



# NBL1 West - Rules of Operation

Rev No 6.1

Scheduled Review Date: June 2026





## Contents

<b>DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>1 PART 1.....</b>	<b>9</b>
1.1. Management .....	9
1.2. Aims .....	9
1.3. Competition Structure.....	9
1.4. Conferences .....	9
1.5. Entry .....	9
<b>2 PART 2 –.....</b>	<b>10</b>
2.1. Rules of Operation and Operations Manual .....	10
2.2. Penalties.....	11
2.3. Conduct Detrimental or Prejudicial to the NBL1 West.....	12
2.4. Appeals .....	13
2.5. NBL1 West - review and finance .....	14
2.6. NBL1 West Finance .....	15
<b>3 PART 3.....</b>	<b>16</b>
3.1. Affiliated Associations .....	16
3.2. NBL1 West Club contacts .....	16
3.3. Provision of Records or Information .....	16
3.4. Compliance Matrix.....	16
3.5. Venue Minimum Guidelines .....	17
3.6. NBL1 West Club Uniforms and Attire .....	18
3.7. Seating .....	20
<b>4 PART 4.....</b>	<b>20</b>
4.1. Team content .....	20
4.2. Restricted Player Classifications .....	21
4.3. Restricted Player Limits.....	24

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 2 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



4.4.	Dispensation for Restricted Players .....	25
4.5.	Restricted and Foreign-born Player Procedures .....	26
4.6.	Other Eligibility Items.....	28
4.7.	Release for State and National Commitments .....	28
4.8.	Clearances .....	28
4.9.	Player Contracts .....	29
4.10.	Clearance process .....	30
4.11.	Finals qualification .....	31
4.12.	Injury List .....	31
<b>5</b>	<b>PART 5.....</b>	<b>32</b>
5.1.	Referee administration .....	32
5.2.	Obligations of Referees.....	32
5.3.	Home Club obligations to Referees.....	32
5.4.	Reports and Tribunal.....	33
<b>6</b>	<b>PART 6.....</b>	<b>34</b>
6.1.	Fixturing.....	34
6.2.	Door Charges .....	36
6.3.	Game Day Timing .....	36
6.4.	Playing rules.....	37
6.5.	Home Team responsibilities .....	37
6.6.	Protest procedures .....	40
6.7.	Forfeited games .....	40
6.8.	Competition ladders .....	40
6.9.	Finals.....	41
6.10.	Other Game Provisions .....	41
<b>7</b>	<b>PART 7.....</b>	<b>42</b>
7.1.	NBL1 West awards.....	42

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 3 of 50	
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO		
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY	30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.					



7.2. Use of Illegal Drugs and Integrity .....43

7.3. Spectator conduct .....43

**Appendix 1 Offences and penalties .....45**

**Appendix 2 Uniform Style Guide.....47**

**Appendix 3 Venue Minimum Guidelines .....49**

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 4 of 50	
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO		
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY	30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.					



## DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

In these Rules of Operation, unless the context requires otherwise:

**"Active Restricted Players"** means a player that is game ready as expressed to the League Manager in writing.

**"Affiliated Association"** means an association that has registered and paid affiliation fees with BWA in accordance with its constitution, and where BWA has accepted its affiliation.

**"Agreement"** means the NBL1 West licence agreement including any schedules or annexures, however described.

**"Annual Levy"** means the amount determined by BWA and payable by each NBL1 West Club to BWA each year.

**"Any Other Games"** means games between NBL1 West Clubs on an international and national basis organised by FIBA, a confederation within FIBA or a member federation of FIBA including BA.

**"Basketball Australia"** means BA Limited (ABN [57 072 484 998](#)).

**"Basketball Western Australia" or "BWA"** means Western Australia Basketball Federation (Inc) (ABN 13 540 579 433).

**"Basketball WA Tribunal"** means a Tribunal process established by BWA to deal with conduct and allegations of breaches of BWA rules, regulations, policies and codes, both on and off the court, fairly, impartially and consistently.

**"Broadcast Rights"** mean the right to record NBL1 West Games, Any Other Games, other events and Game Statistics for transmission, display and distribution by way of audio, audio-visual, television (including free-to-air, subscription, multichannel, closed circuit and interactive television), televisual exhibition, internet, broadband, mobile and video, in all forms whenever devised in any part of the world, including rights to virtual signage.

**"Coach"** means any person who is appointed to coach (including assistant coaches) an NBL1 West team for any season or part thereof.

**"Code of Conduct"** means the NBL1 West Code of Conduct as developed by BWA and/or Basketball Australia from time to time, in consultation with the NBL1 West Clubs.

**"Commissioner"** means a member of the NBL1 West Commission, appointed or elected in accordance with the terms of reference.

**"Compliance Matrix"** means a matrix developed annually by BWA that sets the conditions NBL1 West Clubs must satisfy to meet minimum standards to operate in the League.

**"CPI"** means the Consumer Price Index (All Groups) Perth as published by the Commonwealth Government and if for any reason the Commonwealth Government ceases to publish the CPI, then any equivalent index specified from time to time by BWA.

**"Court Announcer"** means a person appointed by the Home Club to make public announcements in relation to the presentation of a game and be responsible for playing music and where appropriate other audio recordings.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 5 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY
30/06/2026				
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**"Delegate"** means a person appointed in accordance with rule 3.2 by an NBL1 Club from time to time who will be the point of communication between the NBL1 West and NBL1 West Club.

**"FIBA" or "Federation Internationale de Basketball Association"** means the international governing body of basketball of which Basketball Australia is a member federation.

**"Finals"** means the series of games as determined by the NBL1 West league operator played at the completion of the regular NBL1 West season between qualifying Clubs to determine the championship team for that season.

**"Game"** means a BWA approved or sanctioned game organised and staged by a Club, including all incidental activities such as hospitality, advertising, promotions, merchandising and pre-game, half time and post-game entertainment and precinct activity.

**"Game Commissioner"** means the person appointed by the home NBL1 West Club to ensure a fixtured game is conducted in accordance with the Rules of Operation.

**"Game Statistics"** means data, statistics or information relating to NBL1 West Games or Any Other Games, basketball participants and basketball, collected by or for, or in the possession or control of an NBL1 West Club, including the Game result, and all other statistical information.

**"Home Club"** means an NBL1 West Club which is entitled or obliged to stage a Game.

**"Home Team"** means the team which is named first in an NBL1 West fixture.

**"Home Venue"** means the venue nominated by the Club as its home venue under its NBL1 West Licence Agreement.

**"Investigations Officer"** means a person appointed by BWA to investigate matters relating to conduct and any other matters deemed necessary.

**"League Manager"** means the person who is appointed by Basketball WA to manage the NBL1 West (or their delegate).

**"Licence"** means the rights and obligations granted under the Agreement.

**"NBL"** means the National Basketball League of Australia.

**"NBL1 West"** means the state competition conducted by BWA between the NBL1 West Clubs (previously known as the WA State Basketball League), or as known by any other name determined and notified from time to time.

**"NBL1 West Club" or "Club"** means any Affiliated Association admitted by BWA to field a mens and womens basketball team to participate in the NBL1 West.

**"NBL1 West Commission"** means the NBL1 West Commission appointed by BWA to oversee the NBL1 West in accordance with the terms of reference.

**"NBL1 West Game"** means any BWA game played between NBL1 West Clubs during a Season, including any regular season or Finals or officially sanctioned pre-season or exhibition Game.

**"NBL1 West Trade Identification"** means the logo of the NBL1 West, inclusive of the name of any naming rights partner, as notified by BWA from time to time.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 6 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
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**"Operations Manual"** means the written guidelines for operating the NBL1 West as prescribed and amended from time to time by the League Manager.

**"Personnel"** means any personnel engaged by an NBL1 West Club (whether paid or unpaid), including directors and team officials, but excluding Players.

**"Player"** means any person who has signed a player contract with an NBL1 West Club.

**"Player Contract System"** means the system of regulating Player eligibility, registration, contracting, payments and transfer as set out in the Rules of Operation.

**"Referee"** means the referees, crew chief and umpires officiating at an NBL1 West Game.

**"Regular Season Game"** means any NBL1 West Game played in the regular home and away season.

**"Restricted player"** means a restricted player as defined in the Rules of Operation (rule 4).

**"Rules of Operation"** mean these rules for the conduct and operation of the NBL1 West as developed by BWA from time to time in.

**"Season"** means the period in each year determined by BWA when the NBL1 West competition takes place.

**"Style Guide"** means a document issued which prescribes how the NBL1 West Trade Identification is to be used on NBL1 West Club uniforms, other attire and documentation.

**"Team"** means a team of an NBL1 West Club which participates in the NBL1 West.

**"Technical Official"** means any person acting as a score table official, statistician or Referee or Referee coach at any Game.

**"Uniform Style Guide"** is defined as the standard requirements for uniforms worn by a Team and contains the minimum requirements of uniforms for the NBL1 West, as set out in Appendix 2.

**"Venue"** means any playing venue where the NBL1 West Club will stage an NBL1 West Game, including the Home Venue including all surrounding areas owned, leased, licensed or otherwise controlled by the Venue owner or operator.

**"Venue Audit"** means a checklist issued by the League Manager from time to time indicating minimum venue requirements and providing a means for NBL1 West Clubs to indicate compliance.

**"Venue Minimum Guidelines"** mean the recommended guidelines as specified in the Rules of Operation or Operations Manual in relation to game day operations policies and procedures, broadcast and media requirements, relevant police and security requirements (if applicable) and broadcast and sports presentation that the Club should ensure that it, its Personnel and the Venue complies with in relation to the staging of Games.

**"Venue Standards"** mean the standards set out in the Rules of Operation or Operations Manual in relation to game day operations policies and procedures, broadcast and media requirements, police and security requirements and broadcast and sports presentation that the NBL1 West Club should ensure that it, its Personnel and the Venue complies with in relation to the staging of Games.

**"Visiting Team"** means a Team which is named second in a NBL1 West fixture.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 7 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
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"WNBL" means the Women's National Basketball League of Australia.

### Persons, Singular Gender

Words importing the singular number include the plural and the masculine gender, the feminine or neuter and vice versa, and words importing persons include corporations.

### Headings and Rule Numbers

Headings and Rule numbers have been inserted for convenience and will not be considered in interpreting these Rules of Operation.

### Interpretation

Any use of the words 'include' or 'includes' or 'including' or 'for example' are not to be interpreted as words of limitation.

These Rules of Operation will be governed by the law of Western Australia.

### Reference to Currency

References to currency in these Rules of Operation refers to Australian Dollars unless otherwise specified.

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Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 8 of 50	
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO		
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY	30/06/2026
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## 1 PART 1

### 1.1. Management

The NBL1 West is managed by BWA,. Its operation is overseen by an NBL1 West Commission comprising five (5) members:

- a) The BWA CEO or their representative;
- b) Two (2) positions appointed by the BWA board; and
- c) Two (2) positions elected by the NBL1 West Clubs

The League Manager will provide the secretariat for the NBL1 West Commission.

### 1.2. Aims

The aims of the NBL1 West are to:

- a) Provide an elite basketball league that is aspirational and provides an inspirational pathway for associations, players, coaches and Technical Officials;
- b) Provide a highly attractive competition, that enables and results in commercial leverage opportunities and engages the community; and
- c) Grow the profile of the sport of basketball.

### 1.3. Competition Structure

The NBL1 West will consist of a men's and women's competition, each made up of representative teams of Affiliated Associations.

### 1.4. Conferences

Where determined appropriate by BWA due to the number of teams competing, the competition may be divided into conferences.

### 1.5. Entry

New entries to the NBL1 West will be considered through an application process endorsed by the NBL1 West Commission and approved by the Chief Basketball Officer.

Successful applicants will be granted a Licence at BWA's discretion. Compliance by Clubs with the Rules of Operation, Operations Manual, the Agreement and the Compliance Matrix will be monitored annually.

NBL1 West Clubs will be consulted on any proposed new Team.

There will be no formal promotion or relegation between NBL1 West and other competitions.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 9 of 50	
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO		
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY	30/06/2026
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## 2 PART 2 –

### 2.1. Rules of Operation and Operations Manual

#### 2.1.1. Establishment

These Rules of Operation are provided to each NBL1 West Club and have been developed to ensure the efficient operation of the NBL1 West competition. The Rules of Operation may change at any time subject to rule 2.1.2 (Variation and Enforcement). Any in-season variations will aim to minimise impact on competition outcomes.

Delegates must familiarise themselves with these Rules of Operation and ensure relevant personnel are aware of their rights and responsibilities.

#### 2.1.2. Variation and Enforcement

The Rules of Operation may be amended in accordance with the BWA Competition Rule Change Procedure ([BWA-COMP-PRO-001](#)).

BWA may request input from NBL1 West Clubs or the NBL1 West Commission from time to time regarding suggested amendments to these Rules of Operation. The NBL1 West Commission may be asked to appoint a person or persons to review these Rules of Operation.

BWA is responsible for the development, maintenance, implementation, and enforcement of these Rules of Operation and any Operations Manual.

#### 2.1.3. Management and Appeal

BWA is responsible for applying these Rules of Operation and making decisions under the rules.

The NBL1 West Commission will act as the appeal body for decisions made by the League Manager (under rule 2.4 Appeals).

When it is indicated in these rules the NBL1 West Commission is responsible for a decision (and not the League Manager) such decision cannot be appealed.

#### 2.1.4. Items not provided for

BWA has sole discretion to decide any matter not provided for in these Rules of Operation.

#### 2.1.5. Operations Manual

BWA will adopt an Operations Manual that may be amended by the League Manager from time to time.

The Operations Manual will include detailed processes, procedures and guidelines that relate to the operations of the NBL1 West competition. This includes Venue Standards and Minimum Venue Guidelines.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 10 of 50	
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO		
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY	30/06/2026
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NBL1 West Clubs must comply with the Operations Manual, and any non-compliance will be considered a breach of these Rules of Operation.

## 2.2. Penalties

### 2.2.1. NBL1 West Penalties

Where they have breached these Rules of Operation, the Operations Manual or any other applicable rule, regulation, policy or code, BWA may impose penalties on Players, coaches, Personnel, NBL1 West Clubs, members of Affiliated Associations, members of NBL1 West Clubs, spectators, Technical Officials, or any participant at its discretion.

The BWA decision-maker will determine whether there has been a breach. Penalties may include:

- a) Compliance fees;
- b) Forfeit of an NBL1 West Game;
- c) Suspension or disqualification from participating in NBL1 West Games; and
- d) Any other penalty deemed appropriate (refer to Appendix 1 Offences and penalties).

All decisions that there has been a breach and penalties will be notified in writing to the relevant NBL1 West Club.

Clubs may appeal penalties in accordance with these Rules of Operation (refer to rule 2.4 Appeals).

### 2.2.2. Compliance Penalties

Compliance penalties are designed to maintain standards and ensure adherence to these Rules of Operation and the Operations Manual.

Where a breach occurs, BWA will apply an appropriate penalty. If an NBL1 West Club accumulates multiple offences, penalties may escalate (refer to Appendix 1 Offences and penalties) and may be referred to the NBL1 West Commission for determination of an outcome.

### 2.2.3. Administrative and Procedural Fines

Administrative or procedural fines (refer to Appendix 1 Offences and penalties) may be applied for:

- a) failure to respond to any administrative requests within specified timelines;
- b) failure to attend compulsory NBL1 West meetings;
- c) breaches of the Team bench dress code (per person); or
- d) such other breaches determined by the BWA decision maker to be an administrative or procedural breach.

Where a breach occurs, BWA will determine an appropriate penalty. If an NBL1 West Club accumulates multiple offences, penalties may escalate and may be referred to the NBL1 West Commission.

### 2.2.4. Fines for Forfeits

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 11 of 50	
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO		
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY	30/06/2026
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If a Team forfeits a Game:

- a) if it is the Home Team: 75% of the fine will be paid to the Visiting Team, with the remaining 25% retained by BWA.
- b) if it is the Visiting Team: 75% of the fine will be paid to the Home Team, with the remaining 25% retained by BWA.

The League Manager will investigate any forfeit, which may impact future acceptance of Teams from the Club.

## 2.2.5. Changes to Fixture

Clubs must secure approval from the League Manager for any requested fixture change (date, time or venue) before contacting the opposition. The opposition may decline at any time a request made after the official fixture release date unless directed to agree (in extenuating circumstances) by the League Manager.

An administrative fee will apply for changes after the fixture is published unless extenuating circumstances apply, as determined by the League Manager.

An example of extenuating circumstances may include venue damage, an emergency, and government restrictions.

## 2.2.6. Payment of Fines

All fines and penalties must be paid within fourteen (14) calendar days of the date of the invoice unless otherwise specified.

Overdue fines will attract interest at State Administrative Tribunal penalty rates until paid.

If a Club has not paid any amount due and owing to BWA after a reasonable period (as determined by the Chief Basketball Officer), BWA may:

- a) Declare the Club ineligible to participate in or progress in the upcoming NBL1 West Season (if it has not commenced); and/or
- b) Cease awarding results to the Club's Teams until the matter is resolved, if the season is underway. Points / results / wins that are lost during this period will not be reinstated.

## 2.3. Conduct Detrimental or Prejudicial to the NBL1 West

Any conduct by a Club, Player, coach, Personnel, spectator, Club member or official, Affiliated Association member or Technical Official likely to adversely affect the NBL1 West or its reputation may be referred to the Basketball WA Tribunal, and may be subject to a penalty or an investigation.

This conduct includes:

- Breaches of the Basketball WA Tribunal Procedure, and Basketball Australia Code of Conduct, Member Protection Policy, Child Safeguarding Policy and Complaints Policy.
- Public criticism of the NBL1 West, Clubs, Players, Personnel, or Technical Officials.
- Pursuit or harassment of Technical Officials before, during, or after a game.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 12 of 50	
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO		
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY	30/06/2026
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NBL1 West Clubs will be held responsible for any adverse media or public comments of all their members by way of the public address system, game program, multimedia, in a public place or through any forum or media outlet including any form of social media.

Penalties may include fines or expulsion (refer to Appendix 1 Offences and penalties).

An investigation may occur in accordance with rule 5.4.

## 2.4. Appeals

### 2.4.1. Introduction

Appeals against decisions made by BWA under rule 2.2 will be heard and determined by the NBL1 West Commission, or a separate panel as determined by the Chief Basketball Officer. No further appeals will be permitted once a decision has been made by the NBL1 West Commission or separate panel.

Appeals must be submitted in writing to the General Manager of Competitions (or such other person as determined by BWA) within seven (7) days of notification of the decision, together with a \$500 bond. This bond will be refunded if the appeal is successful.

The Commission Chair may determine reduced appeal timelines for urgent matters, such as Finals eligibility.

For clarity, this rule does not apply for conduct that is governed by the Basketball WA Tribunal By-Laws. Any matter considered and heard under the Basketball WA Tribunal By-Laws shall be subject to those by-laws and an appeal of such a decision can only be heard and dealt with in accordance with those by-laws.

### 2.4.2. Grounds of Appeal

A decision made under rule 2.2 can only be appealed on the basis that:

- a) the BWA decision maker failed to abide by these Rules of Operation or to properly apply the relevant rules, regulations, manual, policy or code and such failure resulted in a denial of natural justice; and/or
- b) no reasonable decision maker in the position of the BWA decision maker, based on the material before them, could reasonably make such a decision; and/or
- c) new information or evidence can be presented that was not available at the time the decision was made by the BWA decision maker.

### 2.4.3. Appeal Process

- a) An appellant seeking an appeal must submit the appeal in writing to BWA's General Manager of Competitions, detailing the matter in full and the decision made by the League Manager including:
  - i. Ground(s) on which the appeal is made; and
  - ii. Reason(s) or circumstances supporting the ground(s) of appeal.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 13 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



- b) The General Manager of Competitions will forward the appeal to the NBL1 West Commission (via the Commission Chair) or separate panel, which will determine within seven (7) days whether the appeal should proceed.
- c) The appellant will be advised within fourteen (14) days of submission whether the appeal will be heard. An appeal may be heard on the basis of written submissions (and evidence) only or the Commission Chair may convene a hearing.
- d) If the appellant is notified that a hearing will be convened, the appellant must confirm their attendance at a hearing within 48 hours or the matter will be determined on written submission only.
- e) The NBL1 West Commission shall determine the way the appeal shall be heard, and may:
  - i. Hear the appeal in full; or
  - ii. Hear limited issues only; or
  - iii. Conduct proceedings via phone, video conference, email, or other means.
- f) The NBL1 West Commission shall have the power to:
  - i. Dismiss the appeal;
  - ii. Uphold the appeal;
  - iii. Impose penalties under these Rules of Operation; and/or
  - iv. Vary any penalty (either by increasing the penalty or decreasing it).
- g) The decision will be notified in writing to the appellant.

## 2.5. NBL1 West - review and finance

### 2.5.1. NBL1 West Review

The NBL1 West Clubs are subject to ongoing conditions in the Agreement.

BWA will review the NBL1 West annually, no later than 120 days after the end of each Season, in relation to the following matters, including:

- a) a financial report in relation to its delivery of the NBL1 West within the annual budget for that Season;
- b) the performance of BWA in meeting the aims of the NBL1 West;
- c) participation by the NBL1 West Clubs in the marketing program and support for NBL1 West partners (i.e. sponsors and suppliers) during that season;
- d) Player professionalism, welfare, integrity and education programs;
- e) NBL1 West Clubs' compliance with Player contracts and the Player Contract System;
- f) NBL1 West Clubs' compliance with the Rules of Operation, any operations manual and the Compliance Matrix; and
- g) NBL1 West Clubs' overall compliance with the terms and the spirit and intent of the Agreement.

BWA will advise Clubs of the outcome of the annual review at the end of Season review meeting or, if required, in individual meetings with Clubs.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 14 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



## 2.6. NBL1 West Finance

### 2.6.1. Budgets

BWA will prepare an annual NBL1 West budget, subject to BWA board approval, ensuring the League’s efficient operation. The budget will be managed in accordance with the Agreement.

Each Club must develop an annual budget for the Club and provide it to the League Manager upon request. This will be kept confidential.

BWA may review Club financial status to maintain the integrity of the NBL1 West.

### 2.6.2. Annual Levy

Each Club must pay an Annual Levy, as set out in the NBL1 West budget prepared by BWA. This will be invoiced in accordance with payment options presented by the League Manager.

### 2.6.3. Withdrawal of Entry

If a Club withdraws after its entry is accepted, it remains liable for at least 50% of the Annual Levy. For clarity, a Club accepts for entry when both the Club and BWA have signed the Agreement.

If withdrawal occurs after the fixture is finalised, a forfeit fee will apply for each scheduled game in addition to the requirement to pay at least 50% of the Annual Levy.

### 2.6.4. Un-financial Status

Clubs may be declared un-financial if they fail to pay outstanding amounts to the NBL1 West or BWA. Un-financial Clubs will not be permitted to participate in the NBL1 West (refer to rule 2.2.6 Payment of fines).

### 2.6.5. NBL1 West Trade Identification (Logo)

The NBL1 West shall have an official Trade Identification (logo);

Clubs must use the logo in accordance with the Style Guide and include logos on match programs and promotional materials.

### 2.6.6. Broadcast Rights

The NBL1 West has exclusive rights to market recordings or broadcasts of NBL1 West Games (in any form).

Clubs may not sell broadcasts or recordings without written approval from the League Manager.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 15 of 50	
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO		
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY	30/06/2026
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Clubs may produce highlights for non-commercial promotional use.

## 3 PART 3

### 3.1. Affiliated Associations

Only Affiliated Associations approved by Basketball WA may compete in the NBL1 West competition.

### 3.2. NBL1 West Club contacts

Each NBL1 West Club must appoint two Delegates, with one being at executive level within the Club and one being at administrator level, and provide their contact details to BWA.

All official NBL1 West communication will be directed to the nominated Delegates (or one of the Delegates as notified by the NBL1 West Club).

### 3.3. Provision of Records or Information

In accordance with the Agreement, NBL1 West Clubs must provide the following data or information to BWA:

- a) Total NBL1 West program spend (expenses);
- b) The amount spent on each Player and coach;
- c) Total amount of NBL1 West related revenue;
- d) Total amount of the Affiliated Association's commercial revenue (for the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this rule requires the Affiliated Association to provide a breakdown of its commercial revenue); and
- e) Attendance data via the NBL1 West Club's ticketing platform.

The data and/or information must be provided in the method and manner as determined and advised to NBL1 West Clubs by BWA.

### 3.4. Compliance Matrix

- a) BWA will use the Compliance Matrix to assess each NBL1 West Club's operations (in the areas outlined in the Compliance Matrix) and the compliance of NBL1 West Clubs with these Rules of Operation and the Operations Manual.
- b) The Compliance Matrix contains criteria, that when satisfied by NBL1 West Clubs, will result in points (which vary, depending on the criteria) being assigned.
- c) NBL1 West Clubs must meet the defined points benchmark when all criteria are considered collectively.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 16 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				

- d) The criteria, points values and points benchmark are defined annually by BWA and provided to NBL1 West Clubs no later than the post-Season review meeting.
- e) A number of criteria are considered 'non-negotiable' criteria, which if not fulfilled, will mean the NBL1 West Club automatically fails to meet the minimum standard required under the Compliance Matrix, even if the points benchmark is met. BWA will advise NBL1 West Clubs of which criteria are 'non-negotiable' no later than the post-Season review meeting.
- f) If an NBL1 West Club fails to meet the minimum points benchmark, this will automatically trigger a review by BWA in accordance with the Agreement.
- g) BWA reserves the right under clause 17.7 of the Agreement to conduct a review or investigation in relation to the Club's compliance with the Agreement, the Rules of Operation, the Compliance Matrix and any operations manual at any time.
- h) If an NBL1 West Club receives a notice under clause 17.8(b) of the Agreement, BWA may (as set out in clause 17.9 of the Agreement):
  - a. continue the Licence on such additional conditions as BWA deems appropriate, including the requirement of a guarantee;
  - b. withhold (either temporarily or permanently) part or all of any Surplus Income (as defined in the Agreement) that BWA would otherwise distribute to the Club;
  - c. prohibit the Licensee from entering one or more Teams in the NBL1 West for as many Seasons as BWA deems appropriate;
  - d. deduct championship points or wins from one or both Club Teams for any Season (for the avoidance of doubt, the deduction of such points will impact the NBL1 West ladder);
  - e. impose any other sanction set out in the Rules of Operation or the Compliance Matrix;
  - f. suspend the Licence for such period of time that BWA deems appropriate; or
  - g. where permitted under clause 17.11 of the Agreement, terminate the Agreement with immediate effect by giving notice to the Club.

### 3.5. Venue Minimum Guidelines

- a) BWA is responsible for establishing the Venue Minimum Guidelines for competing in the NBL1 West and shall notify the Clubs of the Venue Minimum Guidelines prior to the start of each Season.
- b) These guidelines will be provided to NBL1 West Clubs prior to the beginning of the 2026 Season and reviewed on an annual basis. Where any changes are made, BWA will provide six months' notice to the NBL1 West Clubs.
- c) NBL1 West Clubs must use their best endeavours to meet Minimum Venue Guidelines.
- d) If an existing NBL1 West Club operates a venue that does not meet one or more requirements of the Venue Minimum Guidelines, they must apply to BWA for a waiver prior to the Season commencing. Any new NBL1 West Club that is permitted to join the NBL1 West after the 2026 Season (which has not previously participated in the NBL1 West), must comply with the Venue Minimum Guidelines and is not permitted to apply for a waiver.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 17 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



- e) The Venue Minimum Guidelines are set out in Appendix 3 Venue Minimum Guidelines.

### 3.5.1. Venue Signage & Flags

Each NBL1 West venue must

- a) Display signage showing the NBL1 West Trade Identification (logo) as provided by the League Manager and in the manner requested;
- b) Display signage in respect of NBL1 West sponsors as provided by and in the manner requested by the League Manager; and
- c) Display the Australian national flag, Aboriginal flag and Torres Strait Island flag such that they are clearly visible during all Games.

## 3.6. NBL1 West Club Uniforms and Attire

### 3.6.1. Uniform Sets

Each NBL1 West Club must have at least two uniform sets:

- a) One predominantly light with dark player numbers; and
- b) One predominantly dark with light player numbers.

Any uniform design changes require League Manager approval.

Any additional uniforms may be worn with prior approval by the League Manager.

All uniforms must comply with the NBL1 West Uniform Style Guide.

Undergarments, sleeves, and skins must be tight-fitting compression material and only black, white, beige or the primary colour of the uniform being worn for the Game.

Strapping tape must be black, white, beige or the same primary colour of the uniform being worn for the Game.

### 3.6.2. Team Uniform Allocations

The League Manager will issue a weekly uniform allocation roster.

The Home Team will generally wear their dark uniform unless otherwise directed.

However, Clubs must not assume they will be the light or dark uniform colour until the weekly uniform allocation roster is distributed or prior approval is granted by the League Manager.

### 3.6.3. Uniform Numbers

Permitted uniform numbers are: 0, 00, 1-99.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 18 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



Numbers must be clear and contrasting to the uniform colour, positioned on the front and back in accordance with the Uniform Style Guide. Technical Officials must be able to clearly identify a player's number from both front and behind while on court.

### 3.6.4. Player Names

Player surnames may be displayed on the back of uniforms.

### 3.6.5. Trade Identification (logo)

All uniforms must display the NBL1 West Trade Identification (logo) in accordance with the Uniform Style Guide (refer

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Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 19 of 50	
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO		
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY	30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.					



Appendix 2 Uniform Style Guide).

Failure to comply will result in fines per incorrect uniform, per match.

### 3.6.6. NBL1 West Club Logos

NBL1 West Club and sponsor logos must comply with the Uniform Style Guide regarding placement.

## 3.7. Seating

### 3.7.1. NBL1 West Officials

Each NBL1 West Club must provide seating for NBL1 West officials when notified in advance.

Home Clubs may allocate preferential seating to their members but must make reasonable efforts to accommodate the Visiting Team.

Home Clubs must permit free entry to NBL1 West Season pass holders.

### 3.7.2. Crowd Attendance

The official attendance number of each Game must be submitted to the League Manager in the required format and timeline.

## 4 PART 4

### 4.1. Team content

#### 4.1.1. Registration

- a) Before participating in the NBL1 West, all Players and Coaches must be registered in such manner as specified by BWA.
- b) NBL1 West Team squad (including training only) members, who may not be contracted, must be registered in the manner specified by BWA. They are also required to complete appropriate integrity or other prescribed education modules as specified by BWA.

#### 4.1.2. Contract System

Each Player, coach and assistant coach must have a written contract with their NBL1 West Club, regardless of whether they are entitled to payment of any amount.

A copy of each signed and witnessed contract must be submitted to BWA within ten (10) business days of signing.

The Club must retain a copy of each contract for at least five (5) years after the termination date.

A Club must not engage any more than twenty (20) Players under active player contracts each Season.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 20 of 50	
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO		
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY	30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.					



Clubs must comply with the free agency parameters determined by BWA (each year) as notified to the Clubs by the League Manager.

Subject to any requirements or restrictions under the free agency parameters, contracts may be submitted to BWA at any time, however, player eligibility for Finals are subject to rule 4.11.

Multi-year contracts are permitted but must clearly state the termination date. If the contract includes an option that can be exercised by either the Player or the Team, a new contract must be lodged with BWA for each Season in which the option applies.

Clubs are responsible for ensuring all contracts comply with relevant legal requirements, including:

- a) Fair Work Act 2009 and any regulations;
- b) State Superannuation Act 2009;
- c) Workers Compensation and Injury Management Act 2023;
- d) Relevant Australian Tax office requirements.

### 4.1.3. Concussion Procedure

Clubs must adhere to the [Basketball Australia Concussion Policy](#), ensuring education for appropriate Players, Team Staff, Personnel and other relevant persons.

## 4.2. Restricted Player Classifications

### 4.2.1. Category A Players

- a) A player who is not a citizen of a FIBA Asia/Oceania region or an Australian permanent resident or refugee; or
- b) Any player (including Australian and FIBA Asia/Oceania citizens) who played one (1) or more games (regular season or finals) **between July 1st & January 31st, prior to the upcoming NBL1 West Season**, in any of the following Tier 1 leagues, will be deemed a Category A restricted player for the entire NBL1 West Season.

NBA
EuroLeague

- c) Any player (including Australian and FIBA Asia/Oceania citizens) who played one (1) or more games (regular season or finals) **at any stage in the 12 months prior to the start of the upcoming NBL1 West Season**, in any of the following Tier 1 leagues, will be deemed a Category A restricted player for the entire NBL1 West Season.

WNBA
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Should a player meet the criteria of Category A and any of the Category B or Category C criteria, the player shall be deemed a Category A player. No dispensation shall apply for Category A players.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 21 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



- d) At any time, a player who gains Australian citizenship through naturalisation or permanent residency, must lodge official documentation to the NBL1 West League Manager to gain approval, prior to being deemed an unrestricted player.

Citizenship does not override rule 4.2.1 b) or c), and the player would still be deemed restricted.

## 4.2.2. Category B Players

A player who –

- a) Holds FIBA Oceania or FIBA Asia eligibility; and

Fulfils at least one of b) and c) below –

- b) In the NBL or WNBL season leading up to the NBL1 West Season, at a point determined by rule 4.2.5, averaged equal to or greater than fifty percent (50%) of the available court time per game; or
- c) Has played in a competition where they have played in at least two (2) games of equal to or greater than fifty percent (50%) of available court time between July 1<sup>st</sup> and January 31<sup>st</sup> prior to the upcoming NBL1 West season in any of the (top division) leagues (male/female equivalent) listed in rule 4.2.3;

Will be deemed a Category B player for the entire NBL1 West season.

## 4.2.3. Category B Players – Restricted Leagues

NBA G-League
FIBA Basketball Champions League
FIBA Americas League (LDA)
Liga ACB (Spain)
Basketball Super League - BSL (Turkey)
VTB United League (Russia)
Basketball Bundesliga (Germany)
Lega Basket Serie A (Italy)
LNB Pro A (France)
Adriatic Basketball League (ABA)
Greek A1 League (Greece)
Lietuvos krepšinio lyga (Lithuania)
Chinese Basketball Association (CBA)
Israeli Premier League (Israel)
Liga Nacional De Basquet (Argentina)
Campeonato Brasileiro de basquete (Brazil)
B.League (Japan)

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 22 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



## 4.2.4. Category C Players

A player who –

- a) Holds FIBA Oceania or FIBA Asia eligibility; and
- b) In the NBL or WNBL season leading up to the NBL1 West Season, at a point determined by rule 4.2.5, averaged equal to or greater than twenty-five percent (25%), but less than fifty percent (50%) of the available court time per game;

Will be deemed a Category C player for the entire NBL1 West Season.

- c) If a player fulfils the criteria of a Category B player and a Category C player, they will be deemed a Category B player.

## 4.2.5. Category B and C Players – Calculation of NBL/WNBL Minutes

- a) The calculated player minutes average, in the current NBL/WNBL Report will determine whether a player is a Category B or Category C Restricted player under rule 4.2.2 and rule 4.2.4, which will be determined by Basketball Australia and released at a point by the NBL1 West League Manager, no later than January 31st, prior to the NBL1 West Season commencement date.
- b) Players on injury waivers for WNBL or NBL will not have games they were unavailable for included in their calculations.
- c) Players, must (by substituting into games), compete in a minimum of four (4) games of NBL or WNBL in the season for minute restrictions to apply.

## 4.2.6. WA-Developed Junior Player

- a) A Player who has registered and qualified for finals in at least two (2) junior WABL seasons with an affiliated Western Australian association (age group Under 18 or lower).
- b) A Player who has registered and participated in at least two (2) junior State Championships, State Titles or Country Championships with a non-WABL affiliated Western Australian association (age group Under 18 or lower).
- c) A Player who has, before they turn the age of 20, registered and qualified for finals in at least two (2) WABL seasons (including open championship) with an affiliated Western Australian association. This player must previously have resided in the Wheatbelt, Great Southern, Pilbara or Kimberley and not previously have registered for an Affiliated Association in a region (including metro Perth) with an NBL1 team.

## 4.2.7. WA-Talent Credit

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 23 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



The three-point allowance described in 4.3.4 applies.

## 4.3. Restricted Player Limits

### 4.3.1. Points and Maximum Caps

- a) A Team roster must not exceed nineteen (19) points in Active Restricted Players; and
- b) A Team may roster a maximum of three (3) Active Restricted Players.

Point Values and Per Roster Maximum	Points	Max Per Roster
Category A	8	2
Category B	6	3
Category C	3	3

### 4.3.2. Absolute Prohibitions

A Team must not have:

- a) More than two (2) active Category A players;
- b) More than three (3) active players of any Category combination;
- c) Any roster > 19 points, via active players, unless rule 4.3.3 applies; or
- d) Any roster > 22 points, via active players, under any circumstances.

### 4.3.3. WA-Talent Credit Ceiling

A Team that holds the WA-Talent Credit may roster up to twenty-two (22) points in Restricted Players; player-count limits in rule 4.3.1 still apply.

For the year **2026 only**, all Teams will be credited the WA-Talent Credit and have 22 points available to use.

### 4.3.4. Earning the WA-Talent Credit (commencing 2027, based on 2026 Season rosters)

Credit is earned for the following season when, in the Season just completed, the Club must fulfil all criteria below –

- a) Contracted (calculated as active contracts following the final Regular Season Game) equal to or greater than seventy percent (70%) of all used roster spots to WA-Developed players;

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 24 of 50	
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO		
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY	30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.					



- b) At least five WA-Developed players in 4.3.4 c) combined to average greater than or equal to 90 minutes (this calculation does not consider DNP's) on-court per Regular Season Game, with each of the five players also playing enough games to qualify for Finals; and
- c) At least two of the five WA-Developed players in 4.3.4 b) must satisfy the WA-Developed definition (rule 4.2.6) based on time spent specifically at the NBL1 West Club they are contracted to.

BWA will provide each NBL1 West Club with a status update for each Team at the mid-way point of each Season, and after the final Regular Season Game.

The credit will be calculated officially following the last game of the regular Season.

### 4.3.5. Points Declaration

Rosters and point calculations must be lodged in the method prescribed by BWA.

### 4.3.6. Penalty for Breach

Non-compliant rosters must be rectified within five (5) business days.

Any breach may be referred for further investigation by the League Manager and subject to sanction.

Contracts will not be accepted by BWA if it is identified the submission will breach any of rule 4.3.

## 4.4. Dispensation for Restricted Players

### 4.4.1. Eligibility

A Club may apply (via email to the League Manager) to have a Restricted Player re-classified if the Player –

- a) Is a citizen of a FIBA Asia or FIBA Oceania nation, an Australian permanent resident, or a recognised refugee; and
- b) Has played at least 100 men's games or 90 women's games in the NBL1 West (or former SBL) for the same Affiliated Association with which the player is to be registered; and
- c) Would otherwise be a Category B (rule 4.2.2) or Category C (rule 4.2.4) Player.

### 4.4.2. Maximum Number and Request for Dispensation

- a) A Club may have a maximum of one player per team qualify for dispensation under rule 4.4.1b)).
- b) A Club must request, directly to BWA for dispensation under rule 4.4.1b). It will not be automatically applied by BWA.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 25 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



### 4.4.3. Proof of Citizenship / National-Team Eligibility

- a) Where the Player claims citizenship of a FIBA Asia/Oceania country that does not issue its own passport and is legally dependent on another nation (e.g. Guam, American Samoa), the Player must present a FIBA Player ID that confirms eligibility to represent that country in official competition.
- b) For all other cases, the Club must supply a valid passport or immigration document.

### 4.4.4. Special Foreign Player Licence

A Player who immigrated to Australia with their parents prior to their 15<sup>th</sup> birthday but does not hold Australian citizenship may apply for a Special Foreign Player Licence to receive dispensation from rule 4.2.1.

### 4.4.5. Effect of Approval

Upon approval by the League Manager, the Player is deemed Unrestricted and no longer counts towards Category B or Category C limits or the Restricted-Player points total specified in rule 4.3.1.

## 4.5. Restricted and Foreign-born Player Procedures

### 4.5.1. Registration and Documentary Evidence

- a) General requirement – A Restricted Player must complete the same on-line registration as an Unrestricted Player and supply the additional evidence set out in this rule.
- b) Foreign born / Asia-Oceania / Permanent-Resident Players –
  - i. Basketball Australia clearance; and
  - ii. FIBA Oceania Foreign Player Licence in the player’s legal name.
- c) Refugee Players – Copy of National Identification Certificate or their passport as proof of refugee status.
- d) Club responsibility – The Club is solely responsible for declaring the correct Restricted-Player category and for lodging all supporting documents.
- e) League check – The League Manager may audit any registration at any time and request further proof; non-compliance with any such request is considered a breach of these rules.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 26 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY
30/06/2026				
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



## 4.5.2. Australian Citizenship and Other Status Changes

- a) Naturalisation – A player who gains Australian citizenship through naturalisation must lodge a *Certificate of Australian Citizenship* with the League Manager before they may participate in the NBL1 West as a non-Restricted Player (except where 4.2.1 b) or c) apply).
- b) Other status events – Change of passport, FIBA nationality, or grant of a Special Foreign Player Licence must be notified to the League Manager within three (3) business days of the issuing date.
- c) Immediate roster adjustment - Once the League Manager accepts the documentation (confirmed in writing), the player’s Restricted-Status Classification (Category A, B, C or Unrestricted) updates **immediately** and the Club’s roster points are recalculated.
- d) It is the NBL1 West Club's responsibility to ensure the correct registration procedure (as prescribed by the League Manager) is followed and completed (confirmed via email) before playing a player.
- e) A Team that plays an ineligible player who is not registered and assigned to the team, or does not have Basketball Australia and FIBA authorisation, will forfeit the game and be fined or sanctioned in accordance with these rules.

## 4.5.3. Season Definition and Registration Expiry

- a) For the purposes of rules 4.2–4.5, the **Season ends on the Team’s final official game**, whether that is the last NBL1 West regular-Season fixture, an NBL1 West Finals match, or the Team’s final game at the NBL1 National Finals, whichever is later.
- b) A player’s registration and Restricted-Status Classification remain in force until the Season end defined above, unless altered earlier under rule 4.5.2 or rule 4.4.5.

## 4.5.4. Multi-Year Contracts – Risk of Classification Change

A Player signed to a contract for more than one Season may have their Restricted-Status Classification change from Season to Season – either under these Rules of Operation or following any subsequent amendment to these Rules of Operation.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 27 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



## 4.6. Other Eligibility Items

### 4.6.1. Minimum Age and Indemnification

- a) A player must turn at least 14 years of age during the year in which the player seeks to register. Any Team that plays an underage player will automatically forfeit the match and be fined in accordance with these Rules of Operation.
- b) In addition to registration by the player, a parent of a player who is sixteen (16) years of age or younger at the commencement of the Season must complete and sign in the presence of a Delegate, an indemnification form provided by the NBL1 West in recognition that the NBL1 West is a senior competition.

## 4.7. Release for State and National Commitments

Any player that misses NBL1 West scheduled games whilst representing their state in their country's National Championships or on official national team duties at camps (FIBA recognised countries only) or playing for their country, including 3x3 National duties in FIBA recognised tournaments, shall have those games missed due to such participation, included in the calculations for Finals eligibility.

The player must be registered and have participated in a minimum of four (4) games for that Team, prior to the missed games, to have those games included in the calculations for Finals eligibility, unless the games missed are prior to the Teams fourth regular Season scheduled game. Applications must be in writing to the League Manager at least fourteen (14) days prior to the start of the Finals.

Details of games missed, and reasonable proof of national activity must be included. Such commitments prior to a player being deemed eligible to play in the NBL1 West (as determined by BWA) will not be considered in determining eligibility. No applications will be considered outside these timelines.

## 4.8. Clearances

### 4.8.1. Player clearances

Any player who has played in at least one (1) regular Season fixtured NBL1 West Game of the current Season for an NBL1 West Club, is ineligible to play for another NBL1 West Club during that Season, unless a dispensation is received from the NBL1 West Commission for exceptional circumstances.

Players who receive a clearance to an NBL1 West Club after the conclusion of round 13 of the current NBL1 West Season, are ineligible to play for the remainder of the Season, unless a dispensation is received from the NBL1 West Commission for exceptional circumstances.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 28 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY
30/06/2026				
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				

## 4.8.2. Clearance Approval

An NBL1 West Club may decline a player a clearance for one or both of the following reasons:

- a) The player currently holds an active contract with the NBL1 West Club.

An active contract is defined as a contract lodged and accepted in accordance with the NBL1 West rules by BWA.

- b) The player is on an active sponsored visa of the NBL1 West Club.

If the NBL1 West Club declines a player’s clearance, they must respond in writing, outlining reasons to the NBL1 West League Manager within five (5) days of the clearance request being issued.

The NBL1 West League Manager will then review and determine the clearance status.

Should no response be received from the current NBL1 West Club within five (5) days, the player can be cleared by BWA.

It is the sole responsibility of the destination NBL1 West Club to ensure that the required clearance is obtained before any player takes the court, to avoid the penalties of playing an ineligible player.

## 4.9. Player Contracts

### 4.9.1. Termination of Contract

If a player's contract is terminated by a Club, or terminated by mutual agreement, the player is permitted to play for another NBL1 West Club upon clearance approval subject to rule 4.8.

### 4.9.2. Resignation of Contract – Employment Contract

If a player resigns or terminates their contract any time after signing and lodgement (and acceptance) with BWA, and the player intends to play with another NBL1 West Club, the following will apply:

- a) The player may sign with another NBL1 West Club but is not eligible to play any NBL1 West Games for a period of 28 days from the start of the Season, or from the date of the notice of resignation or termination if the NBL1 West Season has already commenced.
- b) If a Club disputes a player's resignation or termination, and the player wishes to sign with another NBL1 West Club, the player must provide evidence of the resignation or termination by email to the NBL1 West Club and the League Manager, clearly stating the resignation or termination and the effective date.
- c) If a player has already played in at least one (1) regular Season fixtured NBL1 West Game of the current Season for an NBL1 West Club, then rule 4.8 will be applied.

### 4.9.3. Resignation of Contract – Volunteer Contract

If a player with a current contract registered with BWA, resigns or terminates their contract between 01 December and the end of the NBL1 West Season, and the player intends to play with another NBL1 West Club during the current Season, the following will apply:

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 29 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				

- a) The player may sign with another NBL1 West Club but is not eligible to play any NBL1 West Games for a period of 28 days from the start of the Season, or from the resignation date if the NBL1 West Season has already commenced.
- b) If a Club disputes a player's resignation or termination, and the player wishes to sign with another NBL1 West Club (after 01 December and before the end of the current NBL1 West Season), the player must provide evidence of the resignation or termination by email to the NBL1 West Club and the NBL1 West League Manager, clearly stating the resignation or termination and the effective date.
- c) If a player has already played in at least one (1) regular Season fixtured NBL1 West Game of the current Season for an NBL1 West Club, then rule 4.8 will be applied.

## 4.10. Clearance process

The process for obtaining a clearance varies depending on where the player is transferring from. It is the responsibility of the destination NBL1 West Club to ensure the correct procedure is followed and completed (including email confirmation) before registering or playing a player.

### 4.10.1. Internal NBL1 West Clearance

For internal NBL1 West clearances where the player was last contracted to an NBL1 West Club, the clearance process is:

- a) Destination NBL1 West Club or player submits a clearance request via an online platform as directed by BWA.
- b) Clearances are required irrespective of the time that has elapsed since the player last played in the NBL1 West or SBL competitions.
- c) The League Manager will endeavour to lodge the clearance request to the player's current NBL1 West Club within 2 business days.
- d) The players current NBL1 West Club will receive a clearance request (via email) from the League Manager seeking clearance approval.
- e) Should no response be received from the current NBL1 West Club within five (5) consecutive days, the player can be cleared by the League Manager.
- f) Following five (5) consecutive days, or an earlier received response, the League Manager will send a notice to the player's destination NBL1 West Club advising the result of the lodged clearance request.

### 4.10.2. External Clearance

For clearances where the player last played in an Australian representative competition outside of the NBL1 West or SBL, irrespective of time elapsed, the player must complete a Basketball Australia domestic player clearance form and forward it to the players former association to gain approval before being eligible to play.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 30 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



Basketball Australia Domestic Clearance Form: <https://basketballwa.asn.au/policies-forms/>

### 4.10.3. International Clearance

If the player last played in an overseas competition, irrespective of time elapsed, the destination NBL1 West Club must request an International Clearance on behalf of the player via Basketball Australia.

An approved Letter of Clearance (LOC) from Basketball Australia is required, before being eligible to play NBL1 West.

## 4.11. Finals qualification

- a) To be eligible for finals, a player must –
  - i. Have played over 33% of games for their NBL1 West Club team in that Season; and be registered and eligible to play Regular Season Games by the commencement of a specific round as determined by BWA on an annual basis following the finalisation of fixtures.

- b) When calculating a player’s games played, a player’s name must appear on the score sheet and they must have been in uniform and on the bench or court for the duration of the game to be credited with a game played.

If the calculation is not a whole number, it will be rounded up. For example, 19.1 goes to 20.

- c) Playing an ineligible player in a Finals game will result in an immediate forfeit and further penalties may be applied by BWA.
- d) When a NBL1 West Game has commenced and the game is subsequently abandoned, all players on the score sheet shall be deemed to have participated in the fixture.

For the purposes of player Finals eligibility, if the game is subsequently replayed, any player on the score sheet who was on the score sheet for the abandoned NBL1 West Game shall only be credited with one game's participation in terms of that fixture.

- e) When a NBL1 West Game is forfeited, only those players on the score sheet for the Team which did not forfeit will be deemed to have participated in the fixture. Where the forfeit is notified prior to preparation of a scoresheet, all players eligible at that time to play for the Team which did not forfeit will be deemed to have participated in the fixture.

## 4.12. Injury List

BWA shall maintain, during the Season, a list of players who, if not for injury or illness, would be eligible to represent a Team in regular season fixtures (known hereafter as the injury list) and have their games missed counted towards Finals eligibility.

For a player to be placed on the injury list, the request must come from a NBL1 West Club in writing to the League Manager requesting the player to be deactivated and placed on the injury list. The club then has 10 business days to submit a medical certificate for games to be counted towards

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 31 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



Finals eligibility. The player will only be added to the injury list from time of notification of the injury to the League Manager.

In considering any application the League Manager shall have regard only to two criteria:

- a) Whether the player is a bona-fide player for the Team as indicated by the player being contracted, registered and eligible to play for the Team as determined by BWA;
- b) The validity of the injury or illness preventing the player from otherwise qualifying to play must be demonstrated by submission of a medical certificate with dates the player was medically unfit to play from a suitably qualified medical practitioner.

A player on the injury list is not eligible to play until a written request to the League Manager is supplied by an NBL1 West Club requesting the player be removed from the injury list.

## 5 PART 5

### 5.1. Referee administration

#### 5.1.1. Referee Appointments and Development

BWA shall appoint a Referees technical advisor to supervise the scheduling, administration and development of Referees.

#### 5.1.2. Appointment of Referees

Referees for NBL1 West Games will be appointed by the NBL1 West .

### 5.2. Obligations of Referees

#### 5.2.1. Behaviour and Performance of Referees

Referees shall conduct themselves in a manner reflecting the standards and expectations outlined in the Basketball WA NBL1 West Referee Manual. Referees will be managed in accordance with the NBL1 West Referee Manual.

### 5.3. Home Club obligations to Referees

#### 5.3.1. Referee Escort

The Home Club must ensure referees are escorted to and from the court by the Game Commissioner or a designated, identifiable person. This person must be a legal adult.

This person is also responsible for the reasonable needs of the Referees. They are responsible for the security of the Referees at all times. This includes departure from the venue.

#### 5.3.2. Referees' Change Room

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 32 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



The Home Venue must provide referees with a change room that meet the requirements outlined in the Operations Manual.

### 5.3.3. Refreshments for Referees

It is the responsibility of the Home Team to ensure that adequate refreshments are made available for the Referees during, and post, game. For clarity, bottled water is an adequate refreshment.

### 5.3.4. Amenities

Each Referee and Referee coach are entitled to free entry to games they officiate, and an invitation to post-game functions.

The Referee coach must be provided a reserved seat with an adequate view for filming of the court.

Referees and Referee coaches rostered to the fixtured game are entitled to bring a guest who must be given free entry, however, they are not guaranteed a seat. If a game is a sell-out, the guest is not entitled to receive free entry to a game.

## 5.4. Reports and Tribunal

### 5.4.1. General Reporting Obligations

Referees are responsible for reporting any misconduct by Players, coaches, Personnel, Club member or official, Affiliated Association Member, Technical Official, or spectators.

Reports should be lodged within 48 hours, however, late reports do not invalidate the report.

Reports will be managed by an independent tribunal appointed by BWA when one is required. Where appropriate, the League Manager may refer a report directly to the BWA Association Development Manager (with approval of the Chief Basketball Officer) who will act as the Investigations Officer and determine the next steps (which may include a tribunal hearing).

In the absence of the Association Development Manager (or equivalent), the Chief Basketball Officer will appoint an Investigations Officer. The Chief Basketball Officer reserves the right, at their sole discretion, to appoint an independent Investigations Officer if deemed appropriate.

The Investigations Officer will operate within the parameters of their role as detailed in rule **Error! Reference source not found.**, ensuring this is also compliant with Basketball Australia's National Integrity Framework if this is relevant to the investigation.

All complaints or protests must be directed to the League Manager in the first instance.

Tribunal procedures will follow BWA guidelines.

If a player, coach or team official has been sanctioned by any basketball authority directly or indirectly affiliated with Basketball Australia and such penalty precludes them from participating in a Game that player must not participate in a Game.

### 5.4.2. Investigations Officer

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 33 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



- a) The League Manager may request the Chief Basketball Officer to engage an Investigations Officer to investigate matters related to:
  - i. The conduct of any party which is the subject of a report by a Referee listed in 5.4.1;
  - ii. Match incidents before, during, or after Games; and
  - iii. Any other compliance, conduct or disciplinary matter.
- b) Investigations can only be undertaken at the direction of the Chief Basketball Officer and may be commenced upon:
  - i. Formal written complaint to the League Manager; or
  - ii. Referral by the NBL1 West Commission (without a complaint having been received); or
  - iii. At the discretion of the Chief Basketball Officer.
- c) No other party is authorised to instigate an investigation, and the League Manager is not compelled to initiate an investigation under rule **Error! Reference source not found.**b) i.
- d) NBL1 West Clubs must provide the Investigations Officer with any requested materials or items. The Investigations Officer is authorised to accept or provide information pertaining to the matter being investigated only. The Investigations Officer may visit Clubs or venues.
- e) The Investigations Officer may not comment publicly or to the media during investigations. All communication will be through the Chief Basketball Officer.
- f) The Investigations Officer shall report to the Chief Basketball Officer. The Chief Basketball Officer may determine how the relevant conduct will be dealt with in accordance with these Rules of Operation. The Chief Basketball Officer may refer the report to the NBL1 West Commission (or separate panel) for hearing and to determine if there has been a breach of these Rules of Operation, the Operations Manual or any other applicable rule, regulation, policy or code and, if so, any penalties to be applied.
- g) If a sanction is issued by the Association Development Manager (or delegate) under Basketball Australia's National Integrity Framework, which is not accepted by the respondent, the matter will be dealt with in accordance with the National Integrity Framework and may be heard by the NBL1 Commission as a hearing panel or such other hearing panel as determined by BWA.

## 6 PART 6

### 6.1. Fixturing

#### 6.1.1. Scheduling Responsibility

BWA will determine fixtures for the regular Season and Finals, using best endeavours to ensure fairness and minimising economic and logistical impacts. The process for determining fixtures may be set out in the Operations Manual.

All NBL1 West Games will generally be fixtured as double headers between the men's and women's Teams from the same two NBL1 West Clubs.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 34 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



NBL1 West Games will primarily be scheduled for Friday and Saturday evenings or Sunday, but mid-week games may be scheduled where required.

## 6.1.2. Official Fixtures

The League Manager will issue official fixtures at least four (4) weeks before the season starts.

## 6.1.3. Amendment to Fixtures

Once released, official fixtures will not be amended unless authorised by the League Manager. Clubs requesting fixture changes may incur a fine.

## 6.1.4. Game Abandonment

If the Club believes that an NBL1 West Game may be abandoned, the Home Team Game Commissioner shall contact the League Manager as soon as possible.

The final decision as to whether the game is abandoned lies with the contacted BWA staff member as indicated below.

If the League Manager cannot be contacted in the first instance, the General Manager of Competitions, followed by the BWA Executive will be contacted.

If no BWA staff as indicated above can be contacted, the final decision rests with the game Referees.

The following criteria will be used by the League Manager to determine the result of an NBL1 West Game that cannot be completed.

- a) If abandonment occurs after three-quarter time with a margin of 15+ points, the result will stand.
- b) In other cases, the League Manager will refer to the NBL1 West Commission for determination of whether a game may be replayed or rescheduled.

If a match Referee abandons a game because of misconduct by a player or players from a Team, it shall be deemed a forfeit, and a report must be lodged with the League Manager.

To determine which Team the forfeit will be applied to (one or both), the League Manager will refer to the NBL1 West Commission for determination.

## 6.1.5. Team Withdrawal

If a Team withdraws during the Season, the League Manager will determine adjustments to fixtures to minimise disadvantage to other Teams.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 35 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



## 6.2. Door Charges

Each NBL1 West Club may set door price for regular Season, exhibition, pre-season or Finals games. Basketball WA will provide a recommended ticket sale price to NBL1 West Clubs, which will be reflected in the NBL1 Operations manual and reviewed annually.

### 6.2.1. Ticketing Arrangements for Finals

For Finals games:

- a) Home Teams electing to pre-sell tickets must notify the Visiting Team of arrangements and prices at least 24 hours before sales open.
- b) At least 75 tickets must be reserved for sale for the Visiting Team. If not used 72 hours prior to the match, the Home Team may release them for sale.
  - i. If the game is scheduled within 24 hours, this period is reduced to six (6) hours, commencing 9am the day of the game.
- c) Home Teams hosting both men’s and women’s games may split ticketing.
- d) If not pre-selling tickets, Home Teams must notify the Visiting Team within 48 hours of match confirmation.
  - i. If the Visiting Team travels more than 100km, the Home Team must offer the Visiting Team 100 pre-sale tickets.
  - ii. Remaining tickets must be sold at the venue on a first-come, first-served basis with no preference to Home Team members.

## 6.3. Game Day Timing

### 6.3.1. Pre-Game Requirements

NBL1 West Clubs must adhere to the changeroom, and warm-up court access requirements as outlined in the Operations Manual.

### 6.3.2. Pre-Game Announcements

Teams and Personnel must be on court ten (10) minutes before tip-off for introductions and formalities, which occur with five (5) minutes remaining on the warm-up clock.

With five (5) minutes remaining on the clock during warm-up, the Home Team must ensure the requirements outlined in the Operations Manual for pre-game announcements are adhered to.

### 6.3.3. Game Timing

A minimum warm-up period of twenty (20) minutes will be provided prior to tip-off. Games consist of four (4) quarters of ten (10) minutes each, fully timed.

There is a two (2) minute break between quarters and a ten (10) minute half-time break- unless otherwise directed. At least five (5) minutes of half-time must be available for team warm-ups.

If scores are tied at full-time, five (5) minutes of extra time will be played, repeated if necessary, until a winner is determined.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 36 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



### 6.3.4. Half Time Extension

The Home Team may request an extension of the half-time break up to fifteen minutes for special occasions (e.g. retiring a uniform).

Approval must be sought from the League Manager at least four (4) days prior.

### 6.3.5. Starting time change

The Game Commissioner must ensure games start on time.

Fixture time changes after official fixture release require written approval from the League Manager and the Visiting Team.

A fine may apply for unapproved changes.

Any delays due to unforeseen circumstances (E.g. travel) must be communicated immediately to the League Manager and opposing team.

## 6.4. Playing rules

All NBL1 West Games will be played under FIBA rules, including NBL1 West rule variations as notified.

Teams must have:

- A minimum of twelve (12) players contracted on their playing list.
- At least eight (8) eligible and dressed players for each regular Season or Finals game.

Prior to each Season, a BWA representative will communicate any points of emphasis to be applied by referees.

## 6.5. Home Team responsibilities

### 6.5.1. Game Commissioner

Home Club's must appoint a Game Commissioner for each game, who is responsible for executing the duties outlined in the Operations Manual.

### 6.5.2. Access to Games

The Home Team must allow free entry for:

- Up to thirty (30) personnel from the Visiting Team;
- Any person presenting an NBL1 West season pass or media pass – if the game is not already at capacity; and
- Six (6) courtside tickets (or as near as possible where available) must be provided to NBL1 West in accordance with the Agreement.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 37 of 50	
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO		
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY	30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.					



- d) Should a Visiting Team have more than thirty (30) Personnel enter the venue at no charge on the night, the Home Team may invoice the Visiting Team the cost of entry for any number above thirty (30).

### 6.5.3. Game Program

The Home Team may choose to produce a physical or digital game program.

If the Home Team elects to not produce a physical or digital game program, a list of Team names, Personnel and Player details (name, number, height, position) must be provided to coaches, statisticians and Referees.

### 6.5.4. Balls

The Home Team must provide:

- A match ball and a spare “blood” ball.
- Three (3) official league balls to the Visiting Team for warm-up.

### 6.5.5. Option of Ends

The Home Team may choose which end to attack in the first period and which team bench to use.

Warm-ups will occur at the attacking end.

### 6.5.6. Player Bench Security

The Home Team is responsible for ensuring the Visiting Team’s bench is secure, safe, and protected from harassment.

### 6.5.7. Disruption of Game

Aerosol horns, whistles, vuvuzelas, and megaphones are prohibited.

Other noise makers (party horns, percussion instruments) may be permitted if they do not interfere with officiating. Referees may stop the game and request their removal via the Game Commissioner.

Some venues may have policies that restrict use of permitted items of this rule.

### 6.5.8. Floor Maintenance

Home Teams must ensure:

- Two (2) floor wipers aged twelve (12) or older are present during the game and are adequately instructed on their duties prior to tip off.
- No promotions or activations introduce foreign substances to the court surface or surrounding court area.
- A blood kit is available in accordance with [Basketball Australia Policy](#).

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 38 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				



## 6.5.9. Court Announcer and Music

The Home Team must provide a Court Announcer and/or appropriate music personnel for each game, ensuring all relevant personnel adhere to the guidelines in the Operations Manual.

It is the responsibility of NBL1 West Clubs to ensure all Personnel have read and understand the guidelines in the Operations Manual.

## 6.5.10. Score Table and Statisticians

- a) The Home Team must provide a score table consisting of a minimum four scoreable officials, two of which must be at least Level 2 qualified, and the remainder shall be at least Level 1 qualified, unless prior exemption approval is granted by the League Manager.
- b) The Home Team must provide a separate tablet or laptop at either the score table or statisticians table, available for the chief Referee in accordance with the Instant Replay System Policy.
- c) The Home Team is responsible for recording the statistics of the game and providing this information to both teams and to the League Manager in accordance with the process outlined in the Operations Manual.

## 6.5.11. Documented Medical Procedures

The Home Team shall have a documented incident procedure to follow in the case of serious injury and with which the Game Commissioner is familiar.

## 6.5.12. Video Recording and Live Streaming of Games

- a) The Home Team must ensure each game is video recorded and live streamed as outlined in the Operations Manual.
- b) The Home Team must provide a video producer to manage the live stream to a platform approved by the League Manager ensuring they follow the process outlined in the Operations Manual.

## 6.5.13. Game Day Photography

The Home Team must have a suitably qualified or capable photographer on-site for each NBL1 West Game who must ensure they follow the process outlined in the Operations Manual.

## 6.5.14. Post-Game Procedure

It is the responsibility of the Home Team to ensure:

- a) at game end following reconciliation of the statistics and score sheet, the game shall be finalised within the statistics software program to upload the Game Statistics to the NBL1 West designated data warehouse;
- b) Make sure each head coach completes an MVP voting slip immediately after each game; and

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 39 of 50	
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO		
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY	30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.					



- c) Within one (1) hour of the game concluding, provide the League Manager with a copy of the final scoresheet, total attendance & vote slips in the provided format.

## 6.6. Protest procedures

### 6.6.1. Protest

All protests (in accordance with FIBA Official Basketball Rules) must be submitted in writing to the League Manager within forty-eight (48) hours of the incident.

The League Manager is not obliged to meet face to face and may deal with the protest by phone, video conferencing, email or such means as appropriate.

Upon receipt of a protest, the League Manager shall immediately notify the opposing team in the match that is subject to protest.

## 6.7. Forfeited games

A forfeit is deemed to occur when insufficient players representing a Team are present at the fixtured starting time for a NBL1 West Game. The League Manager may refer to the NBL1 West Commission to determine if the outcome is to be a forfeit, and if it is not deemed a forfeit, whether the game may be rescheduled.

If a team forfeits:

- The game will be recorded as a loss with a score of zero (0) points to twenty (20).
- Forfeits may result in penalties as outlined in Appendix 1.
- The League Manager may investigate and impose additional penalties.

Notwithstanding rule 6.1.4 Game abandonment, a forfeited game shall not be replayed.

## 6.8. Competition ladders

### 6.8.1. Regular Season

- a) For displaying each competition's ladder during the regular Season, Teams shall be placed in order of number of wins.
- b) If two (2) or more teams have the same number of wins, the ladder order will be determined by the teams' win/loss percentage, then total points for / total points against expressed as a percentage.

### 6.8.2. End of Regular Season

- a) For displaying each competition ladder at the end of the regular Season to determine a Finals fixture, Teams shall be placed in order of most wins followed by overall percentage.
- b) If two (2) or more Teams have the same win/loss percentage of all games in the competition, the ladder order for the tied teams shall be decided by:

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 40 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
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- i. Head-to-head only if all Teams equal on win/loss percentage have played identical home and away games against one another; and then
- ii. Overall percentage for/against of all Regular Season Games; and then
- iii. Largest win margin percentage for all Regular Season Games.

If these criteria still cannot decide, the League Manager or NBL1 West Commission may declare the game a draw.

## 6.9. Finals

The format of the Finals will be determined by BWA and published prior to the start of each Season in accordance with this rule.

The competition structure:

- a) Regarding the men's and women's competitions, a final eight (8) shall contest Finals for that competition;
- b) The winner of Grand Final will be awarded the title of NBL1 Conference Champions and will represent the NBL1 West at the NBL1 Finals where applicable;
- c) The NBL1 West Grand Finals will be played at a venue determined by the League Manager, with the Women's and Men's games played on the same or different days as published prior to the start of each season;
- d) Prior to the completion of the Regular Season Games, the League Manager will request finals venue availability and develop a draft finals schedule as soon as practical. The schedule will take into account fixturing requests of the NBL1 West Clubs involved with a preference given to the Home Team. The draft schedule will be referred to the NBL1 West Clubs involved for comment prior to being finalised. The finals fixtures will then be finalised and provided to all NBL1 West Clubs;
- e) Finals Schedule dates and tip-off times will be determined by the League Manager, taking into account club requests where possible, while maximising league viewership.
- f) Appropriate seating should be reserved for NBL1 West representatives. The League Manager will advise of required seating no later than two days prior to the game; and
- g) The designated Home Team for a finals game will assume all responsibilities normally associated with a regular season Home Game unless otherwise directed by the League Manager.

## 6.10. Other Game Provisions

### 6.10.1. Bench occupation

During the game the bench shall be occupied only by the contracted coach and assistant coaches, contracted players, including squad and development players, team manager and trainer/physiotherapist until bench capacity is reached.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 41 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
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Home Teams are responsible for ensuring bench space is at least 15 seats. If the bench space cannot ensure seating for the thirty (30) allowable persons, the Home Team must provide alternate seating or standing space to accommodate the Visiting Team.

## 6.10.2. Ejected coach or player

A Player, coach or assistant coach, upon being notified by a Referee they have been ejected from the game, must leave the playing area immediately and remain in the change room of their Team until the completion of the game, or leave the building.

The use of messengers and/or telephones or any other electronic media to transmit information from an ejected coach to the bench is in violation of this rule and is subject to penalties or further action that may be appropriate in such circumstances, including a fine, suspension, forfeit of match, loss of competition points, or awarding compliance points.

## 7 PART 7

### 7.1. NBL1 West awards

Any Clubs, coaches, or Players who do not follow the NBL1 West award rules, or reasonable direction of BWA, are subject to administrative or procedural fines as determined by BWA.

#### 7.1.1. Award categories

BWA is responsible for setting the annual award categories on an annual basis, as outlined in the Operations Manual. This includes the criteria for each award.

#### 7.1.2. Game by game voting (MVP Award)

The head coach of each team, and the games' Referees as a collective, shall award votes after each game – awarding three (3), two (2), one (1) votes for the match which can be allocated to Players from either Team.

The League Manager shall monitor coach and Referee voting, and where appropriate, request a head coach (via a Delegate) or Referee to recast their votes after a game. Voting deemed to not be in the spirit of voting may be subject to an administrative and procedural fine, or further sanction.

For clarity, voting should be cast as though deciding on a 'Grand Final MVP' as a guiding principle.

The voting will not be published during the Season.

#### 7.1.3. MVP

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 42 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY
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The competition MVP winner, decided at the completion of the regular Season, is the Player who has received the most votes.

If two or more Players are tied for MVP, all tied players will be awarded the MVP for that Season.

### 7.1.4. NBL1 West Club of the Year

The Club of the Year will be determined by criteria approved by BWA and communicated to Clubs.

## 7.2. Use of Illegal Drugs and Integrity

Participants in the NBL1 West must abide by Basketball Australia's National Integrity Framework, which includes the Anti-Doping Policy, including participating in any required ASADA testing as requested.

Participants in the NBL1 West must also abide by all BWA and Basketball Australia codes of conduct.

## 7.3. Spectator conduct

- a) Spectators must be informed it is a condition of entry that they may be asked to leave the venue by the Game Commissioner. This condition of entry must be displayed at the ticket office and/or at entry.
- b) If a Referee believes that a spectator's behaviour is unsatisfactory and worthy of a caution, they will inform the Game Commissioner who will issue the spectator with a warning. If the same spectator continues to act in a like manner, they will be ejected by the Game Commissioner at the direction of the Referee. The Referee shall then lodge an incident report to the League Manager on the spectator's offences.
- c) If a Referee believes a spectator's behaviour is reportable, they should inform the Game Commissioner to automatically eject that person from the stadium and make a report. The Referee shall then lodge an incident report to the League Manager on the spectator offences.
- d) Any spectator guilty of intentional physical contact with a Referee before, during or after a game will be ejected from the venue by the Game Commissioner or their representative and be liable to further disciplinary action.
- e) In accordance with Basketball Australia's Courtsiding Policy, posters stating that courtsiding is prohibited must be displayed and anyone engaging in courtsiding must be asked to leave the venue immediately by the Game Commissioner.
- f) Game Commissioners must not contravene the venue's conditions of entry while enforcing rule 7.3. If Club reasonably believes, prior to the Season commencing there is a conflict of this rule with their venue's terms of entry, they must immediately inform the League Manager to reconcile appropriate spectator management strategies.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 43 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
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Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 44 of 50	
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO		Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY	30/06/2026
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## Appendix 1 Offences and penalties

The following table sets out the standard penalties to be applied for a breach of the Rules of Operations at the determination of the League Manager. Further penalties for cumulative or repeat offences may be determined by the NBL1 Commission.

### Administrative Fines

Offence	Rule Reference	Penalty
Failure to respond to any administrative requests within specified timelines	2.2.3	\$200
Failure to attend compulsory NBL1 West meetings	2.2.3	\$200
Breaches of the team bench dress code (per person)	2.2.3	\$200
Other breaches determined by the BWA decision maker to be an administrative or procedural breach	2.2.3	\$200
Appeal (bond payable)	2.3.1	\$500 bond
NBL1 West finance non-compliance	2.5.1	\$200
Failure to provide a copy of an Affiliated Association budget upon request	2.6.1	\$500 per request
Provision of records or information	3.3	\$500 per request
Application for entry withdrawal (withdrawal of team)	2.5.3	Minimum 50% of annual levy
End-of-season voting non-compliance	7.1.3	\$200 per home game not submitted
Failure to provide crowd attendance numbers	3.7.2	\$200

### Compliance and Operational Fines

Offence	Rule Reference	Penalty
Forfeit	2.2.4	\$1,500 (Home Team) / \$2,000 (Away Team)
Club uniforms and attire non-compliance (including NBL1 West logo placement)	3.6	\$200 per uniform
Home club obligations to referees not met	5.3	\$200 per item
Game day timing non-compliance	6.3	\$200 per item
Home team responsibilities non-compliance	6.5	\$200 per item
Failure to produce game footage (in breach of video recording or live streaming)	6.5.12	\$500 per item
Venue Signage & flags non-compliant	3.5.1	\$100 per sign



<b>Another other breach of the Operations Manual not listed within this Appendix.</b>	2.1.5	\$200 per item
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### Player Eligibility and Registrations Fines

Offence	Rule Reference	Penalty
<b>Use of restricted, unregistered, uncleared, unqualified, or unlicensed players</b>	4.3, 4.2.1, 4.1.1, 4.8, 4.11, 4.5	FIBA fine and \$1,000

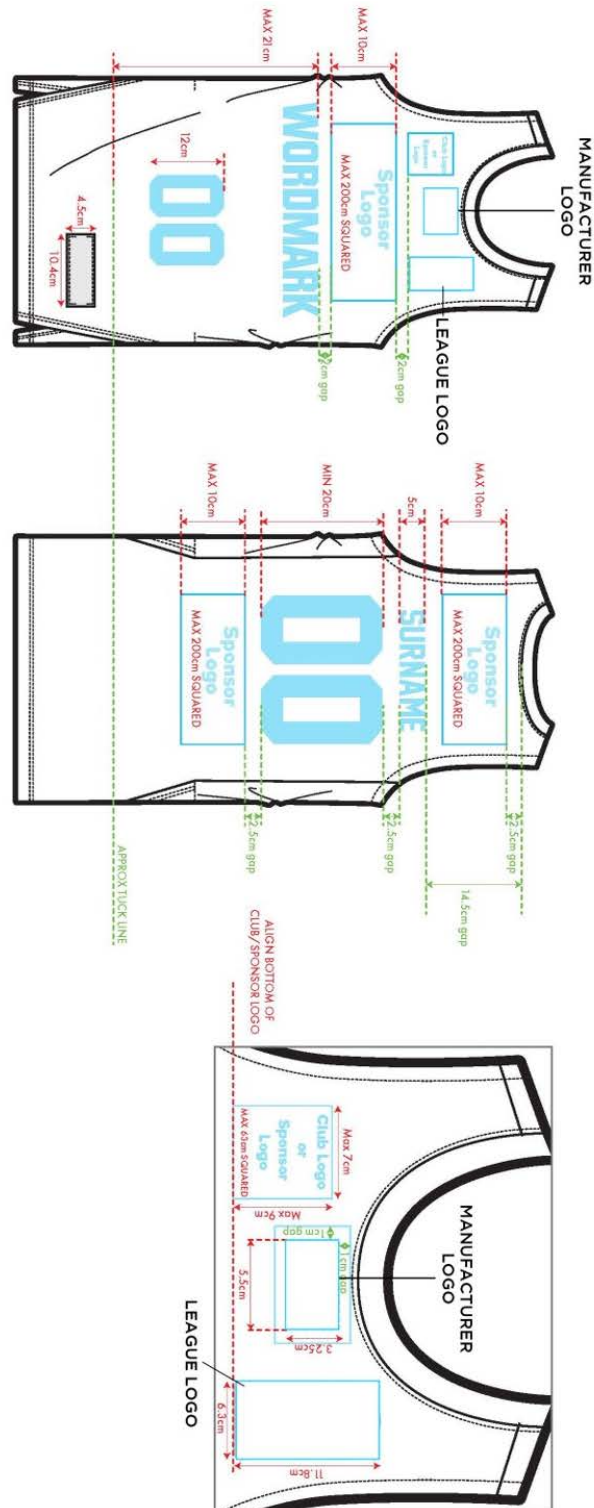
### Conduct and Integrity Fines

Offence	Rule Reference	Penalty
<b>Conduct detrimental or prejudicial to the League</b>	2.3	Subject to outcome of BWA Tribunal or as determined by League Manager up to the value of \$1500.
<b>Use of illegal drugs</b>	7.2	Subject to Basketball Australia, ASADA, and WADA penalties
<b>Integrity matters</b>	7.2	Subject to BWA, Basketball Australia, and National Integrity outcomes
<b>Spectator misconduct</b>	7.3	Subject to outcome of BWA Tribunal or as determined by League Manager up to the value of \$1500

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 46 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
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## Appendix 2 Uniform Style Guide

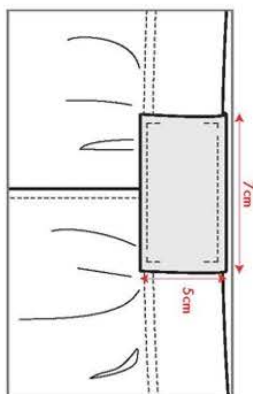
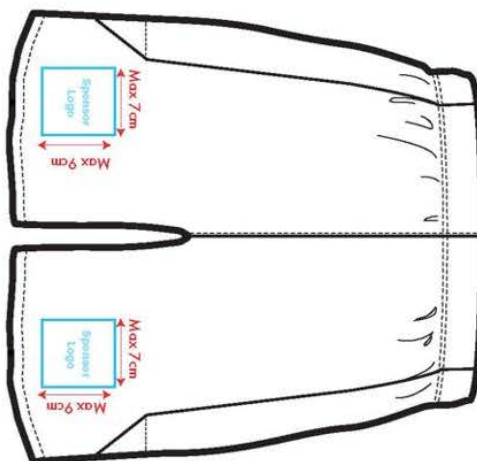
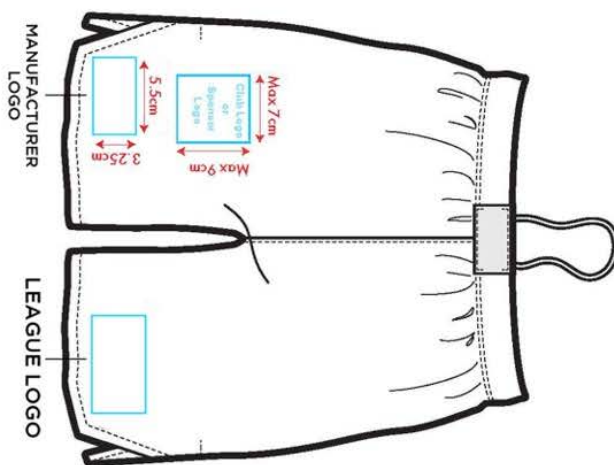


ON COURT JERSEY HOME / AWAY / ALTERNATE

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 47 of 50	
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO		
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY	30/06/2026
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Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 48 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
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## Appendix 3 Venue Minimum Guidelines

Venue requirement	Minimum	Desirable or future additions
Show Court	<p>One clearly identifiable show court suitable to host an NBL1 game day,</p> <p>Wooden, well maintained sprung flooring.</p> <p>2m run off (clear zone) around all sides.</p> <p>Minimum 7m ceiling height or distance from overhanging court fans to the floor.</p>	<p>Branding the court in applicable club colours/team logo decal in the centre circle, creating better visuals for viewers at home.</p>
Lighting	Suitable broadcast lighting for live streaming (guide 500+ lux)	750+ lux
Broadcast	A broadcast quality automated camera, or appropriate location for your video producer to film from as approved by the league manager in conjunction with the NBL. Broadcast should be facing the main grandstand.	
Commentary	<p>A suitable area with minimal close proximity noise for commentators to view and call the game without interference.</p> <p>A table big enough to fit full commentary setup and 2 commentators.</p>	2m minimum buffer between commentators and any patrons in a dedicated roped off area.
Court Markings, Backboards and Flooring	Court size meets minimum FIBA requirements, markings meet FIBA standards, flooring is wooden and sprung, backboards are fiberglass (not wooden).	No other visible lines other than game specific basketball lines.
Scoreboards	Scoreboards at each end (or both sides) of the court - including foul and points display visible at one end (minimum).	FIBA standard - Tenth of a second adjustable controller.
Shot clocks	Shot clock at both ends (FIBA standard) – and can be reset to 14 or 24 seconds.	All courts with a shot clock at both ends (FIBA standard) – backboard mounted, including the game clock visual and can be reset to 14 or 24 seconds.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 49 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
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# NBL1 West - Rules of Operation



Score bench	Room for 5 score bench officials to sit comfortably with clear line of sight at mid court.	
Statisticians bench	Stand-alone stats bench, or extension of score bench to fit 2 statisticians in full primary view of the court. Dedicated WIFI network to ensure stats upload speed is not interrupted.	Sufficient room for 3 statisticians
Team seating	Home teams are responsible for ensuring bench space is at least 15 seats for a primary team bench. Seating must be available for the full (30) allowable persons, in the form of a second row of seats or alternate seating.	
Spectator seating (includes standing space)	Adequate seating for teams and officials, and at least 1,000 spectators	Multiple court side grandstands (fixed or portable) recommended for up to 1,500 capacity.
Internet access	WIFI available at broadcast location & score/stats bench to allow live stats and IRS to connect. This should be a stand-alone network, not a public network.	
First aid room	First aid private space available for player at patron injuries / illness.	Dedicated first aid room within your venue.
SIA Room (substance testing)	Private room with a joining toilet, or private bathroom within reasonable proximity to the room.	A separate waiting room with table and chairs.
Toilets & Changerooms	Facilities to fit teams and referees in accordance with league Operations Manual. Teams and referees should have private toilets, not shared with members of the public.	One dedicated changeroom/toilet per team not per club. One male/female referee changeroom/toilet
Flags	Display the Australian National Flag, Aboriginal flag and Torres Strait Island flag such that they are clearly visible during all games	Permanent display on the surrounding walls of the venue.

Document Code and Title	BWA-CMP-MP-002 Rules of Operation - NBL1 West (6.1) - APPROVED 211125.docx			Page 50 of 50
Document Owner (Job Title)	CBO	Document Approver (Job Title)	CEO	
Date Approved DD/MM/YY	21/11/2025	Version No.	V6.1	Next Review Due Date DD/MM/YY 30/06/2026
Warning - uncontrolled when printed, stored away, or transmitted in any form. Only BWA Intranet has the current, controlled version.				