



**AUSTRALIAN BASKETBALL FEDERATION
INCORPORATED
AUSTRALIAN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP**

RULES

**November 2008
Changes endorsed by ACC commission
6 November 2008**

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DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

1. Definitions

Where a word is defined in the Rules, then that word will have the meaning attributed to it in the Rules unless the context otherwise requires:

“ABF” means the Australian Basketball Federation Incorporated and its successors and assigns. For the avoidance of doubt, any obligation on, or decision required by, ABF under these Rules shall be able to be discharged, or taken, by either the operational staff or the board of ABF in ABF’s absolute discretion.

“ACC” means the Australian Club Championship, which is a two round finals format incorporating SEABL, Big V, Central ABL, Waratah Basketball league and Queensland Basketball League.

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“ACC” Commission means the ACC Commission formed under the Constitution which promotes and provides advice to ABF in relation to the conduct of the ACC and the SEABL, Big V, Central ABL, Waratah Basketball League and Queensland Basketball League.

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“ACC Logo ” means the logo of the Competition
ACC Naming Rights Sponsor” means the competition advised as such by the ABF from time to time.

“Australian Team’ means any representative team for Australia entered into a FIBA Competition.

“Away Club” means a Club which is named second in a fixture and is not playing in that Club’s endorsed home venue but traveling to the endorsed venue of another Club to compete against the Home Club in a fixture.

“Basketball Australia” the national sporting organisation.

“Business Day” means every day which is not a Saturday, a Sunday or public or bank holiday.

“Club” means a person or body who holds a valid Licence, and where the context allows, includes all members, representatives, officers, officials and players of that Club.

“Club President” is the elected president of any Club or where the Licence is held by a company, the company Chairman.

”Club Sponsor” means any sponsor who provides benefits to a Club.

“Coach” means any person who is contracted to coach a team for any season or part thereof.

“Commission” means the ACC Commission formed under the Constitution which promotes and provides advice to ABF in relation to the conduct of the ACC.

“Competition” means the premier second tier national competition for both men and women conducted by the respective Leagues or Basketball Australia and includes any pre-season or other tournaments as organised.

“FIBA” means the international body that governs the rules and regulations of basketball.

“FIBA Oceania” means the official zone representative of FIBA.

“Finals” means the series of games as determined by the respective League or ABF, played at the completion of the regular season by the Clubs to determine the team which becomes the champion team of the competition.

“Foreign Player” is any player of non Australian nationality.

“Games Commissioner” means the person nominated by a Club to act as official agent of both the Club and respective Leagues at all home fixtures.

“Technical Official” means any person acting as a Scoretable official, statistician or referee at any league fixture.

“Gate Receipts” means the total monies received (in form of cash, cheques, credit card or other payments) by a Home Club for or on account of persons attending a league fixture.

“Home Club” means a Club which is named first in a fixture and is playing in that Club’s endorsed home venue.

“Home Game” means a league fixture which a Home Club is obliged by the league to stage.

“Leagues” means as approved from time to time and eligible to participate in the ACC

“Licence” means the league Licence agreement a Club and the League granting the right to the person or body to participate in the league Competition.

“National Referees Panel” means the list of referee who are eligible to referee the competition.

“NBL” means the National Basketball League of Australia for men.

“NBL Current Season” means the season that is active at the time of determining the level of an athlete’s restriction if they were to participate in the next season’s competition.

“Overseas League/Competition” means any competition played outside of Australia.

“Player” means a player of any league team.

“Pre-Season Competition” means any competition which is arranged by or on behalf of the league which occurs prior to the commencement of the league season.

“Prescribed Interest Rate” means the rate comprising the percentage movement in the CPI over the most recent 4 quarters plus ten percentage points.

“Referees Commissioner” means the person appointed by the ACC under the constitution to administer the referees.

“Regular Season Game” means any league fixture played in the regular home and away season of the Competition.

“Restricted Player” means a player who is either not of Australian nationality, a squad member of any senior national team as determined by that International Federation, or an Australian citizen as a player restricted by minutes played in competitions as determined by the ABF, pursuant to all FIBA regulations as determined from time to time.

“Roster” means the approved list of players that are eligible to represent a Club.

“Squad” means a group of athletes that form a team.

“Team” means a team of a Club which participates in the league Competition.

“Territory” means the Northern Territory or the Australian Capital Territory.

“Tribunal” means the Tribunal rules of Basketball Australia.

“WNBL” means the National Basketball League of Australia for women.

“WNBL Current Season” means the season that is active at the time of determining the level of an athlete’s restriction if they were to participate in the next season’s league competition.

2. Interpretation

- a. Words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa.
- b. Words importing any gender include the other genders

Chapter 1 – ACC Rules

1. *Playing Rules*

All Leagues must adopt these general playing and participation rules. Any additional local rules relative to respective competition or administrative requirements must not contravene this document. Variations may be approved by ACC Commission if deemed not to change the intent of the relative rule.

- 1.1. The ACC Playing Rules shall be the rules of FIBA. Variations to the ACC Playing Rules maybe granted by ABF on a League by league and case by case basis.
- 1.2. Each ACC men’s game shall consist of 4 x 12 minute quarters. Each ACC women’s game shall consist of 4 x 10 minute quarters.
- 1.3. Acceptable playing numbers shall be; 1-15, 20-25, 30-35, 40-45, & 50-55.
- 1.4. Each player in the men’s competition is permitted six (6) personal fouls in each 48-minute game and each player in the women’s competition is permitted five (5) personal fouls in each 40-minute game...
- 1.5. Twenty (20) minutes must be set aside for team warm-ups prior to the start of the game. The pre-game warm-up can be changed to a minimum of ten (10) minutes at the discretion and agreement of BOTH teams. Half-time is 10-15 minutes at the discretion of the Home team, but there must be a minimum of five (5) minutes for player warm-ups. Quarter and three quarter time shall be two (2) minutes.
- 1.6. For all games, the first team named in the programme (home team) shall have the Team bench and its own basket, on the left side of the scorers’ table, facing the playing court.

However if the two teams involved agree, they may interchange the team benches and/or baskets.

Before the first and third periods, teams are entitled to warm-up in the half of the court in which their opponent’s basket is situated.

Dunking in warm-ups, the game referee shall closely police dunking in warm-ups. After warning the WHOLE team ONCE, the referees shall penalise by a bench technical foul on any player who snaps the basket release or attacks the ring in a manner that suggests damage may be done...

- 1.7. Roster size, each team is entitled to suit up and play twelve (12) players per game, provided that each player has compiled with the relevant registration requirements.

- 1.8. Each team shall have two sets of uniforms, where a clash in uniform colours occurs the home team wears dark, visiting team light. Though where a visiting team is playing more than 1 away game a common sense approach to avoiding clashes is to occur.

2. Match Ball

ABF owns the rights to the game ball and as determined by the ABF this will be the only approved basketballs to be used.

Men shall play with the size seven (7) 12 panel basketball and the women with the size 6 12 panel basketball.

3. Game Results

All game results to be processed as per each respective League requirements – refer to the relevant administration procedure documents and League By-Laws for requirements.

4. Home Club Responsibilities

- 4.1. Provide an approved match ball, court, lighting and equipment of first class standard for the match.
- 4.2. Provide technical officials for all games. These would include 4 competent scoretable officials with a minimum of 3 Level 2 and one level 1 scoretable officials. Include 2 statisticians with a minimum of one Level 2 and one Level 1
- 4.3. No later than Monday before the match provide the visiting team with:-
 - a) Confirm the colour of the **home** team and if there is a clash, the **visiting** team is to change.
 - b) Telephone number of any personnel whom they may need to contact.
 - c) The time to start warm-up.
 - d) Information re pre-game formalities and post-game hospitality.
- 4.4. Each Home Club is to supply a minimum of 2 persons to fulfill the duty of a floor wiper for all Home games. Please read the Basketball Australia policy of Floor Wipers for more detailed information.
- 4.5. Provide a lockable change room or a lockable and secure area within the change room for the use of visiting teams. The key to this change room or storage area is to be provided to the Manager of the visiting team on that team's arrival at the stadium.
- 4.6. Display the Australian Flag and the /individual League logo sign at all home games as supplied by the respective League.
- 4.7. Play warm-up music and the Australian National Anthem (optional) prior to ALL home games; before both games if double header...
- 4.8. Introduce the players, team officials, referees and special guests to the spectators...
- 4.9. At all home games provide the spectators with an informative commentary on the game; Courtside announcers shall comply with the Code of Conduct under the heading COURT ANNOUNCERS in this document...
- 4.10. Hold reserved seat allocation for referee evaluator and partner, in a position in which the game can be clearly viewed.
- 4.11. Each member club must provide a DVD recording of home games played, if requested within 7-days of the specified game by the League for any purpose.

Visiting Club Responsibilities

- 4.12. Provide the home team with current player lists and numbers on the Monday prior to each scheduled game.
- 4.13. Advise home team as to the colour of uniform to be worn by visiting team on the Monday prior to each scheduled game.
- 4.14. Advise home teams of accommodation location in advance (if applicable) in case contact is required.

Other

- 4.15. The tip-off time shall be the time as published in the fixture.
- 4.16. The Home Team must supply an after-game function or if no function held appropriate food and beverage in the change room after the game. The after game function should be held at the competition venue or an alternate venue as approved by the respective League.
- 4.17. It is the objective of the competition that the visiting team and the referees be received and treated as guests.
- 4.18. A Game Commissioner shall be appointed for each home game as a representative of the individual league and will undertake designated duties as determined from time to time.

5. Acts of God

That the following formula be used to determine the result for a game that cannot be completed.

- 5.1. A 20 + point margin will mean that the result will stand at the scoreline when the game was abandoned, at any point of the game.
- 5.2. A margin less than 20 points before half time will mean the game is abandoned.
- 5.3. A margin of 15+ points between half and three-quarter time will mean that the result stands at the scoreline when the game was abandoned.
- 5.4. After three-quarter time, the result stands at the scoreline when the game was abandoned.
- 5.5. Each League at its discretion can determine the action's to be followed on games that can't commence or be completed.
 - 5.5.1. The initial decision is in consultation with the Referees, Game Commissioner and League Administrator.
 - 5.5.2. The League determines the outcome of the game.

Tribunal (see appendix B)

6. Disciplinary Matters & Disputes

- 6.1. All disputes regarding games must be lodged with the respective League office within 48 hours of the game, followed by a full written report within 24 hours. A payment of \$250 must accompany such report. The League appointed officer shall consider the report details and after consultation with appropriate personnel will determine the action required. Should the complaint be proved, the hearing levy will be refunded and an appropriate fine be levied against the offending club.
- 6.2. The relevant League appointed persons will make a final decision whether the charge should be heard by a judiciary after receiving a written report and relevant statements. If determined that a case needs to be heard the report shall be dealt with by the Tribunal. A team may report an official or another

team for misconduct. The report must be written and lodged with an appropriate League Office within seven days of the incident reported.

- 6.3. An ACC Executive Judiciary is to be convened where matters are such that the ACC Commission decides that, for any reason, the interests of ABF have not been adequately served by the finding of any initial judiciary hearing held by the League Tribunal, or of no finding if not held. The ACC Commission Chairman is to act as Head Chairman with the power to delegate the Chief to any Executive Officer or other duly appointed judiciary member. A quorum shall be two. The decisions of the ACC Judiciary shall be ratified by the ACC Commission, but apart from the imposition of fines or good behaviour bonds, shall be effective from the time they are made. The scope of such decisions must be written the confines of the activities of the ABF. .
- 6.4. An appeal against a judiciary decision may be lodged with the ACC Commission Chairman. This must be lodged with 7-days of the previous decision. Each appeal must be accompanied by a \$1000 fee. If the appeal is successful, the fee will be returned.

7. Player Eligibility

- 7.1. Clubs are able to have a maximum of two players who are restricted players.
- 7.2 A restricted player is:
- A player who is a non-Australian citizen, and is required under rules of FIBA to hold an annual Foreign Players Licence or
 - A player who is an Australian Citizen but has represented another country in an official FIBA tournament (Zone Qualifier, World Championships and or Olympics) and therefore is ineligible to represent Australia.
 - A player who averaged greater than 25% of available court time in the NBL or a player who has averaged less than 35% of available court time in the WNBL.
 - A player who averaged greater than 25% of available court time in an overseas league (men) as defined in 7.5 and a player who has averaged less than 35% of available court time in an overseas league (women).
- 7.3 Players who do not hold Australian citizenship status but immigrated to Australia with their parents prior to their fifteenth (15th) birthday may apply for a Special Foreign Player Licence to enable them to participate in the ACC as an unrestricted player. This only applies to ACC competitions.
- 7.4 . At a point as determined by the ABF, all players who are currently participating in the NBL/WNBL shall be classed into two different categories. These being:
- 7.4.1. Restricted: a player who averaged greater than 25% of available court time in the NBL or a player who has averaged greater than 35% of available court time in the WNBL.
- 7.4.2. Unrestricted: a player who averaged less than 25% of available court time in the NBL or a player who has averaged less than 35% of available court time in the WNBL.
- 7.4.3 Unrestricted: a player who is in their rookie year in the NBL/WNBL can return to their previous club. A rookie is a player who has not played more than 8 games in the WNBL/NBL.
- 7.4.4 Unrestricted: a player who has not played in the current NBL/WNBL or the previous overseas league.

- 7.5 Any Australian player who last played in any division 1 competition in the following countries shall be restricted if they have averaged greater than 25% of available court time for men and 35% for women. :

United States of America (excluding college programs)
Yugoslavia
Canada (excluding college programs)
Argentina
Lithuania
Spain
Italy
Russia
Greece
France
China
Germany
Turkey
Croatia
Slovakia
New Zealand

- 7.5.1 If minutes played could not be produced then the player would be treated as a restricted player.

7.6 The date used to calculate available court time shall be round 18 of the NBL or WNBL competitions, for players returning from an overseas league time on court shall be calculated from the season just completed. For the purpose of this rule all graduating players from AIS are exempt from any restriction and become eligible to participate as an unrestricted player provided that the player is returning directly from the AIS to the Club which released the player to the AIS.

- 7.6.1 The principles adopted in categorizing these players are as follows:-

(Applicable for both men and women)

- Any player that is a member of national senior squads as at 1st of July of the previous year shall be automatically a restricted player. A player deemed restricted by being a member of a national senior squad shall remain restricted until their National Federation announces a new national squad list. This means that a list can carry over a twelve month period.
- Graduating AIS women players are exempt from restricted status with the exception of senior national squad selection provided that the player is returning directly from the AIS to the club, which released the player to the AIS.
- Players on injury waivers will not have games they were unavailable included in their calculations.
- Players must compete in a minimum of 4 games for this rule to apply.
- Players who have played more than 100 games with the women or 150 games with the men or played 8 seasons with the women or the men (whichever is lower) as unrestricted players with the one Club in the ACC or equivalent State League games can play in the ACC for that Club as an unrestricted player.

- 7.7 It should also be noted that all players contracted to WNBL or NBL teams must provide written permission from that team to allow them to play with any ACC team.

- 7.8 Basketball Australia upon lodgment of Player Registration forms shall automatically provide a written letter of approval for any player that is in a senior National squad.

7.9 Prior to any approach, either directly or indirectly, to any NBL/WNBL player on the ACC restricted/unrestricted lists, permission must be sought to approach the player from the relevant NBL/WNBL team to which the player is contracted.

7.10 Any player who has played one ACC game in any one competition year may not transfer to another ACC team in that playing season, except that uncontested clearances may be permitted within sixty (60) days of the commencement of the ACC playing season, that is, the date of the first ACC game being played regardless of the league. The clearance request must be ratified by the relevant League Executive. For clearances between different leagues under this clause, approval must be given by the ACC National Chief executive.

8. Finals eligibility

8.1 To be eligible to play in the League or ACC a player, has to have played a minimum of 40% of games in that season. The player must have their name entered on the score sheet before the start of the game and be dressed ready to play and participate in the game by being on court.

8.2 . Any player that miss participation in a league scheduled game whilst representing their State in National Junior Championships, or Australia on official national duties at national camps or playing for Australia shall have those games missed due to participation, included in the calculations for finals eligibility at both League and ACC. Application in writing to the respective League at least 14 days prior to the start of the finals stating the details of games missed must be included.

8.3 When calculating player's games played and where the number is not a whole number then the number will be rounded up to the next whole number eg 39.1 goes to 40.

8.4 A member of a club who by virtue of injury/illness fails to quality for their respective league final or ACC under Rules 8.1 may apply in writing to their respective league at least 14 days prior to the start of the finals for permission to play in the finals. In considering any application the League shall have regard only to two criteria, viz.

I. Whether the player is a 'bona-fide" player of the Club, and

II. The validity of the injury preventing the player from otherwise qualifying to play.

8.5 All players must be clear of any penalties imposed by any basketball authority directly or indirectly affiliated with the Australian Basketball Federation Inc., unless that penalty is the subject of an officially recognised appeal yet to be resolved.

8.6 In the case of an injured or sick player a Club has the option of requesting an injury waiver for that player from the relevant League Commissioner. The injury waiver may be granted, and the player replacement made after the League Commissioner is satisfied of the bona fide's of the injury of illness, subject to the following conditions.

Provided that;

- The injured/sick player must miss a minimum of three (3) consecutive games for the Club and the appropriate League Commissioner has been notified.
- Medical certification of the extent and term of the injury/illness is supplied by a certified medical practitioner or sports medicine specialist. Additional medical certification and written notice is provided to the respective League Commissioner to state the injured/ill player is medically fit to resume participation after the minimum (3) game stand out.

- The injury waiver MUST be lodged with the appropriate League Commissioner by no later than two (2) weeks after the injury/illness has been sustained.

If the replacement player does not qualify for finals under Rule 8.1 then the club can make representation to the respective League commissioner. There is no restriction on the number of times that a player may substitute for another player out on waivers, however, each time a player is waived they must miss a minimum of three (3) league games played for their team.

- 8.6.1 Clubs wishing to bring in a player that would be ruled as restricted may do so only if they are replacing another restricted player.
- 8.6.2 Clubs may apply for special dispensation to this rule if their roster size is reduced to less than nine (9) players and that the team has less than 40% of regular season games remaining.

8.7 Registration

- 8.7.1 A full registration system is maintained by each respective League and also ABF on all players, coaches, assistant coaches and managers.
- 8.7.2 Before any player, coach, assistant coach or manager of any Club is eligible to participate in the ACC competition they must be registered with the Club/Association/State and or Territory.
- 8.7.3 Registration of players, coach, assistant coach or manager shall be affected only when the registration form or any other prescribed requirements have been received and approved by the respective League and ACC National.

The form is to include the following information;

- a) Parent/Guardian signature for U-18 players
- b) Privacy and permission tick boxes to allow the League or ABF to use images or participants in promotion of the competition.

- 8.8 With the exception of 8.6 no player may register to compete in the competition unless they are capable of qualifying for the final series. Under specific circumstances the respective league may authorise registration in this period.
- 8.9 For failure to comply with any or all player eligibility By-Laws, an automatic loss of match result plus a fine of up to \$1000 for each breach, to be administered by the respective league.
- 8.10 A player who gains Australian citizenship through naturalization must lodge certificate of Australian citizenship with ABF prior to participating in any league.
- 8.11 A maximum of 20 players can be registered to a team participating in the League and ACC.
- 8.12 If during the ACC season Basketball Australia receives a request for an international letter of clearance for a player registered in the respective league and once approved by the relevant league Club, will result in that player's league registration being cancelled. Cancellation of the registration will not override rule 8.1
- 8.13 If a player is returning back to Australia after participating in an overseas league, an international letter of clearance is required before they can participate again in the League and a new registration form is lodged with the respective League and ABF.. All normal rules and regulations for player eligibility shall apply.

8.14 A State/Territory receiving a request for a letter of clearance, must reply within seven (7) business days, following receipt of the request either by granting or refusing the letter of clearance.

8.15 If there is no response within the seven (7) business day period, the requesting League shall immediately notify ABF... ABF will authorise the granting of the clearance, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

The only reason for which a clearance maybe refused is if the player is under contract to play for his/her Club beyond the scheduled transfer date.

8.16 All players playing in the ACC must have a written contract with their clubs, whether for monetary consideration or not

There are two types of contracts for the ACC:

- 1) Amateur Player Contract
- 2) Professional Player Contract

All clubs must lodge the contracts with their respective Leagues prior to the player's first game in the League.

9. Schedule of Games

9.1 Schedule of games is at the discretion of each respective League, generally games shall be played on Friday, Saturday and Sunday and any variations are subject to league direction. Flexibility is to be allowed to the respective League Executive to have home venue relocations to ensure the standard of venue is suitable for television coverage when obtained.

10. Australian Club Championship

10.1 Each League will conduct a playoff series to establish a League champion for men and women.

10.2 The Australian Club Championship will be conducted over two rounds or a format that is endorsed by the ACC commission.

10.3 Eight teams will compete in the Men's and Women's ACC

10.4 The champion team in each league (men and women) will qualify for the ACC with the remainder of the teams to be determined by the ACC Commission.

10.5 Men and Women to play at different venues unless it is in the best interests of the ACC to play at the same venue. Winners of the quarter finals would qualify for the second round i.e. semi finals.

10.6 Venue for semi final and finals would be the most cost effective neutral venue as determined by the ACC Commission.

10.7 Home team or the home league to pay a fee of \$1500 with the home team/league to retain all gate takings. Home team/home league to be responsible for all costs in presenting the games.

10.8 Referees for round 1 would be appointed from the state where the games are being played. Referees for the finals would be appointed by the ACC Referees commissioner with one from each of the individual leagues and the remaining referees to be from the state where the final is being played.

10.9 Airfares for all teams for both rounds to be paid by ABF. An allowance for ground transport and accommodation has been provided with total costs to remain below \$75,000.

10.10 No prize money shall be allocated to the winners unless a sponsor is sourced specifically for that purpose.

10.11 Teams that win the league finals shall be awarded an appropriate banner. The winning teams will be known as the Australian Club Champions.

11 Sponsorship

- 9.5 Each member club must reserve standardized space for ACC sponsorship exposure:-
- I. Courtside Signage
 - II. Uniform logos
 - III. Program advertising
- 9.6 Reserve front right side of uniform singlets for the League logos and front left of players shorts for use of the ACC sponsors logo as determined.

11 Premiership Tables

Premiership tables are as determined by FIBA Rules and Regulations.

12 Promotion and Publicity

13.1 Each Game should be promoted and advertised by the home team to obtain a maximum attendance. The match should be presented with a suitable program, appropriate announcements, and music and half-time entertainment for better enjoyment by patrons. Such music should enhance the atmosphere of the game rather than being a noisy distraction; there needs to be supervised discretion exercised by the court controller.

13.2 League awards are to be presented at the end of the season from game statistics recorded by teams. Each Statistical award shall be determined by a per average per player with a minimum of 50% of game to qualify. Games missed due to national team commitments shall count in calculations of awards.

13.3 Awards are to be presented in each league of competition in the following categories or as determined by each individual league::

- **Coach of the Year**
- **U-21 Australian Youth Player of the Year**

Coach of the Year and U-21 Australian Youth player of the Year shall be determined by the Head Coach, Team Captain and Club Delegate of each team participating in their respective league by a 3-2-1 end of regular season vote. The winner of this award must have Australian basketball nationality.

- **Most Valuable Player**

Most Valuable Players – after each game coaches are to allocate a total of 10 votes to players of either team with a maximum of 5 votes to any one player. It shall be each team's responsibility to provide their votes via fax by noon Monday following the game to the respective League office. At the completion of the season an additional 3-2-1 vote by coaches of the top 15 qualifiers will be conducted to determine the League Most Valuable Player.

- **All-Star League Team**

An "All-Star League team" shall be selected by each League. The All-Star Team to comprise 2 guard positions, 3 forward/centre positions and with a limit of two restricted players. The All-Star team shall be voted on by Coach, Team Captain for each team at the completion of the season. Clubs are not able to vote for players from their own team. A list of players that received Most Valuable Player votes throughout the regular playing season will be provided to each team. The voting system to be used is a 3-2-1 system.

The list distributed shall have a maximum of 15 names for guard's positions, 15 names for forward/centre positions.

For media and marketing purposes individual leagues can select a second All-Star team which can be announced but not presented with an award.

- **Referee of the Year**

Referees of the Year shall be determined as those referees appointed to the respective League Grand Finals.

- 13.4 Media Awards shall be presented acknowledging excellence in various categories according to the individual needs of each league. e

9.7 For the purpose of League awards, no person is entitled to vote for or select an individual from their own team.

9.8 Awards to be presented on a National basis **at the ACC are**

- **All-Star Men's and Women's Team**
- **MVP of the Final**
- **Grand Final Referees**

All awards apply individually and equally to Men and women.

An All-Star 5 team for men and for women shall be announced at the ACC finals and the All-Star teams shall include;

- 1) 2 guard positions
- 2) 2 forward positions
- 3) 1 centre position

A Most Valuable Player of the Grand Final will also be presented.

13 Technical Officials – National Finals

14.1 The ACC Commission is to appoint an ACC National Referees Commissioner for a two-year term. The appointment shall be on a rotation basis from the ACC Referees Commission. The ACC I Referee Commissioner shall be responsible for chairing all meetings of the Referees Commission.

Referee match fees for men's and women's games are set each year at the respective Annual League Meeting for each League.

13.3 The ACC Referees Commission shall be responsible for the appointment of all referees for ACC Finals.

- There must be a referee from each League attending the ACC Finals, provided that referee has reached the appropriate standard for a National Final.

13.4 ACC referees Commission will recommend referees fees for ACC Finals to the ACC Commission for their approval.

14 Penalties

As determined by the respective leagues.

15 Membership Fee

16 The ABF will determine the annual levy for each league in consultation with the ACC Commission. Interpretation of Rules

17.1 ACC Commission shall determine the interpretation of the ACC Rules and rule appropriately and shall have the power to decide on all questions not provided for in these Rules in the best interest of the ACC

19.2The ACC Commission having due regard to the rules and associated circumstances, shall be empowered by this clause to make any discretionary ruling in the best interest of the ACC competition, notwithstanding that such ruling may be in contravention of any rule or regulation contained in the Rules of the ACC.

Chapter 2 –Code of Conduct

1. General

The purpose of this document is to provide a guideline as to the standards of conduct expected by ABF and the respective leagues by the members in all aspects of the game.

It is not intended that this document becomes a Rule, but rather that it be an expression of the spirit in which the members believe the League should be conducted.

The SEABL, Big V, Central ABL, Waratah League and Queensland Basketball League are elite national development basketball competitions in Australia and enjoy a privileged status and profile and with that go the responsibility of being the standard bearers by which the sport is judged. As such, players, coaches and club administrators who share in the status and profile of the sport have a responsibility to conduct themselves both on and off the court and in a manner that will not lessen the high regard in which the sport, the individual leagues, the State Associations and ABF is held by the public. To this end the following represent ethical codes which all those associated with the respective leagues and ACC should adhere to:

- a) Violence has no part in the sport of basketball and will always, at all times remain unacceptable.
- b) The use of illicit drugs or drugs to enhance performance is prohibited.
- c) Gambling on the outcome of league games by players, referees and coaches can have dangerous implications for the sport and is prohibited.
- d) Public comment that is prejudicial to the best interests of the sport and the leagues is not condoned.
- e) Standards of public conduct both on and off the court should not be offensive to the general sensibility of the average Australian family.

1.1. Administrators

Each of the Leagues are competitions that are conducted in a professional manner. . In the best interests of all involved, , it is most important that all our administrators adopt a professional approach and ensure that they have adequate back-up in case of emergencies. Part of that efficiency is the maintenance of good lines of communication.

1.2. Spectators

Spectators pay for the privilege of watching sports events and it is hoped they will enjoy the experience. Certainly they should cheer and support the team of their choice as enthusiastically as they can. They should not denigrate the other team or referees, or spoil the event for other spectators. If any spectator brings the game into disrepute the Court Official should act to remedy the situation even to the point of requiring the offending party to leave the stadium.

With the spectators so close to the action or the action so close to the spectators it is important that all appropriate steps are taken to keep them apart during the course of the game. All too often young children are allowed to walk, run, or even sit far too close to where the players are moving at high speed. Not only is there a potential for the spectator to be seriously injured, but also for the same outcome to happen to the player. Both occurrences can ill be afforded by any of our members. Crowd control is the responsibility of the host member!

Spectators should ensure that their refuse is placed in a bin and not just left on the floor to be either a danger to someone else or an eyesore and a health hazard. Host members should ensure sufficient bins are available and that they encourage their use by the spectators.

1.3. Referees

The referees are a vital and integral part of the game and it is important that they be involved in all that is happening in the League. This is a two-way affair and not just a task for the referees.

Host officials should ensure that the referees are invited to the after game function and the referees should make the effort to attend. Communication between all game participants can be most beneficial to all concerned.

Just as the players strive to perform to their best and beyond, so too should the referees, their performance should demonstrate the highest standards of honesty, integrity and maturity under the pressure of the game and be neutral at all times. During the game the referees should not become involved with the spectators over any interpretations. Where and if a problem arises with any spectator it is a matter the referee should place in the hands of the Game Commissioner.

1.4. Scorers

The members of the score table are an extension of the referee's involvement in the game. Scorers should be neutral in the performance of their assigned tasks and should be attentive so as to accurately time and record the results of the game.

1.5. Statisticians

Except for no actual liaison with the referees, the same comments as have been made in respect of Scorers also apply to Statisticians.

1.6. Executive Officers

The elected officers of the League have offered their services for the promotion of the league and Australian Basketball. They have a job to do which often has its pleasurable rewards but sometimes these are tasks to be done which are quite onerous and may even be quite unpleasant for them and maybe some of our members. Co-operation and understanding on both sides on such occasions will resolve most problems for the betterment of all.

1.7. Media Representatives

The League very much appreciates the efforts of journalists, reporters and other media representatives who portray the sport in an informative unbiased factual mode. Indeed, such responsible reporting is well worth everyone's attention.

Co-operation with media representatives can have a dramatic influence on the way our sport is seen in the eyes of the public. There is a responsibility on all members to provide information and facts from the appropriate source, just as there is a responsibility of good reporting to present the story in its correct context without selective omissions or partial quotes.

Consult your local media representatives/journalist in regard to their requirements/deadlines.

1.8. Players

The Players through their playing ability and personality are the stars of the League and principally determine the Leagues supporter and revenue base. Their conduct on and off the court is of paramount importance to their team and the League as a whole, and should be a model for others to follow.

Players are expected to demonstrate the following values:-

- Competition in the true spirit of sportsmanship.
- Respect and consideration for the League, opponents and referees.
- Loyalty to their team, coach and management.
- Willingness to participate in media and promotional activities.

- Whilst representing the team Players should always be attired in a professional manner. (I.e. Team or walk out uniform)

Prior to a game players are expected to:-

- Comply with home Teams pre-game presentation requirements/procedures.
- Stand and show respect during the playing of the National Anthem.

During a game players should:-

- Allow themselves to be represented by the coach and/or court captain on issues with referees.
- Refrain from otherwise disputing or frivolously questioning decisions.
- Refrain from gesturing with facial expressions, rude gestures, mimicking or indecent body language.
- Refrain from swearing, using foul language or derogatory remarks.
- Refrain from “baiting or intimidating” other players.
- At all times use a courteous, reasonable manner when dealing with referees or scoretable officials.
- Expect to be penalised with a technical foul for violation of the above principles.

After the game:-

- Players must attend the After Match Function unless prior notice to club is given at least 24 hours.

At all times Players are to refrain from

- a) Publicly criticizing the league, ABF and its officials
- b) Any other actions, which may bring the League into disrepute.

1.9. Coaches

Coaches have a great responsibility with the League as the architects of play, and as mature and responsible participants and representatives of the league.

Coaches are expected to demonstrate the following values:-

- A high standard of honesty and integrity, providing a model of fair play and sportsmanship.
- Observe the letter and intent of the rules of the sport and insists that players and teams under their direction do the same.
- Respect and consideration for the League, opponents and referees.
- Honouring a professional relationship with players, colleagues, official media and the public, avoiding conflict of interest and exploitation of those relationships.
- Positive interaction with them public, and representatives of the media.
- Whilst representing the team Coaches should always be attired in a professional manner. (I.e. Neat Casual attire).

Before game coaches are expected to:-

- Comply with Home Teams pre-game presentation requirements/procedures.
- Stand and show respect during the playing of the National Anthem.

During the game coaches should:-

- Take responsibility for the conduct of their team and assistants.
- At all times use a courteous, reasonable manner when dealing with referees or scoretable officials.
- Refrain from frivolously disputing or questioning decisions.
- Refrain from gesturing with facial expressions, rude gestures, mimicking, or indecent body language.
- Refrain from swearing, using foul language or derogatory remarks, although it is realised that expletives will occur in the heat of the moment.
- Remain within their designated team bench area.

- Expect to be warned and/or penalised with a technical foul for violation of the above.

After the game:-

- Coaches must attend the After Match Function unless prior notice to Club is given at least 24 hours.

At all times Coaches are to refrain from:-

- Publicly criticizing the League, ABF and its officials.
- Any other actions, which may bring the league into disrepute.

Dress Code Standards

Each male head coach and assistant coach must wear a minimum of dress pants with either a sports shirt (polo) or dress shirt during all League games, or such apparel as supplied by their respective league. . Female head coaches and assistant coaches must wear a minimum of dress pants or skirt with either a sports shirt (polo) dress shirt during all League games, or such apparel supplied by their respective league. . Jeans (other than dress jeans) and thongs are prohibited. The team manager/physio may wear the team tracksuit.

1.10. Court Announcers

Announcers should provide information and create or encourage an atmosphere of enthusiasm and enjoyment for the game at hand. There should be no criticism emanating from the microphone. Further all commentary should be made from an unbiased view. Remember that the opposition or visiting team members are the guests of the home team and should always be treated as such; this is one of the cornerstones of the League's formation.

The announcer is seen by all spectators and participants as being representatives of the host body and therefore great care should be taken to ensure that a first class performance creates a good image which will have the spectators wanting to come back again. It is very easy for an announcer to spoil the show by criticizing the referees or players even by the tone of his or her voice.

The announcer has a very important role to play in the presentation of our League. An interested and informed audience should be the aim. The announcer should be courtside commentating and most definitely not participating in any way in the outcome of the game.

Objectives

- To introduce teams/players to the spectators
- To play the National Anthem prior to each game.
- To provide information relative to the state of the game that may not be readily available to spectators.
- To promote sponsors at appropriate times.
- To recognise official guests to the audience.
- To provide a limited commentary on the game (as detailed below)

Guidelines

- 1) The court announcer is an official of the game and as such visiting teams should be treated in an equal way. Neutrality extends to how something is said, not necessarily what is said. It is the reasonable for the announcer to use more enthusiasm in his tone in relaying positive information about the home team in comparison to similar information on the visiting team.
- 2) There should be no commentary while a team (either team) has possession of the ball in play in their offensive half (front court), not after a player has had the ball placed at their disposal while shooting free throws.
- 3) Comments that take longer to make, during the course of play, than the time it takes a team to progress to the halfway point of the court is too long!
- 4) In game commentary should be limited to providing the following information at appropriate times.

- i) Scoring – who scored. Three pointer, accumulative individual total. An occasional mention of assists may be appropriate.
 - ii) Foul – who fouled. Number of fouls – individual and team. Who is shooting free throws and how many (if required).
 - iii) NOTE: the referee's call should not be pre-empted in anyway. The announcer must wait for the referees decision and signal – don't guess. Incorrect information can create confusion and embarrassment to all.
 - iv) Violation – name the violation not the player violating.
 - v) Time Out – which team called it and how many they have had?
 - vi) Rebounds, Blocks and Steals can be mentioned if required and appropriate but who made turnovers is generally not appropriate for comment.
- 5) Time Remaining – At no time should there be any comment from the court announcer relative to the amount of time remaining on the game clock or in specific the shot clock.
 - 6) Music and/or sound effects maybe be played while the ball is in play provided they are not distracting to the teams and referees. Music and/or sound effects may not be made while any player is attempting free throws.
 - 7) The court announcer is not a cheerleader, barracker, noise generator or game critique. The principle duties are to pass information to the crowd not incite it. Modifiers, which imply critical analysis, should be avoided (e.g. nice try, great block, super shot etc) as an editorial description. Any comment reflecting on the performance of the referees, either positive or negative, is not allowed. Critical remarks of any type towards players or coaches are not acceptable (including pre taped comments played on the PA system).
 - 8) The Court Announcer has the duty of the pre-game introduction of teams and individual players from each side onto the floor, playing the National Anthem. The timing and program of these introductions may vary from venue to venue.
 - 9) Recognition of League sponsors and guests are a part of the court announcer's duties. These announcements should be limited to pre game, time out and quarter/half time breaks. The court announcer will be obligated to acknowledge the League Naming Rights Sponsor (if any) according to the requirements of the respective leagues.
 - 10) Other Game Results.
 - 11) It would be informative and of interest to all spectators, that results from previous games on the current weekend be announced over the PA system at appropriate times during 1st game (e.g. half time). Results of Friday's games can be announced at Saturday games. Results of Friday and Saturday games can be announced at Sunday games.

FIBA Oceania Procedures

The following is Oceania's requirements in relation to Foreign Players and Foreign Player Licenses.

A foreign player is defined by FIBA as "a player who does not have the legal nationality (Australian citizenship in our case) of the Federation by which he/she is licensed".

Any player that falls under this category must have a valid Foreign Player's License (issued by the FIBA Oceania on a yearly basis) in order to participate in either the NBL, WNBL, ACC or the WA State League (1st & 2nd division national leagues).

There are two stages to attaining the Foreign Players Licence.

- I) Send directly to the FIBA Oceania their "Australian Application for foreign Player Licence" form completed in full with attachments as requested.
- II) Fax to Basketball Australia the "Request to BA to confirm a player's eligibility to be registered in Australia" form. FIBA Oceania will be advised once BA is satisfied that the player is eligible to be registered in Australia.

Holders of a Special Foreign Player License

Players who hold a Special Foreign Player License to compete in the 2nd Division National League (ACC) as an Australian may not play in the NBL/WNBL unless they hold an annual Foreign Player Licence.

Note: - All players in the NBL and WNBL who do not hold Australian Nationality (citizenship) must possess an annual international foreign player's licence.

Please refer to appendix for the correct forms to be used:-

- Regulations for International Licences for Foreign Players in Australia
- Australian Application for Foreign Player Licence for 2005/06
- Request to BA to confirm a Players Eligibility to be registered in Australia

1.1. International Clearances

Requirements

- I) Any player who last played in a foreign country must obtain an international clearance from the National Federation of the country in which he/she last played before she is eligible to play in any competition in Australia.
- II) A club clearance is not an international clearance.
- III) This requirement applies to both foreign players and Australian players.
- IV) These are international laws and not at the discretion of anybody in Australia.

A CLUB CLEARANCE NEVER CONSTITUTES AN INTERNATIONAL CLEARANCE.

a) In General

International Clearances are between Federations. Basketball Australia, on request by the player and Australian Club, will contact the National Federation in which the player last played and request an international clearance from that Federation.

The National Federation is under no obligation to supply an international clearance for 7 working days, as the National federation must first consult the club to seek a club clearance. If no response is received from the Federation after 7 days, Basketball Australia will request assistance from FIBA.

International Clearances are unconditional (with the exception of clearances between National Federations and the WNBA). The only acceptable reason for which a National Federation may refuse a request for an international clearance is the existence of a current valid contract between a player and a club under that Federation's control.

b) Australian Students attending USA College/High schools.

Under FIBA Regulations of the regulations governing the International Transfer of Players, Australian students attending USA Colleges and High Schools do not require an international clearance in either direction. These students remain tied to the club for which they were a member, before leaving school in the USA (i.e. it is assumed that no time has elapsed).

Basketball Australia, to assist the tracking of our players who go to school overseas, and to ensure that proper clearance procedures are followed should the player not return to their home club following completion of their studies, has put in place and "Educational Player Tracking System" by way of an "Educational Player Release Form".

c) WNBA Players

International clearances for players entering or leaving the WNBA must pass through Basketball Australia, FIBA and the WNBA (not USA Basketball).

A National Federation may grant, with club's agreement, a conditional clearance, to play in the WNBA, for a player contractually bound to that Club for a further season. Any player receiving a conditional clearance in this manner must return to the club to complete her contract and cannot receive a clearance to play for any other club. Similarly a player with an ongoing contract to play in the WNBA may be conditionally cleared by the WNBA to a National Federation with the proviso that the player must be cleared back to the WNBA to complete her contract with the WNBA club.

d) Competitions Overseas

Players leaving Australia to play in a competition (even for only two weeks) in another country where the players do not compete as a team from Australia, are required to receive an outgoing international clearance and following their regulations.

Clubs need to be aware of their visa sponsorship provisions in permitting players to compete in the above type of competition.

e) Clearances from USA/CANADA

Only the Club or player can request a clearance from USA Basketball or Canada Basketball. These are the only two Federations known where BA is unable to request a clearance, as a fee is required to be paid by the player to these Federations. Web addresses to obtain each clearance form can be found at:

USA Clearances – www.usbasketball.com

Canadian Clearances – www.basketball.ca

f) Sports VISAS

BA cannot support an application for a sports visa without a valid international clearance.

g) International Clearances from Australia.

International clearances for players leaving Australia to play under the control of another Federation will only be provided by Basketball Australia once both the Club and State/Territory Association have advised in writing that the player has completed her contract with the Club.

The only valid reason for refusal of an international clearance is that the player is still covered by a valid contract.

All International clearances are unconditional (except for players going to the WNBA). A player who has signed a contract for a future period of time in the country from which they

are seeking a clearance is bound by the laws of that country with regard to fulfillment of the contract. A Federation can only prevent clearance for players currently under their control.

The responsibility to obtain an international clearance, like all other registration requirements, rests with the player and her club.

1.2. Sponsoring a Foreign Player

The Australian Basketball Federation (“**BA**”) has developed the “Basketball Australia Foreign Players and Coaches Policy” (“**Policy**”) to assist clubs who wish to sponsor a foreign player/coach to participate in Australia. BA wishes to streamline the temporary entry to, and stay in, Australia of foreign born basketball players and coaches to assist BA in its strategy to improve local standards and expand the basketball industry.

BA considers that Australians, or residents of Australia, should be given preference where equal ability and qualifications exist. However, allowing foreign born players and coaches to participate in Australia assists the development of the sport of basketball, whilst at the same time encouraging and allowing Australians to compete at the elite level.

Whilst BA will endeavour to keep this Policy current, procedures and requirements may be amended or extended by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (“**DIAC**”) from time to time without notice to BA. BA advises those subject to this Policy to discuss the required procedures with BA and DIAC as required. This Policy is not a substitute for legal advice and the law is always the minimum standard that must be adhered to.

1. Who does the Policy apply to?

The Policy applies to people that are non-Australians and are participants or potential participants as a player or coach in the following competitions that fall within Basketball Australia’s jurisdiction (“**Leagues**”):

1. National Basketball League
2. Women’s Basketball League
3. ACC which comprises the following 5 leagues:
 - SEABL
 - Waratah ABL
 - Central ABL
 - Big V ABL
 - Queensland ABL
4. WA State Basketball League

The Policy also covers any BA member (where relevant) but particularly basketball players or coaches who may play or coach at any level of basketball in Australia where they receive payment for their basketball services.

2. What is required legally and by FIBA?

To play in one of the Leagues, an overseas player/coach should apply for a Sport visa (subclass 421). This also includes all pre season games in the Leagues. Players and coaches are required to be sponsored by the contracting club (“**Club**”) and this sponsorship must be supported by BA.

However, an overseas person may hold a different visa that allows them to work in Australia (other than in sport) and also to play or coach in one of the Leagues. However, depending on the type of visa, the player/coach may not be able to receive any reimbursement or payment for playing in the League.

Where a person does not hold a Sport (subclass 421) visa, Clubs must ensure that they make appropriate enquiries regarding the type of visa a player or coach holds and whether that person may receive any payment. BA may require evidence that a player or coach is eligible to participate in the relevant League and of the terms of that participation. Penalties may apply to Clubs if a participant is ineligible or if the terms of such participation are inappropriate. DIAC provides the Entitlement Verification Online facility that enables Australian organisations to check whether the overseas person has work rights and whether there are any work conditions attached. Organisations can access this facility at http://www.immi.gov.au/e_visa/evo.htm

However, it remains the responsibility of the overseas person to ensure that they do not breach the conditions of their respective visa.

In addition to the Australian visa requirements, any overseas player participating in Australia also requires a clearance; this is a FIBA rule. This clearance needs to be obtained from the last country the athlete competed. A clearance is required at all levels of competition, not just the Leagues listed above.

Further, any overseas player or permanent resident of Australia competing in the NBL, WNBL or ACC requires a FIBA Oceania Licence.

3. Criteria for a club to sponsor

For all temporary entry Sport (subclass 421) visa holders, the Club undertakes to:

- (i) accept financial responsibility for obligations to the Commonwealth for the sponsored person and any dependants while in Australia;
- (ii) accept financial responsibility directly, or through acceptable medical insurance arrangements, for all medical and hospital costs incurred in Australia by the sponsored person and their dependants;
- (iii) accept responsibility for the repatriation costs for sponsored persons and their dependants; and
- (iv) notify the DIAC of any changes in circumstances that may affect the Club's capacity to honour its obligations under this Policy.

A Club must also:

- (v) notify BA of any proposed transfer of a sponsored basketball player or coach to another club. BA and the Leagues reserve the right to determine whether the transfer should be allowed under their rules. If BA approves the transfer, it will advise DIAC *Parramatta Business Centre* prior to the transfer to ensure the necessary immigration documentation (including a new sponsorship/visa application and letter of approval from BA) is provided; and
- (vi) notify BA if it intends replacing injured players temporarily with sponsored players from other clubs. BA and the Leagues reserve the right to determine whether such replacement should be allowed under their rules. In these cases, both Clubs must satisfy BA that an agreement between the two Clubs in relation to areas of responsibility of the player has been approved; BA will provide a copy of the Agreement to DIAC *Parramatta Business Centre*. No prior approval from DIAC is required.

BA affiliated clubs lodging sponsorship/visa applications under this Policy agree that all sponsorship/visa applications lodged under this Policy will be in respect of full-time positions for the length of visa issue and that nominees will not be employed in occupations other than that for which they have been nominated. For the purposes of this Policy full-time is defined as a minimum of 35 hours work per week.

Temporary Sport (subclass 421) and Business (subclass 457) visa holders are subject to visa condition 8107 and as such cannot cease to be employed by their sponsoring employer, cannot work in a position or occupation inconsistent with the position for which they have been nominated, and cannot work for another person or themselves while working for the sponsoring club. If a visa holder wishes to change club or obtain employment with another employer, BA must be notified and a new visa application is required, together with an approved sponsorship and nomination.

4. Basketball Australia Obligations and By-Laws

The limitations on the number of overseas players per Club has been determined by the Leagues together with BA. Under this Policy the limits set are a maximum of:

- (i) two female overseas players per team (active at any one time, valid in all leagues; and
- (ii) two male overseas players per team (active at any one time, valid in all leagues), however the NBL has an exception where a third male player may be permitted to play in accordance with the rules of BA and NBL.

5. BA's criteria for support

BA shall only support a sponsorship/visa application where:

- (i) in the case of a player, the Club demonstrates to BA that the player possesses a minimum of seven years experience, at least four years of which should be in the National Collegiate Athletics Association competition (NCAA) or National Basketball Association (NBA). Foreign players from other nations would need to have demonstrated outstanding talent in comparable league competitions;
- (ii) in the case of a coach, the Club demonstrates to BA that the coach:
 - (a) possesses a post-secondary qualification requiring a minimum of three years full-time study in a relevant discipline (such as physical education) and/or an equivalent coaching qualification acceptable to BA;
 - (b) has had, within the last seven years, at least five years professional employment as a coach in a high school or tertiary education program, the NCAA or NBA (for nominees from the USA) or in a comparable league competition (for nominees from both the USA, Europe or elsewhere);

However, BA reserves its right to:

- (iii) depart from the above criteria in exceptional circumstances; or
- (iv) withdraw support for a player or coach for any reason including, but not limited to, if that person acts in a manner that brings BA, a League or the sport of basketball into disrepute.

6. BA – Sponsorship/Nomination Lodgement and Assessment Process

The Club is to send to BA:

- (i) completed DIAC "Form 55" with required fee attached (payable to DIAC);
- (ii) a copy of the player/coach contract (with specific expiry date being not more than two years from the commencement date of the contract);
- (iii) completed BA form with required fee attached (payable to BA);
- (iv) a copy of State/Territory Association approval, where relevant;

- (v) a copy of the international clearance, where relevant; and
- (vi) a copy of the basketball player/coach resume.

BA will advise the Club if the application is supported in accordance with this Policy and BA's rules. A component of this is the minimum prevailing market rate of remuneration to be provided to the overseas player/coach. BA has determined the **prevailing market rate of remuneration** (excludes zonal allowances, accommodation, transport, medical insurance, commission, superannuation, and other special benefits) **for 2008/2009** for overseas players/coaches as:

- (i) basketball players in the NBL to be \$60,000 per annum (minimum);
- (ii) basketball players in the WNBL to be \$28,000 per annum (minimum);
- (iii) basketball players in the ACC to be \$26,000 per annum (minimum);
- (iv) basketball players in WA State League to be \$26,000 per annum (minimum); and
- (v) basketball coaches in all leagues to be in accordance with the relevant award – that is, as a head coach level 3 under the *National and State Sporting Organisations Award 2001*.

From 30 June 2008, a player's remuneration will increase annually according to the National Consumer Price Index published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics at the end of each financial year (30 June).

For these purposes the **prevailing market rate of remuneration** is that which BA has determined as being at a level to allow the sponsored person to be self-sufficient noting the work limitations referred to in the sponsorship obligations outlined in this Policy.

Once the Club has provided BA with all required material, where BA supports the visa application, it will forward such material to the DIAC *Parramatta Business Centre* for processing.

If DIAC approves the application, DIAC will send a sponsorship approval letter and a visa grant approval letter (if applicant is in Australia) to BA as the authorised recipient. BA shall then inform the sponsor of approval.

BA is to be provided with details of the visa expiry date of all basketball players and coaches sponsored under this Policy.

7. Club commitments

Clubs lodging sponsorship/visa applications under this Policy shall:

- (i) meet relevant Australian statutory obligations relating to remuneration, conditions, and occupational health and safety for the positions for which entry under this Policy has been sought;
- (ii) in the case of temporary Sport (subclass 421) visa applications, Clubs will ensure that the salary to be paid (excluding any allowances such as superannuation, car allowances, accommodation, meals, shares and bonuses, and living-away-from-home allowances) is in accordance with the prevailing market rate of remuneration as determined by BA at the time the nomination is lodged;
- (iii) demonstrate a commitment to the provision of employment, training and career path progression opportunities to Australians;
- (iv) ensure that no Australian employee will be displaced or limited in their career path progression as a consequence of this Policy; and
- (v) continue to treat the recruitment of Australian citizens and permanent residents as the preferred source of new players and coaches.

