

SQUAD COORDINATOR – Jason McFadyen PH: 0419 113 429
Email: blazers.mbavic@gmail.com
MBA President- Grant Allan PH: 0448 259 187
Email: president.mbavic@gmail.com



MBA Blazers Representative Player Agreement Form

Junior Representative Program 2025/2026

Junior Representative Program

Introduction

On behalf of the Maryborough Basketball Association (MBA) welcome to the Junior Representative Program (JRP) for 2025/26

This document has been designed to give parents and players a clear understanding of the expectations and commitment required for participation in this program.

The JRP is a representative level basketball program. The program is aimed at participants who are wholly committed to developing and improving their basketball skills and knowledge.

MBA are a volunteer driven sporting association, just like many other sporting clubs throughout the district. For us to offer a high quality JRP we need a large, friendly and hardworking volunteer base to ensure the experience is beneficial for all involved.

Aims

The JRP is aimed at developing an athlete's basketball ability, as well as fostering personal growth and development through their formative years. It provides participants with the proud and exciting opportunity to represent Maryborough at tournaments throughout Victoria.

Aims of the JRP are to:

- *Challenge athletes to aim high and remain motivated to reach team and personal goals.*
- *Develop a love for sport and physical activity, promoting this throughout our community.*
- *Encourage junior athletes to develop and grow not just as basketballers but as people.*
- *Provide a high-level program, fostering high expectations for athletes.*
- *Foster a desire to pursue higher levels of competition through Basketball Victoria pathways.*

MBA will encourage the formation of more than one team in each age group (where possible) to allow more players and coaches to experience the enjoyment and satisfaction representative basketball delivers.

Eligibility, Expectations and Commitments

Domestic Competition

Participants ***must*** be registered in the MBA Domestic Competition to be eligible for selection and continual involvement in the JRP. Participants must notify their domestic coaches of any intended absence ***prior*** to the game. Any absences (without a reasonable excuse) will likely affect the participants' selection and/or ongoing involvement in the JRP.

As part of the JRP, some participants are required to play a second game per week with their respective representative team in domestic competition. Individual Coaches will determine if their JRP team will participate in this.

This game is usually in a higher domestic age group. It may be scheduled on a different night to a participant's regular domestic season game.

Training

It is expected JRP participants attend ***every*** training session nominated by their Coach. These training sessions provide players with the appropriate skills and knowledge to develop and compete at tournaments.

Consistent training attendance is important for participant and team growth. Furthermore, a participant's desire to train and train well speaks to their character and commitment to reaching personal and team goals. Active engagement during training sessions, participating in feedback with coaches, assisting with set-up and pack-up of equipment are all elements that demonstrate coachability and continual improvement.

Participants ***must*** wear Maryborough Blazers reversible training singlets with current sponsors to every scheduled squad training session (unless directed otherwise by their coach). This ensures coaches can quickly assign teams should they need to be required.

Participants are to bring a Full drink bottle to every session and be ready to take the court for training five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled session. This means shoes on and ready to start training.

If for any reason participants cannot attend a training session, or will be late, they must notify their coach as soon as possible ***prior*** to the session.

Any unexplained absence from training sessions (particularly multiple absences) may result in participants not developing vital skills.

Absences will be assessed in line with the coaches' expectations and if reasons are not acceptable, will most likely lead to reduced court time or re-assessment of the participants place in the program.

Tournament Attendance & Schedule

Coaches will outline the list of tournaments their team/s will be attending at the beginning of the season. These Tournaments will be running between October and March. Please confirm nomination for your team with your coach.

2025/26 Tournament Dates:

Warrnambool - 25th/26th October 2025
Horsham - 8th-9th November 2025
Bendigo - 24th - 26th January 2026
Portland - U16s & U18s - 31st Jan - 1st Feb 2026, U12's & U14's - 7th-8th February 2026
Maryborough – 14th-15th February 2026
Colac - U16's & U18's - 21st/22nd February, U12's & U14's - 28th Feb/1st March 2026

A squads will attend Basketball Victoria Junior Country Championships in addition to Association Tournaments. These are held in March or April.

JCC 2026 Dates & Venues

U12 – April 17th, 18th & 19th April 2026 in Bendigo
U14 – April 11th, 12th & 13th 2026 in Ballarat
U16 & U18 Division 3&4 –March 14th-15th 2026 in Shepparton

Participants who commit to the JRP must prioritise tournament attendance, with the exception being higher level Basketball Victoria Programs. As soon as teams are given the list of tournaments the team will be attending, participants must notify coaches immediately if they cannot make a specific tournament.

Withdrawal from tournaments without providing sufficient notice will likely result in participants being withdrawn from the Representative squad team

Courtside Expectations (Parents/Spectators)

Positive interaction between coaches, players, officials and parents/carers at any particular game or tournament is extremely important.

The way in which parents/carers interact with, encourage and instruct their child and other children can have an impact on their performance, enjoyment and development.

Coaches are trained and prepared to execute plans, compete during games/tournaments and develop participants and the team. Any sideline interaction from parents/carers that progresses above encouragement can hinder a coach implementing their plans.

Parents are expected to limit their interaction during games, tournaments and training sessions to positive encouragement of their child and others. At no time should parents/carers be issuing any instructions that may be construed as coaching or have an impact on gameplay.

Contradictory information between parents/carers and coaches can be confusing and lead to adverse impacts and experiences for the participant and team. Parents/carers that engage in coaching or issuing instructions from courtside may jeopardise their child's place in the program.

All parents/carers are reminded to be respectful to all referees and court officials at all times, and to not call out or question decisions in a manner that may have an adverse impact on the player, the team or the Association.

Court Time

Representative basketball is considered a high level development program and does not operate within the same guidelines as MBA's domestic competition.

A basic principle with the JRP is that: ***'Court time is earned and not guaranteed for any player'***.

There are two key parameters coaches operate within when selecting individual court time:

Game/Competition factors:

- The level and nature of the competition
- The role of each player in each game (team balance)
- The importance of the game/tournament

Athlete factors:

- The athletes' skills, knowledge, and ability
- The athlete's attendance at training and level of effort
- The athlete's coachability and capacity to follow instruction
- The athlete's motivation, ability to encourage and sportsmanship
- The athlete's desire to continually develop and remain motivated

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Participants who are concerned regarding court time should, in the first instance discuss the matter with their parents and self-reflect upon the aforementioned factors. Self-reflection is an important aspect of sport and a valuable learning tool for children to develop.

Parents who are concerned regarding court time should, in the first instance discuss the above factors with their child and aid in their reflection.

If there are still concerns regarding court time then the matter is to be broached with the coach at a mutually agreeable, planned time as outlined below under *Communication and Issue Resolution*.

General Tournament Expectations

Participants, parents and any other persons attending tournaments are reminded that they are representing the MBA and the greater community of Maryborough. It is a privilege to be involved in the JRP, not a right. Any behavior, actions or words which constitute a breach of any Basketball Victoria Code of Conduct will be reviewed by MBA and sanctions considered.

Participants are expected to arrive at least 30min prior to scheduled games at tournaments, or as otherwise directed by their coach. This allows time for everyone to adequately prepare for the game.

Parents are advised that all tournaments require Representative Squads to provide two scorers for every game. Parents will be expected to score games as rostered by the Team Manager.

For parents new to scoring, we suggest sitting with a competent parent during domestic games and learning.

Maryborough Junior Tournament

Part of acceptance into the Representative Program is participant's and parents understanding that organisation and facilitation of this program is conducted by volunteers who devote their time and effort toward developing young athletes.

There is an expectation that each participant's family assists during the Maryborough Tournament. Duties include, but are not limited to Stadium preparation, Court Supervision and pack up requirements.

Country Basketball League (CBL)

The CBL Program is the highest level of senior competition that our Maryborough Men and Lady Blazers compete in. The season runs over spring/summer (October to December) with home games being played at Maryborough Basketball Stadium usually on either Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

JRP players and families are encouraged to attend home games and support these players.

Communication and Issue Resolution

Participants and/or their parents are encouraged to discuss any issues that may arise during the season with their coach in the first instance.

This discussion should take place at an agreed time but is **not** to occur:

- *During training*
- *During a game*
- *Between the start and end dates of a tournament*

Where an issue is unable to be resolved the *MBA-Junior Squad Coordinator (Jason McFadyen or Grant Allan)* should be contacted for assistance.

Social Media

Social Media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat and TikTok play a large part in our lives and can be helpful in the communication and promotion of our sport.

Social Media should only be used to portray MBA, its Players, Parents and Teams in a positive manner. Any breaches of this policy must be reported to MBA in writing.

Any breaches of Basketball Victoria's Social Media Policy (please see below Representative Player Agreement Form) will be reviewed by MBA and may result in withdrawal from the JRP.

Any team communication must only take place in the Official Facebook Group for each team. No messenger chats or similar are to be used.

Junior Representative Program Costs

Program Costs

The MBA JRP Program fee structure per athlete is as follows:

- \$122.50 JRP Registration Fee, includes 'Compulsory Starter Pack'
- \$60 approx Fee per AWAY tournament
- \$30 approx Fee for Maryborough Tournament

The Registration Fee and 'Starter Pack' covers:

- Playing Shorts
- Reversible Training Singlet (with sponsors)
- Blazers Warm Up Tee
- Blazers Playing Socks (Blue/Yellow)
- Team equipment costs (first aid supplies, game equipment)
- Program administration costs

The MBA will cover ½ costs for the Maryborough Tournament and all costs of Junior Country Championship Entry Fees.

All fees for the JRP and tournament attendance will be payable through PlayHQ. Upon acceptance of a place within the program (when this document is signed and returned) participants/parents will be forwarded a PlayHQ link to register for the JRP season with an attached initial fee of \$122.50.

Once the initial registration is completed, participants will be forwarded PlayHQ links for each tournament they are scheduled to attend. These will each have an approx \$60 fee attached for registration at that specific tournament. Team Managers will distribute these links in the week prior to the tournament. Each team has a specific link so families with multiple children need to use specific links for each team.

Payment plans are available, please contact MBA Treasurer (Kendall McFadyen) should you wish to utilise this facility. This needs to be arranged **immediately** after acceptance of a position within the JRP as it will affect the way PlayHQ links are distributed.

Any participant who has not registered through PlayHQ and either paid in full or entered a payment plan is ineligible to attend any training sessions or participate in any games.

Any participant who has not registered for a specific tournament through PlayHQ and either paid in full or entered a payment plan is ineligible to attend that tournament.

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Uniforms/Player Packs

All Representative Squad Players will receive their own playing shorts and socks. The cost for these is included in the JRP Registration Fee and Starter Pack.

Playing singlets will be supplied, and returned to team managers at the end of the season. Some teams may require these to be returned between tournaments.

New Players - The Compulsory Starter Pack (for any player that did not participate in the 2024 JRP) also includes the Reversible Training Singlet (with sponsors) that must be worn to all training sessions, and a Blazers Warm Up Tee that is to be worn at Tournaments on game arrival and warm up periods.

Returning 2024 Players can select to replace either their Reversible Training Singlet OR their Warm Up Tee. IF these are BOTH in EXCELLENT condition and do not require replacement, the player can opt for a \$35 Voucher to redeem on another merchandise item from the Maryborough Blazers Shop.

Additional Off court Apparel can be purchased via the Maryborough Blazers Borne Apparel Site. This link will be publicised on the Association Facebook Page and website.

MBA Representative Player Agreement Form

Participants and their parents are required to read the below documents outlining expectations from Basketball Victoria and MBA:

- Basketball Victoria - [Players Code of Conduct](#)
- Basketball Victoria – [Parents' Code of Conduct](#)
- Basketball Victoria - [Spectators Code of Conduct](#)
- Basketball Victoria - [Social Media Code of Conduct](#)
- Basketball Victoria – [Hair, Accessories and Jewellery Policy](#)
- Basketball Victoria - [Member Protection By-Laws](#)

After reading each of these policies and agreeing to the conditions stipulated within them, as well as the Representative Player Agreement Form (This Document), Please Agree on your Play Hq Blazers registration.

- **Player Medical Consent Form – Manual form available from Team Manager/Coach at training**

As outlined above, until these forms are completed and returned, and the participant registered through PlayHQ (with \$122.50 JRP Registration Fee and Player Pack) they will be ineligible to commence training or playing.

Participant Agreement of Conditions

I wish to accept my position in the Junior Representative Program for the Maryborough Blazers in 2025/2026.

I understand the commitment I am making to Maryborough Basketball, my team, my coach, my parents, and myself by accepting this selection.

I have read all of the above Code of Conducts and this agreement with my parents and agree to adhere to all conditions detailed at all times

I understand I have the right to be treated with respect and to feel safe at all times whilst training, playing or otherwise being involved in the Junior Representative Program.

I understand that I have a responsibility to make others feel safe, respected and included through my actions on and off the Basketball Court.

I agree to work hard throughout this program, be a good sport, involve my teammates and always try to develop my skills and knowledge as a basketballer and a person.

Parent/Carer Agreement of Conditions

I am the parent/legal guardian of the above-mentioned participant and agree to their acceptance in the Maryborough Blazers Junior Representative Program.

I have read all the aforementioned Codes of Conducts as well as this agreement and explained these in plain language to the participant. I am satisfied that they understand their obligations and responsibilities in regard to the Junior Representative Program.

Having read these documents, I confirm I understand the conditions outlined within and agree to adhere to these during the Junior Representative Program. I understand that by signing this agreement I am accepting:

- That I (or a family member) will be required to assist at the Maryborough Tournament and will ensure that myself or another adult will be available for this weekend
- That I (or a family member) will be required to score at Tournaments and domestic squad games as rostered by the Team Manager

**MARYBOROUGH BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION
INC. A0000348X
40 Gillies Street
MARYBOROUGH VIC 3465**

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