

# Parents & Players Handbook 2024 – 2025



## Welcome

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

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

The VJBL consists of various levels of competition, Victorian State Junior Championship (VC) and Victorian Junior League (VJL) 1 – Below. 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/guardians 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 1500 teams participate in the competition which equates to about 750 games on over 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. 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-Below

There are 2 tiers of competition within the VJBL:

1. Victorian Junior Championship League (highest level of competition) (VC)
2. Victorian Junior League 1 through 13 (VJL)

## **Age Grouping**

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

### **Age Group Eligibility:**

All players must be under the specified age as at 31st December 2025.

**Players born in 2017 or later are not eligible to play VJBL in the 2024/25 season**

Under 12 – eligible players must not turn 12 in 2025; they are born in 2014, 2015, 2016

Under 14 – eligible players must not turn 14 in 2025, they are born in 2012, 2013

Under 16 – eligible players must not turn 16 in 2025, they are born in 2010, 2011

Under 18 – eligible players must not turn 18 in 2025, they are born in 2008, 2009

## **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 September the following year. There are usually two areas of competition played throughout the year as follows:

Grading Phase One & Two – Usually late November – March

These two different phases decide where the teams will play throughout the Championship season.

Championship Phase for the whole competition, 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**

A team sheet fee is applied to each team for games played at their home venue and away games – The team sheet fee covers players and spectators regardless of numbers. Currently team fees range from about \$125 to \$160 per game. This varies on the standard played and the time allocated for each game depending on the level of games during the season.

Some associations will include this in their season fees and make the payment each week to the applicable venue and other associations leave this to individual teams to arrange payment each week either to the Team Manager or directly through Teampay.

## **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 1-12 must play a certain amount of games to qualify for finals. Grading Phase 2 AND Championship season games are included in the game count.

In the case that 40% would not be a round number then the total will be rounded up. (i.e. 9.2 games would become 10 games)

If a new player is ineligible to qualify for finals they are not permitted to play with the team, unless permission is granted in exceptional circumstances by VJBL Administration.

This ruling is applicable across all divisions of the VJBL.

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.

See Rules of Operation for full details as more medical certificate restrictions apply during grading

<https://www.basketballvictoria.com.au/resources/competition-resources/vjbl>

### **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. Your association may also have strict penalties for bad behaviour for players coaching and bench staff.

<https://www.basketballvictoria.com.au/cdn/i8g7jxfr9zww00cc>

**Spectator Behaviour** At no point before, during or after a game are spectators permitted to approach a referee. All spectators must abide by the Basketball Victoria (BV) Spectator Code of Conduct. If asked to leave the venue by a venue official, spectator/s must do so immediately, or reports and loss of games may be applied.

<https://www.basketballvictoria.com.au/cdn/ljjs15nuxkgs0k0w>

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>