a specific code of conduct or situation is not covered in this Handbook, the WABL Director will consult and determine an outcome on a case by case basis.

The RBRA has developed this Handbook as an addendum to the Basketball WA Codes of Conduct, and reserves the right to override or amend a policy or procedure if deemed to be in the best interest of the RBRA WABL Program. This Handbook will be reviewed annually by the WABL Director in consultation with the WABL Committee. RBRA reserves the right to override any of the rules, regulations, policies and procedures if deemed to be in the best interest of the Program.

It is very important for ALL members of our basketball community and the WABL Program, particularly players and their families to READ and UNDERSTAND the Program requirements and expectations, and only accept a team position if all areas of this Handbook are UNDERSTOOD and AGREED to.

Players selected to represent Rockingham Flames in the WABL Program are congratulated for their achievement and encouraged to make the most of the opportunities offered to them. Both the player and their family are to recognise that participation in the Program is a major commitment of time, effort and resources.

MISSION STATEMENT AND CLUB VALUES

To deliver an organised and successful WABL Program, that strives to develop and encourage our members including every Player, Coach and Official to reach their full potential within our basketball community. We establish our rules to ensure we build our talent pipeline through each respective age group.

- We will encourage our members to compete in the spirit of good sportsmanship and to treat ALL participants with respect.
- We will aim to develop our members as good citizens as well as good Basketball Players, Coaches and Officials.
- We will deal with our members with honesty and integrity.
- We will recognise the importance of each individual within the overall success of the Association.
- We will aim for our WABL teams to reflect a true representation of our RBRA Local Competition.

WABL PROGRAM

COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The RBRA WABL Director, Coaching Chair, Committees and the Development Coordinator work together to ensure the WABL Program is managed effectively and players developed to the best of their ability. The RBRA WABL Committee assists the WABL Director in the coordination of the WABL Program and must at all times ensure that its policies and programs are endorsed by RBRA Board of Directors, including:

- a) Meet with WABL Director, Coaching Chair and Development Co-ordinator to objectively discuss the allocation of coaches to teams prior to trials
- b) Hold meetings as required to address any issues which may arise in the running of the WABL Program
- c) Assist in strategic plans and overall direction of the RBRA WABL Program, and
- d) Assist with the smooth running of all WABL Home Game Days

WABL TEAM STRUCTURE

Following the RBRA selection process, the Club will enter teams as follows:

GRADE	BOYS	GIRLS
Under 12	3	2
Under 14	3	3
Under 16	3	2
Under 18	3	1
Under 20	1	-
SBL Division 1	1	1

U14 Touring Team

Each club can nominate one team from U14 boys and U14 girls to compete for a position in a national tournament. If teams finish in the top 3 at the BWA Grading tournament, they will be given the opportunity to tour at the end of that year.

Development Players

Unsuccessful players may be selected to train with their age group teams to develop their skills throughout the year. A coach may consider a development player in joining a WABL team as a WABL player if a position becomes vacant. If this occurs, fees will be altered. After 6 WABL games, the player will be classed domestically as a WABL player and included in the current rule of a maximum of 3 WABL players per team.

REPRESENTATIVE SELECTIONS

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY POLICY

To be eligible for trials and selection in a RBRA Junior Representative Team (WABL/ BWA State Championships etc.), players must meet certain criteria:

- Ensure the player is registered with Basketball WA and affiliated with the RBRA
- Players with other Association primary registration will be expected to affiliate with Flames and then fill out an intention to approach form before training starts.
- Obtain and lodge a "Player Clearance" form with BWA prior to taking the court for the Rockingham Flames
 - **NOTE: It is the responsibility of the player and / or their parents to ensure this form is completed and approved prior to being eligible to play**
- Acknowledge that they are prepared to operate within RBRA policy and guidelines by signing the Representative Player Information Agreement. For all junior players, the player's parents also acknowledge this Agreement
- Comply with the RBRA Selection Procedures
 - Absences must be communicated and approved the WABL Director
- Pay the appropriate fees
- All participants must be currently playing in the RBRA Local Competition in their own age group, or provide acknowledgement of intent to play in writing to the WABL Director

In addition the following matters will be taken into account:

1. A Player and/or Parent/Guardian's past and current degree of acceptance and adherence to the Codes of Conduct
2. A Player's history of commitment to the Flames WABL Program and Local Competition in past seasons
3. A Parent/player adherence to Basketball W.A's Code of Conduct

LOCAL COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

To participate in all RBRA Representative Teams:

- Players must play a minimum of 75% of the RBRA Domestic Competition
- Players must play Domestically in Grade based on year of birth
- If there is a legitimate reason a player cannot fulfil these commitments they will need to apply in writing to the WABL Committee: wabl@rockinghamflames.com.au who will take the Application to the Board of Directors for approval. Examples:
 - Injury (requires a Drs note)
 - Cannot find a domestic team
 - New to the area/ new to representative basketball

- Penalties for non-compliance may include a Players suspension from RBRA and BWA associated competitions; Domestic basketball Etc.

To ensure our local competitions remain strong, the Rockingham Flames Competition By-Laws states:

- Junior teams will be restricted to a maximum of 3 WABL players
- Players must play in their own WABL age group

State Championship and Domestic Requirements

The State Championship Tournament run by BWA is a component of WABL Grading for all U12/ U14/ U16/ U18 participants. This tournament assists BWA with seeding for WABL grading.

RBRA State Championship trials are now “PHASE ONE” of our WABL program. Coaches will select players with the focus being placed on teams competing in the correct divisions for WABL.

To trial for and participate in the BWA State Championship Tournament held in November-December yearly:

- Players must be prepared to commit to the following WABL season
- Players must play a minimum of 75% of the Winter Domestic Season (April-September) prior to trialling
- If the trials occur during the season, Players must commit to playing a minimum of 75% of that Summer Domestic Season (October-April) prior to trialling
- If a Player withdraws their participation in the local Domestic competition or grade after they have participated in the State Championship tournament they may not be considered for a WABL team.

WABL and Domestic Requirements

To trial for and participate in the WABL Competition held February - September yearly, inclusive of the Grading Component:

- Players must be registered and playing in the current Summer Domestic Season (October-April) prior to trialling
- Players who trial and are selected for a WABL team must also commit to play a minimum of 75% of the following Winter Domestic Competition, prior to trialling

Participation Check

Participation checks will be run on all players registering for trials, and at intervals throughout the domestic season.

WABL SELECTIONS TRIALS AND SELECTION CRITERIA

The WABL selection process begins with the State Championship Tournament. Final selections for all grades (except U14-1 boys and girls - due to the potential of touring) will be made from our official Trial Days which are held early January-February yearly. This is publicised on FB page, Flames Website and emailed to club members.

- Players must stand for selection in their own age group. A junior athlete is able to stand for selection in a senior division; however the athlete must ensure that their first commitment is always with the junior team, in both training and competition.
- Junior players are not permitted to represent at senior level without fulfilling junior representative commitments within the same year.
- Any player who is unable to attend selection trials, and has a legitimate reason for being unable to comply with the WABL Selection Policy must contact the WABL Director in writing, to ensure they are included in the selection process.
- Legitimate reasons for not attending selection trials may include being injured, ill, unable to gain release from an elite sports program or school event, or a prior commitment (wedding, family holiday).
- Special circumstances may apply to improve the Club's representation in the WABL Program, including players introduced through the selection process if RBRA deem their participation to be in the best interests of WABL Program and their team.

All selections are made with the best interests of the Club, including consideration of:

- Ability to compete in any tournaments the club participate in
- History of successful past performances at State Champs and the previous year in WABL
- History of successful past performances in the RBRA Local Competition,
- Demonstrated high level of performance at selection trials,
- Athletic ability, desire and dedication to become a player at the highest possible level,
- Potential to be socially compatible and display a sense of "team ethic" within a group,
- Highly receptive to coaching and highly co-operative within the team coaching environment,
- Demonstrated attitude displaying excellent self-discipline and standards of personal behaviour,
- Outstanding desire and commitment to work hard at improving mental, physical and basketball skills,
- Team needs and skill balance.

Any other criteria that the selectors see fit to apply in helping them to select the teams that they believe will be best able to represent Flames Basketball.

WABL Selection Procedures

The selection panel for each team will attend all selection trials, and consist of three selectors, namely the Development Coordinator, Coaching Chair, an Independent Selector, as well as the appointed Coach of each respective team. The SBL and the D League Coach may be required for selection panel for seniors.

The selectors' process and decision is final, and queries relating to the outcomes can be taken to the WABL Director. The selection process is as follows:

- All trials require attendance.
- Following the final session, each team will be selected and will train in readiness for the grading tournament
- All team lists will be submitted by coaches to the WABL Director via email
- The WABL Committee will announce all teams via the Flames Website: www.rockinghamflames.com.au
- At the Coaches and in consultation with the WABL Directors, unsuccessful players may be asked to train with the team

Coaches may apply to the WABL Director to vary these selection procedures for their team in that year only, where they believe that special circumstances exist which justify a modification. The selection procedures may only be modified with the prior approval of the WABL Director.

WABL SEASON

PRE-SEASON (POST SELECTION) PREPARATION

WABL Training is compulsory and will be up to two designated training sessions per week, depending on coach and/or venue availability as follows:

- Pre-season: February – April – players will train twice a week for up to three hours
- During season: April – September – players will train twice a week for up to three hours
- If an athlete is injured, ill, or will be absent from training for any other reason, the Coach or Manager is to be advised. Absence from training may affect a players court time
- Tournaments (BWA State Championships) and scratch matches are vital to prepare our players for squad selections, and are equally important for determining our strengths, team building and to play against the strongest competition available. Where ever possible, teams are expected to participate in those the club enters into
- The team coach may also wish to enter their team into additional tournaments throughout the season. This will be done only after consideration by the WABL Director, Team Staff and Parents of the children in the team

WABL SEASON GAMES

All WABL games are played on a Sunday and tip-off times range from 8am to Late. Each game lasts approximately 90 minutes and players need to be at the venue at least 30 minutes before tip-off.

Home games are played at the Mike Barnett Sports Stadium. Away games will involve travel to various regional centres including Joondalup, Kalamunda to Bunbury.

WABL Finals will take place in September.

COURT TIME POLICY

Representative basketball is an elite program and it is inevitable that some players will play more than others. With the exception of Under 12's, where all players must take the court in both halves, playing time is at the Coach's discretion and is never guaranteed. As coaches will have different philosophies for rotating their players, it is imperative for the team, players and their supporters, that their philosophy is clearly communicated and understood prior to committing to the season.

Under the Program, coaches and their assistants are available to discuss their philosophy on court time and answer queries relating to team structure, how players may be able to increase their playing time or any other matter confidentially. The WABL Director is in continuous consultation through the season, to assist with matters arising from this Policy.

WABL FEES / COSTS POLICY

The cost for the 2018 WABL season is approximately \$340-\$430 p/p depending on weekly training hours. Development players will pay the training component for each team only. Fees will need to be paid upfront and online via the Flames Website. Kidsports must be given directly to our Administration Officer during office hours.

- Fees set cover - BWA administration costs including registration and insurance/ RBRA administration costs/ all training costs including venue insurances/ equipment costs/ Playing singlet up keep/ club maintenance/ referees fees/ games controller/ Sporting Pulse Stadium Scoring levy
- The fee does not cover pre-season tournaments, weekly game entry fees, or uniforms (other than the playing top which is provided)
- The assumption is that all fees will be paid by the allotted time, with a 'no pay – no play' policy to apply. If fees are not able to be paid in full by the due date, the WABL Director should be contacted prior to the due date, to arrange a suitable repayment plan. If the WABL Director has not been contacted, a reminder will be advised to the player's registered address, and if payment is not received within 14 days the player shall be deemed "un-financial" and will be unable to participate in WABL

- Player commitment is for the ENTIRE season irrespective of later motivation. Fee reduction may be considered in the event of serious injury, relocation or on a case by case basis
- Cases of genuine financial hardship can be brought to the attention of RBRA. Requests for fee relief should be directed to the WABL Director by the participant (if under 18 years of age – the parent of the participant). Any requests for fee relief will be dealt with in confidence and on a case by case basis
- Kidsport is an initiative to assist State Players and Coaches with part costs involved in representative basketball. Eligible players can submit a Rockingham Council form for approval, and then the form is given to the Administration Officer for approval
- RBRA may provide a grant to any Rockingham Representative Team successful in their entry into the U14 National Championships. Those eligible must submit a written request to the RBRA Board of Directors. A spreadsheet of estimated costs must be included
- Account Enquiries should be emailed to the Rockingham Administration Officer address: admin@rockinghamflames.com.au

WABL UNIFORM POLICY

WABL Players entering any basketball stadium to represent their Club must be wearing the approved Flames uniform. This includes Flames shorts, Flames warm-up top (junior age groups) or Polo top. Apparel that does not comply, including hats, coloured socks, etc. should be removed before entry to the venue on game day.

- For WABL Players, it is compulsory to purchase Flames shorts, and the Flames warm up top or Polo top for games, and a Flames reversible singlet and plain black shorts for training. Other optional club apparel items are available for purchase, including socks, hoodies, water bottles
- For WABL Development Squad members, it is compulsory to purchase the reversible singlet for training. Should development players be required to participate in any representative competition they will then be required to obtain playing shorts and a warm up top or polo top

REFEREE PROGRAM

Each WABL Team from U14 up are encouraged to support our refer program by nominating three (3) Players to be available for the Domestic Competition Referees Roster. All training and coaching will be provided and players will be paid for each game they umpire. Each of the three players will be required to umpire one game every two to three weeks at a minimum. The game will be either before or after their normal scheduled game.

MISCELLANEOUS

Sponsorship Policy

The RBRA continuously seeks sponsorship to reduce the ongoing costs for the WABL Program. With further sponsorship and fundraising, costs could be reduced.

Any team or Club sponsorship proposals must be lodged with RBRA for consideration.

Any apparel sponsorship proposals must be lodged with RBRA for consideration and no unauthorised additions to the RBRA WABL uniform design (including logos) are to be made to any apparel used by WABL Players, Managers or Coaches. Likewise, the use of any Flames Basketball logo or the words Rockingham Basketball Association can only be reproduced on clothing, uniforms, written material or products with the authority of the RBRA.

Fundraising Policy

RBRA will only allow fundraising opportunities to:

- Rockingham Flames representatives selected in a BWA State Team,
- Rockingham Flames U14 Representative teams participating at National Championships. Guidelines for these teams will be given to the Team Manager at the beginning of the season
- Rockingham Flames Officials who have been selected to attend a National Championship
- RBRA may organise association fundraising events or facilitate additional fundraising events for individual teams should the calendar and circumstances allow
- Fundraising should not adversely affect business of the RBRA sponsors, management, local competitions, Junior and Senior Flames representative competitions
- The type and frequency of fundraising will be closely monitored by the club
- Approval must be sort prior to arranging any fundraising activity
- Financial records must be kept of all funds raised and expended and a copy provided to the WABL Director on completion of fundraising events

Amendments

1. Amended 2017 Representative Handbook
 - Date: December 2017
 - By: Sharon Matenga
 - Details: Updated Domestic participation and pre-trial requirements
 - Details: Restructured layout and wording