



Racecourse Cres, Launceston TAS 7250
m.duhig@launcestonbasketball.com.au
0421481301

17/05/2021

Dear Members,

It is excellent to see all our competitions active and on the court enjoying basketball. Please see the following for an update on the status of our competitions and the direction we are moving as we progress through the season. To ensure the best possible competition across the junior space the LBA needs to be agile and flexible with fixturing.

Craig Gibson, President of the Association has created some information videos regarding our season 2021, the challenges and the move to our new structure in T4 2021 – With this change occurring in T4, shifting a quarter of our competition into the summer should address many of the concerns we have faced this year, such as late time slots, night rotations and byes in competitions with even team numbers. It will also facilitate the continued development of referees which remains a high priority for the association.

I would like to reiterate as per my previous memo that court space continues to be an issue, with changes to availability often happening at short notice, requiring fixture updates each week as this occurs. The LBA remains committed to delivering a strong competition to all our members

Please see links to video below, these are available on our YouTube channel at any time;

[2021 Season Update + Premier League Information](#)

[2021 Premier League Information \(only, does not include season update\)](#)

Under 10's

Under 10s is underway and we are seeing some great basketball in this age group. Currently we have 9 boy's teams, and 8 girls teams giving us 8 games every week between 4:30pm and 6:30pm on a Tuesday. This age group will play 20 rounds of basketball concluding on the 21st of September. This age group has no finals series however medallion presentations will occur in the mezzanine at the conclusion of each team's final game.

Under 12 Boys

Under 12 Boys is underway, with the bulk of games being played at the Silverdome and LC. We are extremely thankful to Launceston College for allowing us the use of their court in this difficult climate, and the first several rounds have run smoothly. This age group will have a standard finals series for each division at the conclusion of regular season.

Under 12 Girls

Our Under 12 girl's competition has been playing 80% of their games on a Wednesday, however pressures on court space has required games to be rotated through the Thursday 4:30/5:30 timeslot. The goal is to have this rotation as even as possible across all teams and divisions. All teams in this age group will play on a Thursday during the regular season. As per communication to clubs, Division 2 is currently across 4 pools, with crossovers occurring in the upcoming week, and final placings for the remainder of the season to occur from this at the conclusion of round 5. This age group will have a finals series for each division at the conclusion of regular season dependent on the number of teams in each division.

Under 14 Boys

These competitions have seen some great competitive games between teams. These competitions have seen impact to their rounds due to NBL being scheduled on their game night, and then further NBL games being scheduled beyond the initial announcement continuing to impact. As per communication to clubs, Division 2 is currently across 4 pools, with crossovers occurring in the upcoming week, and final placings for the remainder of the season to occur from this. This age group will have a standard finals series for each division at completion of their regular season.

Under 14 Girls

These competitions have seen some great competitive games between teams. These competitions have seen impact to their rounds due to NBL being scheduled on their game night, and then further NBL games being scheduled beyond the initial announcement continuing to impact. This age group will have a finals series for each division at completion of the regular season dependent on the numbers in their division.

Under 16 Girls

Division 1 is a full fixture to the end of the season and will have no change for the remainder of 2021. Division 2, currently split across 2 pools – Pool A and Pool B – Once these teams progress through their games and progression rules, they will be placed into final placement divisions to play the remainder of the season. This process will be completed at the end of round 7. The growth of teams in the Under 16 space has been excellent. This age group will have a standard finals series for each division at the completion of the regular season.

Under 16 Boys

Division 1 has had a minor change with a team moving down to Division 2, bringing the total to 5. This has meant a redraw, with a bye being introduced. Please review the fixture to ensure you have the most up to date version. Under 16 Boys Division 1 will not be playing as many 9:30pm games as other teams, as many of these athletes have State Development Programming (SDP) at 6am on Tuesday mornings – BTAS shifted this training program to the morning in an agreement with LBA to free up courts for competition. LBA needs to support the athletes in this program as failure by our association to do so would have seen the training remain in the afternoon, reducing available court time for competition and in so doing would increase the number of late games for everyone. Division 2 has seen several teams moved and has been redrawn. Division 3 has been redrawn with the additional teams added. This age group will have a standard finals series for each division at the completion of the regular season.

Under 18 Boys

Both Division 1 and Division 2 are underway, and we have seen some excellent games. There have been no needs identified to change these competitions and they will play through to the end of the season as scheduled. This age group will have a final series for each division at completion of the regular season dependent on the numbers in each division.

Under 20 Girls

Division 1 has commenced with three teams – A big thank you to the teams involved for compromising on game times to make this competition viable with SDP occurring on the same night.

Division 2 has 4 teams and will play through to the end of the season as planned. This age group will have a finals series for each division at completion of the regular season dependent on numbers in each division.

Senior Men

Division 1 has seen some premier basketball action, as seen in the Examiner in a weekly wrap up. Division 2 and Division 3 are underway and will continue with no changes. Each Division will play a finals series at completion of the regular season based on numbers in the division.

Senior Women

Division 2 Women have been playing on their new game night Wednesday. Division 1 Women, which is an association-based competition, will be commencing on the 26th of May with two teams, coached by Sarah Veale and Keely Froling. This is an exciting new format with the inclusion of the Tornadoes playing group and should represent the best female domestic basketball in the region. This has been introduced to begin the process of

embedding a pathway for all aspiring female athletes from domestic basketball through to elite level. Games for Division 1 will be approximately every fortnight to maximise the availability of the best talent. Scheduling changes will be required on Wednesday night to accommodate the extra game slot and will be communicated to the clubs and teams impacted.

Glory League

Glory League has been a great addition to our competitions, with some highlights being shared and being invaluable for incident review. The LBA has been in constant contact with Glory League providing feedback regarding the service, including the virtual cameraman and how this is applied. Glory League have acknowledged there are issues and have committed to a significant upgrade in the next 4 weeks with new multi lens cameras and software being rolled out at Elphin which will be best in class nationwide. This upgrade is approximately \$10k in hardware at no cost to our Association.

Thank you to all our volunteers within the clubs for getting your teams organised and ready for season 2021. We fully understand how difficult it is to get this right for all.

Please watch the information videos mentioned above and remain in contact with your club and the LBA for updates. The structural changes coming in Term 4 are a first for Launceston and will be a significant change from what has traditionally been the format in our region. We ask that all members be understanding of the rollout of this change, support the Association and our clubs whilst implementing these changes.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mitch Duhig', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mitch Duhig
General Manager
0421481301