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## MEET SOME OF OUR NEW TEAM MEMBERS AT BASKETBALL WA

Basketball WA are excited to introduce our recently appointed team members. The newly created positions were a result of a restructure within the BWA team and the drive to continue forward with the Board's Strategic Vision.

### **Evan Stewart - Deputy Chief Executive Officer**

Evan fills the newly created role of Deputy CEO. The WA sporting community is a familiar place for Evan from his previous roles at both the Western Australian Institute of Sport and Department of Sport and Recreation. Evan moved to Western Australia in 1997 to provide psychological services to elite athletes and coaches based at the Western Australian Institute of Sport across the broad spectrum of sporting, personal and organisational issues. During that time he worked with elite level athletes at Olympic Games and World Championship level, including working with then Perth Breakers and the Australian Wheelchair Basketball team.

For the past 12 years, Evan has worked at the Department of Sport and Recreation. There he ran the funding and support program for State Sporting Associations before moving to the Minister's office to provide policy advice for the previous Minister for Sport and Recreation. After the change of government, he spent the past two years as the Director of Strategic Policy and Investment, particularly overseeing the Department's regional network.

Outside of work, Evan's other passion is baseball and he has been involved as a player and coach all his life as well as being on club, state and national committees and Boards.

On becoming the new Deputy CEO, Evan Stewart said, "after working previously across the spectrum of sport, I am extremely privileged to be able to step into the Basketball community of Western Australia.

I would like to acknowledge the work that Rob Clement and the current team at BWA has done to support the athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers in the state who are the backbone of basketball in WA. I know we can grow and achieve great success as a state and that's largely based on the great foundation built by the passionate basketball people across the state. I look forward to further strengthening relationships with all vested stakeholders and working with everyone to grow the impact that our sport can have on the Western Australian public. Sport is a great leveller in our community and teaches us all how to succeed and fail, win and lose, strive to attain a goal, work with teammates and above all be good people. Together we can make Basketball the sport of choice for Western Australians."

To contact Evan, you can email him on [evan.stewart@basketballwa.asn.au](mailto:evan.stewart@basketballwa.asn.au) or 6272 0744

### **Michael Cake – Participation Manager**

Michael Cake joins Basketball WA in the newly created role of Participation Manager. This increases BWA's strategic capacity within the participation area and provides additional support for our Associations as we continue to grow the game. Michael's role also involves overseeing our expanding regional network and planning our activities within country areas to better address the needs of these local communities.

Michael brings broad business management and sports administration experience to the role, most recently at Hockey WA, where he operated across both their Participation and High Performance Departments.

Michael said he was excited to be working in basketball and about the opportunities that presents.

“Basketball is really well positioned right now. People are more engaged with the sport than ever before. Whether that is people following the NBA and WNBA, cheering for the Wildcats and the Lynx, or just shooting hoops at the local park or at school. It provides us with a great platform to grow the game locally.

“I am really excited about the opportunities that 3x3 offers our sport, especially as Tokyo 2020 draws near. 3x3 has a huge role to play in helping us achieve our vision of 'taking back the streets'. I hope to see pickup games being played all across WA - activating outdoor courts and keeping our communities healthy and active.

“I also see massive potential for growth in the women's game and across our local aboriginal communities. From Esperance in the south to Derby in the north, we need to foster the incredible natural talent that is out there.

Basketball WA is making a significant investment in the regions and Michael is looking forward to spending more time in the country, understanding local issues and supporting our country Associations.

“We now have a new regional development officer in the Great Southern (Luke McGuire) and the Mid West (Marcus Alipate). We will soon, also have an officer placed in the South West, along with the great work that Liz Muenchow is doing up in the Kimberley”, Michael said. “It's an exciting time for country basketball.”

To contact Michael, you can email him on: [michael.cake@basketballwa.asn.au](mailto:michael.cake@basketballwa.asn.au) or you can call on 6272 0748.

### **Alanna Burton – Association Development Officer**

Alanna has joined Basketball WA under a newly created role of Association Development Officer which gives support and guidance to our Basketball WA Member Associations.

Alanna grew up in Albany, WA and then moved to Perth to complete a Bachelor of Commerce (Sport Management and Commercial Law) at Curtin University, then continued studying to achieve a Juris Doctor from Murdoch University. Alanna was then appointed as the inaugural Sport Administrator at All Saints' College, assisting with the successful implementation of the College Sport Strategic plan while supporting the day to day operations of the All Saints' College Netball and Basketball Clubs.

When Alanna was asked about how new role at Basketball WA, she said, “This position fostered my belief that basketball is a game for everyone, I am looking forward to supporting Associations to involve more people in basketball in all roles and levels. I am passionate about supporting volunteers and recognising the key role they play in making the sport possible.”

Alanna's contact details are: [alanna.burton@basketballwa.asn.au](mailto:alanna.burton@basketballwa.asn.au) or 6272 0703

### **Megan Lorkin – Competitions Administrator**

Megan also joins Basketball WA in a newly created position joining the Competitions Team as the as new Competitions Administrator.

Megan's previously worked in finance, however made the switch to sports administration to follow her passion in sport. Megan has a large range of experience working and competing in various sports from indoor soccer to touch football and most importantly basketball.

Megan says, “I look forward to increasing the quality and quantity of competitions run by BWA including Country Championships, inclusion events and domestic leagues.”

Megan's contact details are: [megan.lorkin@basketballwa.asn.au](mailto:megan.lorkin@basketballwa.asn.au) or 6272 0751

## **Luke McGuire – Development Officer Great Southern**

As the Development Officer of the Great Southern, Luke McGuire will play a vital role in helping grow the game of Basketball and providing support and guidance to our member associations in the Great Southern region.

Luke joins BWA with a wealth of knowledge and experience in the sport of basketball. He has coached the Juniors and Youth League this year at Illawarra, played in state teams in NSW country, he has gone to college in the United States and has also been coaching for the last three years, since he has stopped playing basketball.

On joining our team at BWA, Luke has said, " I come from a strong basketball background and the sport has always been my passion. After coming through Juniors playing on the East Coast at Illawarra and a short stint overseas playing I find myself in WA doing what I love. Falling into coaching after playing has been great. Through my different basketball experiences I have an understanding of both the Elite level and junior pathways. Seeing the kids get better and enjoy the sport is probably the best of the job.

I am looking forward to getting involved in the Great Southern Region and making impact in developing the game in the area. I am excited for the opportunity to have joined Basketball WA and can't to get right into things. "

Luke can be contacted on [Luke.McGuire@basketballwa.asn.au](mailto:Luke.McGuire@basketballwa.asn.au)

## **Marcus Alipate – Development Officer Mid-West**

Marcus Alipate is our latest appointment in the regions, joining us as the new Development Officer of the Mid-West. This appointment has been made possible with the support and cooperation of Geraldton Amateur Basketball Association. It is through cooperative partnerships like this that we can make a real difference in regional areas.

Marcus says, " I am excited to help develop basketball on a different level than just playing. Being from America, basketball is one of our biggest sports and being around the game I feel like I can help bring some knowledge. Basketball is sport that was taken from America to Europe, China, New Zealand, and now Australia! I am hoping to help impact and develop kids to make them not only better on the court, but also off the court as well.

I am grateful for the opportunity, and feel blessed to be able to continue to be involved with something that I am passionate about. Thank you to Basketball WA, GABA, and everyone else that helped made this possible. Let's get to work."

To contact Marcus, you can email him on: [rdo@geraldtonbasketballassociation.com.au](mailto:rdo@geraldtonbasketballassociation.com.au)

For further information please contact: Rob Clement, CEO - Basketball WA

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