



Ahead of every season, the club review team membership, coaching arrangements, and training arrangements for every team. We recognise that children are different and progress at different rates and we provide opportunities for all players and teams to grow according to the values of teamwork and respect.

Team allocation is challenging and requires the coordinator to consider player development, skill, team composition and balance as well as full participation of all players. The central focus of the club must be on promoting player participation and basketball development. Friendships between players will be considered when possible. The coordinators consider the best interests of all children in all age groups, not just a single team or age group.

Parents need to be understanding and respectful when the club instigates a change relating to basketball development and full participation for all players. The club's coordinators (all of whom are volunteers) work very hard to balance out all the competing requests/needs and while adhering to our club philosophy of providing as many children as possible opportunities to develop as players and as team members.

The club's aim is always to ensure that a player is within the level of competition that best suits their skills and level of development. Within the younger age grades this can at times extend beyond their development in basketball terms, but also the level of their cognitive skills that can impact upon a player's ability to concentrate and learn; these develop at different rates and ages.

### Coordinator's Role

The coordinators are volunteers, responsible for forming the team lists for the season. The allocation of teams each season is both a complex and time-consuming process and there are many factors that must be considered including:

- players moving up an age group and or changing grade.
- feedback from players, parents, and coaches.
- requests received indicating a preference to change teams.
- new players wanting to join; and
- available coaches.

The coordinators will:

- Adjust teams as players leave teams for various reasons outside the club's control.
- Organise teams within an age group with the aim of achieving a mix of competitive teams in varying grades.
- Consider the best interests of all children in all age groups, not just a single team or age group.
- Maintain contact with coaches and team managers regarding potential players for their teams

### Primary Aims

- Provide opportunities for all registered playing members to have fun through basketball in a safe environment with their involvement being an enjoyable experience.
- Encourage and develop our playing members so that they can achieve their individual maximum potential and support those with aspirations of playing at representative level.
- Provide a means for players wanting to move between grades to remain at our club.



### Objectives & Responsibilities

- Ensure enjoyment of all players within the club through equal participation.
- Place players in teams appropriate to their current *or future* skill level and development.
- Develop players to the maximum of their ability.
- Field competitive teams.
- Establish teams of 7-8 players based on the best balance for the team. It is generally preferable not to have a team of 9 or 10 players however sometimes this is unavoidable (e.g., club members who have been displaced due to age change), is warranted or is requested by the coach.
- Provide opportunities to play at the highest level within the KBA junior domestic competition.
- Endeavour to keep the core team together over a few seasons and minimise changes to that team.
- Ensure compliance with the KBAJ bylaws.

### Guiding Principles

- Place players of the same age together, where possible with the same birth year.
- All members are treated equally regardless of the time they have spent at the club.
- Players will only be allocated to teams above their correct age group in certain circumstances and only with approval of the relevant coordinator.
- Friendship groups are important, but these must be secondary consideration especially when players move up an age group.
- Attempt to maintain team continuity.
- If players are required to move between teams, they are moved with an existing friend or teammate when possible.
- Players playing all year (both summer and winter seasons) are given preference in team allocation. Players opting out for a season cannot be guaranteed of a place on return.
- Attempt to place each player in the most appropriate team for the ongoing development of their fundamental skills and team play.
- The club will facilitate the creation of extra teams if this does not involve taking players from existing teams.

### Selection Parameters / Rules

- Players will only be placed in an older age group based on the following:
  - must have a skill level suitable for the age group.
  - must not be detrimental to the player; and
  - must not be detrimental to the club.
- If a player has been placed in a team unsuitable for their skill level only the coach and parents can request the coordinators review the player. This must occur within the first 3 grading games.

### Team Disbanded

- If minimum player numbers for a team are not met with returning and new players and more players are unable to be found, the team will be disbanded, and existing member redistributed into other teams where possible.



### Movement Requests

The coordinators receive requests to move players to lower or higher grades each season and organise this according to availability. Coordinators may not be able to accommodate all requests and there is no guarantee that requests will be met.

- Requests from parent, player or coach regarding team allocation should be made direct to the coordinator (may be made via current coach or team manager) and should be made when asked if returning for the following season.
- Requests and preferences are considered where circumstances allow.
- Requests for team changes must go via the coordinator **not** to the coach of the new team.

### Waitlist Management and Players Wanting to Join from Other Clubs

- For players wanting to join or re-join the club, priority is given to existing club families. All other players are prioritised in terms of date they joined the waitlist. If a family is willing to coach a team or become an active committee member, then they may be allocated a team sooner.
- For players seeking a placement in a highly graded team placement is not based on the date of joining the waitlist. The offering of a position is at the discretion of the coordinator and based on the player who is considered more suitable in terms of skill and team balance.
  - Placement in a highly graded team may be offered to a player who has requested to join our club over an existing club member who has indicated a preference to play higher if the external player is considered more suitable in terms of skill and team balance.