



## ***Parents & Players Handbook 2021***

### **Welcome**

Following is information to acquaint players and parents with information pertaining to the Victorian Junior Basketball League Representative Competition.

Parents should not contact the VJBL, any enquiries should come to us through your Association authorised person. Associations will also have their own guidelines that also need to be followed.

The VJBL consists of various levels of competition, Victorian State Junior Championship and Victorian Junior League 1 – 10. The competition provides a pathway and extends opportunity to all players, officials, coaches, administrators and spectators to participate across all levels.

### **Team Managers**

Most associations appoint a Team Manager for each team. The Team Manager is usually a volunteer from one of the parents and assists the team in many ways or arranges a roster to do this. Fines may be imposed on Associations and are applicable for scoresheet misdemeanours, walkovers, etc. Team Managers can usually keep an eye on rules to ensure these are kept at a minimum. For a full list of fines please refer to the VJBL Rules of Operation which can be found on the VJBL Website. (A copy of the rules should also be taken to each game for any rules that may need clarification.) The Friday night emergency contact phone is also available to check rules 0430 541 847

Team Managers at all levels are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which does not bring discredit to themselves, their children and their club.

### **Our Competition**

The VJBL competition is played on a Friday evening at associated venues across the state. Each week over 1300 teams participate in the competition which equates to about 650 games on 200 Courts across approximately 80 venues. The VJBL is arguably the largest competition of its kind, offering a graduated system of junior basketball competition giving opportunities for players to reach the peak, but also to climb the foothills.

The VJBL is made up of associations who enter representative teams. In most cases, these teams are selected from a 'domestic' competition that is played out of that particular association.

The VJBL Competition comes under the governing body of Basketball Victoria.

The League was designed to give keen junior basketballers an opportunity to participate at a more competitive level than their local domestic competitions. The VJBL allows teams to compete against composite teams from other Associations. The competition has developed as such to incorporate Associations Victoria wide.

Victorian Junior  
Championship League

Victorian Junior League  
1-10

There are 2 tiers of competition within the VJBL:

1. Victorian Junior Championship League (highest level of competition)
2. Victorian Junior League 1 through 10

## **Age Grouping**

Players are 'grouped' depending upon age. Age groupings are as follows for 2021

Under 12 – eligible players must not turn 12 in 2021; they are born in 2010 or later

Under 14 – eligible players must not turn 14 in 2021, they are born in 2008, 2009

Under 16 – eligible players must not turn 16 in 2021, they are born in 2006, 2007

Under 18 – eligible players must not turn 18 in 2021, they are born in 2004, 2005

Under 21 – eligible players must not turn 21 in 2021, they are born in 2001 2002,2003

## **Season**

Games within the VJBL structure are usually played for about 40 weeks of the year commencing approximately early-mid November and going through to October the following year. There are usually three phases of competition played throughout the year as follows: The season has changed dramatically this year due to the current pandemic

- Spring Phase or Pre Grading phase – Usually early November (Cancelled)
- Grading Phase One & Two – Usually late November – March (Dates revised)
- These two different phases decide where the teams will play throughout the main season. This is Championship Phase for the whole competition and goes from March through to September.  
The basketball year finishes usually mid-December and recommences at the end of January.

## **Cost**

Associations pay a fee to enter representative teams into the VJBL. Generally this cost is one component of the subscription paid to the local association by participating players.

All players are required to wear a team uniform. Costs for uniforms differ from association to association. Please also keep in mind players may also need to purchase shorts, warm-up tops, tracksuits etc. Your association will advise all players about uniform requirements. The VJBL expects a high standard of presentation of teams on the court.

## **Entry Fees**

These vary from stadium to stadium. Spectator and Player Entry Fees are required at some stadiums and currently average about \$3.00 per person – players and spectators.

## **Team Sheet Fees**

A team sheet fee (applied to pay for things like referees, association staff and venue hire) is also payable before the commencement of the game. This varies on the standard played and the time allocated for each game. I.e. Victorian Junior Championship teams pay more than Victorian Junior League teams. The Team Sheet fees for associations who also charge an entry fee for players and spectators usually range from about \$55 - \$65 per game plus players and spectators usually paying \$3.00 each entry to the venue. Some venues do not charge an entry fee for players and spectators. Their Team Sheet fee will usually range from about \$120 to \$130 collected usually by the Team Manager on behalf of the team before the commencement of the game. Some teams may choose to collect a lump sum from the parent group to cover a few games so that money may be kept in a kitty to save the Team Manager rushing around before each game collecting money.

## **Inter-Venue Passes**

Please let parents know that these passes are available at all stadiums from the Venue Manager and should be requested if you intend to go on to another stadium on the same night. I.e. parents & spectators who pay a player/spectator door entry usually pay at one venue only and get a pass if they need to go to another venue where door entry is charged for spectators

Inter-venue passes are available to both spectators and players with the following restrictions:

- A player must pay for door entry (if the venue has a door entry fee) at the venue at which he/she is playing irrespective of whether an entry fee has been paid for that player at an earlier stadium as a spectator.
- Some venues do charge a spectator entry\* (even if a player is playing a game elsewhere later in the evening and has come to watch a sibling before heading off to their game. )
- Upon completion of his/her game the player is entitled to an Inter-venue Pass for any stadium, as a spectator.

### **Finals Qualification / Medical certificates**

If a paper scoresheet is used (rarely happens), players are required to sign the back of the scoresheet. This is to ensure they play enough games to qualify for finals and crossover grading games.

All players in each grade (Victorian Championship and Victorian Junior League 1-10. must play 40% of games. In the case that 40% of total games not be a round number then the total will be rounded up to games. (ie. 7.2 would be rounded up to 8 games) Exemption is only granted on the basis of documented medical reasons or approved exceptional circumstances. Players Injured during Championship phase prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> July must have their medical certificates emailed into the VJBL Administration by the 1<sup>st</sup> July. Team Managers should advise their Association contact of any injuries in the team so they can ensure medical certificates are sent through to the VJBL. See Rules of Operation for full details

Any player diagnosed with an injury after the 1<sup>st</sup> July (except last 2 rounds) will have 14 days from diagnosis to produce a doctor's certificate to the VJBL Administration via email by the VJBL contact

A medical certificate submitted to cover either or both of the last two rounds for the season must be received by VJBL Administration by close of business on the Monday following the last game.

(Grading games are not counted towards the number of games played for the season.) Information regarding the amount of games each player has played during the season can be found on the VJBL website. See Rules of Operation for full details.

### **Fixtures & ladders**

#### **Information can be obtained from the website**

In the early stages of the Phases, fixtures are usually posted on a weekly basis, due to the fact that we may need the results from the previous week. As soon as possible, blocks of fixtures are accessible for families to plan. Ladders are contingent on results being obtained.

Unofficial results are posted on the VJBL website on the Saturday following the game. These results are verified once the official data is received, should any errors occur then they are rectified at this time.

### **Referees**

The referees are part of the game, and while we may not like their decisions at times, verbal or other abuse of referees is unacceptable behaviour and sets a bad example to the children.

A copy of Basketball Victoria's Codes of Conduct is available on the Basketball Victoria Website. We encourage every player, parent and Team Manager to read these.

Behavioural Tech Foul rules are also in place to discourage players, coaching and bench staff from negative behaviour.

The Victorian Junior Basketball League welcome you to the Representative Program and hope you will enjoy the next step in basketball.

Websites:

<http://www.vjbl.com.au>

<http://www.basketballvictoria.com.au>