



**BULLEEN BOOMERS**

**JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP  
PARENT HANDBOOK**

**LAST UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2023**



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## INTRODUCTION

This booklet is a guideline designed to provide an overview to the parents of players selected to play with the Junior Championship Program (“Jnr Champ”) at Bulleen Boomers (“Boomers”), the Representative Teams of the Bulleen Templestowe Basketball Club (“BTBC”).

The Victorian Junior Basketball League (VJBL) in which the Boomers play is a high level, state-based competition, where players will have the opportunity to represent BTBC against other basketball associations. The VJBL is run by Basketball Victoria. Jnr Champ is a significant opportunity for players who are committed to develop their basketball skills and knowledge of the game. The VJBL competition is more of an elite level competition as compared with local junior domestic club basketball.

All players selected to represent the Boomers in Jnr Champ have an important role to play. Due to the nature of the VJBL competition not all players are guaranteed equal court time. There are several factors that will impact the coaches’ decisions regarding playing time, and these may include:

- a player’s attitude towards their teammates, referees, and coach
- players’ skill level, both defensively and offensively
- players’ willingness to listen and implement structured team plays
- players’ commitment and effort
- the stage in player development within each team and age group (i.e. bottom and top age), and
- the continual improvement required across the season.

The Boomers home games are normally held at Mullum Mullum Stadium and East Doncaster Secondary College.

BTBC currently enters over 40 junior championship teams in the VJBL competition there are two tiers of competition:

1. Victorian Junior Championship – known as ‘VC’, is the highest level at which junior teams can play. Only 20 teams across the state make this division.
2. Victorian Junior League – VJL1, VJL2, VJL3, VJL4, etc. There are usually 10 teams per VJL division.

As part of the development of players and teams, it is also typical that junior championship teams will enter one or more tournaments over the course of a season. These tournaments typically run over 2 – 3 days and are generally held on a long weekend. These tournaments may be either held locally or sometimes in regional Victoria and in some cases interstate.

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

BTBC is delighted to have your children participate in our wonderful Jnr Champ program. When your child is selected to play Jnr Champ for the Boomers, player parents and family also become an integral part of our BTBC community and the program. As such, you will be required to:

- Help and encourage your child through hard training sessions and competition
- Help your team by providing enthusiastic and fair support at games (see code of behaviour)
- Help your child by cheering, but not coaching, from the sidelines (unless of course you have volunteered to coach – thank you!)
- Help build the Bulleen Boomers community, by supporting our various basketball activities whenever you can
- Be willing to participate and support your child and the team when rostered on as the “Team of the Week” at BIG V games, approximately 1-2 times a year
- Help your team (e.g. Team Manager, scoring when rostered, providing lifts etc. when required), and
- Help Bulleen Boomers by supporting its Club events whenever you can.

## CONTACTS

### Office Details:

Bulleen Basketball Stadium

Sheahans Reserve – Sheahans Road, Bulleen

Phone: (03) 8849 0525

### General Manager

Ryan Rogers | [generalmanager@bulleenboomers.com.au](mailto:generalmanager@bulleenboomers.com.au)

### Junior Championship Convenor (JCC)

Sally Steel | [juniorchamp@bulleenboomers.com.au](mailto:juniorchamp@bulleenboomers.com.au)

### Junior Championship Development Officer (JCDO)

Matthew Fennell | [jcdo@bulleenboomers.com.au](mailto:jcdo@bulleenboomers.com.au)

### Uniforms Officer

Clare Hoole | [uniforms@bulleenboomers.com.au](mailto:uniforms@bulleenboomers.com.au)

### Finance Officer

Teresa Cherbakof | [finance@bulleenboomers.com.au](mailto:finance@bulleenboomers.com.au)

## OPERATIONS

The Junior Championship Convenor (JCC) is responsible for the day to day running of the Jnr Champ Representative program on behalf of BTBC.

The JCC is supported by the JCDO and the Age Group Head Coaches whose focus is on athlete and coach development.

Each team has a BV accredited Coach, and many teams also have an Assistant Coach. Teams also require a parent volunteer to undertake the role of Team Manager.

Of particular importance to you are the Coach and Team Manager of your respective team(s).

## COACHING

The Coach is responsible for running training sessions, leading the team on game days and generally working with and helping develop your child's basketball skills. This will include both physical skill development and game understanding. The Coach will be supported by the Head Coach from the respective age group and also by the Assistant Coach, as may be applicable.

It is expected that during training sessions and games your child will follow instructions and display common courtesy and respect to those coaches that are volunteering to develop your child's basketball.

## TEAM MANAGERS

Parent volunteers for the role of Team Manager will be appointed and inducted by the JCC to your child's team.

Team Managers will generally be responsible for the organisation of the team, including:

- relaying information to families, including game and training times, scoring rosters, team payments, tournament information and other special events
- ensuring the electronic scoring device has all players displaying correctly
- manage the finances for each team, typically in the form of a team "kitty" that is used to pay for team expenses as they arise,
- ensures that the players have filled their water bottles on game day to ensure they are hydrated throughout the game, and
- acting as an important link between BTBC, JCC, Coach, Players and Families.

All teams, via the Team Manager, manage match fees through 'Teampay' (from grading season onwards) which covers court fees for Friday night games. Payments outside of Teampay may be required for practice games in order to cover referee/venue costs (late Oct/early Nov) and any tournaments in which the team is entered.

## PLAYER & PARENT COMMITMENT

We encourage all Boomers Jnr Champ players to also play for our Junior Domestic program which participates in the Eastern District Junior Basketball Association (EDJBA), particularly until players reach U18's, however we understand that this may not always be possible.

The commitment to the representative program is not fixed to a 'summer' or 'winter' season, or equivalent. The program runs for the majority of the year, with the schedule generally:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Schedule</b>
<b>ID camps</b> These are camps run at the lower age groups for players that aren't currently part of the junior championship program to test themselves and decide if they proceed to try-outs.	September (typically prior to Sept. School Holidays)
<b>Try-outs</b> These are typically run over 2 weeks in early October for players to try out in their respective age groups. From these try outs, coaches select the make up of each team in each age group. Teams are typically made up of ten (10) players.	October
<b>Practice Games</b> The teams commence by playing some practice games (3 to 4), which do not count towards the VJBL season.	October – November
<b>Grading</b> The teams then move into the grading phase which determines which level of competition (VC / VJL) and pool they will play.	November – February
<b>Regular Season</b> The season consists of games on a Friday evening and the geographic location of games will be determined by the pool in which the team grades, and the other teams in that pool.	March – August
<b>Finals</b>	August - September

The competition breaks over school holiday periods and generally teams will not train during these periods. However, there are numerous tournaments and clinics for player development throughout the year along with specific programs tailored for players which BTBC oversees in conjunction with BV and Basketball Australia.

The Bulleen Boomers program generally operates a 'pyramid' structure which has increased team numbers in the lower age groups and team numbers slowly reduce in the older age groups as the focus becomes more concentrated on high performance and elite development pathways.

## GAMES

Representative Teams play weekly according to fixtures arranged by the Victorian Junior Basketball League (VJBL), which is affiliated with Basketball Victoria. Home games are played on a Friday night at Mullum Mullum Stadium and East Doncaster Secondary College. The geographic location of away games will be determined by the pool in which the team grades, and the other teams in that pool. Teams must be aware that it is possible that they need to travel reasonable distances for away games, from Bellarine and Mornington Peninsulas and regional centres such as Ballarat and Bendigo amongst others.

Parents are provided with fixtures (by the team manager) and are required to have their child at the venue at least 30 minutes prior to the game time or by the Coach's required time to ensure they have a proper warm up and briefing session by the Coach. We understand that travel on a Friday evening

comes with its challenges, and we request that if you expect that you may have difficulty getting to a particular venue or being on time, please communicate this with your Team Manager. The BTBC community is proud to see how teams and families within teams have, and continue, to support each other with car-pooling and alternate driving responsibilities etc.

Please work with your respective teams to develop a system that works for you.

## TRAINING

Consistent attendance at training is a key factor in the development of the players and teams in our program.

All teams in the program will train for 3 hours per week, with the general training arrangements being:

- 1 hour & 45 minutes of training on a Sunday morning, predominantly skills development focused and
- 1 hour and 15 minutes of training on a weeknight, typically on a Tuesday (boys) and Wednesday (girls) predominantly team and game focused.

There may be some changes to the above based on logistics, including court availability. Each season a training schedule will be established and published by BTBC.

It is expected that players will arrive 15 minutes before their scheduled training time to allow them to stretch and be prepared for intensive and challenging training sessions.

Players should be dressed in the BTBC reversible training singlet and club-endorsed black training shorts. Warm up tops and other club apparel may be worn to/from the stadium but should not worn for the actual training session.

Given the representative nature of the junior champ program, there is an expectation that all players are highly committed, over the course of the full season, to training. Training performance will usually translate to performance on game days. Coaches have discretion to develop their game strategy in consideration of the performance and participation displayed by players at training.

## GAME & TRAINING CONFLICTS

BTBC considers and understands that education, health and wellbeing, multiple sport participation and life event impacts are a normal occurrence. Where teams are directly impacted by ongoing, longer-term impacts to multiple players within a team (or age group), the Jr Championship Convenor will assess the impact on the full team and age group to find options to minimise conflicts. Should you be concerned that the schedule for your child's team will consistently impact your child's ability to participate, please reach out to your Team Manager, who will discuss with the Coach and the JCC (as appropriate), and who will genuinely explore options with you to try and resolve the conflict.

## INJURIES & ILLNESS

Your child will in most cases be playing a minimum of two games per week (one Jnr Champ and one Domestic) and training for around three to four hours per week. This can place stress on young bodies and injuries can occur during training sessions or games.

The Coaches and JCC are aware of the potential for sports injuries and will place your child's welfare as a priority. If you have concerns regarding your child's health, please discuss them with your Coach or JCC.

Players who are injured or have an illness during the regular season should supply a medical certificate for the injury/illness to the JCC within ten (10) days of the diagnosis. During Championship season, players injured prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> July must have their medical certificates emailed into the VJBL Administration before the 1<sup>st</sup> July. The reason being is that the medical certificates can be used for exemption to game qualification criteria, but only if the medical certificate is submitted in accordance

with this timeline. Medical certificates will not be accepted for grading and cross over games. Injured players must play one (1) game in each round of grading to qualify to play in cross over games.

The expectation for players in the case of either illness or injury is as follows:

- Players should take doctor and parental advice in relation to the type of illness and isolate in case of any contagious illness, and
- Should players be unable to play but have doctor support and feel well enough and are not contagious to attend games and training, they are encouraged to attend to support their team and maintain continuity with the team.

BTBC supports player attendance to any medical appointments associated with their injury or illness as taking priority over attendance at training or game attendance.

Parents are also advised that BTBC participates in Basketball Victoria's Sports Injury Scheme. This scheme helps to reimburse your non-Medicare expenses, providing you comply with certain conditions. Details are provided via the insurance form on the Basketball Victoria website. Should you require further details, please contact the Bulleen Stadium Office.

## PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO

It is typical that the games in the junior champ program are video recorded. This allows the coaches to review games and help develop their approach to training to best support and develop their team.

Should you have any concerns regarding the video recording of your child, please raise this with the JCC.

## QUERIES, CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS

There may be matters which occur through the course of the program where you may want additional information, wish to raise a concern, or have a complaint. BTBC takes all matters of concern or complaint seriously and to ensure that appropriate responses and feedback are provided, it is important that the requests are raised in the right way.

The first point of contact for any general queries you may have is the Team Manager. Should the Team Manager be unable to address your query directly, they will guide you to another member of the program and / or BTBC.

## CHILD SAFETY CONCERNS

All children who participate or work in programs at Bulleen-Templestowe Basketball Club have a right to feel and be safe. The welfare of the children in our care will always be our priority. We aim to create a child safe and child friendly environment where children feel safe to engage and participate in our programs.

We have zero tolerance of child abuse, and all allegations and safety concerns will be treated very seriously, consistently and confidentially with our robust policies and procedures.

BTBC Child Wellbeing and Safety Advisors have specific responsibility for responding to any observation, query or complaint made by children, staff, volunteers or parents related to child safety and wellbeing matters.

If a person does not feel comfortable making a report to a Child Wellbeing and Safety Advisor, they may report their concern to the Junior Championship Convenor, a member of the Board of Management or a staff member or volunteer, who will be required to report concerns to the Child Wellbeing and Safety Advisor.

Our Child Wellbeing and Safety Advisors are **Nerida Mason** and **Daniela Pepe**. If you wish to discuss a child safety matter or make a report, please contact [childsafety@bulleenboomers.com.au](mailto:childsafety@bulleenboomers.com.au) or contact 0408 053 799

Your report will be dealt with in confidence.



## BASKETBALL CONCERNS

Any concerns you may have regarding your child's participation in basketball training or games should again first be raised with the Team Manager. If the matter requires discussion with the Coach, the Team Manager will assist in coordinating an appropriate time. We ask that no requests are made to speak with the Coach within 48 hours of the conclusion of a game.

Should your concern not be able to be resolved by speaking with the Coach, your concerns may be escalated and discussed with the JCC or JCDO.

We request that all discussions are done politely and respectfully.

## COMPETITION CONCERNS

It is Basketball Victoria's (BV) policy that only club delegates can contact BV directly regarding club and league related matters. As you can appreciate, if BV were required to answer all individual enquiries from players parents, they would be often fielding thousands of calls a week. Only Bulleen staff and the nominated club delegate are authorised to contact BV directly regarding club and league matters.

Should you have a matter which you believe needs to be raised with BV, please contact the JCC and they will discuss with you the mechanism in which BTBC can raise the concern on your behalf.

## COSTS

Player registration fees are reviewed for each season and are required to cover the cost of VJBL registration, training sessions, coaching and administration costs.

Player registration fees **do not** cover the weekly game fee charges (team sheet) or tournaments, which are managed by the Team Manager for each team.

In addition to the player registration fees, you will need to factor in the cost of the full playing uniform and training uniform package.

The only separate payment, your team manager will request is for practice games in order to cover referee/venue costs (late Oct/early Nov) approx. \$50 per player which includes four games.

## 2023/24 REGISTRATION FEE

- Under 12 – 18 Players (Born 2007 – 2015)  
\$700.00 inclusive of GST
- Championship Season for Under 20 Players  
\$630.00 inclusive of GST

Parents will be invoiced. Payments can be made by cash at the Bulleen Stadium office, credit card (Visa, MasterCard) or EFT.

## FEE PAYMENT OPTIONS

### Under 12 – 18

- Upon acceptance following tryouts completed on 15th October 2023  
\$400 (If this is not paid on the due date your child cannot play until it is paid)
- Final fee instalment by 29th February 2024  
\$300.00 (If this is not paid on the due date your child cannot play until it is paid)

### Under 20

- Full fee payment for the 2023 Championship Season is payable by 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024.  
\$630.00

If you would like to discuss a Payment Plan to pay off your fees, this can be arranged with our Finance Officer, Teresa Cherbakof.

## WEEKLY GAME COSTS (TEAM SHEET FEE)

All venues will charge a flat rate for the 2023/24 team sheet fee. This charge covers the costs of court hire, referees and administration. The team manager will manage the administration of this weekly cost. This cost is approximately \$15 per player per week. Venues can no longer charge an entry fee.

## UNIFORMS

Playing uniforms for both boys and girls are a specially designed reversible blue/white singlet and shorts. This is the only permitted uniform (and is not to be confused with the junior domestic uniform). It is a requirement that all players in the junior champ program wear the correct playing uniform, as this is a competition requirement of the VJBL. If the correct uniform is not worn, the team will be penalised points and will be fined by the VJBL for the breach of the VJBL uniform rules.

For new players, the new player uniform package is purchased by families after team selections. The package consists of playing uniform, warmup top, reversible training singlet, black training shorts, hoodie, backpack and drink bottle. New player uniform package items are compulsory. It is typical that new players will not have their new uniform package prior to the commencement of the season and BTBC will make available the necessary playing uniform until the uniform package arrives.

Items can also be purchased separately for existing players. The purchased items will remain the property of the player. It is also the responsibility of the player to ensure that they bring their uniform to each game and that it is maintained in excellent condition.

It is BTBC policy that players are to only wear their Boomers gear when entering and leaving stadiums for games. Players can choose to warm up in their playing singlet, warm up top or Hoodie all depending on the weather. If players are not in Club uniform, they may be reminded by BTBC officials of our policy. Repeated breaches of the policy may result in disciplinary action, including the possibility of being suspended from a game. Similar expectations apply to uniform requirements during training.

Injured players attending games are to sit on the bench in a Boomers Warm-Up Top or Hoodie & playing shorts.

## PURCHASE OF UNIFORM ITEMS

All playing uniforms for 2023/24 will need to be ordered in person by appointment where our Uniforms Officer will manage and complete the order.

Returning players wishing to purchase new playing uniforms or associated Boomers apparel can order through the online shop or in person through the Uniform Shop.

## PLAYING UNIFORM NUMBERS

Allocation of player uniform numbers is done by the JCC. Requests for specific playing numbers are unable to be accommodated, as numbers are allocated to each player for the full duration of time they play in the Bulleen Boomers Junior Representative Program.

## UNIFORM PRICES:



- Playing Singlet \$60 (mandatory)
- Playing Shorts \$40 (mandatory)
- Warm-Up top \$50 (mandatory) Includes screen printed surname
- Training Singlet \$45 (mandatory)
- Training Shorts \$35 (mandatory)
- Blue Hoodie \$65 (mandatory) Includes screen printed surname
- Backpack \$60 (mandatory) Includes screen printed name/surname
- Drink Bottle \$12 (mandatory)

### **PACKAGE COST \$330**

#### **Optional Items:**

Socks \$13.50 (standard) or \$20 (high performance)

T-Shirt \$30

## TOURNAMENTS

An integral and important part of the Jnr Champ program at BTBC is participation in outside tournaments.

Victorian Championship (VC) teams that qualify for the VJBL National Classic Tournament over the Queen's Birthday Weekend are required to attend and participate.

U14 teams can qualify for the U14 Club Championships in the October holidays if they finish in the top 2 at a certain cut-off date determined by the VJBL. That tournament can be held anywhere in Australia.

Teams are encouraged to attend other suitable tournaments and as approved by the JCC as we allow a maximum of one tournament in grading season & three tournaments in Championship season. Country or interstate tournaments are not compulsory for families to attend due to cost on parents. These tournaments are the choice of individual teams and are not funded by Bulleen Boomers. All entry costs are to be funded by the participating teams.

There are many tournaments throughout the season, both in Victoria and interstate that teams may elect to play in, with some of the most common tournaments being:

- Southern Peninsula or Geelong United Annual Tournament (November) encouraged for all teams
- Eltham/Dandenong or Bendigo Junior Classic – Australia Day (January) compulsory for all teams
- Norwood Easter Classic – Adelaide (March)
- Ballarat or Nunawading - Kings Birthday (June)

## REFERENCE MATERIALS

### BTBC VISION & VALUES

BTBC's Vision and Values can be found within the Strategic Plan for the Club, Boomers 25 Strategy, which can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.bulleenboomers.com.au/boomers25/>

### BTBC POLICIES

Refer to: <https://www.bulleenboomers.com.au/about/club-policies/>

### BULLEEN TEMPLESTOWE BASKETBALL CLUB: CODE OF CONDUCT

Refer to: <https://www.bulleenboomers.com.au/code-of-conduct/>

### CHILD SAFETY

Refer to: <https://www.bulleenboomers.com.au/child-safety/>

Note it is compulsory for Team Managers to have completed the BTBC All Staff Child Safe Training located at this site.

## BASKETBALL VICTORIA: CODES OF CONDUCT

BV has developed the Codes of Conduct that stipulate the accepted standards of behaviour for players, parents, spectators, coaches, officials, and administrators. Breaches of these Codes can result in BV sanctioned tribunal hearings and suspensions. The BV Codes of Conduct are available to download at [www.basketballvictoria.com.au](http://www.basketballvictoria.com.au)

### PARENTS CODES OF CONDUCT:

1. Encourage your children to participate for their own interest and enjoyment, not yours.
2. Encourage children to always play by the rules.
3. Teach children that an honest effort is always as important as a victory.
4. Focus on developing skills and playing the game. Reduce the emphasis on winning.
5. A child learns best by example. Applaud good play by all teams.
6. Do not criticize your or others' children in front of others.
7. Accept decisions of all referees as being fair and called to the best of their ability.
8. Set a good example by your own conduct, behavior and appearance.
9. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
10. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person.
11. Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials and administrators.
12. Keep children in your care under control.
13. Always respect the use of facilities and equipment provided.

## PLAYERS CODES OF CONDUCT

1. Understand and play by the rules.
2. Respect referees and other officials.
3. Control your temper.
4. Work equally hard for yourself and your team.
5. Be a good sport.
6. Treat all players as you would like to be treated.
7. Player for the "enjoyment of it" and not just to please parents and coaches.
8. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person.
9. Be prepared to lose sometimes.
10. Listen to the advice of your coach and try to apply it at training and in games.
11. Always respect the use of facilities and equipment provided.

## SPECTATORS CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Remember that most people play sport for enjoyment.
2. Accept decisions of all referees as being fair and called to the best of their ability.
3. Always be positive in your support for players.
4. Condemn the use of violence in any form.
5. Respect your team's opponents, officials and spectators.
6. Encourage players to obey the rules and to accept decisions of officials.
7. Demonstrate appropriate social behavior by not using foul language or harassing players, coaches or officials.
8. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person.
9. Keep children in your care under control.
10. Always respect the use of facilities and equipment provided