

WESTCHURCH BASKETBALL LEAGUE COMPETITION RULES

(Current as at August 2008)



General

The rules governing competition within the Westchurch Basketball League shall comply with the rules of basketball as defined by F.I.B.A. and Basketball Australia, unless modified and incorporated within this schedule of Competition Rules.

Any matter not covered by the scope of these Competition Rules, provided that it comes within the objects of the Churches of Christ Sport and Recreation Centre (Warwick Leisure Centre), shall be dealt with by the Westchurch Operations Executive.

Where any decision made by the Program Coordinator is disputed, the Westchurch Operational Executive shall resolve the matter. All appeals against decisions of the Executive shall be in writing within fourteen days of the decision. The Executive's reply shall be sent in writing to the Club/Team Contact.

1 Competition Values

- 1.1 Being a Christian organisation our standards are higher than most centres may tolerate. An emphasis that we place on sports programs is the promotion of sportsmanship and fair play. We require all teams to demonstrate this. A very dim view is taken on swearing and rough play with players penalised without necessarily the need for a warning.

2 Game Timing:

- 2.1 All games shall comprise of two, twenty-minute halves, with a five minutes warm up period and a three-minute half time break.
- 2.2 There will be no stop clock situations during any regular season fixture.
- 2.3 Only two time outs per team per half are permitted.
- 2.4 Time outs are not permitted in the last three minutes **of each half**. Time outs which are in progress at the three-minute mark, shall be terminated immediately.

3 Team Composition

- 3.1 No Junior team shall have more than two (2) State league players in their grading, unless they are willing to promote a grade, whereby they may then have three (3) state league players. **There will be NO variation to this rule.**
- 3.2 The Operational Executive shall have the power to move teams to another grade according to their performance relative to the rest of the competition.

4 Teams / Players

- 4.1 The names of all team players, captain and coach, shall be recorded on the score sheet in the appropriate places prior to commencement of the game. All names shall be the surname and initial. Where two or more players have the same surname and initial a second initial shall be used to identify them.
- 4.2 Teams unable to field a full complement of five players at the notified commencement time of the game may commence play with a minimum of four players.
- 4.3 Prior to commencement of play under these circumstances a fifth player ticket shall be purchased by the team.

- 4.4 Players whose name is listed as a team player on the score sheet and are not in attendance prior to commencement of play in second half will not be eligible to play.
- 4.5 Teams unable to field four players, ready to play, five minutes after the notified commencement time of a game shall forfeit the game. They shall be held responsible for any forfeit fines incurred.

5 Score Bench / Timing Personnel

- 5.1 Each team shall provide a representative on the score bench. One person is to be responsible for the score sheet the other representative is to control the timing and score block.
- 5.2 Should a team fail to provide a representative, they shall have no recourse in any dispute over scores.

6. Modified Rules for Under 12 Competition.

- 6.1. No zone defence is allowed except for an extended zone away from the keyway. Use of a zone defence will result in a violation being called, and the ball awarded to the opposition at the sideline. Continued use of a zone defence will result in a technical foul being awarded against the team. (Penalty - 2 shot & possession)
- 6.2. All games shall be played with a size 5 ball

7. Modified Rules for Under 14 Competition.

- 7.1. No zone defence is allowed except for an extended zone away from the keyway. Use of a zone defence will result in a violation being called, and the ball awarded to the opposition at the sideline. Continued use of a zone defence will result in a technical foul being awarded against the team. (Penalty - 2 shot & possession)
- 7.2. All games shall be played with a size 6 basketball.

8. Player Behaviour and Conflict Resolution

- 8.1. Use of language or gestures deemed by the umpire to be offensive may be penalised without a warning being issued.
- 8.2. Disputes or grievances that occur during a game, can be raised with officials or Program Coordinator, via the team Captain. The Captain shall choose an appropriate opportunity, to calmly address officials or Program Coordinator, during a "time-out", half time or at the end of a game.
- 8.3. In dealing with offensive language, inappropriate conduct or the like, Officials may, after a warning, bench a player/s without replacement. The duration of the penalty shall be 3 minutes. "Time-outs" are not included in the penalty time, the penalised player can resume play at the first appropriate opportunity after the penalty time.
- 8.4. Team Managers/Coaches/Mentors shall assist management and referees in dealing with conflict situations.

9. Forfeits

- 9.1. In the event of a team not being able to field a team for a programmed fixture, the forfeiting team shall advise the Administrator as early as possible of the forfeit.
- 9.2. Where practicable the Administrator will notify the team contact of the team being forfeited to.
- 9.3. Forfeits in senior fixtures notified more than 24 hours prior to the scheduled commencement time of the fixture will attract a penalty of \$25-00. Teams giving less than 24 hours notification of a forfeit will attract a penalty of \$50-00.
- 9.4. Forfeits in junior fixtures notified more than 24 hours prior to the scheduled commencement time of the fixture will attract a penalty of \$15-00. Teams giving less than 24 hours notification of a forfeit will attract a penalty of \$30-00.

10. Nails

- 10.1. All players are required to ensure that their fingernails have been trimmed and do not pose a threat of injury to other players.
- 10.2. Nails shall be deemed to be of an acceptable length when the flesh of the fingertip is visible in front of the nail.
- 10.3. Taping of nails is NOT permissible.
- 10.4. Players may wear appropriate gloves whilst playing.

11. Uniforms

- 11.1. Players on any team shall be attired in the same coloured shorts and playing tops.
- 11.2. Playing tops shall be numbered clearly on the front and back.
- 11.3. Numbers are not to be obscured.
- 11.4. Acceptable playing numbers shall be in the range 4 - 15.
- 11.5. Where clubs have multiple teams, the range of playing numbers may be extended to include the numbers 20 - 25; 30 - 35; 40 - 45 and 50 -55.
- 11.6. Where T-shirts are worn under playing tops they shall all be the same colour. These shirts shall be of a colour that is one of the registered colours of the team uniform.
- 11.7. Teams will be permitted to carry sponsors logos or names on their playing tops subject to the following conditions;
 - Permission for use of a logo or sponsor's name is to be obtained from the Westchurch Operational Executive in writing **prior to obtaining uniforms**.
 - The logo shall be placed in such a manner that it does not obscure the numbers on the uniform
 - The logo shall not exceed 20 cm wide by 10 cm high
 - Playing shorts shall not have any logo, brand tag or other advertising which is larger than 35 cm². (ie approximately 7 cm x 5 cm).
- 11.8. Players not conforming to these uniform requirements from the fourth playing date of competition fixtures may not be permitted to play.
- 11.9. Where teams from the same club are scheduled to play against each other in a competition fixture, the team listed second in the fixture list is required to wear a different uniform playing top. Teams are responsible for providing these playing tops, or hiring bibs from the kiosk.
- 11.10. Where a variation to these uniform regulations is required, the request shall be made in writing to the Administrator prior to the day of the competition.

12. Premiership Tables

- 12.1. Competition points will be allocated for each game completed in accordance with the official fixture list as follows;

WIN	3	points
DRAW	2	points
LOSS	1	points
FORFEIT	0	points
- 12.2. In the event of two or more teams being level on premiership points at the end of the minor round of fixtures, eligibility to compete in the final series shall be based on the result of the equation of number of points scored by a team divided by the number of points against the team and the result expressed as a percentage to 3 decimal places.
- 12.3. If after this a tie still exists the team with the lowest number of points scored against it during the regular season shall take precedence.

13. Final Series

Final series competitions shall be played as follows: -

- 13.1. **1st Semi Final:** Teams listed in positions 1 vs 4 on the premiership table at the end of the minor rounds

- 13.2. **2nd Semi Final:** Teams listed in positions 2 vs 3 on the premiership table at the end of the minor rounds.
- 13.3. **Grand Final:** Winner of the First Semi-Final plays the Winner of the Second Semi Final.

14. Playing Fixtures

- 14.1. The Program Coordinator will as soon as is practicable issue a full schedule of season fixtures. This shall be after all grading games have been completed and teams allocated to grades.
- 14.2. Where, for exceptional circumstances, a team is unable to play a scheduled fixture, arrangements may be made for an alternative fixture to be played. Requests for alterations to fixtures shall be in writing, giving details for the required change and shall be passed to the Administrator at least fourteen days prior to the scheduled fixture. The fixture can only be played at another time with the agreement of the other team and in consultation with the operational executive.
- 14.3. Fixture times may be altered after completion of fixture schedule, at the discretion of the Operational Executive.

15. Cancelled Games

- 15.1. Should fixtures be cancelled for any reason out of the Program Coordinator's control, eg. power strike, games may be rescheduled at the Program Coordinator's discretion.
- 15.2. Games not replayed may be treated as a drawn game.

16. Players Entry Tickets

- 16.1. Players must retain their door entry tickets which are to be placed with the scoresheet when player's details are entered, prior to the start of play. Games may commence with only four players per team in attendance, providing a fifth ticket has been purchased prior to the commencement of play.
- 16.2. Prior to commencement of play the Officials shall check the numbers of tickets corresponds with the numbers of players. Should a discrepancy be found, play will not proceed until clarification is made.
- 16.3. A delegated person will collect player's tickets at "half-time", and check that the numbers of tickets corresponds with the numbers of players. Should a discrepancy be found, play will not proceed until clarification is made.

17. Eligibility To Play

- 17.1. Players may only participate in one game per day, unless, as an exception, that a player plays up a grade. After playing three games in the higher division that player must choose in which grade they will continue to play.
- 17.2. In any instance where two teams from the same club are included in the same grade, movement of players between the teams will not be permitted.
- 17.3. Any player who is involved with a forfeit will be eligible to compete in another game but only in a higher grade.
- 17.4. Players are not permitted to play under assumed names. Any knowing breach of this clause will automatically incur a loss of game and premiership points.

18. Junior Competition Age Requirements

- 18.1. The cut-off date for all Junior Competition shall be 31st of December. All competitors in junior competitions shall be under the competition age in that year. eg. an U/16 player shall not have his/her 16th birthday prior to the 31st of December.
- 18.2. The Westchurch League reserves the right to allow, under special circumstances, exceptions to this rule.

- 18.3. All requests for exemptions to allow a player to play out of age grade competition shall be in writing and presented to the Westchurch Administrator, prior to any exemption being made.
- 18.4. The Operational Executive shall review each request individually and inform Club/Team Contacts of their decision in writing.

19. Player Eligibility - Final Series

- 19.1. To be eligible to complete in the final series, players must have played at least five regular season scheduled fixture games or grading games.
- 19.2. Grade eligibility shall be determined as follows:
 - 19.2.1. Where a player has played in one or more grades, they will be eligible to participate in the higher grade only.

20. C.C.S.R.A. Tribunal

The Churches of Christ Sport and Recreation Association Inc. tribunal exercises the following functions:

- 20.1. Hear and determine all charges brought before it by the Program Coordinator resulting from reports made by game officials.
- 20.2. Hear and determine any other matter referred to it by the Program Coordinator or Operational Executive, as deemed appropriate.
- 20.3. Impose such penalties as it deems appropriate upon players, club officials, coaches, Clubs and game officials. The range of penalties shall include but not be limited to fines, game suspensions and suspended sentences.
- 20.4. Jurisdiction of the Tribunal relates includes every Sporting event occurring within Warwick Leisure Centre precinct where a fixture is, will be or has been played, and any action occurring away from the stadium but which relates to a stadium fixture.

21. Report Procedures

- 21.1. Any reports that generate out of a game must be notified to the Program Coordinator, or Westchurch Administrator. The Official/s report(s) shall be in submitted in writing, as soon as is practicable.
- 21.2. Verbal notice given by an Official or the Program Coordinator, shall be deemed as being sufficient advice to the player, member or club, that an incident will be referred to the Tribunal.
- 21.3. It is the responsibility of Club/Team Contacts to ensure that all details are forwarded on to all parties involved in protest, dispute or charge.
- 21.4. Refer to CCSRA document "Tribunal & Appeals Procedure – Revision 1 June 2005" for further details.

22. Tribunal Hearings

- 22.1. A duly convened Tribunal shall meet within fourteen days of a report.
- 22.2. In the event of a protest or dispute, the Tribunal shall be empowered to resolve the matter and in the event of a decision affecting the result of a competition game, to order the necessary adjustment of the points table or a replay of the game concerned.
- 22.3. No penalty should be imposed without the player; club or member concerned being given a reasonable opportunity of appearing before the Tribunal. Should circumstances preclude the attendance of the player or member concerned, he/she or the club may request a temporary deferment of the hearing of not more than seven days providing 24 hours notice has been given. This deferment will be at the discretion of the Tribunal.
- 22.4. Non attendance at a tribunal of player or member concerned in a charge, protest or dispute shall not defer the hearing unless a written report is received by the Chairman of the Tribunal prior to the scheduled commencement of the tribunal and the person shall be suspended from any involvement at the Warwick Leisure Centre until such time as he/she appears before the Tribunal

23. Appeals

- 23.1. Any player or member or club found guilty by the Tribunal may, within seven (7) days of notification of the finding, appeal the finding or the severity of the penalty. Such appeal must be lodged in writing, addressed to the Tribunal Chairman and must clearly specify full details of new or additional evidence supporting the appeal. Chairman shall determine acceptance or rejection of appeal and his decision shall be final.
- 23.2. Any player being found guilty as a result of Tribunal proceedings shall be rendered ineligible to receive any trophies or awards during the playing season in which the offence occurred.

24. Jewellery

- 24.1. No jewellery is permitted to be worn whilst playing.
- 24.2. The sole exception is to allow the taping of a plain wedding band.
- 24.3. Body piercing jewellery should be removed for the safety of the individual player.

25. Risk

- 25.1. Patrons play at their own risk, Churches of Christ Leisure Centre and Westchurch League shall not be liable for any injuries sustained in the general course of the game. Players must take responsibility for their own personal insurance

26. Pregnant Women

- 26.1. Pregnant women play at their own risk. Warwick Leisure Centre and Westchurch League shall not be held liable for any injury or losses arising from competition.

27. Alcohol

- 27.1. Players affected by alcohol are not permitted to play.

28. Amendments

- 28.1. The Operational Executive shall have the power to alter or amend these Competition Rules, at their discretion, as needs arise. All such amendments or alterations shall be advised to Club contacts in writing within fourteen days of the amendment.

29. Items Not Provided For

- 29.1. Matters not covered in the scope of these Competition Rules, provided that it comes within the objects of Westchurch Basketball League and the Churches of Christ Leisure Centre, shall be dealt with by the Westchurch Operational Executive.

30. Disputes

- 30.1. The Westchurch Basketball League Operational Executive is empowered to make interpretation of these rules and determine other matters as is deemed necessary for the health of players and smooth running of the competition.
- 30.2. Any person or team, aggrieved by a ruling of the Westchurch League Authority, may submit their concerns in writing, within 7 days of the decision, to the C.C.S.R.A. Executive Chairman at Warwick Leisure Centre, cnr Wanneroo and Warwick Roads, Warwick 6024.

These competition rules are an adaptation of the old WACCBA competition rules and are prepared by Jim Longbottom Executive Chairman, Churches of Christ Sport and Recreation Association Inc. March 2002.

Amendments made by Brendon Hunt (Sports Ministry Development Officer) and Scott Joy (Sports Manager) on the 29th June 2007.