GERALDTON AMATEUR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION INC.

Bylaws

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Geraldton Basketball Association

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Intent and Purpose

These Bylaws guide the day-to-day running of the Geraldton Amateur Basketball Association and should be read and applied in conjunction with the Constitution, Local Competition Rules and policies of the Association and BWA.

These Bylaws are made under Section 20 of the Constitution.

The defined terms used in these Bylaws are set out in Appendix A.

Record of amendments:

Bylaws Adopted: 30/09/2025

Version 3.5	30/9/25
Version 3.6	24/9/26
Version 3.7	26/10/26

General

1 - Playing Rules

a) All competitions or games conducted by the GABA shall be played in accordance with FIBA OFFICIAL RULES OF BASKETBALL as adopted by the Basketball Australia. Variations to these rules must be outlined in the GABA Bylaws or GABA Local Competition Rules.
b) From time to time the GABA Committee may trial a new rule or variation to an existing rule for a maximum of 12 months after which time it needs to be amended in the Bylaws if it is to be retained.

2 - Rules Interpretation

a) In any instance where a ruling is required as to the intent or purpose of any rule, this will be assessed by the Administrator and referred to the Committee if required.
b) If the Committee, is unable to reach a satisfactory conclusion on any matter relating to the rules of the game, it shall be referred to the State Rules Interpreter, whose decision shall be final and binding.

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3 - Financial Status

a) All affiliated clubs shall remit to the Association such fees as may be prescribed from time to time by the GABA Board.
b) Such fees shall be in the hands of the Treasurer or duly authorised person, on or before the prescribed date, and any club not having remitted the prescribed fees shall be considered un-financial as from midnight on the prescribed date and be subject to such penalties as determined by the Committee.
c) An un-financial club, group or Association shall not be permitted to participate in any competition conducted by the Association.
d) Any member representing the GABA at any level must be a fully financial member of their club and GABA.
e) The Committee may at any time request a club's financial documents if there is a concern regarding the Club's ongoing viability.

4 - Jurisdiction

a) Members of any basketball team selected to visit another location, whether such games are organised by the Association or club concerned, or the purpose is to participate at basketball games organised by other clubs or Associations, are deemed to be within the jurisdiction of the Association.

5 - Infringements

a) The Committee shall have power to impose such penalties as may be decided at a Committee meeting.

6 - Amendments

a) The Association may, by resolution at a general meeting, make, amend or revoke the Bylaws.

7- Compliance with BWA policies

a) As an affiliated association of Basketball Western Australia, we comply with BWA policies, except where a local exception has been set out in the Bylaws or Local Competition Rules.

8 - Duties

a) The Committee shall have authority to allocate duties to teams or clubs, as required, in any matter related to the operation of the Association.

9- Delegation

The Committee may delegate responsibilities to the Administrator as required.

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10 - Stadium Facility Safety

(a) In the event of unforeseen circumstances which may affect the safety of participants or staff, the stadium may be closed at any time.

Competition

11 - Team Nominations

a) Any affiliated Club or Association wanting to participate in any competition or game conducted by the GABA, shall nominate in the way prescribed by the Committee.
b) All nominations shall be approved by the Committee, and such approval must be given before any club or Association may participate in any game or competition conducted by the GABA.

12 - Gradings

a) All competitions conducted by the GABA shall be conducted on a grade basis, and such grades shall be determined by the Committee.
b) Clubs may nominate teams for specific grades; however, the Committee will make the final allocations.
c) The Committee shall have authority to change or amend team gradings before the fourth playing fixture for that division.
d) The decision of the Committee shall be final regarding the grading of teams.

13 - Fixtures

a) The Committee shall be responsible for the compilation of an official fixtures list, and to have it published or made available online to GABA members.
b) A fixtures list, once published by the Committee, shall not be altered or amended in any way unless required under extenuating circumstances.
c) Where a team(s), because of extenuating circumstances, requires postponing or deferring a scheduled fixture, applications must be made in writing to the Administrator at least 14 days prior to the scheduled date of the fixture.

14 - Fixtures Not Completed

a) A team shall have 10 minutes from the scheduled start time to field a team. Failure to do so will result in a forfeit to the defaulting team and a fine of $50. If prior notice has been given via email to the Administrator at least 6 hours in advance, there shall be no fine.
b) Any team which forfeits three or more games during the qualifying rounds may be disqualified by the Committee.
c) In the event of a team being disqualified then each game in which that team should have participated shall be considered a forfeit. It shall not be necessary for the opponent team to appear at the place set down for the playing of the fixture.
d) In the event of a forfeit by any team, the score for the fixture in question shall be 20-0 in favour of the team awarded the game.

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15 - Points

a) Competition points shall be allocated for each game completed in accordance with the official fixtures list as follows.

Actions	**Ladder Points**
Win	2 Points + 2 E Points
Loss	0 Points + 2 E Points
Draw	1 Point each + 2 E Points
Bye	2 Points + 2 E Points

E Points will be deducted as follows upon report

Actions	**Points Scale**
Technical Foul Category 1 (Severe) on Coach	-1 Point
Player, coach and/or team staff reported and found guilty	-1 Point
Poor spectator behaviour. e.g., swearing at a referee, abusive slurs towards players and referees.	-1 Point
Breach of Code of Conduct, Policy or By-Law breach relating to inappropriate game day behaviour.	-1 Point

b) In the event of a game being cancelled by the GABA due to unforeseen circumstances, all efforts will be made to reschedule the game. If this is not possible, the game shall be classed as a draw and one point and 2 E Points allocated to each team.
c) A team which changes grades after the commencement of the season shall carry over it's win loss record and associated premiership ladder points. However, points scored for and against shall only be calculated from their new grade.
d) In the event of two or more teams being level on points at the end of the qualifying rounds, eligibility to compete in the final series shall be determined by percentage of points scored for and against throughout the season. Should two teams finish on equal percentage points, the final position shall be determined by the head-to-head percentage between the two teams involved.

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16 - Final Series

The final series for the main summer competition shall be played at the end of qualifying rounds and methods detailed below may be used.

a) Semi Final, Preliminary Final and Grand Final as follows.
    1) 1st. Semi Final Team shown as No. 3 plays team shown as No. 4 on the premiership table.
    2) 2nd. Semi Final Team shown as No. 1 plays team shown as No. 2 on the points table. Preliminary Final Winner of the 1st. Semi Final versus loser of the 2nd. Semi Final.
    3) Grand Final Winner of 2nd. Semi Final versus winner of the Preliminary Final.
b) Other finals series for shorter seasons may be modified e.g. Winter.
    1) Preliminary finals 1st versus 4th and 2nd versus 3rd.
    2) The winner of each game to progress to the Grand Final.

17- Player Uniforms

c) Each affiliated club or Association shall select a distinctive uniform which shall be registered with the Association.
d) The pattern and colour scheme of the uniform shall be approved by the Committee prior to registration. The pattern shall be shorts and jersey.
e) Undershirts and compression wear shall be black or white, and close fitting.
f) Each player shall be numbered on the front and back of the uniform, in accordance with the official rules of basketball.
g) All players must be in full playing uniform by the third playing game of the season.
h) Where a player must remove a uniform because of a blood spill during the game, that player may wear any shirt (that does not clash with opposition colours) to continue the game.
i) If a club has a delay in their club shorts order and the Administrator approves, black shorts only can be substituted.
j) Referees or the Games Controller shall have authority to prevent any player participating in any game, if the player concerned is not clothed in the official uniform of his/her club.
k) All jewellery must be removed before playing.
l) Fingernails showing **above the level of the finger** must be cut.
m) No taping of jewellery is allowed.

Officials

18 - Timekeepers and Scorers

n) All teams must provide a competent scorer for the duration of the game. First team mentioned on the fixtures will be responsible for the scoring device and second team mentioned will be responsible for the clock and score on the scoreboard.
o) The score as per the scoring device is recognised as the official score.
p) In Senior Division one, the first mentioned team provides two scorers. One operates the scoring device while the other operates the shot clock.

19 – Scoring Equipment

q) Scoring devices for all games conducted by the Association shall be supplied by the Association, and it shall be the responsibility of each captain, coach or manager to complete the necessary team details prior to the scheduled commencement time of the game.
r) No player can be registered courtside on the scoring system. Please see the Games Controllers or your Club to add players.

20- Referees and Umpires

a. It shall be the responsibility of the GABA Committee to determine the method of appointing Referees and Umpires for all games played under the jurisdiction of the Association.
b. Two umpires should be present for the game to commence. If a sole referee is competent and willing to proceed without a co-official and is approved by the games controller and agreed by both teams then the game may commence.

Player Qualifications

21 - Eligible Player

a. A player shall be a registered member of an affiliated club or Association, including current BWA registration.
b. The Association shall maintain a register of all registered players.
c. Players must have their name on the scoring system and have been physically present during the game, to be considered as having played that game.
d. Players must be added to the scorecard before the commencement of the game.
e. The game shall not start unless each team has 5 players present and ready to play in correct uniform.
f. In juniors, a player's age is considered at December 31st of the playing season.
g. In seniors, a player must be at least 14 years of age before playing.

22 - Ineligible Player

a. A player will be an ineligible player if:
    i. They play in a game without their full name in the scoring device,
    ii. They play under a false name,
    iii. They play in a club, division or grade that they are not permitted to play in, under the Rules and By Laws of the Association,
    iv. They play whilst under suspension by any affiliated Association.
b. If any team fields an ineligible player, that team will forfeit the game and lose 2 premiership points.

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23 - Key Player Rule

The aim of the Key Player Rule is to simplify player movement between Div 1 and Div 2. It is intended that Players listed as Key Players should be the best players normally selected first by each Club each week. These Players are considered the Club's Key Players.
The following outlines the rules for Key Players:

a. Each Club is required to submit in writing to GABA a list of Div 1 Players (minimum of 6 for Women and 7 for Men), referred to as Key Players, ten (10) days prior to the first Senior Fixtured match of the current competition season. The total number of Key Players will be determined by the GABA for each club after receival of the lists and in consultation with the Clubs. These lists will be distributed to each Club for review.

b. If the minimum number of Key Players cannot be met this needs to be presented to the GABA Committee for consideration.

c. Key Player status will generally be a function of:
   i. The Player's skill level
   ii. The Player's playing level over the last three (3) seasons
   iii. The Player's request

d. Key Players named can ONLY play in Div 1.

e. A meeting will be convened before the first fixtured match with a representative of each senior team to agree on the Key Players list. Each Club's Key Players list will be finalised with GABA prior to the first Senior Fixtured match.

f. Should there be a dispute over any key players that cannot be resolved at the meeting, a final decision will be made by the Committee.

g. Key Players can only play one (1) senior match per Fixture Week.

h. All other players can move freely between Div 1 and Div 2 without any restrictions on the number of matches played.

i. During finals, players who have played across the two grades are eligible to play finals for the lower grade only if most of their games have been played for the lower grade.

j. All players who have played across Div 1 and Div 2 are eligible to play finals for Div 1 given they meet Finals Qualification.

k. Players who arrive during this season can be added to a clubs list if they are considered a Key Player.

l. If a club wishes to amend its key player list, it can request the change in writing to the GABA Committee who will make the final decision.

24 - Veteran's Rule

a. Any person who turns 34 years of age in the year the season commences is eligible to play in the veteran's division.

b. The division shall be considered the lowest division of the applicable men's or women's competition.

25 - Representative Player Rule

a. A representative player is a player who has represented their association or region in juniors or seniors in their most top ranked team in a State Championship Team, Country Championship Team, any State or National Team, WABL, NBL1 or NBL in the previous 12 months.

b. All clubs will be limited to a maximum of three (3) representative players per season, per grade, except for players already registered to that club who have transitioned between grades between seasons.

c. Any representative player wishing to transfer between clubs may not transfer to a club that already has 3 or more representative players registered to that grade.

d. This rule does not apply to juniors playing in a senior competition.

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26 - Forfeit Rule

a. Players can play two games in one week to eliminate forfeits during the normal fixture season.

b. This can be done to a maximum of 6 players.

c. In Seniors, players can play in two games in one week to help eliminate a forfeit, subject to:

i. A Division 4 player can fill in for a Division 1,2 or 3 team

ii. A Division 3 player can fill in for a Division 1 or 2 team

iii. A Division 2 player can fill in for a Division 1 team

iv. A Vets player can fill in for a Division 1,2 3 or 4 team

v. A junior player can fill in a senior Division 1, 2, 3 or 4 team.

d. In Juniors, players can play two games in one week to help eliminate a forfeit, subject to:

i. a Division 1 player can only play in Division 1 of the older age group, or

ii. A Division 2 player can only play in Division 1 or 2 of the older age group or in Division 1 of the same age group, or

iii. A Division 3 player can only play in Division 1, 2 or 3 of the older age group, or in Division 1 or 2 in the same age group.

iv. If a club has no corresponding team in the age group below, you may pull from the lowest division in that age group below.

e. As the Vets competition is the lowest Division in Seniors, to avoid a forfeit, a player can fill in from any Division providing the player is over the age of 34.

f. If a regular player arrives during the game, the fill in must not take any further part in the game, if 24(b) is not complied with.

27- Eligibility of Players to Participate in the Final Series

a) To be eligible to participate in the Final Series of any competition conducted by the Association, players must have played at least four (4) games for their registered team, during the qualifying rounds

b) Where a player has played in two or more grades during the qualifying rounds, they may only participate in the final series of the grade in which they have played the greatest number of games.

c) A player may not change from one grade to another during a final's series except when in accordance with the Forfeit Rule.

d) It shall be the responsibility of all affiliated Clubs to carefully assess the eligibility of players online before permitting them to participate in a Final Series.

e) Any protest or dispute concerning the eligibility of a player to participate in a Final Series shall be referred to the Administrator or Committee who will make the final decision.

f) Players must have their name on the scoring system and have been physically present during the game, to be considered as having played that game.

g) In a situation where a team has to forfeit a final, that team may bring up a qualified player (following the guidelines of the Forfeit Rule) to a maximum of 6 players. They may not exceed the number of players of the opposition team.

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28 - Clearances

a) All players, both junior and senior are required to complete a clearance form if they wish to change clubs.
b) A clearance form shall be completed online upon registration.
c) A club has five days from the date of submitting a clearance to approve before it is automatically granted.
d) The only restriction to deny a clearance is if the member is unfinancial. This may include return of club equipment and uniforms.
e) In the event of an affiliated club disbanding, or failing to re-apply for affiliation, registered members of that club shall be free to transfer to any other affiliated club without first applying for a clearance.
f) The Committee shall have the power to make a final determination on granting a clearance where there is a dispute between a club and a player.
g) An application for an in-season clearance may not be made more than two calendar months after the commencement of the current season e.g. If the competition begins on October 12, clearances must be lodged by December 11.
h) A player who participates in a game without a clearance is considered an ineligible player.

Appendices

A – Definitions

Association – the Geraldton Amateur Basketball Association (GABA)

BWA – Basketball Western Australia

BA – Basketball Australia

Club – Any affiliated Club of the GABA, playing in any competitions run by the GABA

Committee – Refers to the General Committee, as per the Constitution

Constitution - the Constitution of the Geraldton Amateur Basketball Association

Divisions (Juniors) - Age-specific groups that are divided into male and female e.g. U12Girls or U12Boys

Grade (Juniors) - Levels given to groups within a division e.g. A/B/C

Junior Competition - the Junior Domestic Competition.

Junior Player - a Player who is under the age of 18 as at 31st December of any given year and is a member of a Junior Affiliated Club.

Local Competition Rules – A set of rules which take precedence over the FIBA Rules and apply to our local competition.

Members – means a member as defined in accordance with clause 2.1 of the Constitution. A person (including a body corporate) who is an ordinary member, life member an associate member or a social member of the Association.

Senior Competition - the Senior Domestic Competition.