



NBL1 Central Rules of Operation

2021



BASKETBALL
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

These Rules come into effect February 2021

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Glossary

The following glossary defines terms that are used in these Rules:

Act of God	An instance of uncontrollable natural forces in operation (such as weather).
Application Deadline	the date determined by BSA as the last day on which a Club may apply to participate in the NBL1 Central for a Season
Basketball Adelaide	Association of Metropolitan District Basketball Clubs
Basketball Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basketball SA (BSA)• Basketball Australia (BA)• National Men's Basketball League (NBL)• National Women's Basketball League (WNBL)• FIBA• Court of Arbitration for Sport• a tribunal, body or authority conducted under the auspices of any of the above
BA	Basketball Australia Limited
BSA	Basketball SA Inc.
Business Day	A day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday
CEO	the Chief Executive Officer of BSA from time to time, including a person acting in that position in the absence of the usual Chief Executive Officer
Coach	in relation to a participating Club – a person responsible for instructing and supervising a team of the Club's basketball players during training and games and who provides technical or tactical advice or guidance to the players or team or fulfils other functions commonly called coaching
Code of Conduct	the Code of Conduct published on the BSA website from time to time
Court Announcer	means a person appointed by the Home Club to make public announcements in relation to the presentation of a game and be responsible for playing music and where appropriate other audio recordings
Club	an affiliated Club or association which is a member of BSA
Club Official	in relation to a participating Club: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a Coach of a team fielded in the NBL1 Central by a participating Club• a committee member of the participating Club• an employee of the participating Club• a volunteer administrator of the participating Club• medical or fitness staff involved with a team fielded in the NBL1 Central by the participating Club• a Technical Official nominated by the Club
Deactivation Form	the form prescribed or approved by the League Manager from time to time for deactivating players under these Rules
Equalised Contribution	see Rule 2.8.(b)
FIBA	FIBA (International Basketball Federation), of which BA is a member
Finals Game	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• a Game listed in Rule 4.6• finals Game to determine the league champion and other final positions in the NBL1 Central competition after the end of the home and away Games
Foreign Player	A Player who holds a FIBA foreign player licence other than a FIBA Oceania licence
Game	a game listed in the draw of the NBL1 Central for either the men's competition or the women's competition during a Season
Game Commissioner	means the person appointed by the Home Club to ensure a fixtured game is conducted in accordance with the Rules of Operation
Game Official	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• a referee involved in a Game• a referee coach involved in a Game• a person who supervises or reviews referees (such as a referee supervisor or a person who assesses referees' performance) involved in a Game• a scoretable official involved in a Game

Home Club	• a statistician involved in a Game
Home Team	the participating Club fielding the Home Team for a Game
League	the team participating in a Game which is shown as the home team in the draw
League Advisory Group	means the NBL1 Central basketball competition which is managed by Basketball SA
League Manager	Members of the Basketball SA Competitions Working Group and the Executive Chair of Basketball Adelaide will form the NBL1 Central League Advisory Group
License Agreement	the person nominated from time to time by the CEO (or if no person is nominated, the CEO)
License Fee	an agreement in a form determined by BSA about a Club's participation in the NBL1 Central during a Season
Off-Season	An amount as is determined by BSA
Official	the part of a year that does not fall within a Season
Official Basketball Rules	• an Club Official of a participating Club
Player	• a Game Official
Participating Club	• a Venue Official
Player Registration Form	the official basketball Rules as published by FIBA from time to time
Points Rating	means a player in a League Team
Points System	a Club or Association that has the right to field teams in the NBL1 Central during a Season
NBL	the form required or approved by the League Manager from time to time for the registration of players in the NBL1 Central
NBL1 Central Tribunal	the number/points allocated to a player in the league
NBL1 Central Tribunal Member	the system used to determine a players points rating
Registered Player	the National Basketball League
Regular Season Game	a disciplinary tribunal constituted by a NBL1 Central panel operating under the BSA Tribunal By-Laws with Members selected by the BSA League Management
Restricted Player	a person who is from time to time on a panel kept by the League Manager and who is none of the following:
Rules of Operation	• the CEO
Season	• an employee of BSA
Technical Official	• A BSA Commissioner
Unregistered Player	• the League Manager
	• a committee member or employee of a Participating Club or Association
	• a person who the League Manager knows to have a personal relationship with the Respondent or the person who made the report leading to the charge against the Respondent or to be affected by another material personal interest in the outcome of the charge
	• generally – a player who has completed all registration requirements of these Rules.
	• in relation to a Participating Club – a person who is on a player roster kept under these Rules for a team fielded in the NBL1 Central by that Participating Club
	a minor round game or a game other than a Finals Game
	see Rule 14
	means the Rules of Operation of NBL1 Central as amended from time to time
	the period between the date of the first Game and the last Finals Game
	means any person acting as a score table official, statistician or referee or referee coach at any League fixture
	• generally – a person who is not a Registered Player
	• in relation to a Participating Club or Association – a person who is not a

Venue Official	Registered Player on a player roster kept under these Rules for a team fielded in the NBL1 Central by that Participating Club or Association in relation to a venue where a Game is held: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a crowd controller at the venue • medical or fitness staff for the venue • the person who manages or is in charge of the venue
Visiting Club	the participating Club fielding the Visiting Team for a Game
Visiting Team	the team participating in a Game which is not the Home Team
Week	means a seven day period from Monday through to the following Sunday inclusive
WNBL	Women’s National Basketball League

1. AIMS

The League aims to:

- (a) Provide an elite basketball league that is aspirational and provides an inspirational pathway for Clubs, players, coaches and technical officials;
- (b) Provide a highly attractive competition, that enables and results in commercial leverage opportunities and engages the community; and
- (c) Grow the profile of the sport of basketball.

2. MANAGEMENT

The NBL1 Central is managed by Basketball SA, with BSA commission endorsement when applicable. The League Management is overseen by Basketball SA Competitions Department, with the League Manager appointed by the CEO. The BSA Competitions Working Group and the Executive Chair of Basketball Adelaide forms the League Advisory Group to the League Manager.

2.1 Elastic Powers

The League Management, if it deems it necessary, may waive any of the provisions of these Rules subject to the following:

- (a) Any such waiver shall be in writing and shall clearly state the grounds upon which, and the said period for which, the waiver is to operate; and
- (b) The League Manager shall notify all Clubs of any such waiver. The notice shall specify the reasons for the waiver and the time period to which it shall apply.

Any matter not covered by the scope of these Rules, provided it comes within the Aims of the League (as specified in Rule 1) shall be dealt with by the League Management.

2.2 Decisions when these Rules are silent or unclear

The League manager shall in the first instance interpret and apply the Rules of Operation and make decisions based on them.

- (a) If these Rules are silent on a matter arising in relation to the NBL1 Central, the League Manager may make a decision about how the matter is to be dealt with.
- (b) If these Rules are not silent on a matter arising in relation to the NBL1 Central but they are uncertain, the League Manager may make a decision about how the uncertainty is to be resolved.
- (c) The League Manager at their discretion can also refer to the League Advisory Group for guidance on interpretation and application of any Rules of Operation.
- (d) The League Manager may call on persons suitably qualified and /or experienced in the matter to seek advice when making a decision about how the matter is to be dealt with.

2.3 League penalties

The League Manager is empowered to impose penalties for non-compliance with the NBL1 Central Rules of Operation and as specified in Rule 23. Any penalty for breach of these Rules may be imposed upon individual players, coaches, Clubs, members of a Club or technical officials at the League Manager's discretion. Penalties may be in the form or combination of fines, forfeit, suspension or disqualification or any other penalty deemed appropriate by the League Manager from time to time. The League Manager will notify all penalties in writing to the Club.

2.4 Alteration to these Rules

The League competitions are governed by these Rules of Operation and the FIBA Rules of Basketball. In cases where Rules in this document conflict with the FIBA Rules of Basketball these

Rules take precedence over the FIBA Rules of Basketball.

The Rules of Operation may be amended by the League Manager with input from the League Advisory Group from time to time.

If changes to these Rules occur during a Season:

- a) a change to these Rules cannot have retrospective effect;
- b) BSA must first consult with the Clubs, using a process or methodology determined by the League Advisory Group;
- c) the changes cannot substantially change the way in which the NBL1 Central competition for that Season is conducted;
- d) the change only takes effect when BSA notifies the Clubs of the change/s at least one calendar month in advance of the change.

2.5 Delegate of Basketball SA

- (a) The League Manager is taken to be a delegate of Basketball SA.
- (b) Any function or power conferred on the League Manager under these Rules is taken to be a function or power conferred on Basketball SA and exercised on behalf of Basketball SA by the League Manager.
- (c) Any action taken by the League Manager under these Rules is taken by Basketball SA on behalf of Basketball SA by the League Manager.
- (d) Any appeal or proceedings taken in a tribunal or court in relation to the League Managers functions, powers or actions taken must be taken against Basketball SA and not against the League Manager personally.

2.6 Appeals of Decisions Made by League Manager

- (a) Basketball SA CEO shall act as the first point of appeal for decisions made by the League Manager in relation to these Rules.
- (b) The Basketball SA Commission shall act as the final point of appeal for decisions made by the League Manager and Basketball SA CEO.

2.7 Appeal process

- (a) An appellant seeking an appeal must submit the appeal in writing, detailing the matter in full and the decision made by the League Manager including:
 - (i) Ground(s) on which the appeal is made; and
 - (ii) Reason(s) or circumstances supporting the ground(s) of appeal.
- (b) Upon receipt, the League Manager will forward the submission to the BSA CEO who will, within three (3) business days of receipt of the appeal, appoint 3 independent members to form the Appeals Sub Committee. The Appeals Sub Committee will determine within three (3) business days of appointment if the appeal should proceed.

The appellant shall be notified within one (1) business day after the Appeals Sub Committee handing down their decision whether the Appeals Sub Committee will hear the appeal. If the appeal is to be heard the notice to the appellant shall include the date, time, method or location the hearing will be heard, which will be within five (5) business days of notification.

The appellant has the opportunity to be present at any hearing and must notify the league within 48 hours of being advised that the appeal will be heard, otherwise the Appeals Sub Committee will deal with the matter(s) on written submission only within five (5) business days of the decision to hold the appeal.

If the appeal proceeds, the Appeals Sub Committee shall determine the manner in which the appeal shall be heard:

- (i) By way of a full hearing; or
 - (ii) By way of a partial hearing of limited issues only.
- (c) The Appeals Sub Committee may deal with the matter(s) by phone, video conferencing, email or such other means as deemed appropriate.
- (d) The Appeals Sub Committee shall have the power to:
- (i) Dismiss the appeal;
 - (ii) Uphold the appeal;
 - (iii) Impose any penalties in accordance with these Rules of Operation;
 - (iv) Reduce, increase or otherwise vary any penalty of the initial decision of the League Manager in such a manner as it thinks fit.
- (e) The Appeals Sub Committee will provide the League Manager the outcome of the appeal in writing on the league template, which will be forwarded to the appellant.

2.8 Finance

- (a) Basketball SA shall administer the finances of the League through the Basketball SA accounting system.
- (i) Club/Teams/Players that are deemed unfinancial by various Rules of Basketball SA and the League will be Ruled ineligible to participate and/or progress in the competition.
 - (ii) The League Manager will develop an annual budget which will ensure the satisfactory operation of the league and gain approval from BSA Commission.
 - (iii) Basketball SA has a responsibility to ensure the financial viability of Clubs and may exercise the right to review a Club's financial status to ensure their financial stability and maintain the integrity of the League. Clubs are required to supply BSA with an audited solvency statement confirming the ability to pay club debts as and when they fall due within three (3) business days of the club AGM.
 - (iv) Basketball SA is empowered to assist with the development of Clubs who are identified as struggling financially. This assistance may include arranging financial advice, which may be in coordination with Basketball SA. The ultimate responsibility for financial stability rests with the individual Club.
- (b) **Annual License Fee**
A Club wishing to nominate teams for an NBL1 Central season will be subject to an annual Team license fee. The League Manager in consultation with Basketball SA Finance Manager and Basketball SA Referee Manager will set a budget for NBL1 Central which will include the Officiating and Court hire expenses (for season 2021 external venue hire only will be included) for the coming season and this will form the license fee which will be communicated on an annual basis. The dollar value of the license fee will be calculated equal to an "Equalised Contribution" by all Clubs for the season. The annual license fee will be invoiced to each Club in three equal installments in April, June and August.
- (c) **Financial Club**
A Club will be deemed financial when it meets all financial requirements as set out in the NBL1 Central Rules, the Metro League and District League Rules of Operation as from time to time amended by Basketball SA and includes but not limited to payment of any annual fees, any Club fines, any annual license fees and all league accounts paid within Basketball SA's required payment terms (or the Club has an existing approved

payment plan with Basketball SA).

- (d) An un-financial Club, on the recommendation of the League Manager and with the approval of Basketball SA Commission, will not be permitted to participate in the NBL1 Central League competition.

A Club will be deemed un-financial when:

- (i) It has accounts outstanding to the League (including license fee or fines, other monies or part thereof) when the date specified for payment plus sixty (60) Days has expired unless an approved payment plan is in place between the Club and Basketball SA;
- (ii) An external audit examination of the Club's financial report requested by Basketball SA, concludes the club is in financial difficulty and cannot financially continue to compete in the NBL1 Central competition.

2.9 Sponsorship - Club

- (a) Basketball SA will by the 1st of January each year publish to Clubs, a listing of the major League Sponsors for the following season.

A Club/team shall not take on a new Sponsor if:

- (i) The new Sponsor is in competition with a major Sponsor of Basketball SA or the League; or
- (ii) The taking on of the new Sponsor will foreseeably damage Basketball SA or the League relationship with a Sponsor of Basketball SA or the League; or
- (iii) The new Sponsor is promoting tobacco products, adult entertainment or any other product or service which the League Management deems would bring the game of basketball, the League or Basketball SA into disrepute.

This restriction will not apply to existing sponsors of a Club.

- (b) Only enter into a commercial agreement with a Betting Operator with the written consent of Basketball Australia.

2.10 Club Responsibilities

- (a) Club Contacts

Each Club is required to appoint a 'Primary Club' contact and a 'Secondary Club' contact and notify the league of their name and contact details. All official league communication will be directed initially to the Primary contact with a cc'd copy to the Secondary contact.

- (b) A Club must ensure that all persons under its control comply with these Rules. For the purposes of these Rules, a person is taken to be a Club Member if they are:
 - (i) A registered player in a team fielded in any of the League competitions by the Club; or
 - (ii) A Registered Coach/Assistant Coach/Manager for a team fielded in any of the League competitions by the Club; or
 - (iii) A person acting as a Coach for a team fielded in any of the League competitions by the Club; or
 - (iv) A Club Official of the Club; or
 - (v) A parent/guardian of any registered player, coach or official of a Club.

2.11 League trademark (logo)

- (a) The League shall have an official trademark (logo).

- (b) Unless otherwise advised, League Clubs are required to use the trademark (logo) in accordance with the Style Guide.
- (c) A Club must use the League trademark (logo) including the sponsor's name and trademark (logo) on all match programs and promotions as advised.

2.12 Broadcast control

- (a) The League has the exclusive right to market all recordings or broadcasts of games involving League teams by way of any technology. As a result, no Club is permitted to sell recordings or broadcasts of its games either domestically or internationally for any purpose without the written agreement of the League Manager, which will not be unreasonably withheld.
- (b) A Club may produce highlights for promotional non-commercial purposes only without limitation.

2.13 Conduct Detrimental or Prejudicial to the League

Any Player, Club Member (as defined in Rule 2.10) or game official that behaves in a manner that adversely, or is likely to, adversely affect the League in either its promotion or smooth operation is liable to be penalised by the League Management.

This will include:

- (a) **Unsportsmanlike Behaviour**
Any Player, Club, Club Member (including cheerleaders and courtside announcers) or game official that acts in an unsportsmanlike manner may be liable to penalty upon recommendation to the League Management by the League Manager;
- (b) **Disorders**
The behaviour of players, coaches, club management and officials can have a major effect on crowd behaviour. If, in the judgement of the League Management, any misconduct by such a person or persons stimulates or encourages crowd disorder, the offending party will be penalized as deemed appropriate, including fines and/or suspension;
- (c) **Criticism of the League, Clubs or Game Officials**
Criticism of game officials, Club and the League competition is a matter which is an internal concern of the League. Any Club Member, including coaches, players and management who publicly criticises any of the above persons or bodies will be deemed to have acted in a manner detrimental and prejudicial to the League and will be liable to penalty. Furthermore, any Club Member who is found by the League Management to have pursued and/or harassed game officials before, during, or after a game will be subject to similar penalties. Club will be held responsible for the comments of all their Members which may subsequently appear in the media;
- (d) **Bribery and Tampering**
Any person who directly or indirectly entices, induces, persuades, or attempts to entice, induce or persuade any player, coach, referee, official, management or other person associated with an Club to alter the natural outcome of a League game will be deemed to have engaged in conduct detrimental to the League and will be penalised;
- (e) **Language**
Coaches, assistant coaches, trainers, players and game officials must refrain from any:
 - (i) Profane or objectionable language which might be heard by spectators or picked up by Camera/TV/Live stream microphones in the vicinity of the benches and/or playing court.
 - (ii) Violators will be liable to penalty at the discretion of the League Management.

3. LEAGUE CLUBS

3.1 Eligible Clubs

Subject to meeting the requirements in 2.8 and 3.2, the following clubs have the exclusive right to participate and enter one men's team and one women's team in the NBL1 Central competition:

Central Districts Lions
Eastern Mavericks
Forestville Eagles
North Adelaide Rockets
Norwood Flames
South Adelaide Panthers
Southern Tigers
Sturt Sabres
West Adelaide Bearcats
Woodville Warriors

3.2 Club Eligibility Requirements

- (a) A Club must be a financial member of the League and must continue to be financial throughout the season.
- (b) A Club may field teams in the NBL1 Central for a season only if:
 - (i) It fields both a men's and women's team;
 - (ii) It pays the Annual License fee to BSA (where applicable);
 - (iii) It enters a men's and women's team in the BSA Reserve division during the same season and the preceding Summer season (where applicable); and
 - (iv) Commencing Winter season 2021 it enters teams in both boys and girls divisions in Basketball SA Metro League Competition Division One (1) and Division Two (2) in all age groups of U12's, U14's U16's, U18's.
 - (v) Should a Club fail to nominate a team in any of the divisions in (iv) above the overall position in relation to finances and junior development will be reviewed prior to accepting nominations for the following season.
- (c) Any Club that withdraws a team from the NBL1 Central competition after the season fixtures have been published shall be liable for a withdrawal fine of \$5,000.00.
- (d) In accepting entry into the League all Club, teams and individuals so entered shall be bound by these Rules and Regulations, Basketball SA Policies and By-laws (where applicable), including the Basketball SA Tribunal Rules, Basketball Australia applicable Rules and all integrity requirements.

4. SEASON OPERATION

4.1 Fixturing

The League has scheduling responsibility.

- (a) The League will determine fixtures for the regular season and for finals that will be as fair as possible.
- (b) Regular season games will be scheduled generally on Saturday evening or Sunday afternoon, but may include Friday nights or for special purposes, other midweek

day/evenings.

- (c) League games will generally not commence earlier than 5:30pm on a Friday or Saturday and 12:00 noon on a Sunday nor commence later than 8:15pm on a Friday or Saturday and 4:00pm on a Sunday without the express permission of the League Manager. Such permission shall not unreasonably be withheld.
- (d) League game times may be modified to make use of available public holidays where there is agreement from both participating clubs.
- (e) The NBL1 competition shall consist of one season per year run from approximately April to September. Each team will play each other team on a home and away basis (where possible).

4.2 Fixturing requests

Each Club shall submit fixture request information in a format and at a time specified by the League to allow fixturing to commence. Every effort will be made to include these requests in the schedule program but not all requests may be granted.

4.3 Draft fixtures

Draft fixtures will be issued to Clubs at the earliest possible time and will incorporate changes proposed by Clubs where possible and where such changes would not significantly adversely impact other Clubs.

4.4 Official fixtures

At least eight weeks prior to the season's start, the League will issue the official fixtures for the season to Clubs.

4.5 Amendment to fixtures

Once released the official fixtures will not be amended without the permission of the League Manager. Should a game need to be re-fixtured at the request of Club, the League Manager may apply a penalty in the form of a fine.

4.6 Fixture Final Series

The NBL1 Central competition will utilise the McIntyre final 5 format for the major rounds, in which the top 5 teams qualify for the major rounds.

The McIntyre final 5 format is as follows:

Week 1

Elimination Final (EF)

4th on ladder v 5th on ladder.

Winning team to Semi Final 1, losing team is eliminated.

Qualifying Final (QF)

2nd on ladder v 3rd on ladder –

Losing team to Semi Final 1, winning team to Semi Final 2.

1st on ladder to proceed directly to the semi-final 2.

Week 2

Semi-Finals

Semi Final 1:

Losing team of QF v winning team of EF – winning team to Preliminary Final, Losing team eliminated.

Semi Final 2:

1st on ladder v winning team of QF – winning team to Grand Final, losing team to the Preliminary Final.

Week 3

Preliminary Final (PF)

Winning team from Semi Final 1 v losing team Semi Final 2
Winning team to Grand Final, losing team is eliminated.

Week 4

Grand Final (GF)

Winner Semi Final 2 v Winner Preliminary Final

National Grand Final

Winner of Grand Final

4.7 Positions on the Premiership Table

Teams are generally classified according to the FIBA Official Rules of Basketball with the following exception.

Premiership points shall be awarded as follows:

WIN 3 points

LOSS 1 point

FORFEIT 0 points

If 2 or more teams have the same win-loss record of all games in the group, the game(s) between these 2 or more teams shall be used to decide their final ladder positions. If the 2 or more teams have the same win-loss record of the games between them, further criteria will be applied in the following order:

- (i) Higher goal difference of the games between them;
- (ii) Higher number of goals scored in the games between them;
- (iii) Higher goal difference of all games in the group;
- (iv) Higher number of goals scored in all games in the group.

4.8 Team withdrawal

Should a team withdraw from the competition prior to the completion of the regular season, the League shall determine the fairest way to adjust the competition to ensure teams that have played or are yet to play the absent team are not disadvantaged.

5. REFEREES AND REFEREE COACHING STAFF

There is to be a Referee Commissioner appointed by the CEO from time to time.

The Referee Commissioner is solely responsible for the appointment of referees to Games.

5.1 Referee Attire

Attire of Referees and Referee Coaching staff:

- (a) A referee in a Game must wear the NBL1 Central shirt (as approved by the League Manager from time to time);
- (b) The referee must wear black pants, black shoes with the shirt, NBL1 Central polo (to and from games) and NBL1 Central jacket;
- (c) A Referee Coach must wear the approved attire - shirt/jacket (where supplied by the League) while attending games in an official capacity. Minimum dress standard is to be considered as business casual. Track suit pants and shorts are not permitted.

6. GAME RESPONSIBILITIES

6.1 Adherence

- (a) For the purpose of this Rule the 'home club' refers to the club listed first in the official schedule, and the 'visiting club' refers to the club listed second in the official schedule.
- (b) This section defines responsibilities of the home club and visiting club for each game of the season. Failure to adhere to these responsibilities may result in a fine of up to \$300.00 for each offence, at the discretion of League Management.

6.2 Stadium Admission

Door charges – NBL1 Central Fixtured Games

Each Club has the right to set its own door price for its own regular season home games, exhibition, pre-season or home finals games.

Ticketing arrangements for finals – NBL1 Central Fixtured Games

- (a) Where the home Club elects to presell tickets, it must:
 - (i) Notify the visiting Club of ticketing arrangements and ticket price list a minimum of 24 hours prior to going live with ticket sales using online systems and/or at the specified physical ticket selling location(s);
 - (ii) Allocate at least 20% or 100 (whichever is greater and excluding players and coaching staff in its count) of its seating capacity of total tickets available to the visiting Club for their members to be able to attend the match. 72 hours prior to the match start time, in the event the visiting Club has not used their full allocation of tickets, the home Club may then make available any leftover tickets to their members for purchase.
- (b) Where the home Club elects to not presell tickets, it must:
 - (i) Notify the visiting Club no later than 48 hours after the match is determined of the time at which ticket sales will commence at the match venue and the ticket price list;
 - (ii) Allocate at least 20% or 100 (whichever is greater and excluding players and coaching staff in its count) of its seating capacity of total seating available to the visiting Club for their members to be able to attend the match. The visiting Club must notify the home Club 72 hours prior to the match start time if they will use this allocation; or
 - (iii) Sell tickets at the match venue on a first come, first served basis with no preference to home or visiting Club members.

6.3 Access to games

- (a) Home Clubs are required to allow free entry to any person listed on the visiting team list up to a limit of twelve (12) players and four (4) team officials or any person who presents a League pass as shown on the game pass guide issued by the League Manager.
- (b) The home club shall admit the following people free of charge upon presentation of the relevant pass:
 - (i) Basketball SA and/or the League staff - Administration Pass;
 - (ii) Basketball SA and the League Life Members;
 - (iii) Basketball SA Hall of Fame Members;
 - (iv) Basketball SA 300 Club Members;
 - (v) NBL1 Central Media;
 - (vi) NBL1 Central Referees and Partner;
 - (vii) NBL1 Central Referee Coaches;

(viii) The home club may, at their discretion, admit other people free of charge.

6.4 Seating

In each home game the club shall reserve four (4) seats for Referee Coaches in a position approximately in line with the centre of the court opposite the score table from which the game can be clearly viewed.

6.5 Games Commissioner (Home Club and Score Table)

- (a) Each Club will nominate a Games Commissioner/s and forward their details to the League Manager 14 days prior to the start of the season.
- (b) The Home Club's Games Commissioner shall act as the official representative of the League during home games.
- (c) The Games Commissioner will be required to attend a compulsory pre-season orientation session organized by the League Management.
- (d) On Game Day the Games Commissioner must wear the approved BSA Games Commissioner uniform
- (e) The Game Commissioner's match day duties include but are not limited to:
 - (i) Ensuring the match starts on time and half time breaks etc. are adhered to;
 - (ii) Collection of game required paperwork for submission to the league management or uploading with 48 hours of the end of the last game;
 - (iii) Communicating with coaches regarding any uniform compliance issue(s) identified by the match referees and the need for the player(s) to address the non-compliance prior to entering the court;
 - (iv) Removal of any unruly spectators from venue, when directed to by a match Referee or authorised BSA Official;
 - (v) Compliance with the League signage and promotion requirements;
 - (vi) Security of visiting teams at all times including the player benches;
 - (vii) Ensuring no spectators have any prohibited noise makers so games are not disrupted and if they are identified, the matter is addressed immediately.

6.6 Match Balls

- (a) The home Club is to provide a match ball and a spare ball, both of which are to be of a type provided by the League.
- (b) The League will provide each NBL1 Club with Five (5) official league balls for each of the Club's NBL1 Central Men's and Women's team per season.

6.7 Security of player's bench

At all times while in the venue, the security of the visiting team is the responsibility of the home Club's Game Commissioner. This includes the security of the player's bench where the visiting team must be sheltered from undue harassment or interference from the fans.

6.8 Disruption of game

- (a) Aerosol horns, whistles, vuvuzelas and megaphones may disrupt games and are not permitted at League games.
- (b) Other noisemakers such as party horns and percussion instruments are conditionally permitted into the venue subject to the game technical officials being able to effectively officiate the match. Should the use of these items interfere with the audibility of game calls, the Referee may stop the match and request their use be discontinued or removed via the Game Commissioner.

6.9 Floor maintenance

It is the responsibility of the home Club to ensure that:

- (a) Floor wipers are available during the game to mop dry any wet spots which may be on the floor. Technical officials will not perform this duty. At least two floor wipers (one each end) of at least 12 years of age are to be provided throughout each game, equipped with broom or other suitable style floor wipers. Failure to provide the required floor wipers will result in a fine for each occurrence;
- (b) No promotions may be conducted by any Club, either pregame or during the half time break, that may involve the introduction of a foreign substance to any part of the playing surface, either within the playing area or on the area surrounding the playing area;
- (c) A blood kit in accordance with the Basketball Australia Blood Policy must be available for use as required.

6.10 Venue signage & national flag

Each League venue shall display the Australian National flag and the Aboriginal flag such that they are clearly visible during all games.

6.11 Court Announcer

Duties of the Court Announcer include:

- (a) play warm-up music prior to each game and appropriate music (no profanity) during the game, time outs, game breaks and at half-time;
- (b) introduce teams/players/coaches/referees to the spectators;
- (c) provide information relative to the state of the game that may not be readily available to the spectators;
- (d) promote sponsors at appropriate times;
- (e) provide live reads as advised by the League;
- (f) acknowledge official guests to the audience as a whole;
- (g) provide a legitimate commentary on the game (as detailed below).

6.11.1 Specific guidelines

- (i) The Court Announcer is an official of the game and as such visiting teams should be treated in an equal way as the home team. Neutrality extends to what is said, not necessarily how it is said. It is reasonable for the Announcer to use more emphasis in their tone in relaying positive information about the home team in comparison to similar information on the visiting team.
- (ii) There shall be no commentary or music while a player has the ball in their possession to shoot free throws.
- (iii) Comments during the course of play that take longer to make than the time it takes a team to progress to the halfway point of the court are too long.
- (iv) Game commentary should be limited to providing the following information at the appropriate time:
 - (a) Scoring - who scored, three pointers, accumulative individual totals and an occasional mention of assists may be appropriate;
 - (b) Foul - Who fouled, numbers of fouls both individual and team. Who is shooting free throws and how many (if required) plus the end result of the attempts;
 - (c) NOTE: The Referee's call must not be pre-empted in any way. The announcer must wait for the Referees decision and signal - DON'T GUESS. Incorrect information can create confusion and embarrassment to all;
 - (d) Violation - name the violation - NOT the player;

- (e) Time out - which team called it and how many they have had;
- (f) Rebounds, blocks and steals - can be mentioned if required and appropriate, but who made turnovers is generally not appropriate for comment.
- (v) The Court Announcer is not a cheerleader, barracker, noise generator or game critique. The principal duties are to pass information to the crowd, encourage it, but not incite it.
- (vi) Any comment reflecting on the performance of the Referees, either positive or negative, is not permitted. Similarly, any criticism of the League or its staff is not permitted. Critical remarks of any type towards players or coaches are not acceptable (including pre-taped comments played on the PA system).
- (vii) Acknowledgement of official League sponsors and guests are a part of the Court Announcers duties. These announcements should be limited to pre-game, time out and quarter/half time breaks. The Court Announcer will be obligated to acknowledge any League naming rights sponsor and any other League major sponsors as requested by the League Manager.

6.12 Scoretable and Statisticians

- (a) The League Management shall appoint a Score Table Commissioner for all games and shall centrally roster score table officials for major round games.
- (b) The home Club must provide a score table consisting of at least three (3), two of which must be at least Level 2 qualified and the remainder shall be at least Level 1 qualified, unless prior exemption approval is granted by the League Manager.

Scoretable duty positions to fill are:

- (i) Scorer;
- (ii) Timer;
- (iii) Shot clock operator.
- (c) The home Club is responsible for recording the statistics of the game and providing this information to both teams and to the League in accordance with the following:
 - (i) Statistics will be recorded using a software program specified by the League;
 - (ii) The Home club shall appoint two (2) competent statisticians to each game and one must be Level 1 qualified;
 - (iii) The League Management shall centrally appoint statisticians for all Grand Finals;
 - (iv) The statistics for the game must be accurate and must reflect the official score sheet when submitted to the League;
 - (v) Where the League provides electronic versions of team files for use, Clubs must use these team files at all times and players must not be manually added unless authorised by the League;
 - (vi) Statistics in the form of a box score shall be provided to each team immediately at the conclusion of each quarter.
 - (vii) Following reconciliation of the statistics and score sheet, the game shall be finalised within the statistics software program and each team shall be provided with a copy of the validated box score.

6.13 Documented Medical Procedures

The home Club shall have a documented procedure to follow in the case of serious injury and with which the Game Commissioner is familiar.

6.14 Game Day Photography

- (a) It is the requirement of the Home Team to have a suitably qualified or capable photographer on-site for each game from the start of the first game to the end of the second game.
- (b) Photographers should upload images at Half Time and Full Time of each game to the distribution platform determined by the League.
- (c) Photographers must capture and upload images of both clubs from each game for the purpose of League promotion and use by the visiting team.

6.15 Post Game Hospitality

It is the objective of the League that the visiting team and Referees are received and treated as guests. To promote good sportsmanship, it is mandatory that each Home Club provides post game hospitality. Referees are to be invited and can attend at their discretion. The hospitality is to include post game food of a suitable quality, variety and quantity for consumption at least by all players, team officials and Referees.

7. GAME DAY

7.1 Choice of Team Bench and Basket

The home team has the option to choose which end it will attack in the first period and which team bench it will use. Team warm-ups shall be conducted at the end in which the teams are attacking thereafter.

7.2 Warm up period

There shall be a warm up period of not less than fifteen (15) minutes on the playing court prior to the game.

7.3 Pre-Game Announcements

- (a) When the game clock reaches five (5) minutes remaining in warm-up, it shall be stopped and both teams shall return to their respective benches. The Court Announcer will introduce the players and other team officials individually, starting with the visiting team and then the home team and then finally announcing the Referees, together with any special guests.
- (b) National Anthem
Each Club may choose to play or not to play the National Anthem prior to each home game during the season. However, this decision must be submitted to the League Manager at least 14 days prior to the commencement of the season. The League Manager will inform all participating clubs of each club's decision. The National Anthem may be played by the Court Announcer or sung by a performer once all players, team officials and Referees have been announced. All players and officials shall maintain a dignified position during the national anthem.
- (c) On completion of the introductions, the clock shall be restarted and the teams may complete their warm up.
- (d) With one minute 30 seconds (1:30) remaining on the clock the referee shall blow his whistle and each team will return to their bench and prepare to start the game.
- (e) Any modification to this pre game procedure by the home Club must have prior approval from the League Manager at least 3 business days prior to the match day who shall communicate this change to the visiting team.
- (f) Both teams and all team officials must be present on court ten (10) minutes prior to tipoff for the introductions and to complete score sheet formalities. Any team failing to appear as requested by the Game Commissioner will be subject to penalty or further action that may be appropriate in such circumstances.

7.4 Game timing

- (a) Matches will consist of four (4) quarters of ten (10) minutes each which shall be fully timed.
- (b) There shall be a break of two (2) minutes duration between the first and the second quarters, and between the third and the fourth quarters. A half time interval of ten (10) minutes shall apply to all games unless otherwise directed by the League Manager. Irrespective of half time on-court activities, at least the final five (5) minutes of the half time interval must be available to teams for warm ups.
- (c) If the scores are tied at full time, a further five (5) minutes of extra time will be played to decide a winner. If scores remain tied after this period of extra time, another five (5) minutes is to be played and continue until a winner is determined.

7.5 Half time extension

- (a) The duration of the half-time break may be extended by up to 5 minutes (fifteen (15) minutes in total) at the discretion of the home team.
- (b) Half-time extensions beyond fifteen (15) minutes are to be used only in extraordinary cases relating to the recognition of competitive achievements, eg. retiring a uniform number or the setting of a significant statistical record.
- (c) Such a half-time extension requires League approval and should be requested in writing at least fourteen (14) days prior to the fixture for which it is required. Prior agreement with visiting team will not guarantee approval.

7.6 Starting time change

- (a) The Game Commissioner shall ensure that the game commences at the time scheduled.
- (b) If a Club wishes to amend a tip-off time after the release of the official fixtures, it must apply in writing with the visiting team's approval to the League. No such amendment to tip-off time may take place without prior League approval.

8. PLAYING RULES

Rules to apply

All League games shall be played in accordance with the FIBA playing Rules, including any Basketball SA Rule Variations as notified from time to time. Basketball SA Rule variations override the FIBA Rules.

9. VISITING (AWAY) TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES

The visiting team shall change uniforms in the event of a colour clash with the home team uniforms, i.e. the home team should wear their preferred approved uniform.

10. PROTEST

- (a) Any Team desiring to lodge a protest (as defined by FIBA except no protest may be made concerning a decision by a Referee) in respect of any match, must lodge such a protest in writing with the League Manager within forty eight (48) hours of the match. The League Manager is not obliged to meet face to face and may deal with the protest by phone, video conferencing, email or such means as they deem appropriate.
- (b) Upon receipt of a protest, the League Manager shall immediately notify the opposing team in the match, which is subject to protest.

11. FORFEITED GAMES

A forfeit is deemed to occur when insufficient players representing a team are present at the fixtured starting time for a League fixture. A Club whose team for any reason fails to appear for or complete any fixtured regular or finals game, including overtime, except for acts of God or events beyond such team's control shall be deemed to have forfeited that game and shall be liable to a fine and suffer such additional penalty as shall be deemed appropriate by the League Manager. In the event of an act of God or events beyond such team's control refer to Rule 20 Abandoned Game.

In the event of a forfeit, the team forfeiting shall be deemed to have lost the game with a score of zero (0) points to twenty (20).

12. BENCH OCCUPATION

During the game the bench shall be occupied only by the coach, assistant coaches, players, team manager and trainer/physiotherapist with a maximum bench seating of 15 seats. No other persons are permitted on the Team bench.

Ejected coach or player

- (a) A Player, coach or assistant coach, upon being notified by a Referee that they have been ejected from the game, must leave the playing area immediately and remain in the change room of their team during such suspension until the completion of the game or may leave the building.
- (b) The use of messengers and/or telephones or any other electronic media to transmit information from an ejected coach to the bench is in violation of the spirit of this Rule and is subject to penalties or further action that may be appropriate in such circumstances.

13. REGISTRATION

13.1 Minimum, Maximum Player Roster Size and Age Restrictions

- (a) A club cannot have more than 20 registered players for either of its teams at any given time. A club may deregister a player at any time via an email to League Management.

A team must at all times have a minimum of 9 registered players for each team for each game and may field a maximum of 12 players for each game.
- (b) The minimum age for a player to participate on court in the NBL1 Central competition is for the player to be 16 years of age by the 31st December in the year the competition finishes.

13.2 Registrations

All coaches, Assistant Coaches, Managers and Players who participate in the League shall be registered within the League's approved registration program for each season at least three (3) business days prior to the commencement of the season or their first game.

13.2.1 Coach, Assistant Coach, Manager Registration

- (a) A person is a Registered Coach, Assist Coach, Manager for a Club's team only if:
 - (i) they are registered with BSA as a Coach or volunteer within the approved BSA Club database;
 - (ii) they are not subject to any suspension or other sanction imposed by a Basketball Authority which would be violated by the person engaging in activities of a Coach, Assistant Coach, Manager;

- (iii) they are not contracted to an NBL or WNBL club (unless the club has provided written permission to play in the League a copy of which must be forwarded to BSA League Manager);
 - (iv) they have no unpaid fines owing to a Basketball Authority;
 - (v) have the suitable level of accreditation to coach at this level. It is expected that all Head Coaches and First Assistant Coaches will have a minimum of Association Level Accreditation with further assistants holding a minimum Club Level Accreditation.
- (b) However, a person is taken not to be a Registered Coach, Assistant Coach, Manager for a Club's team:
- (i) while the person owes a debt to BSA which has fallen due for payment but has not been paid in full; or
 - (ii) while a fine levied on the person under these Rules has not yet been paid to BSA; or
 - (iii) if the person has been deactivated from the team's player list; or
 - (iv) while the person is subject to a current suspension under these Rules or the Rules or by-laws governing the League.
- (c) A person cannot be the Registered Coach/Assistant Coach of more than one team fielded in the League during the same Season. However, that person can be the Registered Coach/Assistant Coach for an NBL1 Central team and the Club's Reserve team during the same season.
- (d) A team fielded in the League can have a maximum of five Registered Team Staff comprising of - One Head Coach, a maximum of three assistant Coaches and one manager, at any given time.
- (e) A Club is responsible for ensuring that only the registered and approved team staff members carry out their duties during the season.

13.2.2 Player Registration

- (a) A person is a Registered Player for a Club's team only if:
- (i) they are a registered playing member of the Club and listed in the approved BSA Club database;
 - (ii) they are not subject to any suspension or other sanction imposed by a Basketball Authority which would be violated by the person playing, and
 - (iii) they are not contracted to an NBL or WNBL club (unless the club has provided written permission to play in the League a copy of which must be forwarded to BSA League Manager);
 - (iv) they have no unpaid fines owing to a Basketball Authority;
 - (v) the player is a male person (if playing in the Club's men's team) or a female person (if playing in the Club's women's team).
- (b) However, a person is taken not to be a Registered Player for a Club's team in the League:
- (i) while the person owes a debt to BSA which has fallen due for payment but has not been paid in full; or
 - (ii) while a fine levied on the person under these Rules has not yet been paid to BSA; or
 - (iii) if the person has been deactivated from the team's player roster; or
 - (iv) while the person is subject to a suspension under these Rules or the Rules or by-laws governing the League.

13.2.3 Restriction on new player registrations

- (a) A new player wishing to register to a League Club under Rule 13.2.2 cannot register to the club when less than the required number of minor round Games remain to qualify for a major round game for that team.
- (b) When calculating the number of games, it is equal to 40% of the regular minor round games for the current season rounded up to the next whole number. For example, 7.6 games is taken to be 8 games.
- (c) Paragraph (a) does not prevent a Club from requesting registration of a new player for one of its teams if the League Manager grants a special dispensation for the player.
- (d) The League Manager may grant a special dispensation if:
 - (i) less than the required number of minor round games remain to qualify for a major round; and
 - (ii) the team has less than 9 Registered Players due to injury or departure from team; and
 - (iii) an application for the special dispensation is submitted by the Club to the League Manager; and
 - (iv) the League Manager is satisfied that there are reasonable and legitimate grounds for granting the special dispensation; and
 - (v) Any objections from other League Clubs have been considered.

14. POINTS SYSTEM

Purpose

The points system is designed to ensure that young, aspiring players (particularly those who have been developed by the Club they represent in the League) are provided with development opportunities while still allowing League clubs to introduce players to augment their teams.

Management

The League Club carries the responsibility for ensuring that the total points for their teams are within the maximum points available.

League Clubs must submit team lists together with all information required to determine the point applicable for each player no later than twenty-one (21) days prior to the commencement of the season.

The League Manager will then assess the team lists submitted and, based on this information and any other information available, will assess the lists submitted for accuracy. The League Manager will adjust the points of a specific player if, based on the facts as presented or easily obtainable, the points are in error. This process is in place to assist the League Clubs in determining the points for each player and to ensure, as much as possible, that the points for each team are within the maximum allowable, but this in no way diminishes the responsibility of the League Club to ensure that the points for their teams are accurate.

For the sake of transparency, individual player points for all League Teams will be published by the league to all League Club Delegates at least fourteen (14) days prior to the start of the Season. In addition, individual player points for all League Teams will be published by the league to all League Club Delegates following Round 4 of the season. If a player is added to a team during the season, the individual player points for that League team will be published to all League Clubs within seven (7) days of the player being added.

Point System Player Appeals

League Clubs may apply to the League Manager to have the points of a player reassessed if they

believe there is a special circumstance which applies to the player and the Points Categories defined in the League Rules do not accurately reflect the player circumstances.

Such applications must be lodged in writing, stating the grounds of the appeal and must be accompanied by evidence that a non-refundable \$250.00 Appeals application fee has been deposited into Basketball SA's bank account (i.e. a copy of receipt from electronic transfer). This will be referred to an independent tribunal for assessment. Any decision on any such appeal made by the independent tribunal shall be final.

Contesting Points of Players in Other League Clubs

If a League Club wishes to contest the points classification of players of teams for other League Clubs, this must be lodged in writing to the League Manager within seven (7) days of each League Team List being published. All applications to contest the points of each player in an opposing team must be accompanied by evidence that a \$100.00 application fee has been deposited into Basketball SA's bank account. This fee will be refunded if it is found that the contesting League Club has made a correct assessment.

The club that is having a player's points contested will be provided a copy of the written application contesting the points within two (2) Business Days of the receipt of the application. The League Manager will refer all contested points applications to an independent tribunal for assessment. Any decision on any contested points shall be final.

Applications to contest points lodged more than seven (7) days after a League Team List is published will not be considered.

Player Points Allocation

The total points calculation for a League team is calculated in the following manner:

1. Points are determined by identifying the top fifteen (15) players in terms of point before any reductions granted through special dispensations (points reductions) are applied. If there is less than fifteen (15) players in a team's Team list, all players in the Team list will be considered; and
2. Any special dispensations are then applied to these players (the top fifteen (15) or all players in the Team list if there is less than fifteen (15) players in the team list) and the total points for these players is calculated; and
3. The maximum points that a team may have is dependent on the total number of players in their Team list. The maximum number of players considered in the calculation is fifteen (15) and the minimum is nine (9). The maximum points available for team lists is set out below:

Number Players in Squad	Maximum Points
9	32
10	33
11	34
12	35
13	36
14	37

15	38
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Teams may have a maximum of twenty (20) players in their Team list, but only the top fifteen (15) will be used to determine the points available to a team. The points value of each of the players ranked from 16 to 20 in terms of their points value must be no more than one (1) point before any special dispensations are applied.

Points for each player will be calculated in accordance with the following table and will be determined by the players' situation one calendar month days prior to the commencement of the season:

Category	Points
1. A player who is not a citizen of a FIBA Oceania member who is required under the Rules of FIBA to hold an annual Foreign Player's License.	12
2. Any FIBA Oceania member citizen who has played in the NBA (excluding the NBA Summer League) or the WNBA in the prior three seasons.	12
3. Any FIBA Oceania member citizen who has played an average of 20 minutes or more per game in games played in the immediate previous completed WNBL or NBL season as published by Basketball Australia from time to time.	10
4. Any player that has competed in a team at a Senior FIBA Basketball World Cup and/or a Senior FIBA World Cup Qualifier in the last twelve months. (The twelve-month period prior to the set submission date of team lists to the league manager)	10
5. Any FIBA Oceania member citizen who has last* played in a Senior Euro League Team or any Senior Division 1 competition in the countries set out in the Restricted Foreign Leagues Table One in the last twelve months.	10
6. Any FIBA Oceania member citizen who has last played in a competition in the countries set out in the Foreign Leagues Table Two.	5
7. Any FIBA Oceania member citizen who has played an average of 5 or more minutes, but less than 20 minutes per game in games played in the immediate previous completed NBL or WNBL season as published by Basketball Australia from time to time.	5
8. Any player that has an approved Permanent Resident Visa for Australia and does not fit into any above category.	5
9. Any FIBA Oceania member citizen who has played less than an average of 5 minutes per game in games played in the immediate previous completed NBL or WNBL season as published by Basketball Australia from time to time.	3

10. Any player who has last* played in a basketball league in a foreign country other than those set out in Category 5 and 6. (Note: Australian players returning from a US College program other than NCAA Division 1 colleges are excluded from this Category).	3
11. Players who do not meet any of the above criteria	1

*Last played is to be considered the twelve-month period prior to the set submission date of team lists to the league. For the avoidance of doubt club or domestic competitions are not considered last played team or competitions.

Restricted Foreign Leagues Table One (1)

1. Argentina	2. Brazil	3. Canada (excluding college programs)
4. China	5. Croatia	6. Czech Republic
7. France	8. Germany	9. Greece
10. Hungary	11. Israel	12. Italy
13. Lithuania	14. Poland	15. Puerto Rica
16. Russia	17. Serbia	18. Slovenia
19 Spain	20. Turkey	20. USA (excluding College Programs)

Foreign League Table Two (2)

1. New Zealand (Men Only)	2. British Basketball League	3. Philippines
4. Slovenia	5. Slovakia	

Special Conditions

1. Players with Dual Citizenship are classed as Australian Citizens for the purposes of classification under this points system.
2. New Zealand nationals who reside in Australia are permitted to play in the NBL1 Central and their points rating will be determined by their basketball experience. For example: If they last played in a Division 1 restricted foreign league they carry the applicable points rating of 10, however, if they have never played in a restricted foreign league, they would be a Category 9 or 10 player.
3. Players who are registered to play in another State or National League cannot be listed in the player Team list for NBL1 Central Clubs, meaning they cannot play in two state leagues at the same time. For the avoidance of doubt this also includes the New Zealand National Basketball League Men's Competition and the New Zealand Women's Basketball Competition.

Special Dispensations (Loyalty)

Only one Special Dispensation can be applied to each individual player in any season.

1. Player Points are reduced by 50% if the player was a registered, financial and active player with the League Club they are registering with and played greater than 50% of available games in each of the U16 and U18 Metro District Competition. The nominating Club must produce evidence that supports this dispensation.
2. Player Points Dispensation for players are reduced by 50% if the player has played CABL/Premier League/NBL1 Central for the League Club they are registering with in 100 games (not including games in which they suited up and did not play) prior to the commencement of the season. For the avoidance of doubt, player points will not be reduced for players who play their 100th game during the season. The reduction would apply in the following season. This points reduction does not apply to players who are classified as Restricted or Foreign under these Rules.
3. Player Points Dispensation for Restricted or Foreign Players.
A two (2) point reduction will be applied to a Restricted or Foreign Player per team per season subject to the player having played in either:
 - an aggregate of 100 games with the same League club over consecutive seasons; or
 - eight (8) consecutive seasons with the same League Club in either the CABL/Premier League or NBL1 Central.

For the avoidance of doubt, player points will not be reduced for a player who plays his 100th game during the season. The reduction would apply in the following season.

Penalties for Teams Breaching the Maximum Points

If a Club has been found to have been in breach of the Rules by fielding a team that is in excess of the maximum points available, they must restructure the team immediately (or after any appeal that may be open to them has been exhausted) to ensure that it comes within the maximum points available to the team and all games played during the season prior to restructuring the team while the team was in excess of the maximum points will be considered losses. The opposing teams who lost games to this team while over the cap will not be considered to have won these games.

The NBL1 Central Club may lodge an appeal within two Business Days of being notified of the breach. The appeal must be in writing, stating the grounds for the appeal and accompanied by evidence that a \$250 non-refundable appeal fee has been deposited into Basketball SA's bank account (i.e. a copy of the receipt from an electronic transfer).

All appeals will be referred to an independent tribunal for assessment. Any decision on any such appeal made by the independent tribunal shall be final.

15. RESTRICTED PLAYERS

- (a) A Restricted Player is a player who has been determined under the NBL1 Central Points System to attract 10 points or more (categories 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5). However, a player who holds citizenship from any FIBA Oceania member will not be considered 'Restricted' or 'Foreign' but all Oceania born players will be required to obtain a FIBA Oceania Foreign Player License before participating for their Club.
- (b) A Club cannot have more than 2 Restricted Players who are Registered Players for either of its teams at any time.
- (c) If paragraph (b) is breached, each of the Restricted Players is taken to have been deactivated under Rule "Deactivate Players" (a) until the Club deactivates a sufficient number of players under Rule "Deactivate Players" (a) to comply with Rule "Restricted Players".
- (d) A Restricted Player is not counted for the purposes of paragraph (b) if the League Manager grants an injury waiver to the Restricted Player.
- (e) For the purposes of paragraph (d), the League Manager may grant an injury waiver for a

Restricted Player if:

- (i) a certificate of a medical practitioner has been given to the League Manager, which shows that the Restricted Player is or has been or will be injured or ill for a specified period during which at least 3 Regular Season Games (involving the Restricted Player's team) have been or are to be held, within 7 days after the injury or illness was suffered or began; and
 - (ii) the League Manager is satisfied that the player has been and will stay in Australia during that period; and
 - (iii) the League Manager is satisfied that the request for the injury waiver is reasonable and genuine.
- (f) The Club may contract a replacement player, and in these cases the Club may use all points available to them i.e. points value of the injured player and any other available points.
- (g) A Restricted Player to whom an injury waiver has been granted under paragraph (e) cannot again play in the NBL1 Central unless any Restricted Player who was added as a Registered Player for the same team on or after the granting of the injury waiver is first deactivated under Rule "Deactivate Players".

16. DEACTIVATE PLAYERS

- (a) A Registered Player may be deactivated from a team's player Team list. Deactivation means that the player is taken off the player Team list and ceases to be a Registered Player for the team.
- (b) To deactivate a Registered Player, the Club must lodge a Deactivation Form with BSA.
- (c) A Club that has lodged a Deactivation Form with BSA must not allow the Player concerned to take the court in the League at any subsequent time from the date of lodgment.

17. TRANSFER OF PLAYERS

- (a) A Club official must not directly or indirectly approach a player contracted to another NBL1 Central Club with a view to asking him or her to play for their Club in the NBL1 Central competition unless the Club has the permission of the players current NBL1 Central club to do so.
- (b) A player who has played for a team in the League in a Season cannot become a Registered Player for a team fielded by another Club in the League in the same Season unless:
 - (i) the player is the subject of an uncontested clearance under the Rules and regulations decided by BSA; and
 - (ii) the player has been deactivated from their original Club Team List; and
 - (iii) the player has no outstanding contractual obligations with their original NBL1 Central club and
 - (iv) has submitted the required BSA clearance/transfer application which has been approved by the club they are leaving and by BSA
- (c) During the period from the end of one NBL1 Central Season to the end of the following NBL1 Central season a Club (Club 'A') is permitted to transfer a maximum of two (2) players who were registered and played for that Club's (Club 'A') NBL1 Central team in the previous season to another NBL1 Central Club (Club 'B'). All other registered players for Club 'A' are ineligible to play for the NBL1 Central team of Club 'B'. This Rule does not prevent player transfers between clubs within these Rules but does restrict the number of players that a Club ('A') can release to any single Club 'B' during the required period.

17.1 Clearance Process

The process for obtaining a clearance varies depending on where the player is transferring from and the specific procedure may vary. It is the destination Club or Association's responsibility to ensure the correct procedure (either online system or use of hard copy forms) is followed and completed (including email confirmation) before registering or playing a player, the following is provided for guidance:

(a) Clearance between League Clubs

For clearances between League Clubs where the player last played in the NBL1 Central competition.

The clearance process for Clubs and players is:

- (i) Destination Club submits through the approved BSA system the player clearance request, irrespective of the time period that has lapsed since the player last registered
- (ii) Players prior Club has 5 days to respond with approval/refusal. In the event a response has not been received after 5 days, the destination Club is to inform the League
- (iii) The League will then send a notice to the player's prior Club or Association advising they have 48 hours to respond, failure to respond will result in the player automatically being cleared by the League.

(b) Clearance from another Australian Association

For clearances where the player last played in another Australian senior representative competition, the player will complete a Basketball Australia domestic clearance form and forward it to their former Association for approval irrespective of the time period that has lapsed since the player last registered;

(c) Clearance from a non-Australian Association/Club

For clearances where the player last played in a relevant overseas competition, the destination Association will apply for an International Clearance on behalf of the player, through BA which will use FIBA's online Management and Administration Platform (FIBA MAP), irrespective of the time period that has lapsed since the player last played.

18. CONTRACTS

(a) All Players & Coaches Contracted

Every NBL1 Central player and coach must have a written contract with their Club, whether for monetary consideration or not.

(b) Standard contract

A standard contract will be provided by the League Management to each Club which must be utilised.

(c) Lodgment with the NBL1 Central Office

- (i) A copy of each contract properly signed and witnessed must be lodged with the NBL1 Central Office a minimum of 5 business days prior the start of the first minor round game.
- (ii) In the case of further applications by a player, coach or assistant coach for registration after the commencement of the first game of the season the required contract must

be submitted with their application for registration.

- (iii) Only a contract for the NBL1 Central competition need be lodged.

19. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY (GENERAL)

19.1 Participation in a League Game

To be recorded as having participated in a League game for the purposes of finals eligibility the player must satisfy the following requirements:

- (a) The player's name is recorded on the scoresheet;
- (b) The player is present on the team bench;
- (c) The player must meet all other Rule requirements with respect to being able to be subbed onto the court, including those relating to uniforms, jewelry, footwear, hair, casts and braces;
- (d) At least one of the following must occur:
 - (i) All 'Foreign' or 'Restricted' players must be substituted onto the court for an NBL1 Central game, as evidenced by the court time indicated on the official game statistics and record a minimum of 8 minutes (20%) of the available game court time.
 - (ii) Players who are not deemed as 'Foreign' or 'Restricted' must be subbed onto the court for the NBL1 Central game or a Reserve game in the same week as the NBL1 Central game.

19.2 Eligibility to Play in Reserves Competition

Any NBL1 Central player who is listed as one of the top five (5) players by recording the most minutes of available court time in any NBL1 Central fixtured game is ineligible to play in the next fixtured Reserve competition game. In the case where two (2) or more players are ranked in equal fifth (5th) position in game court time in an NBL1 Central game each player will be considered ineligible to play in the next fixtured Reserve competition game. This Rule is suspended between the period from end of the last minor round game in the Reserve competition to the beginning of the first minor round game in the following NBL1 Central season.

19.3 Player Eligibility (Finals)

19.3.1 League Eligibility For a Player To Play in Major Round

- (a) A player is considered ineligible to play in any major round game if they have not played the minimum number or games required under these Rules to play in a major round series.
- (b) To be eligible to play for a team in the major round of the NBL1 Central, a player who is deemed 'Foreign' or 'Restricted' must meet the requirements of 18.1(d).(i) and play a minimum of 40% of minor round games for that team in the NBL1 Central competition, where the number of games is always rounded up to the nearest whole number.
- (c) To be eligible to play for a team in the major round of the NBL1 Central, a player who is not deemed as 'Foreign' or 'Restricted' must play a minimum of 40% of minor round games in either the Reserves competition or NBL1 Central competition, where the number of games is always rounded up to the nearest whole number.
- (d) For season 2021 only – an NBL player contracted to a NBL1 Central Club must play a minimum of 6 games and meet all other requirements in these Rules to qualify to play in the major round of 2021.

- (e) Games played in the NBL1 Central and Reserves competitions cannot be aggregated to enable qualification for the NBL1 Central major round, except in the instance of an approved and registered returning college players.
- (f) A registered Club player who returns to their Club of origin from an approved USA College program must play a minimum of six (6) minor round games combined from the NBL1 Central or the Reserves competitions to qualify for the major round in the NBL1 Central or the Reserves competition.
- (g) It is the clubs' responsibility for maintaining eligibility criteria for their League players and ensuring they have enough players qualified and eligible for the major round.
- (h) The League Manager may grant an injury waiver for a player who fails to qualify for a major round due to medical reasons, on request by the injured player via their club secretary. The request must:
 - (i) Be submitted within 7 days of the injury or illness was suffered or began and
 - (ii) Is submitted a minimum of 14 days prior to the commencement of the major round. Any request submitted within the 14 days prior to the commencement of the major round will not be processed. and
 - (iii) Clearly state the period and number of games missed and the reason/s and
 - (iv) Is supported by a certificate from a medical practitioner that documents the extent and duration of the issue and
 - (v) The League Manager is satisfied that the player has been and will stay in South Australia during that period and
 - (vi) The League Manager is satisfied that the request for the injury waiver is reasonable and genuine.

The League Manager may grant an injury waiver for a maximum period of 4 playing minor round games and this will only be considered once the player has completed a minimum of 50% (rounded up to the next whole number) of the required number of minor round games to qualify to participate in the major round in that competition.

- (i) The League Manager may grant a special dispensation for a player if:
 - (i) The League Manager is satisfied that the player missed a minimum of two (2) minor round games due to representing their State in National Championships, World Uni Games, Australian official national duties such as national camps or playing for Australia at a FIBA sanctioned event such as FIBA Championship Qualifying event; and
 - (ii) The Club applies for the special dispensation in writing to the League Manager at least 14 days before the date scheduled for the first round of the major round series in the current season.
- (j) Provided they have otherwise qualified for the major rounds of each divisions a player is eligible to play in major round games in both the NBL1 Central and the Reserve competitions.

20. UNIFORMS, DRESS ATTIRE and DANGEROUS OBJECTS

20.1 Player Uniform

- (a) The FIBA Rules relating to uniform requirements will apply with the following exceptions:

- (i) A player must wear a sleeveless playing singlet upper garment. A short or long sleeve shirt is not permitted. An undergarment which has a low neckline is permitted provided it does not extend beyond the player's singlet (except at the neckline);
- (ii) T-shirts, regardless of style may not be worn under the shirt/top;
- (iii) A player wearing a uniform not approved by the League Management or that does not meet the FIBA (or this Rule) requirements shall not be permitted to play;
- (iv) Each Club must ensure that all players in their teams wear a uniform:
 - (a) including a singlet displaying the current logo of the NBL1 Central in the top right on the front of the singlet; and
 - (b) with any advertising or logo at least 5 centimetres away from the number on the singlet; and
 - (c) of colours and a design approved by the League Manager before the start of the Season;
- (b) Each Club must have an alternate uniform for its teams - generally:
 - (i) a darker one worn when the team is the Home Team; and
 - (ii) a lighter one worn when the team is the Visiting Team;
- (c) If the Home Team and the Visiting Team for a Game agree, they may interchange the uniform (reverse dark/light) in cases where:
 - (i) the Home Team wishes to wear a special, non-regular team uniform in support of special events subject to the approval from the League Manager;
- (d) The singlet worn by each player in a team in a Game must:
 - (i) have a number different from that on the singlet worn by each other player in the team; and
 - (ii) the following numbers are permitted to be used 0, 00 and any number between 1 – 99.

20.2 Team bench dress code

20.2.1 Overall standards

- (a) All team players and non-playing officials shall be required to dress in a way that clearly distinguishes them as part of the team and from other game officials.
- (b) The best description of the standard for non-playing officials would be business casual that suitably meets model business standards.
- (c) The best description for players would be playing uniform.

20.2.2 Coaches and assistant coaches

- (a) Coaches must wear a collared shirt. If this is a polo shirt then it must be a Club branded polo. During colder weather it is understandable that this may be covered by a jacket that must be either a Club jacket or other jacket that fits the general description of business casual wear.
- (b) Denim, shorts or tracksuit pants are not permitted for Coaches and their Assistants.
- (c) Shoes must be clean and tidy.
- (d) Where a bench official's uniform does not meet the approved or required standard they shall not be permitted on the team bench.

20.2.3 Team managers

Recognising that team managers have different responsibilities, the bench dress code standard can be modified slightly.

A team manager may wear a Club tracksuit provided it is the same colour as the warm up tracksuit for the players and that it is a complete tracksuit (matching top and bottom). The tracksuit top must display the Club brand/logo.

If the team manager is wearing a tracksuit, runners are permissible.

In warmer weather a tracksuit bottom and Club polo shirt are permissible for the team manager.

20.2.4 Players

Players must arrive and depart the game wearing at least neat, casual clothing and preferably either a Club branded polo-shirt, jacket or pullover. The alternative option is a Club branded tracksuit or in the warmer weather Club brand tracksuit pants and an Club brand polo shirt.

20.2.5 Other team staff

Other team staff; physiotherapists, doctors etc. must comply with the dress bench code standard for coaches or team managers. Any non-playing individuals wishing to be part of the team bench must dress to these standards. If they do not comply with the requirements, they must be seated with spectators and not on the team bench.

Squad players

Squad players not participating in the game may sit on the team bench provided they are dressed in accordance with the bench dress code standard as the coaching staff or in a full team tracksuit as per the team manager. If they are not dressed to either standard, they are not permitted to sit on the team bench and must be seated with spectators.

20.3 Dangerous Objects

A player in a Game must not wear any equipment or object that could cause injury to other players. Following are equipment and objects which are prohibited and permitted:

20.3.1 Prohibited

- (a) Finger, hand, wrist, elbow or forearm guards, casts or braces made of leather, plastic, pliable (soft) plastic, metal or any other hard substance (even if covered with soft padding).
- (b) Objects that could cut or cause abrasions (including fingernails that are not closely cut).
- (c) Headgear, hair accessories and jewellery.
- (d) Compression T-Shirts.
- (e) Hard plastic headbands.

20.3.2 Permitted

- (a) Shoulder, upper arm, thigh or lower leg protective equipment if the material is sufficiently padded to make it unlikely that it could cause injury to another player.
- (b) Compression sleeves if they are of the same dominant colour as the singlet or black or white.
- (c) Full Length Compression stockings the same dominant colour of the uniform or black or white. Team branding is permitted on these skins

(all players wearing skins/compression sleeves must be wearing the same style and colour).

- (d) Compression stockings for the lower leg ending below the knee.
- (e) Sleeveless compression vests.
- (f) Knee braces that are properly covered so as to make it unlikely that they could cause injury to another player.
- (g) Protector for an injured nose or facial injury.
- (h) Mouth guard.
- (i) Spectacles, if they are unlikely to pose a danger to other players.
- (j) Headbands no more than 5 centimetres wide of non-abrasive, uni-colour cloth, pliable plastic or rubber.
- (k) Non-coloured taping of arms, shoulders, legs etc.

21. ABANDONED GAME

- (a) If a game is stopped and subsequently called off (abandoned) as a result of a situation beyond the immediate control of the referees or Basketball SA or the stadium management then the following will apply:
 - (i) If the period of game time played is equal to or less than 75% of the allocated game time the match shall be declared abandoned, no score shall be recorded and the game shall be rescheduled to be played in full at another time;
 - (ii) If the period of game time played is greater than 75% of the allocated game time then the score at the time of abandoning the game shall stand and be recorded as the final game score. No additional play shall occur;
 - (iii) If the game has not commenced, then the League shall reschedule the game.
- (a) The referee, after due consultation with the League Manager (if available), stadium management (if available), the team coaches and/or medical team, whomever is applicable, shall be the sole judge of what constitutes an abandoned game and when this shall occur.

22. AWARD VOTING

The home club shall distribute and collect voting forms for awards to coaches and referees in a manner specified by the League.

22.1 Halls and Woollcott Awards

The Halls Award (women) and Woollcott Award (men) are presented to the player deemed to be the 'Fairest and Most Brilliant'. The winners are determined by a system in which referees allocate 3-2-1 votes to players after each game.

22.2 Merv Harris and Frank Angove Awards

The Merv Harris Award (women) and Frank Angove Award (men) are presented to the player aged Under 23 years on December 31 of the year in which the competition is played, who polls the highest number of votes towards the Halls or Woollcott Awards.

22.3 Most Valuable Player (MVP) Award

The Most Valuable Player Award is determined by a system in which each team's head coach allocates a total of ten (10) votes to be spread between both teams, not more than 5 of which may be allocated to any one player, after each minor game of the season.

The player with the most votes at the end of the season will be awarded the MVP Award.

22.4 All Star Five Award

The All Star Five Award is determined by a system in which one coach and one captain per team

allocates 3-2-1 votes to five players after the completion of the minor rounds.

The five players with the most votes will be awarded an All Star Five Award.

Voters may not vote for players from their own club.

22.5 Best Defensive Player Award

- (a) The Best Defensive Player Award is determined by a system in which one coach and one captain from each team allocates 3-2-1 votes to players after the completion of the minor rounds.
- (b) The player with the most votes will be awarded the Best Defensive Player Award.
- (c) Voters may not vote for players from their own club.

22.6 Phill Yuill Referee of the NBL1 Central Competition Award

The Referee of the NBL1 Central competition award is determined by a system in which one coach and one captain from each team, and people who have been rostered as Referee Coaches (for a minimum of eight minor round games), allocates 3-2-1 votes to referees after the completion of the minor rounds.

The referee with the most votes will be awarded the Phill Yuill Referee of the NBL1 Central Competition Award.

22.7 Statistical Awards

Awards are presented for each of the following statistical categories:

- 1) Points per game
 - 2) Field goals percentage
 - 3) Three points percentage
 - 4) Free throws percentage
 - 5) Offensive rebounds per game
 - 6) Defensive rebounds per game
 - 7) Rebounds per game
 - 8) Assists per game
 - 9) Steals per game
 - 10) Blocked Shots per game
- (a) For per game statistical awards, calculations are based on the number of games in which a player has deemed to have played.
 - (b) A player must have played a minimum of 50% of games to be eligible for any award.
 - (c) A player must have taken a minimum of five (5) field goals per game to be eligible for the field goal percentage award.
 - (d) A player must have taken a minimum of three (3) free throws per game to be eligible for the free throw percentage award.
 - (e) A player must have taken a minimum of three (3) three point shots per game to be eligible for the three point percentage award.

22.8 Reported Players and Coaches

During each season a reported player, coach or referee who has been found guilty of an offence shall be ineligible for any award.

23. OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

The table below outlines the standard penalties to be applied for any breach of the Rules of Operation at the determination of the League Manger.

Compliance penalties are a mechanism for the League Manager to maintain League standards and

ensure compliance by Clubs and members with a view to meeting the requirements of these Rules of Operation.

Where the League Manager detects a breach of these Rules of Operation they will apply the appropriate penalty for that breach.

Where a Club incurs a penalty the League Manager will inform the Club of the penalty and they will have the right to appeal any penalty under the appeals process within these Rules.

23.1 Penalties

Offence	Maximum Penalty
Administrative Fines	\$200.00
Failure to provide match paperwork in required time	\$200.00
Failure to Register required Junior Teams	\$500 per team per division
Club/Player Breach Code of Conduct	\$500.00
Bringing the Game into Disrepute	\$1,000.00
Non Display Signage	\$100.00 per item
Non Approved Uniform/Attire	\$100.00 per item
Non Approved Player Uniform	Do Not Play
Playing Unqualified player finals	Forfeit Game if won + \$250
Unlicensed Player (FIBA)	FIBA fine + \$1000.00
Venue Court Announcer Code of Conduct Breach	\$100.00 for each offence
Forfeit	NBL1 Central \$1000.00
Un -registered player	\$250.00 plus Forfeit game
Illegal Use of Drugs	Subject to BA, ASADA outcome
Integrity	Subject to BSA, BA and National Integrity outcome

24. Rules of Operation Revision History

The previous Premier League By-Laws and any references to the District By-Laws were replaced with these new Rules of Operation NBL1 Central commencing January season 2021.

16th March

Rule 2.8 Finance (iii)

Added the sentence *“Clubs are required to supply BSA with an audited solvency statement confirming the ability to pay club debts as and when they fall due within three (3) business days of the club AGM”*

Enter details here.....