

HAMILTON AMATEUR
BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION INC.

BY LAWS AS AT JULY 13 2011

1.0 CLUBS

- 1.1 Clubs/Teams will be deemed by:
 - 1.1.1 Completion of the Registration Form (ie insurance form).
 - 1.1.2 Payment of the prescribed Bonds and Fees.
 - 1.1.3 Lodging of the Form, Fees and Bonds with the Association Secretary.
 - 1.1.4 Payment of the outstanding fines and bond fees from the previous season.
 - 1.1.5 Approval of the Hamilton Amateur Basketball Association.
- 1.2 Each Club/Team shall appoint its own President and Secretary and/or Treasurer who will be responsible to the Executive Committee for the organization and administration of the Club's affairs, and to ensure that the directions passed down from the Executive Committee to the Club are affected as efficiently as possible.
 - 1.2.1 A team is a single entity. A Club will be deemed to consist of two or more teams.
 - 1.2.2 It is the responsibility of all Clubs/Teams to ensure players are eligible, registered and cleared.
- 1.3 Clubs/Teams are to return all Perpetual Trophies to the Association Secretary before the completion of the next season. Failure to do so, the Executive Committee will impose a fine equivalent to the value of the replacement trophy.

2.0 COMPETITION MATCHES

- 2.1 All matches will be conducted under the Official rules of Basketball Australia with the following modifications that shall apply to all matches:
 - 2.1.1 A team must have at least four (4) players to commence a match.
 - 2.1.2 Each minute or part thereof a team is late, the opponents are awarded one (1) point. If a team is fifteen (15) minutes late, the match is then forfeited. All forfeits will be recorded a (0-20) loss.
 - 2.1.3 For all grades, the clock will stop for all whistles, in the first half during the last minute and during the last three (3) minutes of the second half. But the clock will stop on all whistles and the 24-second rule will apply in all Division 1 finals.
 - 2.1.3.1 In all grades other than Division one (1) the clock will not stop in the final three (3) minutes of the second half if the margin is greater than twenty (20) points, in Home/Away rounds.
 - 2.1.4 Half time interval shall be of three (3) minutes duration and in finals matches for five (5) minutes.
 - 2.1.5 Extra period(s) in finals matches shall be five (5) minute duration; timing rules for the last three (3) minutes apply.
 - 2.1.6 No extra time shall be given for a draw in home matches, however it will be granted in final matches.
 - 2.1.7 Points will be allotted as follows:

Win	-	three (3) points
Bye	-	three (3) points
Loss	-	one (1) point
Forfeit	-	zero (0) points
Draw	-	two (2) points

- 2.1.8 HJBA Squad teams are ineligible for finals.
- 2.2 Referees must award 3, 2, 1, most valuable player (MVP) votes in all games that they are in charge of, or they will forfeit match payment for that game. Squad players are eligible to receive MVP votes but these votes do not count towards their individual MVP vote tally.
- 2.3 Grand Final dates when set are to remain.
- 2.4 Clubs/Teams may be called upon at anytime to supply referees for the competition matches.
- 2.4.1 Failure to do so will result in a fine and penalty.

3.0 FORFEITS

- 3.1 In Senior matches if a team forfeits a match without giving 24 hours notice, a fine equal to the cost of court hire and umpires will be imposed. If a team gives at least 24 hours notice, no fine will be imposed. In the event of a second notified forfeit in any one season, a fine will be imposed. In the event of three (3) forfeits by a team during the home rounds, such team will be ineligible to compete for the rest of the season.
- 3.2 For a forfeit in the finals, a penalty will be imposed and the team shall be suspended from playing in further finals for that season.

4.0 FINALS

- 4.1 The four (4) leading teams in each grade shall comprise the final four (4) and will play finals in accordance with the Page System. If less than four (4) teams, the Executive shall determine the system used.
- 4.1.1 If two (2) or more teams involved in the place in the final four (4) cannot be separated by premiership points or percentage then the higher position on the ladder will be determined by the results between these teams during the regular season.
- 4.1.2 If they are still deadlocked, then the percentage in these games will be taken into account.
- 4.1.3 In the event that they are still even, then a playoff game(s) between these teams will take place.
- 4.2 To play in a final series, a player must have played in at least five (5) games or in half of the eligible games in the respective grade for their team, whichever is the least. A player who has played in at least five (5) matches for his or her club can play in a higher grand final and Division 1 final series, but is restricted to participating in only two (2) senior grand finals and two (2) junior grand finals per season.
- 4.3 Any junior player who qualifies, according to the current by laws, to play in the final series, shall be permitted to play in all finals matches they qualify for, even if they have qualified for more than one age group, except that a younger age group player can only play in a higher semi and preliminary final to make a maximum of seven (7) players in that higher team or ten (10) players in a squad team, but any player who qualifies can play in a higher grand final and is restricted to playing in two (2) junior grand finals per season.
- 4.4 A player who has taken the floor for any part of a match shall be deemed to have taken part in such game and shall count as one of the eligible games required for finals series qualification. The names of the players registered to the team on the scoresheet prior to the start of the game are the only players eligible to take part in that game. Any player whose name is entered manually (written) on the scoresheet, shall be investigated and if found ineligible will be

penalised in accordance with By-Law 6.8. A Player shall be deemed to have taken the floor if the team in which that player is registered does not play in a round due to the opposition team forfeiting that match. In the event of an un-notified forfeit, only those players in attendance and marked on the scoresheet by an Official or opposing team coach or captain shall be eligible for a qualifying game for the finals series. A bye is not a qualifying game nor is a player in a forfeiting team.

- 4.4.1 To have been deemed to have taken the court, the scorer shall mark a small “x” in the third column beside each player’s name on the first occasion each player walks onto the court. Further, the “x” shall be circled to indicate a starting five player. Responsibility for scoresheets is as detailed in by-law 5.8.
- 4.5 Club/Team with outstanding fees/fines, qualified to participate in the finals series, must pay such fees/fines before taking the court. Failure to do so will mean such club/team forfeiting finals matches and not participating in finals.

5.0 PLAYERS

- 5.1 Players must be registered as in compliance with by-law six (6.0). The H.A.B.A. will not be responsible for injuries to players.
- 5.2 In senior grades, a player may play six (6) games of a higher senior grade without being made a higher grade player. On taking the court for the seventh (7) games however, a higher grade classification is awarded.
- 5.3 A player may apply in writing through his/her Club/Team secretary to the Executive Committee at any time for permission to be redeemed to a lower classification. Such application must be endorsed by the Club/Team stating whether the application is favoured or not.
- 5.4 A senior player is not permitted to play in more than one game per round during the season, except for Finals Series, as in by-law 4.2.
- 5.4.1 Juniors – Younger aged junior player may play in their normal age group as well as in a higher age group of their club or team, during the season, if they have six (6) or less players in the higher age group, to a maximum of seven (7) players in total in that team, or to play in a H.J.B.A. squad team if entered in a higher grade, up to a maximum of ten (10) players in that team, except for final series as in by-law 4.2.1.
- 5.4.2 Juniors - A Current HJBA junior squad player can play one club game and one squad game in any one round.
- 5.5 No player can drop back (2) or more grades without the permission of the Executive or Grading Committees. Further, no Division 1 graded player can drop back at all without permission of the Executive Committee.
- 5.6 No senior player can play with another club/team in junior matches unless the senior club/team has no junior team competing. The player can participate with another junior team; however he/she must remain with the senior club/team until cleared.
- 5.7 No junior player can play with another club/team in senior matches without a season permit. If the junior club/team has no senior team competing, the player can be registered with another senior club/team.
- 5.8 Opposing team captains or scorers are responsible for the completion of score sheets and eliminating the name(s) of any opposing player(s) shown on the score sheet who did not take the court.

- 5.9 A Player or players cannot play a lower grade on their bye week if they played in a higher grade the previous week, unless they played with the lower grade the week before.
- 5.10 Coaches and team managers of teams that have one or more players under 18 years of age must complete a self-declaration statutory declaration form. The forms must be completed and lodged at a place to be determined from time to time, by the Executive Committee, by July 31st each year.
- 5.11 Coaches, Team Managers, Chaperones and all administrative volunteers of all squad and or representative teams that have any players under 18 years of age, must sign a consent to check and release criminal records (consent form), except that no person aged under 17 years shall be required to sign the consent form. This by-law ensures HABA conforms to Basketball Victoria's By-law (screening).

6.0 REGULATIONS DEALING WITH STATUS REGISTRATION

- 6.1 Each player must sign a V.C.B.A. Insurance Registration form.
- 6.2 The definition of 'Amateur' is one currently ruling in the V.A.B.A. Constitution.
- 6.3 Amateur Rules currently in force by the V.A.B.A.
- 6.4 Registrations must be paid before the end of the second (2) competition round.
- 6.5 Any player wishing to play on or after round three of the competition (even if only a fill in) must complete the required form and pay the registration fee, BEFORE taking the court.
- 6.5.1 New players in Junior competition will pay 75% of the registration Fee on or after Round Three (3).
- 6.6 A player is deemed registered on completion of the required form, paying the registration fee and lodging the form with the H.A.B.A. Secretary. Players starting after round two (2) will be required to pay the full season's registration fee before taking the court.
- 6.7 Registration fees shall be set by the Executive Committee.
- 6.8 Any team in any competition which is found to be playing an ineligible or unregistered player, shall, after investigation by the Executive Committee, forfeit all matches in which the player took part as an ineligible or unregistered player and a fine will be imposed.
- 6.9 A player coming to Hamilton from any other Basketball Association will be granted permission to play by the Executive Committee provided he/she furnishes information that he/she is not under suspension and has paid the appropriate insurance fee.
- 6.10 Before the start of each season, the Executive Committee shall set a closing date for all Clubs/Teams wishing to enter the competition.
- 6.10.1 All entry forms must contain a complete list of eligible players for each team.
- 6.10.2 The Executive/Grading Committees reserve the right to grade any team or player.
- 6.10.3 Any Club/Team wishing to add to their list of eligible players (6.10.1) must first receive approval from the Executive/Grading Committee.
- 6.10.4 Failure to comply with 6.10.1 and 6.10.3 renders the player ineligible under rule 6.8.
- 6.11 A player shall cease to be a member of any club/team after being unregistered for a period of at least two (2) consecutive full seasons.
- 6.12 The Executive Committee reserves the right to refuse the nomination of any Club/Team/Player.

7.0 UNIFORMS

- 7.1 All players/teams must wear correct uniforms that are considered by the Executive Committee to be basketball attire.
- 7.2 The colour of Club/Team uniforms shall be in accordance with the colours approved by the Executive Committee. The main colour of the tops and shorts must be consistent throughout a division/grade.
- 7.2.1 All teams representing a club must wear the same coloured uniform, except where a club has two teams in the one division, when they play each other they have the option of another colour approved by the Executive Committee.
- 7.2.2 Clubs with two teams in the same division, may under special circumstances, get Executive Committee approval to wear different coloured tops for one season.
- 7.3 Officials shall not allow players in incorrect uniform on the court, unless the Executive Committee grants approval.
- 7.4 No Club/Team may alter its colours without making written application to the Executive Committee and obtaining approval.
- 7.5 HABA Squad uniforms are not to be used as an alternative club uniform or game clash top.

8.0 CLEARANCES AND REGISTRATION PERMISSION GRADING FORMS

- 8.1 If a player registered with one Club/Team desires to transfer to another Club/Team, he/she shall obtain consent from the Club/Team to which he/she wishes to transfer. The player requiring the clearance must then lodge the form with the H.A.B.A. Secretary; it will be entered in the clearance register that must be signed by the player.
- 8.1.1 The clearing Club/Team has seven (7) days from receipt of the clearance form to return it to the H.A.B.A. Secretary. Failure to do so will result in the clearance becoming automatic. This completed clearance form must be in the hands of the Association Secretary two (2) days prior to taking the court for new team/club.
- 8.2 Players seeking a clearance must have their application in the hands of the Association Secretary no later than the night previous to the start of the fourth match on home games.
- 8.3 The Executive Committee shall determine the costs of clearances at the start of the season.
- 8.3.1 Any player wishing to upgrade to A Grade team is not provided by the current club structure, a clearance fee set by the Executive Committee will be imposed.
- 8.3.2 If a Club/Team does not enter an A Grade team, any current A Grade player (with that Club/Team) may lodge a clearance under the fee structure of 8.3.1.
- 8.4 If two applications for a clearance by a player have been refused for transfer to another Club/Team, such player may appeal to the Tribunal as set out in 8.5.
- 8.5 Any player wishing to appeal against a Clearance refusal, must do so in writing, with the prescribed fee, submitted to the Secretary within seven (7) days of notification by the Secretary of such second refusal.
- 8.6 In the case of clearances, if the player and/or Advocate do not appear without just cause the clearance shall be refused and shall not be heard again during the current or next immediate season.

- 8.7 Any player wishing to be added to any club/team nomination form must first complete either a registration form or permission grading registration form, whichever is appropriate. The Registration Permission Grading form will be reviewed at the next ordinary Committee meeting of the Association. If this rule is not complied with, the player will be deemed ineligible and fined in accordance with Bylaw 6.8.
- 8.7.1 Junior players are permitted to play for their club in the senior competition without completing the new registration form so long as appropriate registration is paid.

9.0 PROTESTS

- 9.1 It is considered desirable that any team wishing to make a protest in respect of any game should endorse the score sheet in the presence of the Referee, signifying the intention to protest.
- 9.2 The official protest must be lodged in writing with the Association Secretary within three (3) days of the match. A protest fee is to be lodged with the Secretary; in the event of a failure of the protest this money may be forfeited.
- 9.3 Any protest or complaint concerning Referees, must be made in writing by the appropriate Club Secretary within seven (7) days of the cause for the protest or complaint direct to the Executive Committee for investigation accompanied by the protest fee. In the event of a failure of the protest or complaint, this money may be forfeited.

10.0 JUNIORS

- 10.1 Boys and girls under 10 to 16 years of age may play in a separate competition.
- 10.2 A separate committee for Boys and Girls competitions will be in control of the Juniors and will be responsible to the Executive Committee for the Juniors activities.
- 10.3 Registration fees shall be set by the Hamilton Junior Basketball Association committee.
- 10.4 Junior competition will be run on the same principles as the Seniors, Any necessary disciplinary action to be followed as per by-law 14.1.
- 10.5 The Junior Committee Secretary will keep a complete list of the names and addresses of all Juniors and the Clubs and Teams in which they play.
- 10.6 Juniors may play in Senior competitions; however, they must pay Registration fees accordingly, in addition to Junior fees.
- 10.7 Registration fees are to be set by the Junior Executive Committee.
- 10.8 Junior Committee is empowered to allow extra Club teams.

11.0 SQUAD COACHES AND MANAGERS

- 11.1 Squad coach positions shall be advertised by the Executive Committee in May each year, and elected at the Annual General Meeting each year.
- 11.2 Squad coaches to attend Executive Committee meetings or send a representative in their place.
- 11.3 Managers will be responsible for Medical Forms, Responsibility Forms and Player Registers.
- 11.4 Not more than one Mens and one Womens team from Hamilton be entered into country week each year.

12.0 BY LAW ALTERATIONS

- 12.1 The by-laws may be altered during the currency of the competition by a resolution passed at a meeting of the H.A.B.A. Executive of which notice setting out the proposed amendment(s) has been advertised seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

13.0 REPORTS AND MISCONDUCT

- 13.1 As per V.C.B.C. rules and regulations regarding reports and misconduct.

14.0 TRIBUNALS

- 14.1 Tribunals will be carried out as per the V.C.B.C. Tribunal procedure.

15.0 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 15.1 All decisions made by the Committee in regard to players and playing conditions must be notified in writing to every Club/Team as soon as possible after the meeting.
- 15.2 Correspondence, clearances, etc, will not be dealt with between the Sunday after the Division One Grand Finals in December and January 21st.

16.0 FEES AND PENALTIES

- 16.1 The Executive Committee at the commencement of each season will set playing fees and penalties.
- 16.2 Playing game fees are to be paid on completion of the nights round in question, unless an agreement has been made with the executive and the treasurer prior to the season start.
- 16.3 Fines are to be paid prior to the next playing round following the next monthly Executive Committee meeting.
- 16.3.1 Penalty points will be adjusted accordingly on a weekly basis.
- 16.4 Club/Teams with outstanding fines/fees, submitting a new season Club/Team entry, will not be accepted until such fines/fees are paid in full.