



palmerstonbasketball@outlook.com

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PO Box 2943 Palmerston NT 0830

POLICY NO: 5

Court Time

Date: September 2023

PLAYER COURT TIME POLICY

Introduction: The Palmerston Power Basketball Club (PPBC) is committed to fostering inclusion in sports and upholds the philosophy of "Every Player, Every Team, Every Game." This means that our primary goal is to support each player and every team throughout the season, including regular games and finals. We aim to provide fair and equal opportunities for player development, recognising that every player progresses at their own pace and may face varying pressures during games.

Player Development Philosophy: The PPBC's player development philosophy is structured as follows:

1. Under 10's and 12's (Division 1 and 2):

- Focus: Teaching fundamental basketball skills (dribbling, passing, shooting, defensive footwork, positioning).
- Equal Game Time: All players receive fair and equal game time, regardless of skill level.
- Starting Lineups: No designated starting lineup to provide equal starting opportunities.
- Finals Games: Equal court time emphasised, prioritising player development, experience, and well-being over winning.

Under 10's and 12's (Division 1 and 2): In line with our development philosophy, the focus for players in the under 10's and 12's divisions is to teach fundamental basketball skills such as dribbling, passing, shooting, defensive footwork, and positioning. All players in these divisions will receive fair and equal game time, regardless of their skill level or abilities. Starting lineups will not be designated, allowing each player the opportunity to start throughout the season. During finals games, every effort will be made to ensure equal court time for all players, prioritising player development, experience, and well-being over winning.

2. Under 12's - Division 1:

- Focus: Teaching advanced basketball skills.
- Equal Game Time: Players receive fair and adequate court time, even with a potential starting lineup.
- Training Attendance: Mandatory, with expectations set for training attendance.

Under 12's - Division 1: While the principle of fair and adequate court time still applies to Division 1 teams, these teams operate at a higher level with players possessing advanced skills. Coaches in Division 1 may establish a starting lineup, but it is crucial that all players continue to receive fair and adequate court time and



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equal opportunities for development. Attendance at regular training sessions is mandatory, and coaches may outline attendance expectations at the start of the season.

3. Under 14's - Division 2:

- Focus: Teaching effective basketball play.
- Equal Game Time: All players receive fair and equal game time, regardless of skill level.
- Starting Lineups: No designated starting lineup to provide equal starting opportunities.
- Finals Games: Equal court time emphasised, prioritising player development, experience, and well-being over winning.

Under 14's - Division 2: The primary focus for players in Under 14's Division 2 is to teach them how to play basketball effectively. Like other divisions, all players in this category will be given fair and equal game time throughout the season, irrespective of their skill levels. Starting lineups will not be fixed, allowing players to start games on a rotational basis. In finals games, every player will receive equal court time, with an emphasis on player development and well-being over winning.

4. Under 14's - Division 1:

- Equal Game Time: Players receive fair and adequate court time, even with a potential starting lineup.
- Training Attendance: Mandatory, with expectations set for training attendance.

Under 14's - Division 1: While the principle of fair and adequate court time remains essential for Division 1 teams, these teams operate at a higher level with players possessing advanced skills. Coaches in Division 1 may establish a starting lineup, but it is crucial that all players continue to receive fair and adequate court time and equal opportunities for development. Attendance at regular training sessions is mandatory, and coaches may outline attendance expectations at the start of the season.

5. Under 16's / 18's - Division 2:

- Focus: Teaching how to win.
- Player Rotation: Players rotated based on abilities, strengths, and team strategy.
- Finals Games: Equal court time emphasised, ensuring player development and well-being are prioritised.



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Under 16's / 18's - Division 2: The primary focus for players in under 16's and 18's Division 2 is to teach them how to win. Coaches will rotate players according to their abilities and strengths, aligning with the team's strategy at any given moment during the game. In finals games, each player will receive fair and adequate court time, ensuring player development and well-being are prioritised.

6. Under 16's / 18's - Division 1:

- **Equal Game Time:** Players receive fair and adequate court time, with consideration for developing players in close games.
- **Training Attendance:** Mandatory, with expectations set for training attendance.
- **Developing Players:** Clear communication with developing players about their opportunities for development alongside the team.

Under 16's / 18's - Division 1: As with Division 2, the primary focus for players in under 16's and 18's Division 1 is to teach them how to win. Coaches will rotate players based on their abilities and the team's tactical needs during games. In situations where developing players are part of the team, coaches must provide them with opportunities to play under pressure, especially in close games. Attendance at regular training sessions is mandatory, and coaches may outline attendance expectations at the start of the season.

Developing Players: Identifying and communicating with developing players at the beginning of the season is essential. Coaches should ensure that these players understand they may not receive equal game time but will be given opportunities to learn and develop alongside the rest of the team. Clear communication helps manage player and family expectations regarding court time.

Training Importance:

- Regular training attendance is crucial for all players.
- Training sessions are vital for learning and practicing team plays, understanding tactical strategies, and reinforcing key positions.
- "No train, no game" philosophy encouraged, but applied fairly, considering reasonable explanations for missed training.
- Flexibility in finding suitable alternatives for players who cannot attend training on designated days, working with families and teams.



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Training Importance: Regular attendance at training sessions is vital for all players, especially developing ones. Training sessions are instrumental in learning and practicing team plays, understanding tactical strategies, and reinforcing key positions. While we encourage a "no train, no game" philosophy, coaches must apply it fairly, considering reasonable explanations for missed training. Coaches should also collaborate with families and teams to find suitable alternatives for players who cannot attend training on designated days.

By adhering to this updated policy, PPBC aims to create a supportive and inclusive environment that prioritises player development, experience, and well-being while striving for success on the court.