Geraldton Basketball Association

Geraldton Amateur Basketball Association

Local Competition Rules

Updated: October 2026

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Introduction

The local rules have been developed by the GABA Committee to complement the Official FIBA Rules of Basketball and the GABA Bylaws. They apply to all competitions within the Geraldton Amateur Basketball Association (GABA) and take priority over FIBA rules.

Any questions regarding these rules should be directed to the Administrator.

Any exemptions to these rules must be approved in writing by the GABA Committee.

Competitions

Summer Competition	Juniors	October to March	U8, U10, U12, U14, U16, U18
	Seniors	October to March	Divisions 1,2,3,4 & Veterans
Winter Competition	Juniors	May to September	U10, U12, U14, U16
	Seniors	May to September	Divisions 1 & 2

Junior Age Divisions

Age groups are defined by the age of a player at the 31st of December of the year the season begins (i.e. end of 2026).

For the Summer 2026-27 Season & Winter 2027 Season the years of birth and the applicable age groups are:

Year Born	Division
2009 & 2010	18's
2011 & 2012	16's
2013 & 2014	14's
2015 & 2016	12's
2017 & 2018	10's
2019 & 2020	8's
2020	7's

Timing of Games

			Time	Time Outs (Per Team)
Juniors 7's to 10's	Regular Season	First Half	20 Minutes Running Clock	2
		Half Time	3 Minutes	
		Second Half	20 Minutes Running Clock	2

			Time	Time Outs (Per Team)
Juniors 12's to Seniors	Regular Season	First Half	25 minutes	2
(excl Division 1)		Half Time	3 minutes	
		Second Half	25 minutes	2
	Finals	First Half	25 minutes	2
		Half Time	3 minutes	
		Second Half	22 min + 3 Mins Stopped Clock	2

No time outs are allowed in the last 3 minutes of the second half, except during finals where the clock is stopped in the last 3 minutes.

			Time	Time Outs (Per Team)
Seniors Division 1	Regular Season	First Quarter	10 minutes	2 per half
	And Finals	Quarter Time	2 minutes	
		Second Quarter	10 minutes	
		Half Time	5 minutes	
		Third Quarter	10 minutes	3 per half. Third can only be
		¾ Time	2 minutes	used if two have been used
		Fourth Quarter	10 minutes	by last 2 min in 4th quarter

For Senior Division 1, the clock is stopped on every whistle. The clock will also stop for the last 2 minutes of the 4th quarter after a score, i.e. once the ball has passed through the bottom of the net.

Clock for all other finals shall be running except the last 3 minutes of the second half which will be fully timed. The clock stops on every whistle and successful shot for goal in the last 3 minutes. This is for all Junior and Senior Finals except Senior Division 1. Either team can call a sub or time-out on every whistle or successful shot for goal.

Drawn Games

Seniors Division 1	Regular Season	Extra 5 minutes		1 extra time out
	Finals	Extra 5 minutes		1 extra time out
12's to Seniors (excl Div 1)	Regular Season	No Extra Time	1 Point Each	
	Finals	5 Minutes Extra (last 3 fully timed)		1 extra time out

Team fouls always carry over into extra time.

Basketball Sizes

Juniors		Boys	Girls
	U7, U8	5	5
	U9, U10	5	5
	U12	5	5
	U14	6	6
	U16	7	6
	U18	7	6
Seniors		7	6

MVP Votes

The Administrator shall record most valuable player votes, and these should be kept confidential. Club delegates may request a record of all votes for their club at the end of the qualifying rounds.

Senior Division 1: Both referees will each select the 4 best players of the game separately. 4 votes for the Best Player, 3 votes for next best, and so forth.

All other grades (except U7 to U10): Both referees will each select the 3 best players of the game separately. 3 votes for the Best Player, 2 votes for next best, and 1 for third best.

Specific Junior Rules

Zone Defence Disallowed

U7 – U14 players must play man to man defence, in accordance with the Basketball Australia Zone Busters manual. U16 – U18 Zone Defence is allowed.

Injuries

All injuries incurred during a game must be recorded in the format prescribed by the GABA.

Reports

For all reports and Tribunal issues, please refer to the BWA Tribunal By-laws on the GABA website.

Heat rule

When the court temperature reaches 35°C, the following will apply:

- The game time must be reduced by 2 minutes per half.
- The referee is to call a timeout, at the halfway point of each period, if one has not already been called.

When the court temperature reaches 40°C games are abandoned.

The policy is a guide only. GABA will also rely on advice from Emergency WA and Sports Medicine Australia, when deciding to cancel or postpone games.
We will always try to give us much notice as possible, however there may be circumstances when games may be cancelled at short notice.

Subject to any rule or ruling by the GABA:

- If a game is abandoned before it commences, before or at half time the Administrator will attempt to reschedule the game. The time of the rescheduled game cannot be changed. If a team is unable to participate at the rescheduled time it will be classed as a forfeit and points will be awarded accordingly.
- if a game is abandoned after half time, the game score stands as a result.

Technical Fouls

For any player that receives multiple Technical Fouls Category 1 (Severe) or Flagrant Fouls, in a season the following will apply:

Technical Fouls Category 1 (Severe) or Flagrant Fouls	Suspension includes Technical Fouls Category 1 (Severe) and Flagrant Fouls Combined.
4	1 Full Round in all playing grades/divisions participated in (excluding byes and abandoned games)
5	2 Full Round in all playing grades/divisions participated in (excluding byes and abandoned games)
7	3 Full Round in all playing grades/divisions participated in (excluding byes and abandoned games)

The Club, Coach and Player will be notified by email of an upcoming suspension.

Ejections

Should a player be ejected from a game, they should remove themselves to a safe location out of view of the game. Should they wish to stay within the stadium, this can be on the court 1 grandstand. If they have been participating in a game on court 1, they can move to court 2.

Stadium Rules

- No one can use the courts during time-outs
- Ball play such as dribbling, shooting and passing is not allowed on the court sidelines at all whilst a game is in progress or during time-outs
- Do not bring personal basketballs on game day.
- No Smart Glasses to be worn within the stadium at any time.

Conclusion

Any exceptions to these rules, can only be given approval by the Administrator, in writing.

All changes to these rules must be approved by the GABA Committee.

The latest version will be published on the GABA website.

Appendix 1 – U7 and U8 Specific Rules

U7 and 8 – Boys and Girls	All Divisions
8 Foot Rings	✓
Ball size 5	✓
No Zone Defence – refer to Basketball Australia's Zone Buster Manual	✓
No 3pt shots scored	✓
3 seconds allowed in the keyway	✓
No finals, premiership points or player votes awarded	✓
No scores to be posted on the scoreboard. Scoring device only used to mark players off & count fouls	✓
Penalty shots to be taken from the orange line	✓
On a score, defensive rebound or turnover all defensive players must be positioned behind the **3-point line** and remain behind the 3-point line at all times	✓
Each team to provide a competent umpire	✓
Coaches are permitted to walk up to 1 metre in court, up and down the sideline	✓

Appendix 2 – U9 and U10 Specific Rules

U9 and 10 – Boys and Girls	Div 1	Div 2	Div 3
8 Foot Rings	✓	✓	✓
Ball size 5	✓	✓	✓
No Zone Defence – refer to Basketball Australia's Zone Buster Manual	✓	✓	✓
No 3pt shots scored	✓	✓	✓
3 seconds allowed in the keyway	✓	✓	✓
No finals, premiership points or player votes awarded	✓	✓	✓
No scores to be posted on the scoreboard. Scoring device only used to mark players off and count fouls	✓	✓	✓
Penalty shots to be taken from the orange line		✓	✓
On a score, all defensive players must be positioned behind the **halfway line** and remain there until the ball comes across the halfway line.	✓	✓	✓

Appendix 3 – U12 Specific Rules

U12 – Boys and Girls	Div 1	Div 2	Div 3
Ball size 5	✓	✓	✓
No Zone Defence – refer to Basketball Australia's Zone Buster Manual	✓	✓	✓
3 Point Score – Inner 3 Point Line	✓	✓	✓
Finals, Premiership Points and MVP all awarded	✓	✓	✓
Each team must supply a scorer. First team mentioned does the computer. Second team mentioned does the visual scoreboard	✓	✓	✓
Mercy Rule applies		✓	✓

Mercy Rule

Where the lead is 20 points or more, the Mercy Rule will apply.

- Defensive players must be behind the halfway line.
- This occurs on any score and any backcourt throw in.

Appendix 4 – U14 Specific Rules

U14 – Boys and Girls	Div 1	Div 2	Div 3
Ball size 6	✓	✓	✓
No Zone Defence – refer to Basketball Australia's Zone Buster Manual	✓	✓	✓
3 Point Score – Inner 3 Point Line	✓	✓	✓
Finals, Premiership Points and MVP all awarded	✓	✓	✓
Each team must supply a scorer. First team mentioned does the computer. Second team mentioned does the visual scoreboard.	✓	✓	✓
Mercy Rule applies		✓	✓

Mercy Rule

Where the lead is 20 points or more, the Mercy Rule will apply.

- Defensive players must be behind the halfway line.
- This occurs on any score and any backcourt throw in.

Appendix 5 – U16 & U18 Specific Rules

U16 & U18 – Boys and Girls	Div 1	Div 2	Div 3
Ball size for Males is 7, and Females is 6	✓	✓	✓
3 Point Score – Outside black line	✓	✓	✓
Finals, Premiership Points and MVP all awarded	✓	✓	✓
Each team must supply a scorer. First team mentioned does the computer. Second team mentioned does the visual scoreboard.	✓	✓	✓
Mercy Rule applies		✓	✓

Mercy Rule

Where the lead is 20 points or more, the Mercy Rule will apply.

- Defensive players must be behind the halfway line.
- This occurs on any score and any backcourt throw in.

Committee Approved

GABA President - Peter Brown

Date 25/10/2026