JUNIOR WAVERLEY FALCONS

PARENT HANDBOOK

2027



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INTRODUCTION

The Waverley Falcons were formed in 1982 as the representative arm of Waverley Basketball Association (WBA). Junior teams compete in Basketball Victoria's (BV) elite level competition in metropolitan Melbourne. The WBA's senior teams compete in the Big V League (formerly the Victorian Basketball League (VBL) and NBL1.

Over the past few years, we have seen the club grow from strength to strength. We have seen our senior program become a part of the NBL1 and our junior teams grow in numbers. This information guide will help explain the world of representative basketball for new families and reinforce the message to those who have been with us for a while.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES / GOALS

The Waverley Falcons aim to achieve the following goals / objectives for everyone involved within the club:

- Health and Fitness of our athletes
- Good Sportsmanship
- Highly successful/ competitive teams
- Putting in place quality coaches
- Player development
- Player progression
- Coaching development
- Enjoyment of the game



WHAT IS REPRESENTATIVE BASKETBALL

The VJBL (Victorian Junior Basketball League) is the junior representative elite competition here in Victoria. Our teams compete in this League as the Waverley Falcons and play against other Victorian Associations on a Friday Night.

Our representative program is for athletes who want to develop their skills and knowledge of the game. Our program allows athletes to be coached by some of the up and coming and experienced coaches we have in the program.

Waverley Basketball Association conducts an extensive tryout phase where if players are successful, they are selected in a Waverley team to play in the VJBL Competition.

There are three main phases to a VJBL season:

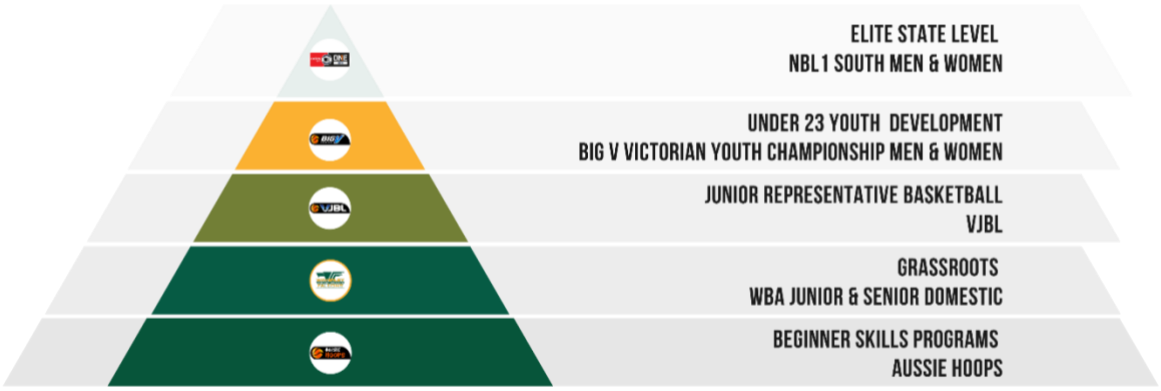
1. TRYOUTS – Usually held on the first Sunday in October and take place over three sessions, athletes who perform the best are then selected to represent the club
2. GRADING – The Grading phase commences in November and runs till March. This is where the team play games to determine which division they play in for the season
3. REGULAR SEASON (AND FINALS)– Takes place over 18 home and away games plus finals. This runs from March to September.

There are two levels of competition:

- VC (Victorian Championship) – The highest level in Victoria where the best 20 teams play the championship season
- VJL 1-10 (Division 1-10 under VC)



PLAYING PATHWAYS



PLAYER EXPECTATIONS

- Attend all training sessions
- Attend team tournaments throughout the year
- Arrive to training 10 minutes prior to session's commencement and be ready to go on time
- Be at all games 30 minutes early
- Communicate with coaches and team managers if can't make trainings, games etc…
- Show good sportsmanship on the court at all times
- Be respectful to all team mates, coaches and volunteers
- Adapt to different coaches styles and methods
- Represent the club in the correct manor before, during and after games.



PLAYING TIMES AND VENUES

Matches are played on Friday nights ranging from a 6:40pm start for the younger age groups (very occasionally a 6.00pm start may be scheduled) through to a 9:40pm start for the older age groups. Venue locations will vary from week to week; however, every team is guaranteed an equal number of games played either at home, away or at neutral venues. To assist families with multiple children car-pooling with other teammate is a common solution and proven very successful.

VJBL WEEKLY TEAM SHEET COSTINGS

Each week there will be a team sheet fee for all teams on a Friday night. This fee is a lump sum for the entire team and includes spectators. There will be no entry fee for spectators on top of this fee.

The below team sheet fees that were in effect for the 2026 season including grading. ***6***

60 Minute Schedule – Remaining at $125
80 Minute Schedule – Increased to $160, to help with the extra court hire and referee costs.

The Entry fees for the Grading and Championship season are still being discussed and will be released with the Grading Entry forms next week.



TRAINING AND GAME DAY ATTENDANCE

Training sessions are conducted on Sundays and are typically 90 minutes in duration. The Coaching Director will advise which teams are offered a second session. These sessions will be conducted during the week at no extra cost to the athletes if Waverley courts are available. These teams are initially allocated to the higher ranked teams.

All players should arrive at training, ready to start at their allocated time. This means if training is at 10:00am then you start at 10.00am and not arrive at 10.00am.

Only our 1st and 2nd sides will train two training sessions a week due to court availability. If more courts become available, we will get more teams training twice.

Generally, coaches require players to arrive to the game, approximately 30 minutes before tip-off. This allows sufficient time for players to familiarise themselves with the venue, prepare for competition with a warmup, and time for the coach to address the team.

It is important that the coach and/or team manager are advised immediately if a player is sick or injured, and unable to play/train. The earlier the coach is informed, the earlier the coach can adjust game or training plan.

For the coach to hear that a player is unavailable via another player just before tip-off is unfair and unacceptable.

TEAM OF THE WEEK FOR NBL1 & VBL

All VJBL teams are subject to being rostered for the 2027 NBL1 & VBL Men's and Women's games for the upcoming season. If you have any queries regarding the rostering, please email Claire Palioyiannis at *claire.palioyiannis@waverleybasketball.com.*

TOURNAMENTS

The Waverley Falcons compete in tournaments as part of their development plan. **The only compulsory tournament is our tournament the SEJBT Tournament over Labour Day Weekend**. Players will need to make themselves available to play. Other tournaments coaches may elect to participate in include:

- National Junior Classic (By Invitation Only) – Queens Birthday weekend



- Melbourne Tigers Tournament – June / July holidays
- Nunawading Tournament – Queens Birthday
- Norwood Easter Classic (Adelaide) – Easter
- Southern Peninsula Basketball Association Annual Junior Tournament – November

All tournaments are fully funded by each individual teams.

SCORING

Scoring is all done electronically through a program called Play HQ.

Here is a link to the video scoring guide:
https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=201088738190713

REGISTRATION FEES

Fees for 2023/2024 season are listed below. All fees are now paid upon Registration through Play HQ. If you are unable to pay fees by the required date, please call the DM Elias Palioyiannis to discuss other payment options on 9807 9814.

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP FEES

One Child	**$615**
Two Children from the same family	**$590 each**
Three or more from the same family	**$565 each**

Fees include:

- Coaching
- Registration
- Training and court hire

Fees do NOT include:

- Weekly Score Sheet or Game Fee Payments
- Venue Entry Fees
- Outside Venue Hiring for Training
- Tournaments



UNIFORMS

The 2026/27 has three options to choose from. All new players must purchase a pack. The packs are as follows:



Essentials Pack- $200 **Pro Pack- $270** **Elite Pack- $350**

Waverley Falcons are proud to be partnering with the CourtSide Team. Lookout for our new fits by Nike brought to you by the CourtSide Team.

If you would like to purchase the new uniforms by Nike brought to you by CourtSide for the 2026/27 season you can. But if you were a new player or just purchased a new uniform for the 2025/26 season, you can still wear that uniform for the 2026/2027 season. All players will be required to wear the new uniforms by Nike brought to you by CourtSide for the 2027/28 season. More information regarding uniform day will be released after trials have been completed.



Please note, that players won't be able to select their playing numbers. Playing numbers will allocated via odd and even years of birth and alphabetical order. There will be a uniform fitting day in October. Date TBA.



GREIVANCE, INCIDENT AND COMPLAINTS POLICY

This policy has been established to serve as a guiding framework for managing incidents, complaints and grievances.

The by-laws have been designed to safeguard all participants in basketball, with a particular emphasis on protecting officials. Offences against officials carry heavier penalties under these by-laws. Any reports made by game officials will be handled through the normal BV tribunal process.

This policy complements the BV Tribunal By-laws by providing a mechanism for investigating and addressing incidents that may not have been observed by game officials or may not have occurred directly within the context of a basketball game. However, it's important to note that if a game-based incident has already been addressed by game officials and they consider the matter resolved, this policy will only be invoked in exceptional circumstances.

The policy defines the distinction between a grievance and a complaint as follows:

- **Grievance:** *A grievance is a specific and serious feeling of wrongdoing related to breaches of the code of conduct, harassment, discrimination, or vilification by individuals within the Waverley Basketball organisation or external to the Association.*
- **Complaint:** *A complaint, on the other hand, is a general expression of dissatisfaction with a situation or the behaviour of other individuals within the program.*
- **Incident:** *An incident, as defined in this policy, is a distinct piece of action or occurrence that is noteworthy. This may include a Code of Conduct Breach, injury, accident, theft, property/equipment damage, or safety breach.*
- **Mediation:** *Mediation is the process of attempting to achieve a peaceful settlement between disputing parties. This involves the facilitation of an independent third party, with all involved parties and the mediator present at the same time. The resolution is determined by the parties in dispute themselves, rather than being imposed on them.*



INCIDENTS AND COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES

INCIDENT PROCEDURE

1. Waverley Basketball Association will only accept written grievances using the Waverley Falcons Incident Report Form no later than 7 days after the incident. These reports will be documented in register, recording the date of receipt, name of the complainant, and the general nature of the incident.
2. The Director of Coaching will conduct an initial assessment of the incident based on the provided written information.
   2.1 If the DOC determines that the incident relates to the Code of Conduct breach, it will be referred to relevant person/s.
   2.2 If the DOC deems or classifies the incident as a complaint all involved will be contacted and any matters will be forwarded and discussed with the relevant person/s.
   2.3 *Incidents related to injuries, safety issues, property, or equipment damage will be referred to the relevant governing bodies for action*.
3. Code of Conduct breaches will be heard by a Panel of 3 people appointed by the General Manager of Waverley Falcons, with DOC acting as Panel Chair.
   3.1 The Panel must convene within 14 days of formation.
   3.2 The Panel Chair will invite all involved parties to be heard.
   3.3 All parties will be informed in writing of the outcome of the panel hearing.
4. It is up to the discretion of the Director of Coaching and/or General Manager of Waverley Falcons to determine whether the hearing should take the form of mediation (refer to definition) or a tribunal (where parties present their views separately without the other present).
5. The Waverley Falcons Representative program has Zero-Tolerance for Bullying or Harassment. WBA also acknowledges the Basketball Victoria Protection By-Laws states that the viewpoint of the person receiving the harassment will determine whether or not the behaviour is deemed as harassment.
6. All internal processes for hearing a grievance should be completed within three months of the initial grievance being lodged.
7. Once the outcome of the grievance is determined, the DOC and/or General Manager should close the grievance in the register and record the outcomes of this matter. If a matter has been dealt with through mediation and fails to deliver an acceptable resolution to both parties, it may be referred to the tribunal format. The panel can then decide whether or not to hold this at a set time over a period to gather further facts and it may or may not require the parties central to the dispute to provide further accounts.
8. If the aggrieved party is not satisfied with the outcome, they should notify the Director of Coaching or General Manger of the Waverly Falcons in writing, and the grievance should be escalated to Basketball Victoria under the provisions of the Member Protection By-Law.
9. All participants in the Waverley Basketball Association should be aware of the clear definitions of harassment, discrimination, or vilification contained in the Member Protection By-Law of Basketball Victoria, as ignorance is not an excuse under the By-Law.
10. Any complaint of a member protections issue must be sent directly to Basketball Victoria; the association will act as a conduit between two parties.



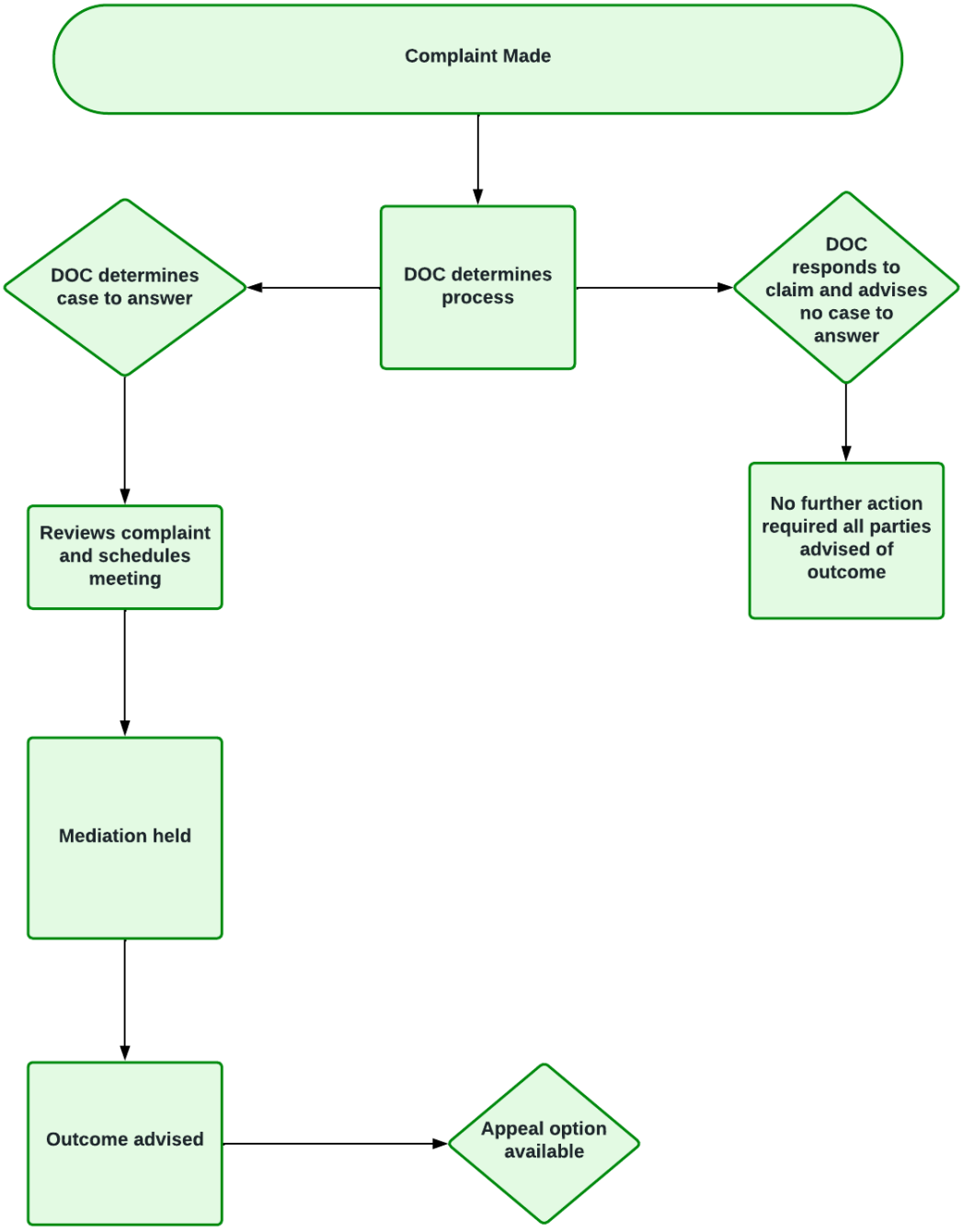
COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

1. Participants seeking resolution for concerns regarding the behaviour of another party are encouraged to engage in direct and respectful communication to address the matter.
2. If resolution cannot be achieved through direct communication and further action is desired, individuals should submit a formal written complaint to Waverley Basketball Association via the designated email address: ***doc@waverleybasketball.com***
3. The DOC/General Manager will meticulously assess the complaint and or grievance based on the provided written information and subsequently direct it to the most appropriate person for careful management.
4. Upon receipt, the designated person/s will promptly contact the associated parties to discuss the optimal course of action. Mediation will be recommended in most instances as an initial step towards resolution.
5. Should the mediation meeting between involved parties lead to a satisfactory resolution of the complaint and or grievance, no further action will be required.
6. Waverley Basketball Association (WBA) will diligently endeavour to arrange and facilitate the mediation process within two weeks of receiving the formal complaint. This process may involve comprehensive discussions, meetings, and statements from the affected parties, with the possible inclusion of other relevant stakeholders as deemed appropriate.
7. In the event that the WBA determines that the matter merits escalation to a grievance, a comprehensive report will be compiled and submitted to the Waverley Basketball Association DOC for further necessary actions.
8. Individuals dissatisfied with the outcome or actions taken may avail themselves of the formal grievance procedure by submitting a written appeal to the General Manager of Waverley Basketball Association. The General Manager will diligently review and provide a timely response to the complaint, ensuring thorough and professional handling of the matter.

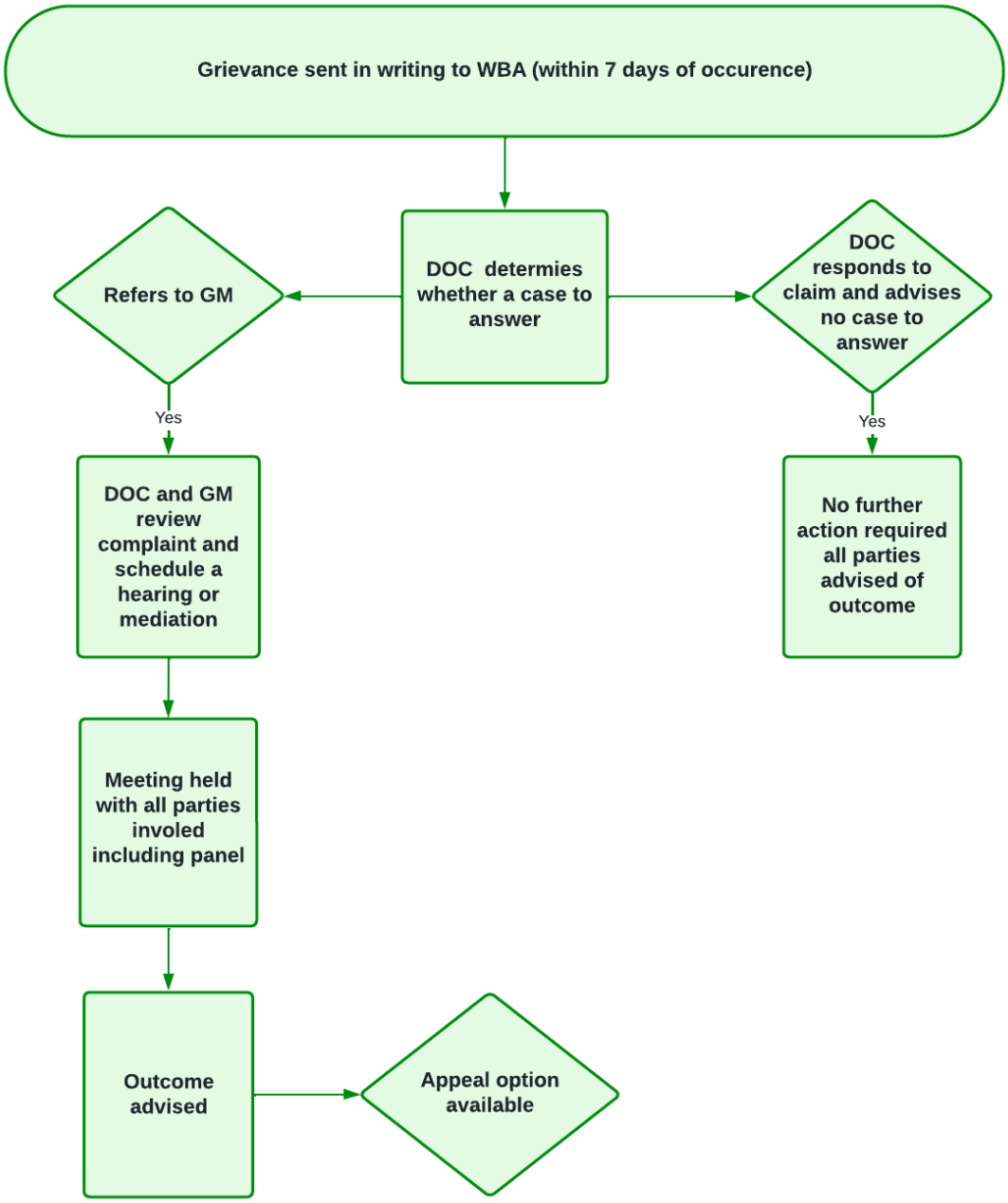
Please note, parents are not to address any issues, incidents or grievances with a coach directly after a game. If anything is to be addressed, please wait 24 hours before setting up a meeting or email the Director of Coaching immediately at doc@waverleybasketball.com.



COMPLAINT HANDLING FLOW CHART



GRIEVANCE FLOW CHART





PLAYING TIME

Representative Basketball is the elite competition in Victoria for our junior athletes. We don't operate the same as our Domestic Competition. If you are successful here at Waverley in making one of our Representative teams, there is no guarantee of court time to any of our athletes.

CODE OF CONDUCT

We abide by the Basketball Victoria code of conduct.

Here is a link to the current codes of conduct:
https://www.basketballvictoria.com.au/cdn/byuip6j02lssg4ok

This link includes the following:

- Administrators Code of Conduct
- Coaches Code of Conduct
- Players Code of Conduct
- Parent Code of Conduct
- Officials Code of Conduct



VJBL CALANDER

DATE	VC (12-18)	VC (18 CHAMP)	VJL & RL (12-18)
Friday, 20 November 2026	Grading Phase 1 - Round 1		
Friday, 27 November 2026	Grading Phase 1 - Round 2		
Friday, 4 December 2026	Grading Phase 1 - Round 3		
Friday, 11 December 2026	X-Over Round		
Friday, 18 December 2026	**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**		
Friday, 25 December 2026			
Friday, 1 January 2027			
Friday, 8 January 2027			
Friday, 15 January 2027			
Friday, 22 January 2027			
Friday, 29 January 2027	Grading Phase 2 - Round 1		
Friday, 5 February 2027	Grading Phase 2 - Round 2		
Friday, 12 February 2027	Grading Phase 2 - Round 3		
Friday, 19 February 2027	X-Over Round One		
Friday, 26 February 2027	**BYE (All VC)**		X-Over 2
Friday, 5 March 2027	Round 1	Round 1	Round 1
Friday, 12 March 2027	Round 2	Round 2	Round 2
Friday, 19 March 2027	Round 3	Round 3	Round 3
Friday, 26 March 2027	**GOOD FRIDAY**		
Friday, 2 April 2027	**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**		
Friday, 9 April 2027			
Friday, 16 April 2027	Round 4	Round 4	Round 4
Friday, 23 April 2027	Round 5	Round 5	Round 5
Friday, 30 April 2027	Round 6	Round 6	Round 6
Friday, 7 May 2027	Round 7	Round 7	Round 7
Friday, 14 May 2027	Round 8	Round 8	Round 8
Friday, 21 May 2027	Round 9	Round 9	Round 9
Friday, 28 May 2027	Round 10	Round 10	Round 10
Friday, 4 June 2027	Round 11	Round 11	Round 11
Friday, 11 June 2027	**KINGS BIRTHDAY - NJC WEEKEND**		
Friday, 18 June 2027	Round 12	Round 12	Round 12
Friday, 25 June 2027	**BYE**	Round 13	Round 13
Friday, 2 July 2027	**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**		
Friday, 9 July 2027			
Friday, 16 July 2027	Round 13	Round 14	Round 14
Friday, 23 July 2027	Round 14	Round 15	Round 15
Friday, 30 July 2027	Round 15	Round 16	Round 16
Friday, 6 August 2027	Round 16	Round 17	Round 17
Friday, 13 August 2027	Round 17	Round 18	Round 18
Friday, 20 August 2027	Round 18	**FINALS**	**FINALS**
Friday, 27 August 2027	**FINALS**	**FINALS**	**FINALS**
Friday, 3 September 2027	**FINALS**	**FINALS**	**FINALS**
Friday, 10 September 2027	**FINALS**		**GRAND FINAL**
Saturday, 11 September 2027		**GRAND FINAL**	
Friday, 17 September 2027	**GRAND FINAL**		
Friday, 24 September 2027	**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**		
Friday, 1 October 2027			











COACHES ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

As the coach of a representative team there are many different things that need to be achieved. Each representative coach is to set rules and their expectations for the team. Obviously with expectations and philosophies will vary from team to team depending on level of competition. Each coach is to

- Attend all team practices and games
- Be positive and respectful to all athletes
- Motivate the athletes and challenge the athletes to compete
- Develop individual skill sets as well as team
- Develop a training plan for every session
- Develop a competitive and enjoyable environment for the athletes
- Select a balanced and competitive team
- Abide by the Waverley Falcons coaches booklet
- Act professional while representing the club

Representative basketball is very different to domestic basketball where all athletes are to earn court time from week to week. This is where training attendance comes into play.

Please remember that all coaches in our club are Volunteers and doing their best to develop all players on their team.

Again, any concerns that can't be resolved by coach or team manager, contact the coaching director.

All coaches must wear Falcons apparel while coaching on game day



SPONSORHIP

WBA is a non-for-profit organisation, as such we rely on our community's support. If you or your business would like to enter a partnership agreement with WBA, please email Claire Palioyiannis for more information claire.palioyiannis@waverleybasketball.com

CONTACT US

All VJBL and Junior questions can be directed to Director of Coaching:

Bennie Lewis

Waverley Basketball Association
P.O. Box 592
Mount Waverley 3149

Mobile 0407275881

doc@waverleybasketball.com

USEFUL WEBSITES

Waverley Falcons: http://www.waverleybasketball.com

VC, VJL and Regional: Victorian Junior Basketball League 2022 grades for Victorian Junior Bas | PlayHQ

Basketball Victoria: http://www.basketballvictoria.com.au

