

**Northern Suburbs Basketball Association**

# **Competition By-laws**

1 October 2011



## Contents

Glossary of Abbreviations .....	4
Definitions .....	4
Zero Tolerance Policy.....	4
Consequences of breaching behaviour codes.....	4
Mercy Rule - Applicable to all age grades up to and including U18's.....	5
2.0 Registration .....	5
2.1 Team Nomination .....	5
2.1.1 Juniors wishing to play in Senior Competition.....	5
2.1.1.1 Senior domestic competition managing risk of junior participation .....	5
2.1.2 Juniors and Miniball .....	5
3.0 Player Eligibility .....	6
3.1 Seniors.....	6
3.2 Juniors, Miniball and Reps.....	6
4.0 Playoffs and finals – player qualification.....	7
5.0 Game Fees.....	7
5.1 Refund Policy for game fees .....	7
6.0 Game Timing .....	8
7.0 Game and Duty Forfeits.....	10
7.1 Further Detail .....	11
8.0 Uniform.....	11
9.0 Competition point structure .....	12
10.0 Promotion and Relegation .....	12
11.0 Judiciary / Tribunal .....	13
12.0 Unisex.....	13
12.1 Unisex - Senior Competition .....	13
13.0 Duty Team.....	13
14.0 Hoop height and ball size .....	14
14.1 Ball Size.....	14

14.2 Hoop Height.....14

15.0 Age specific rules .....14

15.1 Miniball and Juniors U13’s & U14’s.....14

15.2 Miniball .....15

15.3 Norths Mercy Rule .....15

16.0 Objects thrown at lights.....15

17.0 NSBA Board authorised Sub Committee .....16

Annexure A.....17

## Glossary of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Term
BNSW	Basketball New South Wales
NSBA / Norths	Northern Suburbs Basketball Association Inc.
FIBA	International Basketball Federation

## Definitions

Item	Description
Senior Competition	a competition for players of 18 years or older or as otherwise stated in these by-laws.
Junior Competition	a competition for players under the age of 18 at 31 December in the year of the competition
Miniball Competition	a competition for players under the age of 12 (twelve) at 31 December in the year of the competition
Unisex Competition	a mixed senior social competition where teams comprise male and female players
A representative player	a player selected to represent their Association in any BNSW sanctioned competition. Representative player status is maintained for any NSBA domestic competition for the calendar year of representative competition.

## Zero Tolerance Policy

A zero tolerance policy operates during all NSBA activities.

People exhibiting violent, threatening or abusive behaviour will be required to leave the venue.

## Consequences of breaching behaviour codes

Authorised personnel and officials are empowered to direct people who breach behaviour codes of conduct to leave the venue.

## **Mercy Rule - Applicable to all age grades up to and including U18's**

The team leading will not be allowed to play full court man to man defence or press and may only guard members of the opposing team once they cross into the leading team's back court. See 15.3 for more detail.

## **2.0 Registration**

a.	Every player must be registered with the NSBA prior to playing in any NSBA competition.
b.	Members must on request by NSBA provide proof of identity and or registration.
c.	Registration applications will only be accepted from players that have no outstanding financial obligations with the NSBA.

## **2.1 Team Nomination**

a.	Nominations will only be accepted from teams that have no outstanding financial obligations with the NSBA.
b.	Teams must nominate a minimum of four players to be permitted to enter any competition
c.	To participate in any NSBA basketball game all players' names must be listed on their nominated team roster, on file at NSBA.
d.	The team contact must be over 18 years of age
e.	Senior teams duty – wording to be checked

### **2.11 Juniors wishing to play in Senior Competition**

Prior to a registered junior member participating in the senior competition their parent or guardian must complete and sign, "Parent or legal guardians Consent, Release and Indemnity for a Norths junior participating in senior competition" form. See Annexure A.

#### **2.11.1 Senior domestic competition managing risk of junior participation**

Board approved recommendation which excluded players under 15 years of age from participation with an exception being granted to those who are already playing on in senior domestic as of the senior domestic competition ending September 2011. Parental consent forms are still required from all juniors playing in senior domestic competition.

This option is not available to Miniball players.

### **2.12 Juniors and Miniball**

a.	A player may only nominate for one team in any designated age group during the season.
b.	A player may only play in one team per age group.

c.	Players may play in more than one age group, provided they play at or above their actual age classification.
d.	Junior Players are eligible to play in the Senior Competition in accordance with these by-laws
e.	Miniball players are eligible to play in the Junior Competition in accordance with the Junior Game Rules and By-laws. Miniball players are not able to play in the Senior Competition.

### 3.0 Player Eligibility

a.	Each player must enter their name and or playing number on the score sheet provided prior to participating in any match. Eligibility for finals will be determined by attendance as recorded on the score sheets. (Refer clause 4 (a))
b.	A player may only play for one team in any designated age group or grade during the season on a particular night.  <i>An NSBA member may play in more than one division or age group per day/night. They may not compete in the same division on that day/night.</i>

### 3.1 Seniors

a.	A player may play at any level higher or lower than their nominated team's grade.
b.	No team can comprise of more than two players from a higher grade.
c.	The higher graded team is regarded as the players' primary team after playing 2 games in that grade.
d.	All NSBA representative players must have their primary registration with NSBA and play in the NSBA domestic competition

#### 3.1.1 Senior Men

Teams found violating Rule 3.1 (Seniors) will have the results from the matches recorded as 20 – 0 loss as a result of a technical breach of by-laws with no fines or loss of competition points imposed.

Teams found to be in breach of this by-law will be notified. A grace period of three weeks is given in order for them to recruit new players so that they are no longer violating the by-laws.

Should the issue not be resolved within the grace period the team will be declared “not eligible” for the playoffs.

Any team deemed ineligible will be treated as a new team upon renomination.

### 3.2 Juniors, Miniball and Reps

a.	The age category of an individual player is governed by their age at 31 December of the year the season concludes e.g. if the player is in an Under12 competition they must still be 11 years of age at the end of the calendar year.
b.	All NSBA representative players must have their primary registration with NSBA and play in the NSBA domestic competition.

c.	For U14's and above: Any team having 3 or more Representative players must; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Play in the Diamond League in their Representative age group or Play up one age group</li> <li>2. If the team does not take up either of the above options it can participate in the regular competition grades in their age group but will not be eligible for the playoffs.</li> <li>3. Any team having 3 or more U18 Representative players will be required to play in Division 1</li> </ol>
----	--

#### **4.0 Playoffs and finals – player qualification**

a.	A Senior or Junior player must play a minimum of 50% of the total games or 70% of the games in the second half of a season to qualify for playoffs
b.	<p>Players failing to qualify may apply in writing to NSBA for dispensation not later than two (2) working days before their first playoff game.</p> <p>The application must state the reasons for their failing to achieve the required minimum number of games played and include all relevant documentation. Favourable consideration will only be given in exceptional circumstances.</p>
c.	To be eligible for finals playoffs a team must have participated in more than 80% of the scheduled rounds.
d.	A Miniball player must play a minimum of three (3) games to qualify for playoffs.

#### **5.0 Game Fees**

a.	All monies owed must be paid PRIOR to a team taking the court. If not paid the game clock will run and the offending team will be penalised by 2 points per minute until all monies owed are paid and after 10 minutes if fees remain unpaid the game will be declared a forfeit.
----	---

#### **5.1 Refund Policy for game fees**

a.	<p>Teams that have Paid In Advance for the season and withdraw before round 5 shall receive a refund of the amount paid less;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Game fees due for games played</li> <li>• Fines or penalties incurred and</li> <li>• A \$ 50.00 administration fee</li> </ul>
b.	<p>Teams that have “Paid In Advance” and withdraw from the competition after round 5 shall receive a refund of the amount paid less;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Game fees due for games played</li> <li>• Fines or penalties incurred and</li> <li>• A \$ 200.00 administration fee</li> </ul>

c.	Teams paying weekly that withdraw will have all nominated player registrations suspended; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each player wishing to continue playing in NSBA competitions will have to pay one over the counter game fee to have their registration suspension lifted.</li> </ul>
----	---

## 6.0 Game Timing

a.	Games will start at their scheduled time. The clock is to be started by the Referee at the scheduled time or as soon as practical, with a minimum 2 minute warm-up.
b.	A game will be forfeited if a team does not have a minimum of 4 players on court ready to play within 10 minutes of the scheduled game start time.
c.	The clock will not be stopped or reset for the commencement of the game.
d.	Should the minimum number of players take the court ready to play, before the expiration of 10 minutes, the game will proceed with the clock at the current time remaining and the offending team shall be penalised on the scoreboard at half time 2 (two) points per completed minute that the team was under the minimum requirement as specified in clause 6b. up to a maximum of 20 points.

### 6.1 Seniors, Juniors & U13's

Grades	Premier, A Grade Men & Women	Other Senior Divisions, Juniors & Under 13's
Periods	2	2
Period Time	15 minutes	20 minutes
Timing	Fully timed	Running Clock
Timeouts per half per team	1 (clock stops)	1 (clock stops)
Half Time	2 Minutes	2 Minutes
*Entire Last Minute*	Clock stopped after each basket	Fully timed if within 10 points or less at the 1-minute mark.

24 second shot clock is only used on Premier Men and Women's A grade.

### 6.2 Miniball

Age Group	U8	U10	U12
Periods	2	2	2
Period Time	16 minutes	18 minutes	18 minutes
Timing	Running Clock	Running Clock	Running Clock

Timeout per half per team	1 (clock stops)	1 (clock stops)	1 (clock stops)
Halftime	2 minutes	2 minutes	2 minutes

## 7.0 Game and Duty Forfeits

Forfeits - consequences for team causing a game to be forfeit or forfeiting their duty

Type of Forfeit		Seniors	Juniors	MB & U13
Notified Game Forfeit	Comp points	1	1	1
	Game score	20-0 loss	20-0 loss	20-0 loss
	Game fee	Payable	Payable	N/A
	Fine	No fine	No fine	No fine
Un-notified Game Forfeits	Comp points	-3	-3	-3
	Game score	20-0 loss	20-0 loss	20-0 loss
	Game fee	Payable	Payable	Payable
	Fine	\$90	\$80	\$50
Duty Forfeit	Comp points	-3	-3	N/A
	Game score	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Game fee	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Fine	\$50	\$50	N/A
Unregistered Player	Comp points	-3	-3	-3
	Game score	20-0 loss	20-0 loss	20-0 loss
	Game fee	Payable	Payable	N/A
	Fine	No fine	No fine	No fine
Playing under an alias or another persons' name	Comp points	-3	-3	-3
	Game score	20-0 loss	20-0 loss	20-0 loss
	Game fee	Payable	Payable	Payable
	Fine	\$200 & Disciplinary Tribunal for player	\$200 & Disciplinary Tribunal for player	No fine
Walkout	Comp points	-9	-9	-9
	Game score	20-0 loss	20-0 loss	20-0 loss
	Game fee	Payable	Payable	Payable

Type of Forfeit		Seniors	Juniors	MB & U13
	Fine	\$200 & No Exclusive Reregistration for next comp Suspension of all nominated player registrations for that team	\$200 & No Exclusive Reregistration for next comp	\$200 & No Exclusive Reregistration for next comp

After 2nd un-notified or duty forfeit or 3rd notified forfeit a team can be removed from the competition.

### 7.1 Further Detail

a.	The non-forfeiting team is entitled to a refund of their game fee.
b.	To notify of an impending forfeit teams must give written or verbal advice to NSBA (phone, email, fax or letter. before 5.00 pm on the day prior to game.
c.	All fines must be paid before a forfeiting team's next scheduled game.
d.	Non-payment of forfeit fines will result in subsequent games being shown as a 20 (twenty) to 0 (zero) point loss and further penalties imposed until the original fine is settled.
e.	To appeal a forfeit a team must lodge a written objection and payment of the forfeit fine before their next scheduled game. The forfeit fine will be returned if the appeal is upheld.

### 8.0 Uniform

a.	All team members must be correctly uniformed before taking the court.
b.	All singlets must be numbered front and back with the same colour numbers <b>contrasting</b> to the dominant uniform colour. Numbers must be at least 20cm high on the back and 10cm high on the front.
c.	The numbers permitted are 0-99 (prefer 4-15)
d.	In fully timed games each team is required to wear the same uniform (a uniform is defined as both singlet and shorts). There will be no variance in design or colour for players singlets and shorts.
e.	In running clock games each team is required to wear matching singlets; shorts must be the same dominant colour throughout the team.
f.	Only T-shirts which are collarless and of the same dominant colour as the team's singlet are permitted to be worn.
g.	Compression garments, (e.g. Skins) are permitted in all Domestic Competitions.
h.	In the interest of safety shorts with pockets are NOT permitted. NSBA staff are authorised to interpret this rule in the interest of safety.
i.	A penalty for players breaching any of these rules of 10 (ten) points per player to a maximum of 20 (twenty) points per team will be posted on the scoreboard at half time.
j.	Teams have 4 weeks from the commencement of the competition to comply with uniform requirements. Teams are required to contact the NSBA office to request an extension. Proof that uniforms have been ordered will be required.

k.	In case of a clash with team uniform colour, the first named team on the scoresheet must either provide an alternate coloured uniform or use alternate bib set provided by the Association. This must be coordinated prior to the start of the game with NSBA staff.
l.	To ensure safety, fingernails must be kept short or the offender will be directed to cut them, to the official's satisfaction. Gloves and taping are not permitted. Hair must not be tightly platted or in dreadlocks passed the neck hairline.
m.	<p>In accordance with FIBA regulations (4) players shall not wear equipment (objects) that may cause injury to other players.</p> <p>The following are <b>NOT</b> permitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Objects that could cut or cause abrasions (fingernails must be closely cut).</li> <li>• Headgear, hair accessories and jewellery.</li> </ul> <p>The following <b>are</b> permitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shoulder, upper arm, thigh or lower leg protective equipment if the material is sufficiently padded.</li> <li>• Knee braces if they are properly covered.</li> <li>• Protector for an injured nose, even if made of a hard material.</li> <li>• Spectacles, if they do not pose a danger to other players.</li> <li>• Headbands, maximum five (5) cm in width, made of non-abrasive, unicolour cloth, pliable plastic or rubber</li> </ul>

## 9.0 Competition point structure

a.	Win 3 (three) points, Draw 2 (two) points, Loss and Notified Forfeit 1 (one) point.
b.	An Un-notified or a Duty Forfeit –3 (minus three) points.
c.	The positions on the competition ladder are calculated by total competition points divided by scheduled games played

## 10.0 Promotion and Relegation

a.	In the event of a draw occurring in the final standings FIBA guidelines will be used to determine ultimate positions.
b.	Teams competing in their grade's grand final qualify for the next highest grade. The bottom 2 teams of the ladder face relegation to the next lowest grade.
c.	For the purposes of this rule; A team seeking to enter a competition will be deemed to be the same if 3 (three) or more of its players were in that team in the previous competition.

d.	At the discretion of the Board, or authorised Sub Committee, teams who remain in the same grade after qualifying for promotion will incur a 10 (ten) point penalty for every game played in the next season. A team may choose not to incur a weekly penalty but they will not be eligible for the finals series.
----	---

## 11.0 Judiciary / Tribunal

a.	Players dismissed or disqualified from the court must leave the court area immediately. Players who are dismissed, disqualified, cited or reported by an official must appear before a Tribunal at the date and time notified. Tribunals follow BNSW Disciplinary Tribunal by-laws.
b.	Hanging on the ring, backboard, or net will result in a technical foul as per the FIBA rules of basketball. Please note that this rule applies during warm-up as well as actual game time.
c.	Abuse of equipment will result in a citation by an NSBA official, which will incur a tribunal hearing in line with the current BNSW Disciplinary Tribunal by-law regulations.
d.	Players exhibiting a loss of control which compromises the safety of themselves and or others may be dismissed from the court by the referee and or an NSBA official.
e.	Any player under the age of eighteen (18) summoned to a Tribunal must be accompanied by an adult over the age of eighteen (18).

## 12.0 Unisex

a.	Unisex is a social competition where male and female players are permitted on court at the same time.
b.	Miniball is a Unisex competition.

### 12.1 Unisex - Senior Competition

a.	Subject to a maximum of 5 players, up to three members of either gender can be on the court at any one time, failure to comply may constitute a forfeit. Teams may start a game with only 4 players providing players of both genders are present.
b.	A male player may take a defensive position in front of a female player but must not attempt to block her shot. The male player's feet must remain on the ground and his hands within his cylinder. The penalty for infractions of this rule will be as if a shooting foul had been committed, with no foul recorded.
c.	Males are not allowed to handle the ball within their team's offensive keyway.
d.	Substitution of players is permitted on any whistle, throughout the duration of the game or after a basket is scored.

## 13.0 Duty Team

Every team must provide competent personnel for Duty

a.	The Duty Team must be able to cover all duty tasks, 2 referees, 1 scorer and 1 time keeper.
----	---

b.	Duty Teams participating in games (fully timed) where there is a 24 second shot clock must also provide a competent 24 second shot clock operator in addition to the other duty tasks.
c.	The duty team does not have to consist only of players, but it is the responsibility of the duty team to supply a competent duty crew.
d.	If referee(s) are appointed to the game the duty team's obligations are accordingly reduced.
e.	Duty Forfeit - Failure to fulfill any aspect of the duty team's requirements will constitute a duty forfeit, see Game and Duty forfeits item 7.

## **14.0 Hoop height and ball size**

### **14.1 Ball Size**

Male	5	5	6	6	6	7	7	7
Age U	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Senior</b>
Female	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6

### **14.2 Hoop Height**

U/8 and U/10                      8'6" or 2590mm

Otherwise                         10' or 3050mm

## **15.0 Age specific rules**

### **15.1 Miniball and Juniors U13's & U14's**

a.	NSBA advises that all teams are required to play "man to man" defense to enhance the individual skill and development of players. The use of a static Zone Defense is not permitted
b.	A coach can bring their concerns over a zone defence to the attention of NSBA staff that will observe the game and make a determination, advising coaches and referees as required.
c.	A coach who is found to be using static Zone Defense shall be penalized by a technical foul in the first instance and then a disqualifying foul in the second.

## 15.2 Miniball

Age Group	U8	U10	U12
Free Throws	1 shot worth 2 points & no player line up	Up to 2 shots	Up to 2 shots
Taken from	Line 60 cm closer to basket	Line 60 cm closer to basket	Line 60 cm closer to basket
3 Point shots	No	No	No
Cross court Rule	No	No	Yes
Mercy Rule	Yes	Yes	Yes
Minutes per half	16, Running Clock	18, Running Clock	18, Running Clock
Timeout per half per team	1 (clock stops)	1 (clock stops)	1 (clock stops)
Halftime	2 minutes	2 minutes	2 minutes

## 15.3 Norths Mercy Rule

The team leading will not be allowed to play a full court “man to man” defence or press. They may only guard members of the opposing team once they cross into the leading team's backcourt.

The mercy rule operates;

- After a basket is scored against the team with the lower score and
- A side or end line violation in that team's half which results in them having to inbound the ball.

It does not apply in broken play, change of possession or steal situations.

### 15.3.1 Miniball - Up to and including 12's

When the point's differential is greater than 9 points the Mercy Rule will be applied by referees.

### 15.3.2 Juniors U13's to U18's

When the point's differential is greater than 14 points the Mercy Rule will be applied by referees.

## 16.0 Objects thrown at lights

If in the opinion of an NSBA official (GSC, referee or member of staff) any person (player, coach, spectator, visitor) who attends an NSBA event and intentionally throws, kicks or in some way directs a basketball or any other object at a light, light cover, light fitting, light support, ceiling, other overhead fixture or venue structure, will be asked to leave the stadium and will not be permitted to enter any NSBA venue for a period of seven (7) calendar days.

For a player or coach this will be regarded as a technical dismissal. The ejected person must immediately comply with the instruction to leave the premises. The normal appeal process applies.

**17.0 NSBA Board authorised Sub Committee**

a.	The NSBA Board authorised Sub Committee if appointed, at its discretion, may waive / vary the application of these By-laws if it is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for doing so.
b.	Non enforcement of any of the By-laws by the NSBA, (or its agents, employees or representatives) at the time of a breach of any one of them, shall not constitute a waiver of NSBA’s right to subsequently enforce a By- law for the initial or subsequent breach.
c.	All requests for consideration by the NSBA Board authorised Sub Committee must be submitted in writing via the NSBA office
d.	Should there be an area not covered by these By-laws current FIBA rules will apply. Current FIBA rules are found at on the <a href="#">FIBA website</a> .

**Annexure A**

**IMPORTANT PLEASE READ AND ACCEPT BEFORE PROCEEDING**

Parent or legal guardians Consent, Release and Indemnity for a Norths junior participating in senior competition, (domestic or representative)

**Consent**

As the parent or legal guardian of, (enter the child's name)

.....

I consent to them participating in senior competition at Northern Suburbs Basketball Association Inc.

Recognising that in addition to the inherent risks associated with active sporting participation they may be exposed to an increased risk due playing alongside and against adults.

**Release and Indemnity**

Accordingly, I agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless Northern Suburbs Basketball Association Inc, its staff, contractors, directors, employees and volunteers from all liability, (including but not limited to personal injury, death of self or third party and or property damage) loss, damage or expense whatsoever arising out of the above named child's participation in these activities.

Print name of parent or legal guardian signing this form

.....

Signature of parent or legal guardian named immediately above

.....

Dated.....