

Mooroopna Cats Basketball Club



INFORMATION BOOKLET

Mooroopna Cats Basketball Club

Welcome to the Mooroopna Cats Basketball club. Our Club is affiliated with the Greater Shepparton Basketball Association (G.S.B.A.) We would like to welcome all players, coaches and parents to the start of the new basketball season.

Basketball is a team sport ideal for gaining co-ordination and fitness. Basketball is also about our children enjoying themselves and having FUN.

During the season we will be working on guiding our children to develop their basketball skills, team skills and importantly, their sportsmanship.

Cats are a self-supporting club made up of parents and community members who are interested in our children and helping them to develop essential skills for life. All management committee members, coaches and team managers are volunteers.

We encourage all parents to be active participants in their children's basketball club in whatever way they can. You can do this through cheering, scoring, team managing or being a member on the committee. This way we can all make sure that our children's needs are always put first.

It is hoped that you will have the opportunity to meet someone from the current management committee in the first few weeks of this season. We look forward to working with you this season.



Cats Committee



HISTORY

Mooroopna Cats Basketball has a long and chequered history.



The Mooroopna Amateur Basketball Association (M.A.B.A) was started in 1972. The association grew, and at its peak boasted five domestic teams. These teams were known as Jaguars (Green and white with black trim and numbers), Panthers (Black with Red numbers), Leopards (Yellow with Black numbers), Cougars (Red and White) and Pumas (Blue with white numbers). These teams were not associated with any schools or zoned in any way. The teams competed against each other at the Mooroopna Stadium.

In approximately 1985 the M.A.B.A merged with the Shepparton Amateur Basketball Association (S.A.B.A) and soon after the Shepparton Mooroopna Amateur Basketball Association (S.M.A.B.A) was formed. We now know this association as the Greater Shepparton Basketball Association (G.S.B.A.)

Initially when the Shepparton and Mooroopna Associations merged there were no Cats teams and all Mooroopna players played in Shepparton teams. It wasn't long, however, before the Cats emerged as a club and began to field Mooroopna teams as we do today.



The Cats team colours were a small cause for contention in the early days. The Mooroopna Cats would have preferred to stay with the traditional Mooroopna colours of Blue and White, but due to similarities with colours from teams already in the combined association (Demons and Dragons and Celtics) we were not able to use these colours and it was finally agreed that we would use the Black and Red that we use today.



The Management Committee are parents who work to ensure that there is a club for their children to play with. The Committee are elected at the Annual General Meeting held in August each year. The committee is made up of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary, Training Co-ordinator, Uniform Co-ordinator, Junior Contact and general committee members.

Postal Address: PO Box 211
Mooroopna Vic 3629

Email Address: catsbbc@hotmail.com



GENERAL INFORMATION

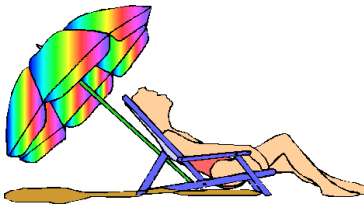
Meetings of the Mooroopna Cats Basketball Club are held on a schedule according to the need to make plans and arrangements. In general only 4-5 meetings are held each year and are held in Mooroopna.

All parents are welcome to attend meetings. It is hoped that a parent from each team is able to attend to ensure that all relevant information is passed on to parents as soon as possible. Minutes of meetings are available on request. Regular newsletters are also distributed via team managers and email to keep families up to date on relevant and important information and changes.

The Annual General Meeting, where office bearers and committee positions are elected, is held in August each year. All parents are welcome to attend and to have a say in who runs their children's basketball club. Attendances at the Annual General Meeting DOES NOT carry with it an obligation to become a member of the committee.

Winter and Summer Season:

The Winter Season commences in May and runs through terms two and three. Competition breaks during the July school holidays and finals are completed at the end of term 3.



The Summer Season commences in September and runs over term four and term one of the following year. The competition breaks over school holidays with finals occurring at the end of term one.

All games are played at the Shepparton Stadium, Numurkah Road Shepparton unless otherwise advised.

GENERAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

How can I arrange for my children to play?

To be able to play, all children must be registered. Registration occurs prior to the beginning of each season with a number of registration days. Notification of registration days is posted in all Mooroopna school newsletters, as well as those of some other surrounding schools.

The committee are responsible for allocating players to teams based on age, skill level, experience, number of players available, and coaches' recommendations. Parents are asked to bear in mind that team placements are not an easy task and every effort is made to ensure that placements are appropriate to the children involved. If you have any issues or concerns that you wish to be considered when making these decisions please discuss these with the team contact or the President of the Committee at the time of registration. Please remember that it is not always possible to accommodate individual requests.

Costs and Fees

Please note: All figures shown in this booklet are current at the beginning of the Summer 2013/14 season – these may alter from season to season.

Registration fees are paid to the Mooroopna Cats Basketball Club at registration. Some families may need time to pay these fees and written arrangements can be made for this to occur. If your child cannot be placed in a team you will receive a full refund of the monies paid. If your child changes their mind and decides not to play a refund will be given less a registration fee of \$20.00 provided the team contact is advised of the withdrawal **prior** to teams being entered with the association.

Mooroopna Cats fees are \$50 per season.

Fees are distributed as follows:

Association Team Entry Fees	\$21.00
Cats Singlet Hire	\$ 5.00
Stadium Training	\$20.00
Administration Costs	\$ 4.00
Total	\$50.00



GENERAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

In addition, the Greater Shepparton Basketball Association membership and insurance is payable at the beginning of each summer season. This is payable the first season that a player joins. (If this is the summer season then the fee is only paid once and is not required again in winter.)

ALL COACHES, TEAM MANAGERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE VOLUNTARY.

WWC Checks - *The Working with Children Act 2005* requires that people who work or volunteer in certain child-related work apply for, and pass, a WWC Check. The act exempts parents where their children are playing in the team in which the parent is involved as a coach etc. However, Basketball Victoria will not recognise these exemptions and will require those parents to have the checks. This is in line with most sports and has the support of the Working with Children Office. All Coaches above the age of 18 will be required to produce a Working with Children Check (WWC).

Court Fees are paid each week at the Shepparton Stadium. These fees cover the costs of Referees, court hire and Association running costs. The current costs of games are: Juniors - Under 10 - \$3.00; Under 12-18 - \$6.00. These fees are paid at the Shepparton stadium prior to each game.

What do I do once my child is in a team?

As soon as draws are available (usually only a few days prior to the season commencing) Team lists stating which team your child has been placed in along with the fixture dates and times will be placed on our website. An email will be sent notifying you that the information has been uploaded. It is each family's responsibility to check for team allocation, game night and times prior to their first game.

It is asked that your child be at the stadium 20 minutes prior to their games. This allows sufficient time to pay fees and complete player sheets prior to the game commencing. It is also important for players to warm-up prior to their games.

GENERAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

If for some reason your child is unable to play please notify the team manager as soon as possible. This will enable another player to be arranged to fill your child's place. Significant fines and penalties are imposed on the club if a game is forfeited due to insufficient players turning up for a game. It is preferred that this be avoided if at all possible in order to keep club fees to a minimum.

Uniform

Cats' uniform is Black with Red numbers and trim or the alternative singlet is Red with Black numbers and trim. Singlets are provided to players at the beginning of each game and must be returned to the team manager at the end of each game. Players are required to wear black basketball shorts without pockets. It is the player's responsibility to provide their own shorts.



Team Managers

Every team **MUST** have a parent who volunteers to be the team manager so that the team will operate effectively. He/She is the contact person for coaches and players and liaison with the Boys/Girls Contact and the committee. The team manager hands out notices and important information to parents and players, prepares the scoring roster and creates a record of all players and their singlet numbers. A list of team manager responsibilities will be handed to the team manager at the beginning of each season. If you are interested in being your child's team manager please let us know. Due to the essential nature of this position, teams without a team manager by round 5 may be withdrawn from the competition.



GENERAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

Training

Training is held at the Mooroopna Secondary College. The club is charged a fee to hire the stadium. This cost is incorporated into registration fees. All players must pay this fee whether or not they choose to train with their team. Training is considered essential to individual and team development and as a result all teams are expected to train. Teams choosing not to train may be withdrawn from the competition at round 5. Most teams train once a week. You will be notified of the day and time that your team will train – this does not usually occur until AFTER the first game. Players are asked to bring a ball and drink bottle to training.



There are times when training may be cancelled with little notice (eg. illness of the coach, lack of players attending etc). As a result **it is recommended that you do not drop your child off at training without checking to ensure that training is occurring on the day.** It is also necessary for a parent to stay for training to assist in the case of accident or injury and to assist with any misbehaviour. Parents will be rostered for this duty and will be notified of their training day by the team manager.

Scoresheet and Scoring Duties

Parents need to purchase a ticket at the stadium each week prior to the game. The players' name and singlet number are to be written on the back of the ticket and the ticket placed in the appropriate plastic snap-lock bag attached to scoring sheet. Parents are asked to ensure that their child's name and singlet number is also written in full and clearly legible on the score sheet prior to each game commencing. If your child's name is not on the sheet, or is not legible, the Association may not award eligibility points to the player and they may be precluded from playing in finals.

Each team is required to provide a competent scorer for each game. All parents are asked to assist with scoring. The team manager will create a roster of parents to score each week. If you are unsure of how to score, please sit with someone else during the season to learn how to complete the scoresheet and operate the clock. It really isn't very hard when you know how!!

GENERAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

Playing to save a forfeit

If a player is asked to play in a Mooroopna Cats team other than their usual team on a 'one off' basis to prevent a forfeit they will **not** be required to pay the game fee. The club will pay this cost on their behalf, the player or their parent need to approach the ticket office and request a ticket be booked to the Cats basketball club. Please note that the player must be asked to play for this to apply.

Refereeing and Coaching

For basketball to continue to be available to our children in years to come it is important to continue to prepare interested people to be coaches and referees.

If you or your child is interested in Refereeing please contact a committee member or the Greater Shepparton Basketball Association for information on training and requirements.

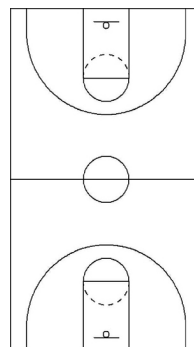


If you or your child is interested in Coaching please contact a committee member or the Boys/Girls Co-ordinator. Coaching clinics are run by the Association from time to time.

Basketball Ring and Balls

The standard height of a basketball ring is 10ft.

Under 10's use a size 5 ball; under 12's & under 14's boys and all girls (other than 10's) use a size 6. Boys in under 16's and above use a size 7. You may need to look in sports stores if you wish to buy your child a suitable smaller sized ball to practice with at home.



GENERAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

Zoning and Clearances

- Players are zoned to clubs according to the primary school that they attend/attended.
- If you wish to play with a different team to the one you are zoned to you must apply in writing to the Association for a permit (one season only).
- When considering an application for clearance the Association takes into consideration the reasons for the request and the impact that granting the clearance will have on the losing club.
- If there is a suitable competition at the local club and granting the permit/clearance will deplete the club of suitable players it is unlikely that the clearance will be granted.
- If a clearance is granted the player will be allocated to another club according to the needs of each club – a player CANNOT elect to be allocated to their preferred club.
- A clearance will not be granted if the player has outstanding fees owed to their current club.
- All players must commit to playing for their club before being eligible for squad selection.

Representative Squad

Each year the G.S.B.A. invites all interested players to try out for Representative Squad. Squads are the Shepparton/Mooroopna representative teams (sometimes called 'Junior Gators'). Players who are selected train separately for squad and continue to play for their domestic club team. Squad teams play away from home in weekend tournaments against teams from other areas – these squad tournaments usually occur between October and April each year.

In December each year the G.S.B.A. host a Squad tournament. On these occasions a large number of teams come to the area to play basketball for the weekend and many basketball courts are used in Shepparton, Mooroopna and sometimes Tatura.

CODE OF CONDUCT AND BEHAVIOUR

PLAYERS

- ❖ Understand and play by the rules
- ❖ Listen to the advice of your coach and try to apply it at practice and in games.
- ❖ Respect referees and other officials.
- ❖ Work equally hard for yourself and your team.
- ❖ Be a good sport. Acknowledge all good plays whether they are made by your team or the opposition.
- ❖ Play for the 'enjoyment of it' and not just to please parents and coaches.
- ❖ Co-operate with your coach and team-mates. Treat all participants as you like to be treated.
- ❖ Control your temper. Avoid use of bad/derogatory language. Verbal abuse or sledging is not acceptable or permitted behaviour in any sport.
- ❖ Respect the rights of all participants regardless of gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- ❖ Be a fair winner and a good loser.
- ❖ Always shake hands after a game.

❖ PARENTS/SPECTATORS

- ❖ Encourage your children to participate for their own enjoyment, not yours.
- ❖ Teach children that an honest effort is always as important as a victory.
- ❖ Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- ❖ A child learns best by example. Applaud good play by all teams
- ❖ Encourage children to always play by the rules.
- ❖ Accept decisions of all referees as being fair and called to the best of their ability.
- ❖ Focus upon the child's efforts and performance rather than the overall outcome of the game. Reduce the emphasis on winning.
- ❖ Support all windows to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- ❖ Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, they give their time to coach and deserve your support.

