ILLAWARRA HAWKS JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION BOOKLET 2015
Welcome to the Illawarra Hawks Junior Representative Program

Welcome to Basketball Illawarra Representative Programme for 2015. The following booklet has been produced to inform Parents and prospective players of the parameters of the programme and their roles and responsibilities as part of it. Where a specific situation is not covered in this handbook, Basketball Illawarra representative management will consider the matter in consultation with the Basketball Illawarra Board of Directors.

It is very important for ALL players and parents to READ & UNDERSTAND the requirements and expectations of players and their families who enter into this program and only accept a team position if all expectations are UNDERSTOOD and AGREED to. The player and their family should recognise that participation in this program is a major commitment of time, effort and money.

Club Values
★ We will encourage our members to compete in the spirit of good sportsmanship and to treat ALL participants with respect.
★ We will aim to develop our members a good citizens as well as good basketball players, coaches and official.
★ We will deal with our members with honesty and integrity.
★ We will recognise the importance of each individual within the overall success of the Association.
★ While individual cases will be dealt with on their merits we aim to have our teams consist of players that are full representatives of Basketball Illawarra

What is Junior Representative Basketball?
Junior Rep Basketball is the next stage from Junior Domestic Basketball. It comprises of 2 levels in U12’s, U14’s, U16’s & U18’s;
- Southern Junior League, (SJL) Travel to Albury, Canberra & Home Venue, and train twice a week
- Country Premier League (CPL)-Highest Level, Train twice a week and travel to Newcastle- Maitland, Canberra, Bathurst-Orange, Albury - Coffs Harbour, Gosford (Finals)
CPL Venues yet to be confirmed

BI will enter Division 1 teams of each gender in each age group into CPL (No U/12 CPL).
BI will enter Division 2 teams of each gender into SJL
This will depend on several factors including player availability, talent pool, coaching resources, referee recourses and training availability.
Representative teams are required to participate in the Country Tournament held on the June Long weekend.
Teams may be eligible to play in the State Championships, State Cup or State Shield

How many players will be selected?
Each team consists of 10 players. CPL & SJL.
Representative basketball is an elite program and **playing time is never guaranteed.** Some players will play more than others and coaches will have different philosophies on rotating their players. While coaches should be willing to discuss court time and how players may be able to increase their playing time, the bottom line is playing time is at the Coaches discretion.

**How much training is involved?**
CPL & SJL teams will need to train twice a week. Training will commence in February and will continue until August.
It should be noted that absence from training may affect a players court time.

**What is required of the player if we decide they want to play?**
- Must have level 0 referee certificate or acquire one during the season and be available to referee the domestic competition
- The player will need to sign BI agreement and Codes of Conduct forms (Players Pack)
- They need to make themselves available for scheduled training sessions set out by the Coach. Training is compulsory and all players are expected to be at training regardless of injury or illness as they can sit and observe. Only exception is in the case of being contagious.
- It is compulsory to be registered with Basketball Illawarra and play in the Domestic competition commencing February 2015. If there is a legitimate reason a player cannot fulfil this commitment they will need to apply in writing to the Executive Officer for an exemption. Penalties for non compliance may include a fine and or player suspension from Representative games.
- All players must stay with the team at designated Accommodation organised by Team Manager (no exceptions cant do it don't play). Payment and confirmation of accommodation is the responsibility of parents.
- Compulsory that all players attend end of year Presentation, dates will be set early in year, parents are asked to put on their calendars.

**What will they need to play?**

**CPL Teams & SJL Teams**
- Playing Uniform including Singlet & Shorts
- Warm Up Top (to be determined by Team Coaching staff) if deemed necessary
- Reversible Training Singlet

**Optional**
- Track top, Track pants, Socks, Bag, Polo Shirt, Spray Jacket

**Sizing for Apparel will be done after the team selections for all athletes**

Orders will be placed
- CPL Prior to January 10th 2015
- SJL Prior to February 6th 2015
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What are the costs involved in Representative Basketball?
The cost of the 2015 Representative Levy season will be distributed in the following Categories
CPL All Age Groups  $400
SJL All Age Groups  $400

Please note these figures now include an amended Referees Levy
Which has been equalised for all leagues

The Rep Levies for the season for CPL are to be paid in full by the due date of 1st March 2015.
The Rep Levies for the season for SJL are to be paid in full by the due date of 1st April 2015.

Commitment by a player is for the entire season. Rep Levies are NON REFUNDABLE. If there is a situation where the player is injured whilst playing basketball a consideration may be made. This must be put in writing to the Executive Officer and a partial refund may be granted,

How does the Levy System Work? An invoice will be issued to all players and parents. Date for payment will be on the invoice and can be paid by direct deposit or at the Stadium.

Players must be financial to play.

Hardship:
Cases of genuine financial hardship can be brought to the attention of IBA. Requests for fee relief should be sent to the Executive Officer by the parent of the participant. Any requests for fee relief will be dealt with in confidence and on a case by case basis.

If you have a problem in meeting the deadline please contact the Basketball Illawarra Executive Officer Kevin Marsh
Kevin.marsh@snakepit.com.au

What is included in the Rep Levy?
- All Nomination Fees for Southern Junior League, CPL and Country Tournament.
- Presentation Levy - For end of year presentation trophies & catering etc
- Administration Levy - Covers all photocopying emails Faxes etc
- Training Levy
- All Game fees (Round games) & Country Tournament
- Referee Levy

What’s not included in the Rep Levy
- Accommodation - overnight stays are required the accommodation will be sourced by the team manager, but bookings and payments made by parents
- Meals - No meals are included in the Levy. Managers may sometimes collect money for food or groceries for breakfast lunch or dinner.
- Travel - Private vehicle to all venues
- Uniforms - Shorts, Warm up Tops, socks and Merchandise
- Spending Money - This is not included in the levy and is up to every single parent to what they give their child or children to spend.
- Coaches accommodation levy
- All State Championships, State Cup, State Shield
- Game Fees or any pre season Tournament nomination fees or game fees.
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What is required of the players Parents?
We know and appreciate the sacrifices you make in order for your child to represent our club. It is essential that you support your child but you must also support the coach, team manager, other team members and club administration. As a parent you will be required to assist your team at times in the ways of Bench duty, Fundraising, transportation, supervision and cooking (biscuits, cakes, snacks etc).

Bench Duty
Basketball Illawarra will conduct Beginner and advanced Bench courses early in the year. If you decide your child or children want to play representative basketball then you will be required to attend one of the courses. This will be compulsory for at least one parent or guardian to attend. Details of course will be forwarded to you as soon as the course dates and venue are booked.

Fundraising
Basketball Illawarra conducts a number of fundraisers throughout the season. Without the help of you the parents the task to raise funds becomes harder each year. It might mean selling a box of chocolate frogs or operating the BBQ.
**Please remember more funds raised the less you have to pay**

Transportation
At times you will be needed to help transport players and referees to and from their scheduled matches. To do this the mandatory Working with Children Child protection forms must be filled out and returned to your manager ASAP after they have been distributed.

Supervision
At times you may be needed to help supervise other players on overnight stays. This will only happen on request from your teams manager or coach. The association encourages parents to assist with their children where possible with the aiding of supervision and transport to and from games.

Cooking
The team manager may require you to do some cooking for the team when they are on the road.
Parents and guardians should:

Get involved with your Team & Association

- get to know your child’s coach and maintain open and honest communication with them about things that might concern you.
- speak out when you hear language, behaviour or attitudes that contribute to a negative or unsafe environment.
- attend games and practices whenever you can.
- volunteer to be involved in your child’s club. Clubs depend on the involvement of parents/guardians and volunteers.

Be a good role model

- don’t be the 'angry/ugly parent' at games, this behaviour is not what you want to model for your children.
- be supportive of the Coach. They have to make hard decisions every day concerning the team and the individual players. Unless you demonstrate 100% faith in your child's coach, it is unlikely that your child will develop and progress as they should. Please remember that our team coaching staff are all volunteers volunteering their time for the team.
- Coaching from the sidelines is never appropriate regardless of your knowledge of the game. The coach is to be the only source of technical feedback to players.
- Support the importance of training.
- Be respectful of Referees and others and expect your child or young person to do the same.
- focus on your child's efforts and performance, never ridicule or put your child down for making a mistake or losing.
- Please support the whole team during games & training.
- Do not speak negatively about coaches or players around your child.
- Be vocal with your support but do not make negative comments to the opposition, the referees or other team members.

If you have a concern about how your child is being treated, make sure you deal with the issue appropriately:

- Ask yourself is this an issue for my child or is it my issue
- Don’t make a big fuss in front of the child, other team members and parents
- Find a time to talk privately with the coach

If you remain unsatisfied then contact the Basketball Illawarra Executive Officer in writing.
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Make sure your child is aware of personal safety

- talk to your child about keeping safe. Encourage them to tell you straight away if they feel uncomfortable or have worries about an adult's behaviour, whether during sport or recreation activities or any other situation.

- tell your child that he or she always has the right to say 'no' if an adult is trying to persuade them to do something they feel is wrong, or which makes them feel frightened or uncomfortable and that you will support them through this.

- make sure your child understands about their rights to privacy and respect of their body in order to recognise what is acceptable touching by an adult and what is not.

- develop an emergency plan for your child to follow in situations where they may be at risk of harm, for example when going on overnight or away trips.

Be aware of possible danger signs

You should be wary of a club where staff and volunteers behave in the following ways:

- coaches that run private, closed practices on a regular basis and operate independently of the club

- a coach that increases the amount of time they spend with your child beyond the training session and shows favouritism.

- parents are discouraged from watching or becoming involved in training or other activities

- rough play, sexual innuendo or humiliating punishments are part of club practices

- inappropriate physical contact, inappropriate discipline and language is the norm

- adults in your club invite children to spend time alone with them outside of scheduled sport or recreation activities

- poor communication with parents and parental involvement is discouraged

- if one or more children suddenly drop out of sport or recreation activities for no apparent reason.

You should consider reporting your concerns to:

- Basketball Illawarra Executive Officer
- Basketball Illawarra Board of Directors
- Child Protection Authority
- BNSW
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CODE OF CONDUCT
Parents Pledge

Illawarra Basketball Association has implemented codes of conduct for all its stakeholders. Please make yourself familiar with the code as it applies to you as a parent.

- I won't pressure my child in anyway - I know that this is their game not mine!
- I will not use bad language, nor will I harass players, coaches, officials or other spectators.
- I will encourage my child to play within the rules and respect official’s and coaches decisions - no matter what.
- I will teach my child to respect the efforts of their opponents.
- I will remember that children learn best by example so I will applaud good plays/performances by both my child’s team and their opponents.
- I will give positive comments that motivate and encourage continued effort.
- I will focus on my child’s and their team’s efforts and performance—not the score.
- I will thank the coaches, officials and other volunteers who give their time to conduct the event for my child.
- I will volunteer my services and help when asked by a coach or official.
- I won’t criticize or ridicule my child’s performance or any other team member’s I realize that good fun & enjoyment is more important than a good win.
- I will not arrive at the venue intoxicated or drink alcohol at junior matches.
- I will respect the right’s, dignity and worth of all the people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background.

NO ALCOHOL / PROHIBITED DRUGS POLICY

Basketball Illawarra has taken a policy on Alcohol and prohibited drugs consumption at all of it’s Junior Representative Events. BI has made a commitment to not consume alcohol or prohibited drugs in front of players or when minors are present. Please note that if any Parent or official that consumes alcohol or prohibited drugs in front of players or minors will be subjected to disciplinary action as it is a breach of the codes and policies set down by BI. In the case of prohibited drugs legal action may be taken.
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PLAYER GUIDELINES

Player Responsibilities
Be prepared to work hard in order to gain positive results. You must be willing to accept responsibility for your own performance. Don’t blame other people and don’t make excuses. Great players know they are responsible for their own destiny. Respect the people willing to help you reach your goals. Listen and learn from your coaches, give them your undivided attention and remember they are there primarily for your benefit, not theirs.

Basketball will develop you as an athlete but it also presents you the chance to develop as a person. Some lessons that we value are;

• Commitment – Being a part of a team demands that you can carry out your commitment to others. This will mean that you will need to give up some personal wishes and make sacrifices for the group.
• Perseverance – When things aren’t going your way you must never give up when you are part of a team. Your team will need your total effort even when it is not your day.
• Team Work – It is crucial that in sport and life you are able to work in a team situation. Sometimes this means learning your role and doing what is best for everyone and not just yourself.
• Learning to Compete – This does not mean to win at all costs but rather to compete to the best of your ability at all times. Competition is present in all aspects of life and it teaches us to value our victories and to be gracious in our defeats.
• Respecting Others – In life we must learn to respect everybody regardless of their roles and differences. In basketball we expect respect to be given to opponents, team mates, coaches, referees, spectators and administrators.

Player Expectations
• Players are expected to conduct themselves appropriately at all times. Our club is worthy of your best behavior.
• It is important that you communicate with others. If you have issues (negative or positive) with a team mate then approach your coach or manager.
• You must arrive at training venues 10 minutes prior to the start time and in the correct uniform. You must arrive at least 45 minutes prior to games, in uniform and ready to play.
• If you cannot attend training or are running late for training, the coach must be contacted directly (not through someone else) before the session commences.
• When injured you are still expected to attend games and training (unless you are receiving treatment for your injury at that time). If you are sick and could pass it on to others then you should not attend games or trainings.
• If you have an injury that will affect your performance in either a game or training session you will need to inform your coach directly.
• If you have missed games/training due to an injury you must provide a medical clearance before you resume training/playing.
• You will not argue with referees during a game. If you have any problems tell your
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coach so that they may approach the referees if necessary.
- You will support your team mates at all times both on the court and on the bench. Negativity toward team members will not be tolerated.

Disciplinary Action

**Technical Foul.** On receiving a technical foul the player should be subbed off the court. The coach will decide whether this player will take any further part in this game depending on the severity of the incident. The coach will decide whether this player is started on the bench for the next game.

**Poor Sportsmanship.** The coach has the option to sub the player off the court. If there is a second offence they will be left off for the rest of the game.

**Training.** Non attendance or lateness to training without communication directly to the coach may result in a coach’s decision to limit playing time in subsequent games.

**Off the Court Incidents.** If a player is found to be behaving in a manner that will negatively effect the reputation of the Basketball Illawarra Representative Program their coach will be informed. This may result in a coach’s decision to limit playing time on subsequent games.

ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

**To be eligible for selection players must:**
- Acknowledge that they are prepared to operate within BI policy and guidelines by signing the Representative Player Information Agreement. (Players Pack) these will be emailed to all team managers upon selection this includes overview of
- Representative program, Code of Conduct, Publication of Photos, Medical Information & consent, Sponsorships Obligations, BNSW Photo & Video form, Clearance Form if Required
- Be registered with Basketball NSW and registered/affiliated with Basketball Illawarra
- Must attend Trials process as determined by Basketball Illawarra (Any absences must be explained, communicated in advance in writing to the Executive Officer & approved ).
- The parents of the player must acknowledge that they are prepared to operate within BI policy and guidelines by signing the Representative Player Information Agreement.
- Currently playing Local Junior Competition at Basketball Illawarra or acknowledge in writing the requirement to play.
- See BI Junior By-Laws 2015 on the Snakepit Website for more detail

In addition the following matters will be taken into account:-
1. Player and/or Parent/Guardian’s past and current degree of acceptance and adherence to the Codes of Conduct.
2. A Player’s history of commitment to the Basketball Illawarra Representative Program and Local Competition in past seasons.
3. Parent/player adherence to Basketball NSW Zero tolerance policy.
Junior Representative Trials

Each year Two Weekends of Trials training sessions will be held for all potential Representative players.

Players must stand for selection in their own age division.

Procedure for players who have valid reason for being unable to comply with all eligibility, selection criteria and/or procedures:

Any player who believes that they have a legitimate reason for being unable to comply with any part of the selection eligibility, selection criteria and/or procedures may appeal to Basketball Illawarra to be considered in the selection process along with the other players in writing to the Executive Officer.

Legitimate reason could include such situations as:

- Being unable to trial because of injury/illness. (Medical evidence must be provided)
- Inability to gain release from an elite sports program or school event. (Written evidence must be provided)
- A prior family commitment. Eg Wedding, family holiday. (Documentation to be provided on request)

Additional players may be introduced throughout the trial process should BI deem their participation to be in the best interests of the team and the program.

The following factors will be considered during the selection process:

- Ability to compete Country Premier League, Southern Junior League and Country Tournament.
- A history of successful past performances Representative Competitions.
- A history of successful past performances in the Illawarra Local Competition.
- Demonstrated high level of performance at selection trials.
- Athletic ability, desire and dedication to become a player at the highest possible level.
- Potential to be socially compatible and display a sense of “team ethic” within a group.
- Highly receptive to coaching and highly co-operative within the team coaching environment.
- Demonstrated attitude displaying excellent self-discipline and standards of personal behavior.
- Outstanding desire and commitment to working hard at improving mental, physical and basketball skills.
- Team needs/balance.
- Any other criteria that the selectors see fit to apply in helping them to select the teams that they believe will be best able to represent Illawarra Basketball.

The selection panel for each team will consist of the Head Coach of Division 1 and his Assistants which are involved in the trials. Teams will be announced prior to Christmas on “Snakepit” website for CPL.
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Sport rage

Sport rage can come in many forms - an unruly parent abusing a referee, a player punching another player or a spectator shouting racial taunts. These moments of madness can result in serious injuries, disciplinary action and lifetime bans.

Dealing with sport rage is becoming a major challenge for clubs. Not only does it reflect badly on the sport, it can deter participation at all levels.

Preventing Sports Rage: Tips For Parents

What Children Want From Sport?
Sport provides many valuable learning experiences for children, but for the most part they do it for enjoyment. Ask a child and you'll discover the scoreboard is not that important. In fact, one of the most enjoyable aspects of sport for children is being with their friends and being part of a team.

Encouraging Fair Play
As the parent, you have the perfect chance to reinforce the principles of fair play - respect, integrity and fairness - when your child participates in sport. Parents should discuss fair play with their children and be good role models. They'll be the first in line to shake the other team’s hand if you’ve shown how important it is to do so.

Keeping your emotions in check
Unruly adult emotion at children’s sport is sports rage at its worst. While some sideline emotion can be well intentioned, always consider the impact its having. Bad behaviour, such as abusing an official or ridiculing the opposition, is Unacceptable. An officials decision that annoys you will probably go unnoticed by your child, but your loud abusive sideline outburst won’t.

Respect for Coaches
Coaches & team managers play an essential role in providing a sporting experience for your child. Without them there would be no team and no game, so show respect for the people in these roles.

Respect for Referees & Officials
Referees and other officials are there to help make the game fair and more enjoyable for everyone. But they are human and may occasionally make mistakes. Your behaviour toward an official will effect the attitude of your child. Parents should never approach the official directly. If you have an issue raise it in a controlled and professional way with the coach or club administrator.

Upholding the code of conduct
It is important you understand, support and uphold the parent’s code of conduct. BI is entitled to enforce this code.
FAQ’s

Are rep levies refundable?
Rep Levies are NON REFUNDABLE. If there is a situation where the player is injured whilst playing basketball a consideration may be made. This must be put in writing to the Executive Officer and a partial refund may be granted.

When will teams be selected?
The Coach, along with the Coaching Staff will pick the CPL teams prior to Christmas and offer positions to players. If players do not wish to accept that position they must advise the coach ASAP so the position can be given to another player.

Can a player expect equal court time?
CPL & SJL are the higher levels of representative basketball. 10 players will be selected for each team. At this level it is not compulsory for players to take the court except in the U12’s age group. (U12 must take the court in each half). Coach has final decision on how he plays the game and distribute players court time. Players who do not show full commitment can not expect equal court time. Finals are played to win. The coach is entitled to chose who gets what court time.

Can a coach bring in a younger player for finals?
Coaches are permitted to select younger players to join team for finals, if it is to replace an injured or unqualified player, and if they are not themselves playing in their age group finals. This decision to accept “fill in” players is at the discretion of the coach with consultation with the Coaches Committee must meet qualification criteria.

Can players play for other associations?
BI will nominate a CPL team and an SJL team in all age divisions
Permission will need to be granted by BI & NSW Basketball if for some reason this permission needs to be granted

Can other association players play for IBA Rep Teams?
Players that do not belong to BI but wish to play in an BI representative team must register with BI, must attend all training sessions and participate in the local competition.
Training Sessions
Training Sessions will be of 1.5 Hours Duration with 8 Sessions available on Thursday Afternoon (8 Sessions)
16 Sessions on Friday Afternoon & Evening (Term 1 to be revised 2015)
There is also multiple training periods over the weekend at “Snakepit”
Training is Scheduled by the Executive Officer in consultation with the Competition Manager
Sessions will also be decided by Division & Age preference
1st CPL
2nd SJL

Please note at times during the season Stadium Bookings may impact on Representative Training Sessions
The Senior Representative Program commences in February on a Home & Away schedule. Teams games played on Saturday & Sunday Afternoons. Basketball Illawarra apologises for this inconvenience
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Country Premier League

Round 1 CPL: Albury
28th—29th March

Round 2 CPL: Canberra 9th & 10th May

Round 3 CPL: Bathurst—Orange
13th & 14th June

Round 4 CPL: Maitland-Newcastle
July 18th & 19th

Finals: CPL: Gosford 15th & 16th August

Southern Junior League

Round 1 SJL: Albury 2nd –3rd May
Round 2 SJL: Illawarra 20th—21st June
Round 3 SJL: Canberra 25th - 26th July
Finals SJL: Canberra 22nd– 23rd August

Country Tournament
6th,7th & 8th June
18 Boys Niagara Park 18 Girls Bathurst
16 Boys Minto 16 Girls Terrigal
14 Boys Newcastle 14 Girls Maitland
12 Boys Goulburn 12 Girls Bathurst

State Titles all Divisions

State Championships 29th & 30th August (TBA)
State Cup 5th & 6th September (TBA)
State Shield 12th & 13th September (TBA)

Please note venues for State titles
To be confirmed