



Domestic Competition By-Laws

Southern Peninsula Basketball Association

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BY – LAWS FOR THE SOUTHERN PENINSULA BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

1. POWER OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT AND SPBA STAFF

- 1.1 The BOM and/or the SPBA General Manager shall have the power to suspend, disqualify, fine or otherwise deal with any teams or member thereof, any score bench official, referee or spectator which or who has committed any breach of the constitution laws, or By-laws, or rules made thereunder, or practised, counselled or sanctioned any conduct arising out of or in connection with Basketball, which conduct is in the opinion of the BOM, unbecoming, unfair or contrary to the interests of Basketball, after hearing relevant evidence from any teams, players or persons connected with the incidences.
- 1.2 The BOM shall have the power to make By-Laws and to alter, amend, add to or rescind same as the occasion may require. The By-Laws may be altered by resolution passed at a BOM meeting, of which notice setting out the proposed amendment has been given to SPBA members not less than fourteen days (14) prior to the meeting. Changes in rules shall be notified to all clubs and independent teams via electronic communication.
- 1.3 The BOM has the power to accept or reject any application to play in Domestic competition. Acceptance or rejection will be decided using the following criteria:
 - 1.3.1 Appropriate (age, division, etc.) placement
 - 1.3.2 Fair competition.

2. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 2.1 Failure by teams to have at least one representative attend the Annual General Meeting will incur a fine. Independent team not attending that gives at least 48 hours' notice shall be treated as a notified forfeit. Independent teams not attending and giving no notice or less than 48 hours' notice will be treated as an un-notified forfeit. Except in the case of Clubs. Attendees to the Annual General Meeting can only sign for one team.
- 2.2 A Club is defined as more than 3 teams governed by one body with a duly elected Secretary. In the case of Clubs, the number of representatives required to attend the Annual General Meeting must equal at least 50% of the number of teams in that Club.

If less than 50% of teams attend the non-attending teams shall incur the amount of a notified forfeit fine, regardless of if the team has notified.

3. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

- 3.1 Ages for junior competition will be December 31st of the playing year.
- 3.2 All players must be financial members of the Association and registered with teams in which they play.
- 3.3 Fill In Players - A player is deemed a 'fill in' if they are not registered with the team, they play in. Teams may use fill in players to bring the team up to 6 players for seniors and 7 players for juniors. The player/s cannot fill in for a team in the same division as their regular team. Games played as a fill in player do not count towards finals eligibility. An individual can only play two fill in games across a year without registering.
Representative players may only fill in for teams in division 2 and below with approval from SPBA Competitions Manager.
- 3.4 A player's name must be on the electronic scoring device before the end of the first half and be marked as active to be eligible to play in the game. Players should only be marked as active when they are present at the game.
- 3.5 If a team uses a player that is ineligible to play as a fill in the game will be forfeited in favour of the opposition team.
- 3.6 To qualify to play in the final series, a player must play 50% of the total games as a registered player (e.g., 50% of 14 games = 7 games). A bye will be counted as a played game.
- 3.7 Clubs with 2 or more teams in the same grade shall have the first 3 weeks of a season to stabilise their teams by interchanging their players between rounds. After the 3rd round no interchange of players between such Club teams may occur. Club players are not permitted to play in 2 teams within the same competition during the same round.

- 3.8 SPBA group competitions into genders. However, for junior players at an under 12 age and younger, children may participate in either gender. For U8, U10 and U12 competitions, competitions will be gendered, and it is recommended players participate in the gender they identify as.

Senior Competitions (U18, U21, Over 30s and Open)

- 3.9 Any player who is currently or who has played Senior Representative Competition (Big V or higher) in the past twelve months cannot play lower Division 2.
- 3.10 Senior players may play in multiple grades of the competition, regardless of division. However, they may only play in one team per division.

Junior Competitions (U8 – U16)

- 3.11 Players may only play in one regular team per age group. Players may play in the same age group only if in different gendered competitions (u12 and below). Players are not permitted to fill in for a team in their own division.
- 3.12 Players in Junior Competition may play additional weekly games in older age grades and in Senior Competition.
- 3.13 Junior players must apply for a transfer to change domestic clubs using PlayHQ. This must be approved by both the outgoing and ingoing domestic clubs and SPBA.

Representative Players

- 3.14 Team registered in division 1 will have NO representative player limit. Teams registered in divisions 2 and below are only permitted a maximum of 3 representative players. This system applies regardless of the representative association of the players.
- 3.15 A player is not considered a junior representative player if:
- 3.15.1 they are a first-year Representative player who was successful in gaining a position in a Representative program in October will not be classed as a Representative player for the summer season only; or
 - 3.15.2 they have not played Representative basketball in the last 12 months.

4. EXEMPTIONS

4.1 Finals Exemptions

In the event of a player being ineligible to play in the semi-final and grand final matches the player may through their club apply to the Association for a Special Permit to play in finals matches.

The applicant must outline clearly valid and genuine reasons for the application.

4.2 Age Group Exemptions

Domestic clubs can submit an exemption request for a player to participate in a lower age group. Requests must be in writing to the Competitions Manager and include supporting documentation.

Grounds for an exemption include:

- a) medical grounds
- b) learning or development delays.

5. TRANSFERS

5.1 Transfers may occur up to halfway through any playing season.

5.2 A player who is refused a transfer twice in one season may appeal to the Competitions Manager, who will request both the team and the player involved to give evidence as to why the clearance should be refused or granted.

6. COMPETITION RULES

6.1 The matches are conducted under the Official Basketball Rules of FIBA with the following modifications as per the SPBA By-Laws below:

6.1.1 A team may commence the match with 4 players.

6.1.2 Only 10 players may be registered in one team.

6.1.3 Timing rules

- Regular season games shall consist of two eighteen-minute halves
- Teams are allowed one timeout per half each
- No substitutions or timeouts shall be allowed in the last minute of the first half

6.1.4 The game clock will start when the ball is in play for both halves – unless referees are ready and situated and the scheduled game time has passed. The clock will

stop for all whistles in the last 2 minutes of the game if the score is within a 15-point margin.

6.1.5 For each minute a team is late the opponents are awarded one point.

6.2 Ladder points will be awarded as below:

Win – 3 points | Draw – 2 points | Loss – 1 point | Bye – 3 points | Forfeit – 0 points

Ladder points will be reset at the end of round 5 (the final grading phase)

6.2.1 Where a game needs to be cancelled (eg; leaking roof, etc). During the first half of the game if the score is within a 10 point margin the game will be considered a draw. If the game is cancelled at half time or after and the score is within a 10 point margin the game will be a draw, where the score is greater than a 10 point margin the score will be final.

6.3 If a team is ten minutes late for a fixtured game time, the match is an Unnotified forfeit. Teams who notify the SPBA at least 2 Working Days (A working day being defined as Monday to Friday, not including Public Holidays) prior to the fixtured game time will be fined as a notified forfeit. Teams who notify SPBA within 2 Working Days prior to the fixtured game will be fine as an Unnotified forfeit. Forfeit fines will be determined from time to time by the BOM.

7. GRADING

7.1 Grading will be conducted in 2 stages:

Grading Phase 1: Rounds 1-3 – minor changes may occur

Grading Phase 2: Rounds 4-5 – grades finalised, minor changes may still occur

7.2 The ladder and results will not be visible for the first three rounds of grading in order to present a fair grading process where teams compete to their best ability.

7.3 Clubs collectively meet after the first phase of grading to provide feedback on the grades of teams. SPBA makes the final decision on all grade placings.

8. MODIFIED RULES

The modified rules for junior competitions are listed on the following page which provide an overview relevant to each age level.

	U8	U10	U12	U14	U16 & Seniors
Ball Size	Size 5	Size 5	Size 5	Size 6	Female – Size 6 Male – Size 7
Ring Height	8 feet	8 feet	10 feet		
Free Throw Line	Netball circle	Short line	Short line	Regular line	
Three Point Line	Inside line				Outside line
Cross Court	Not enforced	Enforced			
Seconds in Key	Not enforced	Liberal five seconds	Five seconds	Three seconds	
Zone Defense	Not allowed				Allowed
Shooting Wrong End	Violation – no score	Score counts			
Mercy Rule	10 points Retreat to 3pt line after a score or stop in play		20 points Retreat to 3pt line after a score or stop in play		No rule

Other U8 Rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once a player has 5 fouls, they must sit on the bench for at least 2 minutes. The player is then allowed to return to the game. If a 6th foul is recorded, the player must sit out the rest of the game. Each player is only allowed to score 10 points (5 field goals) per half, plus any bonus free throw points. This is to encourage passing and to give all players an opportunity to score. No results are recorded on the SPBA website for U8 competitions. There are no premiership points or finals. In the first four weeks of each season, coaches are permitted on the court to help their players.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scoreboard shall show no more than a 10-point difference.
Mercy Rule	<p>After a basket is scored or side ball situation referees are to enforce. This is not enforced in normal passages of play where a player loses the ball to the opposition. However, if the referee assesses that a team is struggling to get the ball up the court they may request, through the coach, the defence to retreat to the 3-point line.</p>

One On One Defence	<p>One on one defence requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each player must pick up and defend one player. This does not have to be done at full court; half court or the three-point line is acceptable. Players can move into a help position provided they maintain vision on both their players and the ball. Teams may still play a trapping defence but must adopt man-to-man principles once the trap is broken. Teams with less than five players on the court may play a zone. <p>The penalty for an illegal defence, after two warnings to the coach will be a Bench Technical foul.</p>
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9. FINALS

During finals series the following game timings shall apply:

- 9.1 The clock will stop for all time-outs, and for all whistle blows in the last 1 minute of the first half and in last three minutes of the second half only if the score is within a 15-point margin. Time-outs are allowed on any whistle or opposition made field goal. Substitutions are allowed at any dead ball situation. The clock shall not stop after any made field baskets unless a timeout is called.

10. MATCH OFFICIALS

- 10.1 Each team is to provide a reliable official for the score table. Games are not permitted to proceed until these requirements are met. If both teams only have five players available with no scorers, then both teams are to use one player as a scorer and play four on four. If a team is unable to supply a score bench official, they can agree to use the opposing team scorer to the best of their ability.

Score bench officials must be a minimum of 14 years old.

Teams unable to fulfil these requirements within 10 minutes of the starting of the clock will forfeit the game.

- 10.2 People in the role of scorer are considered an official of the game and expected to act accordingly. Including:
- Act in an unbiased manner
 - Refrain from cheering
 - Not dispute referee calls
 - Record all game plays accurately.
- 10.3 Finals; Teams are still required to supply one score bench official. SPBA will supply one official for Grand Final games to chair the score bench.

11. UNIFORMS

- 11.1 Each team must register the colour of its playing uniform. The SPBA office shall have the power to order any team to change any part of their uniform.

- 11.2 After the 3rd week of any season, any player who does not wear the correct uniform is ineligible to play in that game. A player may wear incorrect coloured shorts or singlet, but the team will be penalised by 3 points per item being awarded to the opposition team. Pockets on shorts are not permitted for safety reasons; shorts must be "sports" shorts.
- 11.3 Singlet numbers are to be in line with the current FIBA ruling. Players now be allowed to wear any number ranging from 1-99.
- 11.4 In the case of two teams uniform colour clashing the first named team will wear an alternate colour.
- 11.5 Undergarments may be worn in accordance with FIBA rules (must be tight fitting and the colour must be white, black or the same colour as the team uniform).
- 11.6 The following jewellery and hair regulations shall apply:
- (i) Rings are not accepted to be worn. (Only securely taped wedding bands allowed.)
 - (ii) No bracelets or necklaces allowed.
 - (iii) Earrings will only be allowed if they are flat studs and tapped securely.
 - (iv) No plastic hair slide combs or clips are to be worn on the basketball court.
 - (v) Bobby pins are allowed.
 - (vi) No metal/hard plastic head bands are permitted. Material head bands are accepted if they are less than 2cm in width.
 - (vii) Braided beads are only allowed if secured in a ponytail.
 - (viii) No long-platted hair is allowed.

12. BEHAVIOUR

- 12.1 The Sin Bin is implemented in all competitions for all competitions. Whereby a player who receives a Technical Foul, a Bench Technical Foul or an Unsportsmanlike Foul will be forced to sit on the bench for a period of 5 minutes of playing time.
- 12.2 In the event of unruly behaviour by spectator(s), the following should occur:
1. The Referee is to stop the game
 2. Notify the Stadium Manager who is to speak to:
 - The coach / coaches and or Captain / Captains.
 - The Spectator/Spectators

3. The Manager will inform the spectator that the behaviour is unsuitable, and this continues they will be asked to leave.
4. When the spectator complies with the Manager's instructions the game will resume.
5. If the spectator refuses to comply with the Manager's requests or if the behaviour re-occurs:
 - a. The Referee stops the clock, if subsequent behaviour continues the Manager will inform the spectator, they must now leave the court area.
 - b. If the spectator refuses to leave, the clock remains stopped. The spectator is to be notified that the police are to be called.
 - c. If there is a time delay of more than 5 minutes in the police arriving the game is cancelled.
6. The SPBA may investigate to determine if the game should be rescheduled at a later date.

- 12.3 Any person hanging from the rings, nets and or supports during non-game times will incur a 3-week suspension.

13. MISCELLANEOUS

SPBA Policies

- 13.1 The SPBA Domestic Competition is subject to all policies, rules and regulations as listed on the Association website.

Fees

- 13.2 Admission fees and penalty for non-payment for the competition matches will be determined from time to time by the SPBA.
- 13.3 Game fees for forfeited games will be refunded, unless the teams use the referees and or court during the game time.
- 13.4 All outstanding fees recorded by a team during a season must be paid before said team can play the following match.

- 13.5 If a team withdraws from the competition any time after the 3rd game of a season a penalty will apply. The penalty will be up to \$200 determined by the impact on the competition.

Tribunal

- 13.6 Tribunals and reports are conducted under the Basketball Victoria By-laws (Tribunal) which can be found on the SPBA website.
- 13.7 Tribunals are administrated and conducted under the regional Peninsula Tribunal Panel, an independent group. This tribunal runs under the direction of Basketball Victoria and adopts all policies and procedures outlines in the Basketball Victoria Tribunal.

Social Media

- 13.8 The SPBA follows the Basketball Victoria Member Protection By-laws regarding conduct on social media. Participants that violate these by-laws will be sanctioned through the Basketball Victoria Tribunal.

Protests

- 13.9 Any team desiring to lodge a protest in respect of any game must lodge this in writing to the Association within seven (7) days of the match. The parties concerned shall have the right to attend the meeting at which the protest will be heard.