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CONFERENCE BY-LAWS 2024

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## Membership of the League

The Sunshine Conference is a Member Association based competition. To maintain eligibility for entry into the competition Associations must:

- 1.01. Be Financial Members of Basketball New South Wales (BNSW). Associations must continue to be financial throughout the season.
- 1.02. Provide a venue that is approved by Sunshine Conference.
- 1.03. Provide suitable Referee nominations as per the criteria outlined in these bylaws.
- 1.04. Provide score table officials as set out below:
  - a) Provide 4 Score table officials for all home games.
  - b) Score table officials must hold a level 1 or above accreditation.
  - c) Chairman should hold a level 2 or above accreditation.
- 1.05. Remain compliant with the BNSW Registration By-Laws.
- 1.06. Ensure that coaches hold a current club coaching accreditation (level one).
- 1.07. Remain currently financial with BNSW (see BNSW registration By-laws).
- 1.08. Have paid all Conference nomination fees.
- 1.09. Nominate a team manager or contact with each competing team.
- 1.10. Each Association must provide a delegate from their association to be on the committee of Far North Coast Sunshine Conference to be eligible to participate in the conference.

In accepting entry into the Conference all associations, teams and individuals so entered shall be bound by these Rules and Regulations.

## Withdrawing from the League

Where an association nominates a team in the Conference and subsequently withdraws that team from the competition, the association will be liable to a penalty as outlined below:

- 2.01. Withdrawing a team PRIOR to the nomination deadline = NIL.
- 2.02. Withdrawing a team AFTER the Nomination deadline and payment = loss of nomination fee.
- 2.03. Withdrawing a team AFTER the draw is released (within one month of the commencement of the competition = loss of nomination fee + \$100
- 2.04. Withdrawing a team DURING the competition = loss of nomination fee + \$500

## Management of the Conference

- 3.01. Aims: To provide associations on the NSW Far North Coast with a high level of competition in which to represent their senior players during a defined season.
- 3.02. Control: The Sunshine Conference (the Conference) shall be under the control of the Far North Coast Sunshine Conference, Incorporated (ABN 38 183 213 787).
- 3.03. Administration: Recommendations for the Conference will be the responsibility of the Far North Coast Sunshine Conference Committee (the Committee) The Committee will comprise of five executive members plus one general member from each competing association.
- 3.04. Conference Administrator

3.04.1. The Conference Administrator shall be appointed by the Committee and paid remuneration at an hourly rate.

3.04.2. The duties and responsibilities of the Conference Administrator shall include:

- a) Identify and develop a relationship with nominated contacts of each competing association to ensure that your job is easy, and that Conference communication is acted upon.
- b) Liaise with clubs involved as to their availability for court hire prior to proposed Conference start dates and confirm court bookings once dates are finalised.
- c) Schedule a draft Sunshine Conference season using Excel for distribution to each committee member and competing association contact to check.
- d) Distribute Conference nomination forms and ensure their return by due date and forward to the Treasurer for invoicing.
- e) Co-ordinate with the Treasurer to ensure timely payment of nomination fees
- f) Set up Conference season in Game Day, send out team codes to association contacts and liaise with contacts to ensure all members have joined the team prior to the start of the season.
- g) Check on a weekly basis via the Game Day platform the registration details of players to ensure eligibility.
- h) Notify coaches by each Thursday of players that are not registered.
- i) Liaise with nominated court controllers from each team to ensure that venues and score bench personnel are available for the forthcoming games on a weekly basis
- j) Liaise with BNSW on matters related to training for referees and officials.
- k) Collate and update Conference game results on website, Facebook and Instagram weekly (every Monday).
- l) Collate game results and match reports and issue a brief press release to local media (TV, radio and newspapers) prior to 2pm Sunday detailing weekend results and points of interest
- m) Issue a press release to local media (TV, radio and newspapers) on Thursdays detailing upcoming games for the weekend and points of interest.
- n) Update Sunshine Conference Facebook and Instagram page regularly with other stories of interest (conference related, local association related and just general basketball stuff of interest)

## Finance

4.01. The Treasurer shall administer the finances of the Conference.

4.02. Payments of Conference accounts must be validated via the approval of the Treasurer and a second approved Committee member who is signatory on the bank account.

4.03. All member associations are required to promote any sponsor or sponsors of the Conference in any social media posts.

## Registration of Players

5.01. All players are required to be registered with BNSW and registered with their association at the time of the competition to be eligible to play.

5.02. No player may register to compete in the Conference unless they are capable of qualifying for the final.

## Registration of Coach/Managers

6.01. All coaches/managers are required to be registered members of BNSW through the association for which they are coaching/managing.

6.02. It is required that all team head coaches hold a current club coaching accreditation (level one) at the time of competition.

## Teams

7.01. After receiving team nomination, the Conference Administrator will send team contacts a team code for all players and coaches to join the team in the competition through GameDay. All players and coaches must join the team no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the start of the competition.

7.02. Only fourteen (14) players may be nominated per team at any one time. An additional two (2) development players may be nominated but these 2 players must be under age 18. If there are any extenuating circumstances, associations may submit a request in writing to the Sunshine Conference Committee for additional players.

7.03. All players must be a minimum age of 16 (can turn 16 during the season). All players under 18 and their parent must sign and indemnity form and submit to Sunshine Conference prior to playing.

7.04. Teams may field up to twelve (12) registered players per game.

7.05. Prior to the start of the season, the Conference Administrator will circulate a full team list of registered players who are eligible to play to the Team contacts. Associations will be required at this time to endorse their Official Team List. If any changes need to be made to the team list after the start of the season, the Association must put this in writing and forward to the Sunshine Conference for approval.

7.06. If a player does play being unregistered with BNSW, the association shall be held responsible and will, in the first instance, lose the game by forfeit and pay the stipulated forfeit fine to the Conference, further disciplinary action may be taken against the association.

7.07. Associations will be required to nominate a person to attend a pre-season Court Controllers online meeting where game set up and administrative requirements for the season will be discussed.

## Finals

8.01. To be eligible to play in the Finals Series, a player has to have played a minimum of 50% of games in that season, that is to be suited up for the games and recorded on the scoring system, with the exception of injury waivers.

8.02. Any player that misses participation in a league game(s) whilst trialling for, training for or representing their State, and Country in a sanctioned Basketball Championship/Tournament shall have those games missed due to this participation included in the calculations for finals eligibility.

8.03 To claim this exemption Associations must apply in writing to the Conference Administrator at least 14 days prior to the start of the finals series starting, stating the details of the games missed.

8.04. A player by virtue of injury fails to qualify for the finals series may apply in writing to the Conference Administrator at least 14 days prior to the start of the Finals for permission to play. In considering the application the Conference Committee shall regard only the following criteria.

- a) Whether the player is a "bona-fide" player of the association, and
- b) The validity of the injury preventing the player from participating.

8.05. With regards to DNPs, at the end of the game if a player does not take the court, or if there are no transactions recorded against the player(s) in stadium scoring, shall mean that the player(s) were present and entitled to play, but the coach chose not to play them. These games will be counted towards a player's finals eligibility.

8.06 The format of the finals will be as follows based on the results at the end of the regular season.

Semi Finals – 1 v 2 and 3 v 4. Winner of 1 v 2 will progress to the Grand Final.

Preliminary Finals – Loser of 1 v 2 plays winner of 3 v 4.

Grand Final – Winner of 1 v 2 plays winner of Preliminary Final.

8.07. For associations to be eligible to host finals they are required to have a representative on the Committee.

## Reports and Tribunal

9.01. It is the duty of the officials in any match to report any person or player who misconducts themselves.

9.02. An Independent Tribunal appointed by the Conference Committee shall deal with any reported individuals. In some case's the Conference Committee may choose to have any incident investigated by an independent person. It is up to this tribunal to decide on suspension time as per BNSW Rule List.

9.03. The Independent Tribunal shall comprise of three (3) independent persons not associated with the conference and one (1) committee member to act as Tribunal Chairperson, in accordance with BNSW guidelines.

9.04. All protest and complaints shall be refereed in the first instance to the Conference Administrator.

9.05. BNSW Tribunal procedures will be used in all cases and circumstances.

9.06. All players and/or team staff must be clear of any penalties imposed by any basketball authority or indirectly affiliated with Basketball Australia prior to competing in any Conference event.

## Public Image

10.01. The image of the basketball and the Conference in general shall be upheld by all participants.

10.02. Any participant of the league (either individual, team or organisation) found guilty of using either a public-address system, game programs, social media either personal or public accounts (such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube etc.) or the use of media outlets as a means of bullying, criticising, making sexist or racist remarks about another individual, team or the Conference in general will not be tolerated.

10.03 Associations will be held responsible for any adverse media, or public, comment originating through these agencies.

10.04. The Conference Committee is empowered to impose a fine, or recommend expulsion, in the event that any adverse comment is reported, and after investigation is proven, the Conference Committee has discretion with respect to the amount of the fine to be imposed.

## Playing Rules

11.01. FIBA Rules -The playing rules of the League shall be the rules of FIBA with some modifications.

11.02. Timing Rules -Each Game shall consist of 4 x 10-minute quarters (fully timed) as set down in the FIBA rules. Drawn Games teams on equal scores at full time will play an extra period(s) until a result is achieved. Each entire period shall be five (5) minutes and will be conducted as per FIBA Rules.

11.03. Match ball present to be BNSW Approved Sponsor. Men use a size 7 and Women use a size 6.

11.04. Abandoned Games- where a game is abandoned (e.g. loss of power to the stadium, extreme weather conditions) the following formula will be used to determine the result for a game that cannot be completed.

- a) At any stage during the game -If the margin between the two teams is 20 points+, then the result of the game will stand at the point when the game was abandoned.
- b) Prior to half time -If the margin between the two teams less than 20 points, the result of the game will be recorded as 20-0.
- c) After half-time and before three-quarter time -If the margin between the two teams is 15 points +, then the result of the game will stand at the point when the game was abandoned.
- d) During the last quarter -The result of the game will stand at the point when the game was abandoned. In any circumstance, the Conference Administrator decides the outcome of the Game after consulting with the referees and the Conference Committee. Abandoned games will not be rescheduled.

## Forfeits

12.01. A team shall lose the game by forfeit if:

- a) It refuses to play after being instructed to do so by the referees.
- b) By its actions it prevents the game from being played.
- c) Fifteen (15) minutes after the starting time, the team is not present or is not able to field five (5) players.

12.02. In the event of a forfeit, the game is awarded to the opponents and the score shall be twenty (20) to zero (0). Further, the forfeiting team shall receive zero (0) points in the classification.

12.03 Associations claiming expenses incurred at their home courts in the event of a forfeit should direct such accounts to the Conference Administrator within three (3) days of the forfeit occurring, providing a detailed breakdown of the expenses.

12.04. Forfeits (per game) = \$500 plus costs per claim as follows:

- a) Court Hire.
- b) Referee Fees.

## Default

13.01. Team shall lose a game by default if, during the game, the number of players of that team on the court is less than two.

13.02. If the team to which the game is awarded is ahead, the score at the time of stoppage shall stand. If the team to which the game is awarded is not ahead, the score shall be recorded as two (2) to zero (0) in its favour; the defaulting team shall receive one (1) point in the classification.

## Uniforms

14.01. All teams must play in their approved uniform.

14.02. The singlets can use any numbers with a maximum of 2 digits, as per FIBA rules.

14.03. Players may only wear apparel, which is registered as part of their uniform in order to be eligible to participate in warm-ups.

14.04. T-Shirts regardless of style may not be worn under shirts, even if the player has written medical permission.

14.05. The following compression garments are permitted to be worn. They must be either black or same colour as uniform.

- a) Sleeveless tops.
- b) Calf sleeves.
- c) Arm sleeves.
- d) Quad sleeves.
- e) Full length compression tights.

14.6. Teams must have either reversible uniforms or an alternate set, in case of two teams in the same colour. Team B is required to change to alternate colour in case of same team colours.

## Games

15.01. Games shall be played on a home and away basis on weekends. A draw will be distributed prior to the starting weekend of the competition

15.02. Where desirable and with the consent of the away team, matches may be played on a Friday evening or public holiday subject to being published on the league draw at the commencement of the season. The visiting team has the overall right of refusal.

15.03. For the regular season, no game shall start later than 7.30pm.

15.04. Once the season has started, associations requesting a game change (date and/or time) must:

- a) Obtain approval from their opponent's Association.
- b) Submit a written application to the Conference Administrator detailing the reasons for the request.
- c) Games cannot be changed without Conference permission.
- d) A fee of \$50 shall apply for each request.

15.05. All players and coaches will be required to sign the game sign on sheet prior to the game commencing.

## Special Rules

16.01. Red Card System – Player or Player Coach. If a Player or is responsible for an accumulation of 3 technical fouls (for poor behaviour) throughout the season they will receive an automatic two (2) game suspension.

If a Player receives an automated suspension, this shall be construed as meaning that the suspended Player cannot during these two (2) games suspension do any of the following basketball related activities;

- a) play basketball
- b) referee
- c) coach
- d) table officiates
- e) officiate in game statistics



If the same Player continues to receive technical fouls in the same season (for poor behaviour) then the offending player will be required to appear before a Conference Tribunal hearing.

To clarify the intent of this rule, this means that the offending Player:

- a) cannot choose which games the suspensions will apply
- b) cannot use games played at local level to count towards their suspension.

Associations have the ability to appeal. The appeal must be submitted in writing to the Conference Committee and the association must have video evidence of all three (3) technical fouls.

## Classification of Teams

17.01. Compilation of the Conference ladder will show:

- a) Games won; and
- b) Games lost; and
- c) Forfeits; and
- d) Points for; and
- e) Points against; and
- f) Points percentage (based on points for divided by points against; and
- g) Percentage of games won.

17.02. Teams on each ladder will be ranked in order of percentage of games won.

17.03. At the end of the regular season, if more than two teams are equal in placing, a second classification will be established taking into account only the results of the games played between the teams that are tied.

17.04. In the event that there are still teams tied after the second classification, then POINTS PERCENTAGE (i.e.  $\text{Points For} \div \text{Points Against} \times 100$ ) will be used to determine the placing, taking into account only the results of the games between the teams still tied.

17.05. BNSW adopts FIBA's rules and procedures to determine the standings when more than 2 teams finish on equal points.

## Playing Venues

18.01. Facilities nominated by associations are required to be compliant with the rules of the game as required by BNSW.

18.02. The home venue shall provide a court with a quality playing surface, suitable lighting, scoreboards, 24/14 second clock, Score table, Team benches, backboards (transparent preferred), foul paddles and possession arrows.

18.03. The playing surface, lighting and public address system must be of a high standard

18.04. Playing venues should have change room facilities with (preferably lockers) showers and toilet facilities.

18.05. Playing venues should have a referee's room with a lockable door, shower and toilet facilities.

18.06. Playing venues are to clearly display Conference Sponsorship Signage for the duration of the Conference competition.

## Game Day

19.01. All home teams must supply a **Court Controller** who shall be responsible for ensuring all relevant score bench officials (4) are present (must be over age of 16), all required equipment is on the score bench, including Courtside scoring system (iPad). They are to ensure staff/volunteer and crowd behaviour as per the BNSW's Code of Conduct rules is adhered to and referee security is upheld. Spectators will understand as a condition of entry that they may be asked to leave the venue by this person. This condition of entry must be clearly displayed to all entering the stadium.

19.02. At least twenty (20) minutes prior to the start of the game the Court Controller is to provide the sign on sheet to each team. The sign on sheet must include all player numbers, player names and players are to sign against their name.

Each head coach will indicate who their starting 5 are (by circling the playing number of the players) and mark their captain with a C next to their name and also sign the sign on sheet, indicating that this is the team that is playing.

If a player is knowingly arriving late, they can still play in the game, as long as this is indicated before the signing of the sign on sheet. To indicate this, the head coach is to write the word "LATE" in the signature box. The late player must sign the sheet after arrival and ready to take the court and are not added to the team on Courtside until this time. If a player marked LATE does not arrive and take the court they shall be crossed off the sign-on sheet by the scoretable officials.

Any players not indicated as "LATE" will be crossed off the sign on sheet by the scoretable officials and will not be eligible to participate in the game should they arrive after tip off.

Any players that fail to sign the sign on sheet prior to the game commencing and LATE not being written, will not be able to take part in the game.

19.03. The score bench officials shall add the players and head coach to each team from the sign on sheet checking all player numbers are correct.

19.04. Each team shall supply a suitable game ball to referees prior to the start of the game. Referees will choose, by agreement, an appropriate ball for the game. The alternative ball shall be kept at the scorebench in case of any damage or issue with the chosen game ball. Both balls will be return to the teams at the conclusion of the game. Men use size 7 and Women use size 6.

19.05. Match/Score-table conditions are to be adhered to in strict accordance with approved FIBA score-table instructions and regulations.

19.06. At least two (2) floor wipers, using broom style floor wipers, should be in position (one at each end of the court) throughout the game. Floor wipers are to be at least 10 years of age, or older. Floor wipers (Children) on hands and knees using cloths/towels is not acceptable for hygiene and safety reasons.

19.07. It is encouraged that a court announcer/commentator is provided to call all game and home Associations will be held accountable for any indiscretions on the part of the court announcer/commentator.

19.08. Appropriate warm-up music can be played prior to all matches; appropriate music may also be played during all time outs, game breaks and at half time.

19.09. The players, team officials, referees and special guests may be introduced to the spectators before the game commences. Where a Conference naming sponsor is appointed due recognition is to be given before and throughout the game as notified by the Conference Administrator.

19.10. The Conference Logo and all league sponsorship signage, as directed by the Conference Administrator, must be prominently displayed at all home game venues. Such signage will be supplied to each Association by the Conference.

19.11. The home team shall have available an approved Blood Kit and spare basketball in the event of a blood incident on the court. A senior Association official in the event of such incident will use this blood kit.

19.12. Courtside shall be utilised at all venues for Conference fixtures. Competing Associations are to provide all necessary hardware and software to facilitate this mechanism. Sunshine Conference will provide all set up, venue and referee codes.

19.13 It is strongly encouraged that the home Association live-stream their home games. Any recordings or links to live-streams are to be made available to the Conference Committee for the purpose of, but not limited to;

- a) referee development
- b) tribunal evidence
- c) statistics collection or review
- d) conference promotion

19.14 At the end of the game the home team must ensure that the device is connected to the internet and that the result has been uploaded before closing Courtside application.

## Referees

20.01. A Referee Coordinator shall be appointed as the manager of officiating in the Conference. The duties and responsibilities of the Referee Coordinator shall include:

- a) Obtain referee nominations from each association for teams nominated. Organise alternatives and back up referees if required.
- b) Set up referee roster for each game and send to committee and relevant associations.
- c) Ensure all referees have sent updated bank details. (Bank details form completed).
- d) Monitor and make any changes required for referees for each game.
- e) Continuously confer with referees if any issues arising.
- f) Send details to Treasurer, each Monday after games, to confirm referees and make any necessary changes to the roster for payment by Treasurer.

20.02. Referee Requirements:

- a) All competing Associations must nominate a minimum of two (2) referees per team with team nomination.
- b) Associations can nominate Referees that are registered with another association (subject to approval from the Conference Committee and their registered association), on the provision that the referee(s) is NOT already nominated and is willing to referee at your home venue for Conference games.
- c) The home association is responsible for providing two (2) referees for all home games. Associations need to confirm availability of their nominated referees no later than 7 days prior to any home game. If the home association is unable to fulfil the referee requirement for any home games, they must contact the Referee Coordinator no later than 7 days prior to the relevant game. The home association must pay an amount of \$75 for each alternative referee supplied for a home game.

20.03. All nominated referees must be either Intermediate or higher and a minimum of 16 years old\*\* There is a requirement that each game will have at a minimum least one adult intermediate referee. No game is to be officiated by two junior referees together.

\*\* Approval is at the discretion of the Conference Committee and the Referee Coordinator.

20.04. All Referees will be required to perform their duties wearing standard black and white referee shirt, long black pants and black shoes.

20.05. Referee Game Payments are reviewed annually, if any increase in payments occurs, associations will be advised at the annual Sunshine Conference Meeting.

### League Awards

21.01. Towards the end of the season (round games), associations will be asked to nominate player/s from their team/s, for each award, to be voted on by all teams within that division (men / women).

21.02. The Head Coach will be required to then vote (3,2,1) for the best players in their division (men / women), from these nominations, with three votes to the best player – The Head Coach will be prohibited from voting for their own players.

21.03. Each association is required to nominate player/s (per team) from their own association in the following categories:

- MVP of the Year (1 player)
- Defensive Player of the Year (1 player)
- All Star Five – (3 additional players - MVP and Defensive Player automatically get nominated in this category)

21.04. The winners of MVP and Defensive Player categories are automatically placed in the All Star 5. The three players receiving the highest votes from the All Star Nominees make up the remainder of the All Star 5. If one (or both) of the MVP or Defensive Player award winners are in the top three, the player/s with the next highest votes takes a place in the All Star 5.

\*\*\* All individuals nominated must have played a minimum of 50% of games during the season.

\*\*\* Sunshine Conference will review the nominations. Please note: Players that have been suspended are not eligible for nomination.

### League Annual Meeting

22.01. After the season has been completed, the Conference Annual Meeting will be held. Attendance is compulsory for all associations who competed in the previous season and for associations wishing to enter the Conference the following season. The Conference Annual Meeting will be held by Microsoft Teams Meeting (or equivalent technology).

22.02. The Agenda for the League Annual Meeting will be circulated two weeks prior to the meeting date.