



2020-2021 Junior Giants Handbook

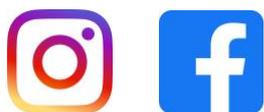
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Vice President:	Diyana Dineva-Encheva
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Treasurer:	Liam George
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www.coburgasketball.org.au

www.vjbl.com.au

www.basketballvictoria.com.au

Updated fixtures, venue listings, calendar, VJL parent handbook, timing rules and other information can be found at the VJL website by browsing through 'information' then 'competitions'.





EMBRACE THE CULTURE

We play **HARDER, STRONGER, SMARTER** than our opponents.

We show our opponents **RESPECT** and display the highest level of sportsmanship.

Defensively, we will **GRIT AND GRIND** on every play, we cause **HAVOC** and **CHAOS** for the opposition.

Offensively, we are confident in our skills. We're **SHARP, PRECISE** always on the **ATTACK**.

We **TRUST** each other and fight as **ONE** through victory or defeat.

We never back down from a challenge, **THIS IS COBURG BASKETBALL**.

Bleed Teal



Teams

Coburg Junior Giants have approximately 29 teams spanning from Under 12's to Under 21's. Team numbers and structure at each age group may vary from year to year depending on athlete numbers, standard and the availability of quality coaches.

All athletes are required to participate in a selection process each year and selection and team placement are **NOT GUARANTEED**. Consequently, all athletes must strive to improve their skills and display an attitude which demonstrates their desire to listen and learn.

Unlike Junior Domestic, teams in the Coburg Giants junior program may have up to 10 athletes for the Under 12 to Under 16 age groups and up to 10 athletes for the Under 18 & Under 21 age groups.

Team selections are made to provide a balance of athlete position, age and ability.

Usually higher ranked teams will consist of more top age athletes and lower ranked teams will have a greater number of younger age athletes.

We appreciate that active children may play multiple sports, if this is the case; mutual agreement must be made between sports.

Coburg Junior Giants expects its members will not consider basketball to be the secondary activity.

The purpose of the Representative Program is to develop teams, coaches and individual athletes to the maximum level of their ability. The program is designed for those who are committed to achieve and who are prepared to work hard and make sacrifices to stretch their ability.

At all levels the club aspires for its teams to realise their potential, to qualify for as high a grade as possible and to enjoy a successful season. We believe the variety of opposition, the prestige of the competition and the more stringent demands of basketball at both Victorian Championship and Metro level, provide special opportunities for development over and above those provided by the domestic competition.



Athlete and Family Commitments

Representative basketball is only for athletes (and their families) with a serious intention to achieve and to contribute to team performance even when this involves some sacrifices to the individual. It is not for athletes wishing to necessarily play with other athletes of their choice or a specific team or coach.

It takes a lot of commitment and dedication from the athletes as they strive to improve their basketball skills week after week, but it also requires commitment and dedication from their parents.

Whilst we require a large commitment by athletes and parents alike, we believe basketball offers many rewards. Many strong friendships can be forged during the years that children are involved with Coburg. We would encourage you to become involved in your child getting to know his/her team mates and their parents. Enjoy the wins and celebrations and encourage the positive that will come from the experience.

Coaches

Our coaching staff is made up of committed individuals who dedicate their time and energy to see our athletes improve and develop both on and off the court. Our coaches give up their valuable time and knowledge to educate and teach the athletes.

We would ask that you support them throughout the season because whilst styles may change from coach to coach - coaches all aim for the same result - **TO IMPROVE THE ATHLETES SKILLS.**

Coburg Basketball Club provides ongoing assistance for any members of the community that would like to improve their understanding of the game and/or coaching standard. We run many coaching clinics to help further develop the career path of all our coaches.

All coaches within the competitions are currently screened under the Basketball Victoria By-Laws and have a current Working with Children's Card.

Team Managers

Each team requires a Team Manager (TM) for the season. The TM is appointed by the coach once the composition of the team has been determined.

ALL TEAM MANAGERS ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE A CURRENT WORKING WITH CHILDREN'S CARD.

The role of TM is to be in charge of the team kitty and collect money for game sheets. The TM is also in charge of organising scorers for the games.



Competition Structure

Representative basketball is played on a Friday night at associated venues across the state.

The VJL is arguably the largest competition of its kind, offering a graduated system of junior basketball and is considered one of the strongest breeding grounds for elite athletes graduating to senior ranks. Most associations treat their junior representative programs as such and provide opportunities for athletes to advance.

Representative basketball was designed to give keen junior basketballers an opportunity to participate at a more competitive level than the domestic Saturday afternoon/night competitions by competing against composite teams from other associations within Victoria.

At present, the representative season is played for approximately 40 weeks of the year commencing mid-November through to September the following year.

The season is broken down into three phases of competition.

- **NOVEMBER** - Spring Phase (Pre-Grading phase)
- **NOVEMBER** to **MARCH** - Grading phase
(The above two phases decide where the teams will play throughout the main season)
- **MARCH** to **SEPTEMBER** - Championship phase

There are two levels of competition within "Representative Basketball"

- Victorian Championship - known as 'VC' is the highest level junior teams can play. This competition is split at the half way point to form VC Championship & VC Reserve
- Victorian Junior League - this is a combination of what was previously known as Metro and Regional levels. Games are normally held on Friday nights at various venues across Melbourne including potential trips to Geelong, Ballarat & Traralgon (depending on the level your child and their team makes).

Athletes are expected to be at the game venue at least 30 minutes (or as advised by the coach) before the commencement time to allow for warm up and team discussion.



Age Rules

One of the most frequently asked questions is around “Age” groupings.

Junior Representative Basketball Age Groups are:

- Under 12 eligible athletes must NOT have turned 12 as at 31.12.2021
- Under 14 eligible athletes must NOT have turned 14 as at 31.12.2021
- Under 16 eligible athletes must NOT have turned 16 as at 31.12.2021
- Under 18 eligible athletes must NOT have turned 18 as at 31.12.2021
- Under 21 eligible athletes must NOT have turned 21 as at 31.12.2021

This is quite often a shock to parents who are concerned that their child may be coming up against much older athletes. All junior athletes will normally spend two years in each of the age groups.

The age group classifications for all athletes is no different to domestic basketball where there are also top and bottom age athletes playing in the age groups.

Communication

The first point of contact for any information to do with your team or the club is your team manager.

However, in saying that, if you wish to discuss an issue with your coach you should make a time to speak with him/her at a non-stressful time, **NOT DIRECTLY BEFORE OR AFTER A GAME!**

The Director of Coaching is also available to discuss any concerns you may have as athletes or parents.

Disputes

All disputes relating to **athletes** will be reviewed by the Director of Coaching.

Any disputes relating to parents will be reviewed by the CBA board and committee.

All athletes are required to attend all team training sessions.

If this is not possible, advanced notification is to be given to the Coach.

Coaches are within their rights to bench an athlete if absent from training without a reason.

NOTE: All athletes are expected to be at the training venue at least 15 minutes prior (or as set by the coach) to the commencement time in the correct Giants training uniform, warmed up so they are ready to train on time.

Athletes must always be dedicated and willing to train hard, learn new skills and fit in to the team environment. Team training should **ALWAYS** be supplemented with individual practice during the week.



Tournaments

All teams are expecting to participate in the Eltham/Dandenong Australia Day Tournament during Australia day weekend; this will be the only tournament the club cover team registration.

Other optional tournaments:

- Southern Peninsula Preseason Tournament
- Mill Park, Adelaide or New Zealand Easter Tournaments
- Nunawading Queens Birthday Tournament
- July Melbourne Tournament

Each team will have to organise to participate in these tournaments themselves.

Athlete injury and illness

Athletes who are ill or unable to play must notify the coach and Director of Coaching as soon as they are aware that they are unable to participate.

A medical certificate is required for an injury or illness requiring more than one week's recovery.

A COPY OF THE CERTIFICATE MUST BE FORWARDED TO THE VJL DELEGATE WITHIN 10 DAYS OF INITIAL INJURY.

Certificates must be emailed to VJL Delegate: coburg.giants@yahoo.com

This certificate can be used to gain credit for missed games and will ensure that your child does not miss out on qualifying for finals.

Uniform Policy

For athletes

- Game day:** Playing uniform, navy warm up, hoodie (during winter)
- Training:** Teal and gold training top
- Events & Functions:** Navy Polo

For coaches & team managers

- Shorts
- Pants
- Polo
- Sneakers
- Shoes (No Sandals, Beanies)



Training Policy

1. You are to attend one (1) mid-week training and one (1) Sunday training.
2. You are also expected to keep up with skills training and fitness outside of Giants training. Practice jersey must be worn at each training session.
3. Arrive on time. (When you're on time you're late, when you're early, you're on time.)
4. You may be benched for violating any of the above requirements.
5. Footy Players ages u12-u16 will coordinate a secondary training on Sundays.
6. U18's who choose to play Rep will have to put basketball first.

Game day

Full Uniform must be worn. Playing jersey and short, warm up top and "hoodie" (winter).

JERSEY MUST BE TUCKED IN. Arrive early and wait with your team. Behave accordingly.

You're a reflection of the club. Parents and athletes must respect referees, opposition and venues.

Fees

\$550 for the season.

Uniform cost is \$250 which includes training top, playing uniform, warm up top.

Team Kitty

Each team must be self-supporting, and your TM is responsible for collecting and managing the income of the team throughout the season. They in conjunction with the coaching staff are responsible for deciding how to best spend the money for the team's benefit.

This money will cover the payment of the score sheet each week with any surplus funds carried forward to be used for tournaments or team functions including the end of season presentation night.

Scoring

Scoring is an important duty and we are obligated to supply a competent bench official for each game. It is a requirement of every team to supply a competent scorer throughout the season to complete their rostered scoring duties.

The VJL is progressing to using a computerised scoring system across all venues however at this stage, most but not all are using the computerised system. Where stadiums have not transitioned, a score sheet will be used.

Alternatively, you can partner up with a parent from your team who is a confident scorer to provide you with some support. Not knowing how to or not feeling confident is not an acceptable reason to not score for the team. It's always best to have two parents scoring - so the parent that has the knowledge to score can assist the parent that is still learning.

If you cannot score your rostered game, you must advise the team manager as soon as possible so that a swap can be arranged.



Finals Qualification

If a venue is using the computerised system, the team manager should ensure that all athletes are listed on the team sheet to ensure the game is counted towards finals qualification.

If a venue is using a paper score sheet, athletes **MUST** sign the back of the scoresheet **BEFORE EACH GAME THEY PLAY** to ensure they qualify for finals and crossover games.

NOTE: ALL ATHLETES IN EACH GRADE MUST PLAY 40% OF GAMES TO QUALIFY FOR FINALS

Referees

The referees are an important part of the game and, while we may not like their decisions at times, verbal or other abuse of referees is unacceptable behaviour and sets a bad example to the children. Athletes at all levels are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which does not bring discredit to themselves, their parents and their club.

Contacting the VJL

Under NO circumstances are coaches, assistant coaches, team managers, parents or athletes to contact the VJBL offices.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE REPRESENTATIVE GINTS PROGRAM MUST GO THROUGH OUR CLUB DELEGATE.

This is a mandated rule put in place by the VJL. For every instance that someone other than the delegate contacts the VJL the club receives a fine.

Clearances

If athletes wish to move from one association to another they must first obtain a permission to train form and then a clearance. Clearance forms can be obtained from the VJL website – www.vjbl.com.au.

A fee of \$22 must accompany the application form. Athletes must lodge the clearance forms into the Victorian Junior League Office. Clearances, once processed, can be viewed on the VJL site.

Sponsorship

The Club is always on the lookout for POTENTIAL SPONSORS.

If you or someone you know may be interested in the prospect of promoting their business to over 500 families with the club as well as the wider community that visits our venues, please contact our Treasurer/Sponsorship officer at contact@coburgbasketball.org.au.

There may be many sponsorships deals available that can be tailored to suit your needs.



Senior Giants-Big V

Junior Giants teams will be rostered on to help at BIG V games throughout the season. This is mandatory!

This provides the juniors with a unique experience to access the club's senior athletes and provide the juniors with an insight into what their basketball future could involve.

All families are expected to participate and usually involves approx. three hours of time once or twice a season.

Conduct

As a representative of Coburg Basketball, your conduct whilst representing the Coburg Junior Giants should be above reproach.

All behaviour must be within the bounds of sportsmanship and follow the Basketball Victoria Code of Conduct. Therefore, any conduct unbecoming will be dealt with either by a first-time warning or subsequently, suspension.

This includes behaviour at training, before, during and after a game when you can clearly be identified as a Coburg Junior Giant. This also applies to teams and their supporters who attend tournaments whether in Victoria or interstate.

All supporters are also expected to abide by the Basketball Victoria Code of Conduct.

Coburg has ZERO tolerance towards bullying and/or any misconduct on or off the court.
(Technical fouls during representative or domestic)

- 1st offense = Written warning
- 2nd Offense = Four game suspension with compulsory training
- 3rd Offense = Seven game suspension with compulsory training
- 4th Offense = Immediate Indefinite Suspension



Code of Conduct

Basketball is intended to be a recreational activity for enjoyment and health.

Coburg Junior Giants has developed this Code of Conduct in accordance with guidelines set by Basketball Victoria to give participants some guide to the expectations it has on those participants.

It is intended to assist everyone to obtain the maximum benefit and enjoyment from their involvement in basketball. As a result, the quality of participation will be improved so people are more likely to start and continue their involvement in basketball. Enjoy!

Players

7. Understand and play the rules.
8. Respect referees and other officials.
9. Control your temper.
10. Work equally hard for yourself and for your team.
11. Be a good sport.
12. Treat all players as you would like to be treated.
13. Play for the 'enjoyment of it' and not just to please parents and coaches.
14. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person.
15. Be prepared to lose sometimes.
16. Listen to the advice of your coach and try to apply it at practice and in games.
17. Always respect the use of facilities and equipment provided.

Parents, Spectators, Team Managers and Coaches

1. Encourage the children to participate for their own interest and enjoyment, not yours.
2. Encourage children to always play by the rules.
3. Teach children that an honest effort is always as important as a victory.
4. Focus on developing skills and playing the game. Reduce the emphasis on winning.
5. A child learns best by example. Applaud good play by all teams.
6. Do not criticize your or others' children in front of others.
7. Accept decisions by all referees as being fair and called to the best of their ability.
8. Set a good example by your own conduct, behaviour and appearance.
9. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
10. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person.
11. Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials and administrators.
12. Keep children in your care under control.
13. Always respect the use of facilities and equipment provided.
14. Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language or harassing players, Coaches or officials.

Acknowledgement of a bidding to the above Coburg Big V Code of Conduct policy

Players signature	_____	Parent's signature	_____
Print name	_____	Print name	_____
Date	_____ / ____ / _____	Date	_____ / ____ / _____



Social Media

I agree to the club using my child's image on the Coburg Junior Giants social media sites and/or website:

Consent can be withdrawn at any time by writing to yibl.giants@coburgbasketball.org.au.

Acknowledgment

By accepting a position on a team, you automatically accept the conditions of this handbook.

Bleed Teal

Document Name	CBA Child Screening Procedure		
Version No.	1	Date of Approval:	9/9/2020
Approved by	CBA Board	Review Date: 9/9/2020	Every 12 months