



2021/2022

Country Basketball League

Operations Manual



Critical Dates:

Team Nominations Close

8th August 2021

Player Registrations Complete

3rd October 2021

Season Start

8th, 9th & 10th October 2021

Conference Finals

5th February 2022

State Finals Weekend

12th & 13th February 2022

This document has been prepared by
Matt Royal
Leagues, Events and Statistics Administrator

Basketball Victoria

M: +61 438 263 284

E: matt.royal@basketball.victoria.com.au

Edition: 2020/2021

Version #1

30th June 2021

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----------|
| Introduction | 4 |
| About | 4 |
| League Contacts | 4 |
| Competition Structure | 4 |
| Format of the League | 4 |
| League Conferences | 4 |
| League Finance | 5 |
| Entry Fees | 5 |
| Referee Levy | 5 |
| Association Administration | 5 |
| Venue Requirements | 5 |
| Minimum Age Requirement | 5 |
| Player Eligibility | 5 |
| Junior Representative Exemption | 6 |
| Associations Without a Domestic Competition | 6 |
| Clearances | 6 |
| Finals Qualification | 6 |
| Finals Qualification Exemptions | 6 |
| Uniforms | 6 |
| General Rules | 7 |
| Home Association Responsibilities | 7 |
| Door Charges | 7 |
| Welcome Note | 7 |
| Game Day Schedule | 8 |
| Technical Officials | 8 |
| 24 Second Shot Clock | 8 |
| Timing Rules | 8 |
| Electronic Scoring – PlayHQ | 8 |
| Change Rooms | 8 |
| Match Ball | 9 |
| Floor Wipers | 9 |
| Game Day Program | 9 |
| Court Announcer Guidelines | 9 |
| Content Appropriateness | 10 |
| Post-Game Procedure | 10 |
| Post-Match Hospitality | 10 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Visiting Association Responsibilities | 11 |
| Prior to Game Day | 11 |
| Game Day | 11 |
| Referees & Administration of Referees | 11 |
| Home Association Obligations to Referees | 11 |
| Competition Administration | 12 |
| Forfeits | 12 |
| Competition Points System | 12 |
| Conference Finals | 12 |
| State Finals Weekend | 12 |
| League Awards | 13 |
| After Match Voting | 13 |
| End of Season Awards | 13 |
| All Star 5 Voting Process | 13 |
| Policies and Procedures | 14 |
| Blood Policy | 14 |
| Correctable Errors | 14 |
| Disputes, Protests & Reports | 15 |
| Basketball Victoria Heat Policy | 15 |
| Extreme Heat Policy Host Association Process | 16 |
| Extreme Weather Process | 16 |
| Team Staff Dress Code | 17 |
| Player Registration | 17 |
| Player Equipment | 17 |
| League History | 18 |
| History of the League | 18 |
| CBL Awards | 18 |
| Championship History - Women | 19 |
| Championship History - Men | 20 |

Introduction

About

The Country Basketball League was designed to provide an opportunity for Country Associations and athletes to compete against one another in the spirit of town versus town competition which is a true reflection of Country Sport.

All Basketball Victoria Country Affiliated Associations are eligible to nominate to compete in the Country Basketball League. The Country Basketball League may also accept nominations from interstate country Associations.

The CBL is usually conducted on a home and away basis with each team playing an equal number of home games and away games. The opening round of matches is generally held on the 2nd weekend of October and this season concludes with a Conference Final scheduled for 5th February 2022. Following the weekend of the conference's finals the re-introduction of the State (All-Conference) Finals weekend will be occurring with the winning teams of each conference battling it out to be crowned State Champions.

League Contacts

| | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------|
| Matt Royal | CBL Competition Manager | matt.royal@basketballvictoria.com.au | 0438 263 284 |
| Melissa Thomas | CBL Competition Administrator | melissa.thomas@basketballvictoria.com.au | 0438 836 801 |

Competition Structure

Format of the League

The Country Basketball League is primarily a home and away competition conducted from October to February where each competing Association will play an equal amount of home games and away games played in their conference.

Competition formats can be altered to provide an optimal number of games.

League Conferences

The Country Basketball League competition is broken up into Geographical Conferences.

These are known as Gippsland, North East, North West & South West.

In the 2020/2021 season, the Conferences are made up of the following Associations.

| Gippsland | North East | North West | South West |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Churchill | Benalla | Bacchus Marsh | Ararat |
| Korumburra | Myrtleford | Bendigo | Bellarine |
| Lakes Entrance | Seymour | Castlemaine | Colac |
| Maffra | Shepparton | Echuca | Portland |
| Moe | Wallan | Kyneton | Terang |
| Sale | Wangaratta | Maryborough | Warrnambool |
| Warragul | Wodonga | Mildura | |
| | | Swan Hill | |

League Finance

Entry Fees

The Country Basketball League entry fee is \$495 (Inc GST).

This fee covers the administration costs of the league.

This is payable with your team nomination and team entry will not be accepted without this payment.

Referee Levy

The Referee Levy is used to cover referee travel expenses for the league.

In season 2021/2022 this fee will increase to incorporate referee game payments also which means the associations will no longer be required to provide game payment to referees on game day.

The levy can begin to be determined once the fixture has been set and the referee pool has been established.

We estimate this fee for the 2021/2022 season to be approx. \$120 - \$150 per team per regular season game.

Association Administration

Venue Requirements

It is the responsibility of the home Association to ensure that all satisfactory equipment necessary for the correct and safe conduct of the game is supplied.

Satisfactory equipment and services as referred to, shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Properly surfaced floors;
2. Backboards in good repair, affixed with standard, protective padding and preferably constructed of a transparent material;
3. Properly secured rings with nets in good condition attached;
4. Adequate seating for team members, officials, and spectators;
5. Time clocks, including 24 second clocks, and a scoreboard visible to all persons participating in the fixture;
6. A score table to seat a minimum of four technical officials, with possession arrow and foul paddles (1-5)
7. A Basketball Victoria approved game ball and a spare 'blood' replacement ball
8. Blood spill kit to be located at the scoretable
9. Adequate change room facilities for visiting teams and referees
10. A court announcer for each home game
11. Floor wipers
12. Electronic Scoring Device & Internet connection court-side
13. Display the Australian national flag such that it is clearly visible during all games.

Minimum Age Requirement

Athletes wishing to compete in the Country Basketball League must be born on or before **31 December 2007**.

Any athlete under 18 years of age will be required to have their parent or guardian complete the [Underage Indemnity form](#) prior to taking the court.

Player Eligibility

For players to be eligible to compete in the Country Basketball League they must satisfy the following criteria;

1. The Athlete must reside at a "Country" residential address as defined by the Basketball High Performance Boundary.
2. The Athlete must be a registered, financial and regular domestic competitor in the current or preceding season.
 - a) *Regular domestic competitor means the Athlete has/will play the minimum required games to qualify for domestic finals.*

Within 3 rounds of the season commencing, each Association will be required to submit their domestic team lists for every competition that features a CBL player.

**Players that are considered imports or financially remunerated are ineligible.*

Junior Representative Exemption

Athletes that have represented the Association at the junior level (Under 12, Under 14, Under 16 &/or Under 18) will be exempt from both criteria and can represent the Association in CBL without playing domestic basketball and living in the country area of Victoria.

[Exemption requests must be made by the Association.](#)

Associations Without a Domestic Competition

CBL Associations that do not operate a domestic competition will be limited to Athletes that qualify under the Junior Representative Exemption clause only.

[Exemption requests must be made by the Association.](#)

Clearances

A Clearance is required for any Athlete transferring from one representative club/Association to another representative club/Association within the Country Basketball League or Country Victorian Tournament Representative Season.

The clearance needs to be processed via the PlayHQ database. [Email CBL Manager for a Clearance Procedure.](#)

Finals Qualification

An Athlete must have played a minimum of one third + one match of all possible matches in their relevant conference to be eligible for CBL Finals.

“Played” refers to being active on Stadium Scoring; inactive or absent players must be removed at halftime.

For example: For a 16-game season, one third is 5.33, + one = 6.33.

Rounded down, the minimum requirement is 6 matches.

| Total Games | 6 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 16 |
|-------------|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| To Qualify | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 6 |

Finals Qualification Exemptions

Athletes that do not meet the minimum number of games required to qualify for CBL Finals can apply for an exemption under the following;

1. Medical exemption
 - Relevant documentation will need to be provided to support the request
2. BV & Higher Basketball Commitment exemption
 - Relevant documentation will need to be provided to support the request

Uniforms

The Home team for any CBL fixture is entitled to wear its chosen uniform, but both Associations share the responsibility to achieve an acceptable contrast.

The onus is on the visiting team to take note of the Home Association's advice to achieve this.

General Rules

The Country Basketball League implement FIBA Official Basketball Rules.

1. Bonus shots will be taken on the fifth (5th) team foul per quarter.
The team foul count is reset to zero at the end of each quarter, except in the case of extra periods in which the foul count is carried over from the fourth quarter.
2. Each player will be permitted five (5) fouls.
After the fifth (5th) foul, that player will no longer be allowed to continue playing (fouled out)
3. A minimum of fifteen (15) minutes must be set aside for team warm-ups before the start of the match.
A minimum of five (5) minutes must be set aside for team warm-ups before the start of the second (2nd) half.
4. The Host Association must provide the referees with the match ball fifteen (15) minutes before the match for evaluation. Match ball must be an approved Basketball Victoria Game Ball.
5. Five (5) time-outs may be granted to each team per match, however, a maximum of two (2) time-outs only may be granted in the first half of the match, three (3) during the second half.
However, a maximum of two (2) time-outs may be granted to a team in the last 2 minutes of the 2nd half.
Unused time-outs may not be carried over to any extra period.
An extra one (1) time-out will be granted to each team per extra period.
6. Time-outs and substitutions may only be requested through the score table in the manner prescribed by FIBA rules.
7. The home team shall have the choice of their team bench.
8. The 'alternating possession' rule will be played in all CBL matches

Home Association Responsibilities

Door Charges

Associations may determine their own fee structure for door entry however the League has set a maximum single adult ticket price of **\$5**.

The door charge must be specified on the Welcome Note.

Welcome Note

Home Associations must complete the digital Welcome Note for Visiting Associations by 5pm on the Monday prior to the match.

Information in the Welcome Note includes;

- Game Information (Date, Time, etc)
- Venue Details
- Venue Opening Time
- Home Uniform Colour
- Ticket Price
- Post Match Function Details
- Delegate Contact Details

Game Day Schedule

1 hour before the game

Venue Open

Suitable Change rooms available for teams and referees

20 Minutes before the game

15-minute warm up starts (display on the scoreboard)

The home team has the choice of team bench and direction of play for the first half

- The direction a team uses to warm up is the direction they will play in the first half

Digital Scoring pre-game process to be completed

5 Minutes before the game

Clock stops

Visiting team is announced, players, coaches & team manager

Home team is announced, players, coaches & team manager

Referees announced

Australian National Anthem played/performed

Clock resumes

Technical Officials

Home Associations must supply a minimum of three (3) competent score table staff. It is recommended to use four (4) score table staff.

It is advised that a minimum of one (1) member of the score table be qualified and accredited with a minimum of a Level 1 qualification.

24 Second Shot Clock

24 Second shot clock is to be used for all matches and 14 second reset to be used if Association has the capability to do so.

The list of Associations that have a 14 second reset will be included in Venue information.

Timing Rules

All Country Basketball League matches will implement the following Timing Rules:

- Four (4) x Ten (10) minute quarters
- Clock stops on all whistles throughout the game (fully timed)
- The clock stops on a made basket in the last two (2) minutes of the last quarter
- Half time duration: Ten (10) minutes
- Quarter and Three-Quarter time duration: Two (2) minutes
- Warm Up duration: minimum Fifteen (15) minutes
- Five (5) Time-outs permitted per team (2 in 1st half & 3 in 2nd Half)
- If scores are tied at the end of regulation, an extra period/s of Five (5) minutes will be played
- Clock stops on all whistles during the extra period/s
- An extra one (1) timeout per team is granted for overtime

Electronic Scoring – PlayHQ

Digital Scoring of matches will be compulsory for all CBL matches, using PlayHQ.

- A maximum of 12 players accepted per team, per game.

Change Rooms

Each competing team and the referees must have access to a suitable Change room.

Referees must also be provided either a lockable room or lockable cabinets inside the change room.

Match Ball

Women's matches will use a Size 6 (74cm) Approved Basketball Victoria Game Ball

Men's matches will use a Size 7 (76cm) Approved Basketball Victoria Game Ball

Each CBL entered team will receive an Approved Basketball Victoria Game Ball from Basketball Victoria.

Floor Wipers

It is the responsibility of the Home Association to ensure that at least two competent floor wipers (one each end) are available during the game to mop dry any wet spots which may be on the floor.

Technical officials are not expected to perform this duty.

Game Day Program

It is not a League requirement that the home association produce a program for each game day.

It is a League requirement that the team lists of all competing teams be available for all spectators, teams, and the referees which can be made available electronically.

Court Announcer Guidelines

Objectives

- To introduce teams/players to the spectators
- To play National Anthem prior to each game
- To provide information relative to the state of the game that may not be readily available to the spectators
- To promote sponsors at appropriate times
- To recognise official guests to the audience as a whole
- To provide a legitimate commentary on the game (as detailed below)

Specific Guidelines:

1. The court announcer is an official of the game and as such visiting teams should be treated in an equal way. Neutrality extends to what is said, not necessarily how it is said. It is reasonable for the announcer to use more emphasis in their tone in relaying positive information about the home team in comparison to similar information on the visiting team.
2. Music shall not be played while the visiting team has the ball in their front court.
3. Comments that take longer to make, during the course of play, than the time it takes a team to progress to the halfway point of the court are too long!
4. Game Commentary should be limited to providing the following information at the appropriate times:
 - a. Scoring - Who scored, Three Pointers,
 - b. Foul - Who fouled, Numbers of fouls both individual and team. Who is shooting free throws and how many (if required) plus the end result of the attempts.

The announcer must wait for the referees decision and signal. Incorrect information can create confusion and embarrassment to all.

- c. Violation - Name the violation - NOT the player.
 - d. Time Out - Which team called it and how many they have had.
 - e. Time Remaining - At NO time should there be any comment from the court announcer relative to the amount of time remaining on the game clock or in specific on the shot clock.
5. The court announcer is not a cheerleader, barracker, noise generator, or game critique. The principal duties are to pass information to the crowd, encourage it, but not incite it. Modifiers which imply critical analysis should be avoided (e.g. nice try, great block, super shot, etc) as an editorial description.
 6. Any comment reflecting on the performance of the referees, either positive or negative, is strictly prohibited. Similarly, any criticism of the League or its officers or executive is not allowed. Critical remarks of any type towards players or coaches are not acceptable, including taped comments played on the PA System.
 7. Appeals to the crowd for noise/support is not permitted. Home teams must generate their crowd support and noise through methods other than the court announcer, e.g. team mascots, cheerleaders, etc.

8. The court announcer should be an official conduit between the game referee and the audience in conveying information relative to rule decisions that may not be apparent to the spectators. There are often timing and rule confusions that occur between the referees and the score table, or between the referees themselves resulting in game stoppage and consultation. The court announcer should be able to clarify these circumstances for the spectators after they have been resolved. This is an important function.
9. The court announcer has the duty of the pre-match introduction of teams and individual players from each side onto the floor and then playing the National Anthem.
10. Recognition of League and/or Club sponsors and guests are a part of the court announcers duties. These announcements should be limited to pre-match, time out, and quarter/half time breaks.

Content Appropriateness

It is an expectation of all Associations to use appropriate content while hosting CBL matches.

This includes;

1. Language of staff
2. Content of the event program
3. Music during Game Day
 - Suited to the audience
 - Free of any offensive language or suggestive themes

CBL venues are to be family friendly and the content provided should reflect this.

Post-Game Procedure

It is the responsibility of the Home Association to ensure that the following is completed as part of the post-game procedure:

1. At the conclusion of each game, SMS the result to 0438 263 284.
2. Within 15 minutes of the final match of the day, electronic scoring data must be uploaded.
3. A representative from each competing team and the referees as a group (total of 3) must complete an online post-match voting form. Votes must be submitted by Monday 9am following the match.

Post-Match Hospitality

To promote good sportsmanship, the League requires that each Home Association hosts a post-match function based on the following:

1. The Home Association is to provide a post-game function with food of a suitable quality, variety, and quantity for the players, team officials, and referees within 20 minutes of the match concluding;
2. An opportunity is to be given for a representative of each team to address the function;
3. Players, team staff, and match referees must attend the post-game function in a timely manner;
4. It is the objective of the League that the visiting team and referees are received and treated as guests;
5. Location and time of function to be clearly defined on the Welcome Note

A decision on whether the Post Match function will occur this season will be made by the league closer to the season and if it does proceed the above rules apply.

Visiting Association Responsibilities

Prior to Game Day

The Visiting Association shall;

For Game Day Program purposes, submit a complete & accurate team list including

- **Players numbers**
- **Player names**
- **Heights**
- **Positions**
- **Team Staff Details**

by 9:00 am on the Thursday prior to the game using the digital league form.

Game Day

- Change uniforms in the event of a colour clash with the home team uniforms. Please take note of the uniform colour specified by the Home Team on the Welcome Note.
- Complete the online Voting form after the match
- Attend the post-game hospitality function in a timely manner

Referees & Administration of Referees

Home Association Obligations to Referees

1. Referee Liaison Officer

Associations are to provide a liaison officer at every game that will look after the reasonable needs of the referees.

They are also responsible for the security of the referees at all times. This includes the entry at the start of the game, departing and entry at half time, departing at full time, and departure from the venue, if necessary.

2. Referees Change Room

Home venues must provide the referees a suitable, clean, and secure change room of their own. Lockable cabinets must be provided for referee storage at a minimum.

Referees and BV officials only are permitted in the Referees change room. No other person, including Association officials and persons associated with Associations, are permitted in the change room without permission from the referees.

3. Refreshments for Referees

It is the responsibility of the Home Association to ensure that adequate refreshments are made available during a fixture for the referees.

Competition Administration

Forfeits

A single forfeit for any reason will be fined at \$500.

- Notification of a forfeit less than 24 hours prior to the scheduled game time will be fined at \$750. A second forfeit will be fined at \$1,000 and the team will be removed from the competition.

Competition Points System

Each game played during the Country Basketball League season will have a result.

Points for regular season games will be awarded as follows;

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Win = 3 points | Loss = 1 point | Forfeit = 0 points |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|

For the purpose of displaying the Conference ladder during the season, teams will be placed by Win Percentage.

Ties for ladder position will be decided as follows;

- 2 Way Tie = result/s of matches between the two teams concerned.
- 3 or more Way Tie = percentage on matches between teams who are equal on points.

Conference Finals

Conference Finals structures will be determined once Team Nominations have closed and fixtures finalised.

Conference Semi Finals will be held on the weekend of 28th, 29th & 30th January 2022 to be hosted by the highest ranked team.

Conference Grand Finals will be held on Saturday 5th February 2022 with Grand Final venues to be tendered out for hosting.

State Finals Weekend

The State Finals Weekend to be held on the 12th & 13th February will be attended by the Grand Finals winners of each conference. Further information on the structure of this weekend will be announced closer to the season.

League Awards

After Match Voting

At the conclusion of each match throughout the regular season; The online voting form will be made available for team representatives and the referees to vote on the most effective/valuable players and best defensive player in the preceding match.

- ***Votes can be given to any player on either team;***
- Each voting form will allow for 3 players to receive MVP votes;
 - 3 Votes to the most effective/valuable player in the match
 - 2 Votes to the second most effective/valuable player in the match
 - 1 Vote to the third most effective/valuable player in the match
- Each voting form will allow for 1 player to receive the Best Defensive Player vote;

End of Season Awards

Each Conference will award the following;

- Most Valuable Player (Male & Female)
 - *Based on votes received throughout the regular season*
- Leading Scorer (Male & Female)
 - *Based on total points scored throughout the regular season*
- Grand Final Most Valuable Player (Male & Female)
- All Star 5
 - *Process outlined below*
- Defensive Player of the Year
 - *Based on votes received throughout the regular season*
- Grand Final Referees

These awards will be presented at the Conference Finals.

All Star 5 Voting Process

Each team will be asked to nominate a maximum of 3 players that will be included in the voting form.

An online survey will then be distributed throughout the Conference database and each player and coach will have an opportunity to vote for their top 10 players.

Associations will also be encouraged to generate a fan vote through social media and this will add weight to the voting from players and coaches.

The top 5 players, by the player/coach votes, MVP votes, and Fan Vote will then be awarded All Star 5 status.

Policies and Procedures

Blood Policy

During a CBL game, the Official shall order any player who is bleeding or has an open wound, to leave the playing court. This player must be substituted unless a time-out is called and the bleeding player is attended to and cleaned up. Should this happen; the player may return to the court. Before the player is allowed back into the game, the wound should be treated (no further bleeding) and securely covered.

All blood on the floor or surrounding areas must be cleaned. If there is any blood on the uniform, the player must change. It will be necessary to carry a spare number uniform for this purpose.

If blood is on the basketball the ball must be replaced.

Suggested contents of Blood Kit:

- 1 x packet of paper hand towels.
- 1 x packet of disposable gloves.
- 1 x packet of medium size resealable plastic bags.
- 1 x 1500ml spray bottle with 0.5% bleach and 2% detergent mixed with water
(Bleach is the key ingredient. Standard household bleach is acceptable, but it must not be used past its use by date).

The Blood Kit must be located at the score table.

Correctable Errors

Officials may correct an error if a rule is inadvertently disregarded in the following situations;

- Awarding an unmerited free throw/s
- Failure to award a merited free throw/s
- Erroneous awarding or canceling of a point/s
- Permitting the wrong player to attempt a free throw/s

General Procedure

To be correctable, the above mentioned errors must be recognised by the officials, Referee Supervisor, or the score table officials before the ball becomes live following the first dead ball after the game clock has started following the error. An official may stop the game immediately upon recognition of a correctable error, as long as neither team is placed at a disadvantage.

Any fouls committed, points scored time used additional activity which may have occurred after the error has and before its recognition, shall not be nullified.

After the correction of the error, unless otherwise stated in the rules, the game shall be resumed at the point it was stopped to correct the error. The ball shall be awarded to the team entitled to the ball at the time the game was stopped for the correction.

If a Coach believes that during this period in the game, they have been adversely affected by a decision made by an official, referee, or umpire, the following action may be taken:

- When the incident occurs, the coach shall approach the score table for a time-out to advise the official that there is a correctable error situation.
The referee may discuss the matter with the Coach to explain his/her decision or, if necessary, examine the stadium scoring console and check the score and the playing time. At the discretion of the referee and based on the validity of the stoppage, the error may be corrected.
- If the time-out was necessary to correct an error the time-out will be regarded as an 'administrative time-out' and returned to the team.

Disputes, Protests & Reports

The interpretation of the normal playing rules of a referee shall not be considered as grounds for a dispute.

Match (Incident during the match):

1. Noted on the score sheet or the Electronic Scoring at time of the incident by team Coach
2. Lodged in writing via email to CBL Competition Manager no later than the Tuesday (4pm) following the match. CBL Competition Manager to make a determination.

Player:

1. Referee Report:
Contact CBL Competitions Manager to arrange a Tribunal Hearing.
All Report details must be forwarded to: matt.royal@basketballvictoria.com.au

General:

1. To be lodged in writing via email to CBL Competition Manager.

Note: All Complaints, Disputes, and Protests, before a match, during a match, at the end of a match, or between matches will be dealt with in the above manner.

Appeal Provisions:

An appeal of any decision made by the CBL Competition Manager can be made to the Victorian Country Commission who can appoint a panel of three to make a determination.
Contact to the Victorian Country Commission is via david.huxtable@bvcc.net.au.

Basketball Victoria Heat Policy

All persons involved in the organisation of games must be aware of the effect that extremes of weather can have on a person playing or attending basketball and put in place adequate contingencies for the minimising of risk to persons, particularly when high temperatures are expected.

Where high temperatures are expected game organisers must make reasonable attempts to ensure:

- Full knowledge of the availability of first aid equipment and first aid and medical personnel is accessible by all persons attending;
- Referees and other officials are aware of the symptoms of heat stress and are instructed to be on the alert to notice any such symptoms;
- Players are made aware of the need to hydrate regularly before and after the game and that facilities are available for them to do so;
- Facilities are available for players and other persons to externally cool themselves with water, fans, or other facilities;
- Adequate supplies of ice and ice packs are available for use where appropriate; and
- Proper advice is available to coaches and players on the effects of heat, symptoms of heat stress, the need for proper hydration, and the facilities that are available to prevent or treat heat stress.

All stadiums must be fitted with a thermometer. On hot days, court temperature must be taken hourly whilst the stadium is in use and must be recorded in a permanent record kept at the stadium.

1. When the court temperature reaches 30°C competition organisers must **consider** implementing and where the court temperature reaches 35°C, the referee **must** call an additional compulsory timeout in each quarter if no time-out has been called by halfway through the quarter.
2. When the court temperature reaches 40°C games **must** be abandoned.
Subject to any rule or ruling by a competition organiser,
 - a. if a game is abandoned before it commences or before or at half time it is counted as a draw;
 - b. if a game is abandoned after halftime, the game score stands as the final result.

Extreme Heat Policy Host Association Process

In times of extreme heat (in excess of 40°C) Host Associations will need to ensure that they are giving their venue the best chance to reduce temperature.

- Ideally, the venue should be opened as soon as possible to allow any cooling or exhaust systems to be of maximum use;
- Court temperature to be monitored every 30 minutes to determine if the cooling/exhaust systems are having a positive effect;
- If the external temperature is cooler than the court temperature, open up doors to allow airflow
- Communication between Associations and the CBL Competition Manager must occur to ensure confusion and uncertainty is avoided

Ultimately, the Country Basketball League will expect every measure to be undertaken for matches to go ahead; however, if the safety of participants is legitimately threatened the League will determine if a match will have to be abandoned.

Abandoned matches will be rescheduled, if possible, to a later date. If a team is unable to participate in the rescheduled fixture they will incur a forfeit.

Extreme Weather Process

In days of extreme weather, including but not limited to heavy rain and Code Red declared heat days where the safety of competitors and referees is compromised, the League in consultation with the competing associations will determine if a match will be rescheduled for another date.

The League will determine the rescheduled matchday using the availability form as a guide. If one association is unable to play the rescheduled match, they will forfeit the match.

If both associations are unable to play the match, the match will be counted as a draw.

Team Staff Dress Code

Overall Standards;

All team staff shall be required to dress in a way that clearly distinguishes them as part of the team and from other game night staff.

Individuals should be recognisable as much for how they appear as what they wear. The best description of the standard for non-playing staff would be *neat casual*.

The best description for playing staff would be *playing uniform*.

The practical implications of this are:

Coaches, Assistant Coaches & Team Managers

- Coaches & Managers must wear a *club branded polo shirt*.
- It is acceptable that coaches wear shorts, however, these must follow the description of neat casual.
- Shoes must be clean and tidy.
- Open toed footwear is not acceptable.
- No hats are to be worn on the team bench.

Other Team Staff

Any non-playing individuals wishing to be part of the team bench must dress to these standards. If they do not, they should be seated as spectators, not as part of the team.

Player Registration

All participants will be required to register themselves online using the provided registration form. This will be made available by the CBL Competition Manager and will be accompanied by a Team Code once a team has been registered.

General information for all players will be required, this will include;

- Name
- Date of birth
- Gender
- Residential Address
- Singlet Number (optional)

Player Equipment

Players shall not wear equipment (objects) that may cause injury to other players.

The following are not permitted:

- Finger, hand, wrist, elbow, or forearm guards, casts or braces made of leather, plastic, pliable (soft) plastic, metal, or any other hard substance, even if covered with soft padding.
- Objects that could cut or cause abrasions (fingernails must be closely cut).
- Headgear, hair accessories, and jewellery.

The following are permitted;

- Shoulder, upper arm, thigh, or lower leg protective equipment if the material is sufficiently padded.
- Compression sleeves of the same dominant colour as the shirts, black, white, or beige.
- Compression stockings of the same dominant colour as the shorts, black, white, or beige.
- Knee braces if they are properly covered.
- Protector for an injured nose, even if made of a hard material.
- Mouth guard of any colour
- Spectacles, if they do not pose a danger to other players.
- Headbands, maximum five (5) cm in width, made of non-abrasive, unicolour cloth, pliable plastic, or rubber.
- Non-coloured transparent taping of arms, shoulder, legs, etc.

League History

History of the League

In 1987, The Country Victorian Invitation Basketball League (CVIBL) was introduced for Women's teams from Country Victorian Associations. The CVIBL was the brainchild of Bruce McDonald from Swan Hill, one of our truly creative administrators. For many years the League was conducted in an outstanding manner under the direction of Isobel and Frank Smith (also from Swan Hill). In 1989, a Men's Division of CVIBL was introduced and again was conducted in a professional manner by a number of different administrators. The CVIBL was extremely well conducted and very successful and had soon grown to include many Metropolitan teams becoming one of the true success stories of Australian Basketball. However, In 1991 control of the CVIBL was shifted from Basketball Victoria Country and run by a separate body.

The competition continued to grow and is now known as the Big V. Never one to quit, Bruce McDonald conceived and introduced yet another competition, the Country Basketball Conferences (CBC) for the smaller Associations in Country Basketball.

To quote Bruce, the CBC was introduced;

"To provide a quality, enjoyable competition conducted solely for the benefit of Country Victorian Basketball Associations, in a professional manner and at an affordable cost"

The Country Basketball League, without altering Bruce McDonald's original concept, is now played in 4 Conferences with both Men's & Women's Competitions offered.

The Conferences are defined by geographic location and known as Gippsland, North East, North West & South West.

CBL Awards

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Gippsland Mens Title Winner | Bruce McDonald Shield |
| Gippsland Womens Title Winner | Heather Coleman Shield |
| North East Mens Title Winner | Bruce McDonald Shield |
| North East Womens Title Winner | Isobel Smith Shield |
| North West Mens Title Winner | |
| North West Womens Title Winner | |
| South West Mens Title Winner | Bev Bauer Shield |
| South West Womens Title Winner | |
| Gippsland Mens Grand Final MVP | |
| Gippsland Womens Grand Final MVP | |
| North East Mens Grand Final MVP | Shane Williams Memorial |
| North East Womens Grand Final MVP | Frank Smith Award |
| North West Mens Grand Final MVP | |
| North West Womens Grand Final MVP | |
| South West Mens Grand Final MVP | |
| South West Womens Grand Final MVP | |

Championship History - Women

| Year | All-Conference | Gippsland | North East | North West | South West |
|---------|----------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| 1995 | Heyfield | | | | |
| 1996 | Sale | | | | |
| 1997 | Churchill | | | | |
| 1998 | Bairnsdale | | | | |
| 1999 | Churchill | | | | |
| 2000 | Korumburra | | | | |
| 2001/02 | Traralgon | | | | |
| 2002/03 | Traralgon | | | | |
| 2003/04 | | Traralgon | Bendigo | | |
| 2004/05 | | Korumburra | Wodonga | | |
| 2005/06 | | Korumburra | Bendigo | | |
| 2006/07 | | Korumburra | Seymour | | |
| 2007/08 | | Korumburra | Seymour | | |
| 2008/09 | | Korumburra | Albury | | |
| 2009/10 | Traralgon | Morwell | Seymour | | |
| 2010/11 | Wodonga | Traralgon | Albury | | |
| 2011/12 | Mt Gambier | Churchill | Wodonga | | Mt Gambier |
| 2012/13 | Traralgon | Traralgon | Shepparton | | |
| 2013/14 | Churchill | Churchill | Shepparton | | Horsham |
| 2014/15 | | Traralgon | Shepparton | | Warrnambool |
| 2015/16 | | Traralgon | Wodonga | | Horsham |
| 2016/17 | | Traralgon | Bendigo | | Corio Bay |
| 2017/18 | | Traralgon | Wangaratta | Bendigo | Geelong |
| 2018/19 | | Korumburra | Wodonga | | Millicent |
| 2019/20 | | Traralgon | Wodonga | Bendigo | Millicent |
| 2020/21 | | Warragul | Wodonga | Bendigo | |

Championship History - Men

| Year | All-Conference | Gippsland | North East | North West | South West |
|---------|----------------|--------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| 1993/94 | Mildura | | | | |
| 1994/95 | Warragul | | | | |
| 1995/96 | Wodonga | | | | |
| 1996/97 | Wodonga | | | | |
| 1997/98 | Traralgon | | | | |
| 1998/99 | Western Port | | | | |
| 1999/00 | Western Port | | | | |
| 2000/01 | Warragul | | | | |
| 2001/02 | Korumburra | | | | |
| 2002/03 | Morwell | | Bendigo | | |
| 2003/04 | | Western Port | Bendigo | | |
| 2004/05 | | Sale | Wangaratta | | |
| 2005/06 | | Western Port | Seymour | | |
| 2006/07 | | Moe | Seymour | | |
| 2007/08 | | Morwell | Albury | | |
| 2008/09 | | Warragul | Seymour | | |
| 2009/10 | Corio Bay | Morwell | Corio Bay | | |
| 2010/11 | Corio Bay | Warragul | Wodonga | | Corio Bay |
| 2011/12 | Mt Gambier | Churchill | Shepparton | | Mt Gambier |
| 2012/13 | Warragul | Warragul | Shepparton | | Mt Gambier |
| 2013/14 | Shepparton | Churchill | Shepparton | | Mt Gambier |
| 2014/15 | | Churchill | Wodonga | | Colac |
| 2015/16 | | Churchill | Seymour | | Mt Gambier |
| 2016/17 | | Churchill | Seymour | | Mt Gambier |
| 2017/18 | | Moe | Seymour | Horsham | Colac |
| 2018/19 | | Moe | Wodonga | Echuca | Mt Gambier |
| 2019/20 | | Warragul | Wallan | Maryborough | Mt Gambier |
| 2020/21 | | Maffra | Seymour | Bendigo | Ararat |