



BASKETBALL WA

Competition Rule Change Procedure

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1 Overview

Basketball WA (BWA) recognises the need to maintain up-to-date rules that ensure fair and consistent gameplay.

This procedure outlines a consistent approach to implementing rule changes and effective communication with stakeholders.

2 Scope

This procedure applies to all BWA-controlled and -run competitions.

3 Document Author and Approving Authority

The BWA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is the approver of this procedure. Suggestions for changes or process improvements should be communicated to the BWA Chief Basketball Officer (CBO).

4 BWA Responsibilities

4.1. Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

- Consider (and potentially approve) rule changes for NBL1 West.
- Ensure the CBO has adequate support, such as legal or third-party resources, to evaluate any proposed rule change effectively.

4.2. Chief Basketball Officer (CBO)

- Consider (and potentially approve) rule changes for PMBL, WABL, State Championships, Country Championships, and other competitions below the NBL1 West level.
- Review any proposed NBL1 rule changes and present significant changes (beyond minor amendments) to the NBL1 West Commission for endorsement.
- For the avoidance of doubt, a significant change (as it relates to NBL1) is determined by the CBO on a case-by-case basis.
- Inform the CEO of any approved rule changes.

4.3. General Manager of Competitions (GMC)

- Review proposed rule changes and present findings to the CBO.
- Ensure regular reviews of competition rules, at a minimum after each competition concludes.

4.4. NBL1 Commission / Advisory Groups (as applicable)

- Collaborate with Head of Junior/Senior Competitions and Administrators on potential rule changes as needed.
- Provide appropriate advice and recommendations regarding rule changes.
- Endorse (or not) any recommendation put forward by the CBO for proposed NBL1 rule significant rule changes (beyond minor amendments)

4.5. Head of Junior/Senior Competitions and Competition Managers

- Regularly (at least annually) review competition rules and suggest changes to the General Manager of Competitions.
- Consider feedback from associations, working groups, officials, and other relevant stakeholders regarding potential rule changes.

5 Need for Rule Change

Any rule change should align with FIBA-endorsed rules, relevant Basketball Australia & Basketball WA governance, applicable league licences/agreements, and the BWA Constitution. Where it is in the best interest of the sport to deviate from FIBA-endorsed rules, this may be considered (EG shot-clock commencing in the frontcourt for U14's). While rule changes should ideally occur during the off-season, BWA recognises that urgent mid-season amendments may sometimes be necessary.

5.1. Rule Waiver

It may be deemed necessary to waive a rule change due to an unforeseen isolated reason. Any waiver should incorporate this procedure (where applicable).

6 Process

The approval process involves the stakeholders listed in Section 4 and follows these steps:

6.1. Feedback / Consultation

Feedback or consultation may prompt a potential rule change. Consultation may involve (but is not limited to):

- Officials and technical officials
- Athletes
- Coaches
- Associations
- NBL1 Commission (if applicable)
- Working Groups (if applicable)
- BWA staff
- Other relevant stakeholders

While feedback should be considered, its implementation may not always be practical. Each case should be evaluated individually.

6.2. Consideration

Due diligence must be conducted as per the responsibilities in Section 4. Rule drafting should consider potential future effects and ensure clarity. If legal advice is required, the CBO must seek approval from the CEO to engage legal services.

A risk assessment should be completed using Basketball WA's risk assessment framework. Anything medium or above triggers CEO review for potential legal advice.

7 Communication

Any approved rule change must be communicated by the Head of Junior or Senior Competitions to all relevant stakeholders. The communication should:

- Include an effective date for the change.
- Provide updated competition rules (version-controlled).
- Reach the following stakeholders:
- BWA Competitions Team Members
- Relevant Advisory Groups
 - a. CBO
 - b. CEO
 - c. Affiliated and Community Affiliated Associations
 - d. Association Development Manager (as required)
 - e. Officials
 - f. Any other relevant stakeholders

8 Implementation

The Head of Junior or Senior Competition, or Competitions Administrator is responsible for implementing and communicating the rule change (once approved) and monitoring its effectiveness.