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## EAGLES JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE VJBL INFORMATION GUIDE

### SEASON 2023/24

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**This *Information Guide* will help players and parents/guardians to understand all aspects of playing Representative Basketball for the Diamond Valley Basketball Association (DVBA) in the Victorian Junior Basketball League (VJBL).**

The Diamond Valley Eagles Junior Representative Program is managed and operated by the Diamond Valley Basketball Association's (DVBA) operational staff.

The purpose of the Eagles Representative Program is to promote and support the development of junior basketball in the Diamond Valley area. The aim is to provide players from within the Northern Junior Basketball League (NJBL) - the DVBA's Junior Domestic Competition - the opportunity to play in the VJBL, against the best players from around the Melbourne Metropolitan and Victorian Country areas.

The DVBA provides a child safe environment. Please read the *DVBA Child Safe Environment Policy* for more information:

<https://dvbasketball.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/DVBA-Child-Safe-Environment-Policy.pdf>

#### **Diamond Valley Basketball Association's Statement of Commitment to Child Safety**

*The Diamond Valley Basketball Association (DVBA) is committed to child safety.*

*We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect all children, as well as our staff and volunteers.*

*We are committed to the safety, participation and empowerment of all children.*

*We have zero tolerance of child abuse, and all allegations and safety concerns will be treated very seriously and consistently with our robust policies and procedures.*

*We have legal and moral obligations to contact authorities when we are worried about a child's safety, which we follow rigorously.*

*The DVBA is committed to preventing child abuse and identifying risks early and removing and reducing these risks.*

*The DVBA has robust human resources and recruitment practices for all staff and volunteers.*

*The DVBA is committed to regularly training and educating our staff and volunteers on child abuse risks.*

*We are committed to the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, the cultural safety of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and to providing a safe environment for children with a disability.*

*We have specific policies, procedures and training in place that support our leadership team, staff and volunteers to achieve these commitments.*

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## EAGLES JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE POLICIES – REQUIRED READING

It is essential that all prospective and selected players and their parents/guardians are familiar with the:

### ***DVBA Eagles Junior Representative Player and Team Selection Policy and Procedures***

<https://dvbasketball.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/DVBA-Eagles-Junior-Representative-Player-and-Team-Selection-Policy.pdf>

The policy outlines the rationale and processes for selecting players to Eagles Junior Representative Teams to compete in the VJBL.

## CODE OF CONDUCT - IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL PARENTS/GUARDIANS & SPECTATORS

At no time during a VJBL game is a coach, parent/guardian or spectator permitted to step onto the court.

This rule will be enforced, even if a child is injured or has been involved in an altercation with another player.

Individuals can only step onto the court when invited to do so by the referee official.

Failure to adhere to this rule may result in the offender being reported and potentially banned, by Basketball Victoria, from attending future games.

Basketball Victoria has *Codes of Conduct* to provide basketball participants with guidance regarding its expectations of everyone involved in the sport.

At Diamond Valley Eagles, we are committed to ensuring that our members adhere to these Codes.

The Board of the DVBA and the Junior Representative Committee ask that we ensure that the *Codes of Conduct* are brought to the attention of all Eagles Junior Representative players and families.

The [Codes of Conduct](#) can be found on the Basketball Victoria website.

All DV Eagles players and families are to adhere by the [Eagles Junior Representative VJBL Player & Family Guidelines](#).

## OTHER SPORTS AND TRAINING

DVBA are all for children playing multiple sports at a young age. It is very beneficial to their overall athletic development. However, as you can imagine, the logistics of having rep players participating in multiple sports that run concurrently to our DV training times can be complex. As an association, we want to ensure that each sporting code is given the commitment it deserves and requires.

If players consistently miss their rep training due to another sport, then it may result in missing up to one quarter of playing time on a Friday night. This has been decided in an effort to support our coaches (who are volunteers) so they are in the best position to compete every Friday night with a group of players who are as prepared as possible.

It will be each coach's responsibility to determine if they need to impose any action. It is also important to note that no coach will be permitted to enforce beyond what is stated here (i.e., not playing for more than one quarter of a game due to missed rep training sessions because of another sport).

## DVBA JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE BASKETBALL OPERATIONS TEAM CONTACTS

Diamond Valley Basketball Association

PO Box 28

GREENSBOROUGH VIC 3088

Telephone: 9432 4720

**Junior Representative Director of Coaching**

Matt Shanahan

[matt.shanahan@dvbasketball.com.au](mailto:matt.shanahan@dvbasketball.com.au)

**Operations Manager**

Matt Stewart

[matt@dvbasketball.com.au](mailto:matt@dvbasketball.com.au)

**General Manager**

Patrick Di Lizio

patrick@dvbasketball.com.au

**Accounts**

Anna Capito

accounts@dvbasketball.com.au

## INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION

There are **five** main sources of information for all Eagles players and families:

### 1. Team Managers

The VJBL requires that all teams competing in the league appoint a Team Manager. The Team Manager will receive information directly from the DVBA operations staff throughout the VJBL season.

Team Managers are expected to check for receipt of information, from the DVBA, regularly and distribute accordingly to all Coaches and team members.

Information that team managers will receive and disseminate will relate to tournament fixtures, changes to training, uniform or merchandise updates, etc.

Communication via team managers is the primary means by which the DVBA informs players and parents/guardians of certain events; planned changes and so on. All of the information communicated will be of importance to the playing group.

Parents/guardians are asked to ensure that they carefully read all communications from Team Managers.

### 2. Website

The DVBA's website - [www.dvbasketball.com.au](http://www.dvbasketball.com.au), is a key source of information and is updated regularly to house documentation and provide news to the DVBA community.

Eagles players and parents/guardians are asked to make a habit of regularly referring to the website as a means of staying informed.

#### Other Useful Websites

**VJBL** - [www.vjbl.com.au](http://www.vjbl.com.au) - Fixtures, venue locations, playing calendars, rules of operation, timing rules, scoresheets and a host of information is available at this website.

**Basketball Victoria** - [www.basketballvictoria.com.au](http://www.basketballvictoria.com.au) - *Codes of Conduct*, insurance details and other useful information can be found on this website.

### 3. Email

A current email address is required as part of the player registration process. Operational staff and Team Managers will use registered email addresses to communicate with players' families.

**Please advise the Operations Manager immediately if your email address changes during the season.**

### 4. Facebook and Instagram

Parents/guardians of Eagles players are asked to follow the **Diamond Valley Basketball Association** on Facebook. DVBA's Facebook page is another great source of information and allows the community to be kept up to date with news such as club events, player achievements or game updates.

Follow us on **Facebook** [www.facebook.com/DVBasketball](http://www.facebook.com/DVBasketball)

**Instagram** @dvbasketball

## PLAYER REGISTRATION, GAME AND TOURNAMENT FEES

The Eagles Junior Representative Teams are self-financing yet incur significant costs to operate each season. There is a registration fee that applies to all players wishing to play for the Eagles. The player fees contribute, in part, to the following expenses:

- Team entry in competitions
- Coaches' remuneration

- Court hire training fees (Sunday and midweek sessions)
- Training equipment
- Insurance
- DVBA administration costs

### Registration Fees for the 2023/24 VJBL Season

#### Registration Fee is \$620 per player

All players will receive a TAX INVOICE and all fees are inclusive of GST.

#### Non-Refundable Deposit

All players are required to pay a \$50 deposit upon confirmation of selection to a team. If the player chooses to pull out of the team after this time, this deposit will not be refundable.

#### Payment Options

Payments are to be made in 3 instalments as outlined below

Deposit	Upon selection email to confirm place in team	\$50 per player
Instalment 1	No later than Friday 1 December 2023	\$285 per player
Instalment 2	No later than Friday 19 February 2024	balance of \$285 per player

*Refunds will only be issued at the discretion of the DVBA's General Manager.*

#### Payment Methods

Preferred payment method is by direct deposit

**Bendigo Bank**

**BSB 633 000**

**Account number 197 406 937\***

**Reference          Inv Number and Surname**

Payments can also be made by CC using the Pay Now option on the invoice. (merchant fees will apply and only full amount can be paid using this method) No cheques will be accepted, but you can deposit them directly into our above account with the invoice number as reference. Remittance advices where possible would be greatly appreciated to ensure correct allocation. ***\*Note: this is DVBA's current account, if you have saved the Association's bank details previously, please ensure that you are depositing to the correct account.***

#### Special Payment Arrangements

DVBA understands that the timing of fee payments may pose issues for some families. If a parent/guardian anticipates difficulties in making the registration payment, an arrangement can be discussed with the DVBA Operations Manager, Matt Stewart.

Any request for special payment arrangements must be made **immediately** and will be treated in the strictest confidence.

**NOTE: Players who are not fully financial prior to the first game of the VJBL Championship Season, and for whom special payment arrangements have not been made, will not be permitted to participate in any games or training.**

Late payment of fees, if accepted, may incur an additional administration fee.

#### Weekly Games Day Fees

During the VJBL Season, game day fees include:

- **Game or Team Sheet Fee -**

Team Sheet Fees - The Team Manager is responsible for making the payment, on behalf of the team, at each game. The bulk fee will account for the Team Sheet cost and Player/Spectator entry.

Each player will be asked to contribute approximately \$13.00 to \$17.00 per week to cover the cost of the Team Sheet.

The Team Manager may create a 'kitty' throughout the season, from player contributions, that will provide funds towards tournaments, team functions, the end of season break-up, etc.

Parents/guardians must, well before each game, approach the Team Manager to provide their share of the fees.

## UNIFORMS AND MERCHANDISE

**Coast 2 Coast (C2C)** is the DVBA's official supplier of Eagles uniforms and merchandise:  
<https://www.c2csport.com.au/collections/diamond-valley-basketball-association>

Contact **DVBA Operations Manager, Matt Stewart**, with any uniform enquiries - [matt@dvbasketball.com.au](mailto:matt@dvbasketball.com.au)

### **COMPULSORY official uniform for Game Day:**

1. Playing Singlet
2. Playing Shorts
3. Warm up top/Hoodie

**All available for purchase from: Coast 2 Coast's (C2C) online uniform store, in the DVBA 'Locker Room'**

<https://www.c2csport.com.au/collections/dvba-junior-rep-teams>

To maintain high standards of appearance, the Eagles Junior Representative Program requires that all players go through their on court warm up in official uniform or with their warm up top over their singlet.

**No player is permitted to take the court to warm up in apparel other than what is part of their official Eagles uniform.**

### **IMPORTANT NOTE on UNIFORMS:**

**For season 2023/24:**

New Junior Representative players will be able to purchase uniforms that are newly designed with a new and improved fit.

You may order directly from the website.

<https://www.c2csport.com.au/collections/dvba-junior-rep-teams>

### **COMPULSORY uniform for Training:**

1. Training Singlet
2. Playing Shorts

Available for purchase online <https://www.c2csport.com.au/collections/dvba-junior-rep-teams>

### **SUPPORTERS' GEAR**

Supporter items are also available from C2C's online store. The DVBA encourages all parents/guardians and supporters to purchase items to wear to games to show support for the Diamond Valley Eagles.

## VJBL JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP AGE GROUPS AND AGE GROUP QUALIFICATIONS

In both Boys' and Girls' Junior Representative Programs, the VJBL Championship Season will include competitions for:

**Under 12, Under 14, Under 16, Under 18 and Under 20 Age Groups.**

A player must be under the age stated in a VJBL Age Group up to 31 December of the year in which the Championship Season occurs.

Example: a player turning 14 at any time in 2024, must play in the Under 16 Age Group for the 2024 VJBL Championship Season.

## EAGLES JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE TEAM SELECTION

Eagles Junior Representative Teams are selected in accordance with the **DVBA Eagles Junior Representative Player and Team Selection Policy and Procedures** (linked in the *Eagles Junior Representative Policies – Require Reading* section above)

Each season provides a new mixture of talent, where all potential players (including new and current players) try out in the hopes of being selected into a team.

Every effort is made by the selectors to finalise teams prior to the beginning of the VJBL Grading Season. The Grading Season determines which section, or grade, each team will play in during the Championship Season.

## VJBL SEASONS - GRADING AND CHAMPIONSHIP

Unlike Junior Domestic Basketball, which is played across two seasons each year, the Junior Representative Basketball Program commences in November with grading and is played throughout most of the following year, in three phases.

The three phases are:

- **Grading Season:** where teams are sorted into pools, of similar level of ability, in two phases
- **Championship Season** (Home and Away Competition): this is the season proper which follows on from the Grading Season
- **Finals Series**

### VJBL Season:

- |                                                |                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| • <b>Grading Season Phase 1</b>                | 17 November 2023 – 15 December 2023                |
| • <b>Grading Season Phase 2</b>                | 2 February 2024 – 8 March 2024                     |
| • <b>Championship Season and Finals Series</b> | 8 March 2024 – 21 September 2024 (VC Grand Finals) |

When you accept a position with Diamond Valley Eagles, you are agreeing to be available for all scheduled VJBL (Grading / Regular Season / Finals) games and compulsory tournaments throughout the year. Should you anticipate any period of absence or unavailability, please advise the Operations Manager via email at [matt@dvbasketball.com.au](mailto:matt@dvbasketball.com.au) immediately as this may affect team selection.

## EAGLES JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE COACHING

For the Diamond Valley Eagles, the following Coaching Hierarchy is in place for the Boys' and Girls' Junior Representative Programs:

- **Junior Representative Director of Coaching**
- **Lead Coaches**
- **Age Group Head Coach (First Team's Coach)**
- **Team Head Coach**

## TRAINING AND GAME DAY

### Training

Eagles Junior Representative players train twice per week: mid-week and on Sunday, and play one match per week on Friday evenings (unless the competition has byes) during the season.

Regular team training is on Sunday mornings for all Age Groups and will be conducted at the following venues:

- **Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre** in Greensborough
- **Parade College** in Bundoora
- **Community Bank Stadium** in Diamond Creek

Mid-week training sessions will be held across a range of different venues. Head Coaches or Team Managers will notify parents/guardians of training days/times and venues.

**ALL training is compulsory unless adequate notice is given to the Head Coach, with a satisfactory reason for a player not being able to attend.**

Even when a player is injured or suspended, their attendance at training is compulsory. Players can still learn by observation. Players are not expected to attend training if they are unwell.

Although consistency of training times is DVBA's intention, times can change depending upon Coaches' commitments, court availability and other unavoidable factors.

If a player is unavailable for training or to play on a specific day, the Head Coach must be advised of the reason why, with fair and adequate prior notice.

Parents/guardians are asked to please ensure that they check the DVBA website and their emails regularly for updates via these preferred communication channels.

Fitness or additional skills training is occasionally organised by the DVBA and all players are required to attend if their team or age group is scheduled.

All Eagles Junior Representative Players should wear a reversible training singlet to training.

### When and where are games played?

VJBL competitions are conducted on Friday nights.

Game start times may vary from approximately 6.30pm to 9.30pm, with the later times generally being designated to the older age groups.

The competitions are not normally scheduled for the middle week(s) of term school holidays; however, games are often played on the last Friday night of school terms and on the Friday nights before school recommences for a new term.

Games may also be scheduled on the Friday nights leading into long weekends (except at Easter).

In general, teams will play games on a "home and away" basis which in previous years have included teams from regional Victoria. At present we do not know the travelling requirements for 2024 season, however this may mean travel throughout the season to any but not limited to: Dandenong, Diamond Valley, Frankston, MSAC (Albert Park), Eltham, Coburg, Sandringham, Keilor, Knox, Nunawading, Broadmeadows, and Bulleen. There may be longer trips to play against country teams i.e.: Geelong, Warragul, Traralgon, Bendigo, Ballarat etc.

**Eagles' Home Games** are played at:

- **Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre, 44 Civic Drive** in Greensborough.

**Away Games** require travel to venues across Metropolitan Melbourne.

There is the possibility of some competitions including country teams and, therefore, further travel.

For venue information see the VJBL website [www.vjbl.com.au](http://www.vjbl.com.au)



Always check your team's roster for game starting times. Please arrive at each game at least 30 minutes prior to starting time (or as advised by the Team Manager, Head Coach or VJBL due to Covid restrictions).

## SCORING

**Scorers are NOT provided at VJBL venues** (except for Grand Final games).

Each Eagles Junior Representative Team must provide scorers, preferably two scorers from each team, for each game.

At **HOME** games the scorers are responsible for the **clock**.

At **AWAY** games the scorers are responsible for the **game sheet**.

The Head Coach and Assistant Coach are not permitted to score.

The Team Manager has other responsibilities, including managing the *Team Sheet*, on game day.

**The Team Manager should draw up a scoring roster for their team's games and all parents/guardians are expected to take their turn to score.** If a parent/guardian has not scored before, a competent scorer should assist in instructing them on how to score.

The Victorian Junior Championship (A Grade) games employ a *24 second shot clock* rule which means it may be required that a parent/guardian helps to operate the *shot clock* during State Championship games played at Eagles' home venues.

## TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION

In addition to the Championship Season's Home and Away Competition, Diamond Valley Eagles players participate in a number of tournaments, including the **Eltham/Dandenong Tournament** on **Australia Day** weekend and the **National Junior Class Tournament** on the **Queen's Birthday** weekend.

These tournaments offer opportunities for team building, consolidation of team plays and more competition time.

Diamond Valley Eagles players also have the opportunity to be selected and train in the State Performance Program (SPP) and National Performance Program (NPP) and other Basketball Victoria camp programs that are restricted to players who play Representative Basketball. A number of our junior players and Coaches are involved in Basketball Victoria Programs.

Diamond Valley also conducts excellent development camps throughout the year.

### MANDATORY TOURNAMENTS

- **MELBOURNE CUP PRE SEASON HIT OUT AT DIAMOND VALLEY**
- **ELTHAM/DANDENONG TOURNAMENT – AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND, JANUARY**

**All teams are required to play in the tournaments above**

The team registration entry fee to this tournament is paid by DVBA, but players and spectators will still be required to pay the player fee and fees related to game days and entry to each venue over the long weekend.

- **NATIONAL JUNIOR CLASSIC TOURNAMENT – VICTORIA – QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND, JUNE 2024**

**All teams that qualify for the National Junior Classic Tournament in June 2024 are required to play.**

It is expected that all players in teams that qualify for the Classic will commit to playing in this tournament. Players who are not prepared to make this commitment should advise their coach immediately and be prepared to accept any team selection changes that may follow.

Where players plan to compete in other inter league sports (football, netball, etc) parents/guardians and players should be in discussions with Coaches as early as possible regarding how they plan to manage the logistics of their child's schedule. It is expected that Eagles players will participate in the Classic regardless of other commitments.

### OTHER TOURNAMENTS

All other tournaments that occur throughout the season are not permitted to be entered unless express permission from the Junior Representative Director of Coaching.

## TRAINING ONLY PLAYERS

Occasionally coaches will select a player as a 'Training Only Player' to enable the player continued development within our elite environment. Training Only positions are offered to those players who, with a season of training will gain greater knowledge of the requirements of representative basketball and put them in good stead for the following season. There is no guarantee that by accepting the Training Only position, that this will help in the selection process for the following season. The following information outlines the responsibilities and the commitment involved in being a Training Only Player.

- You are to welcome to attend the games, but this is not an expectation
- You will not be able to sit on the bench at games
- You cannot play in any games or Tournaments
- You will not be registered with VJBL
- The Fees for a Training Only Player will be \$310 for the season
- Training Only Players are required to purchase the Training Uniform only. No additional player uniform items can be purchased.

## 11<sup>TH</sup> PLAYERS

Teams may select and '11th player'. As the 11<sup>th</sup> Player, there are NO guarantees on the amount of court time you will receive in any games played. You will have the opportunity to play with your team if another player is away, injured or unwell but this is at the discretion of your coach.

- As the 11th player, you are required to attend both weekly training sessions.
- You are expected to attend games, sitting on the bench with your teammates
- You do not play on a rotational basis
- You can play for injured/unwell/absent players if your coach requires you to. This is at the discretion of your coach.
- You can play in Tournaments your team is registered to participate in (at the direction of your coach)
- You will have to contribute to team Sheet fees on a "per game played" basis (the fee will be determined by the team)
  - You will be registered with VJBL

The registration fees for being the 11th player for the season will be communicated by the club dependent on the situation of the team. You will also be required to have a FULL uniform.

There is no guarantee that by accepting the position of the 11th Player, that this will help in the selection process for the following season.

## END OF SEASON

### Season Awards

At the completion of each VJBL Championship Season, Head Coaches are required to nominate recipients for Seasonal Awards.

Head Coaches are required to nominate three (3) award recipients each season:

- **Most Valuable Player (MVP)**
- **Coach's Award**
- **Best Defensive Player**

## Under 18 Presentation/Graduation Event

Top age U18 players are hosted at a **Presentation Event** as they leave the Junior Representative Program at the end of their final season.

The Age Group Presentation of awards is part of the evening, so it is mandatory for all U18 players to attend this event. The DVBA encourages all families to join in the recognition and farewell of the players completing their participation in junior basketball.

## Team Break Ups

Break up gatherings are organised by the Team Managers for all Age Groups, as soon as possible after the season is complete.

The team gathering will incorporate the presentation of awards by the Head Coach.

## DEALING WITH CONCERNS

Please see the *DVBA Complaints and Grievances Policy* (will be added to the DVBA website by November 2023) <https://dvbasketball.com.au/documents-and-policies/>

## MEDICAL CERTIFICATES

VJBL rules outline requirements for player qualification for finals:

1. Player Qualification
  - a. Qualification for Finals:

To be eligible to represent a team in finals, a player must play a minimum of 40% of games with that team. In the case that 40% would not be a round number then the total will be rounded up (i.e., 7.2 games would become 8 games). This ruling is applicable across all division of the Victorian Junior Basketball League as well as the Regional Grades.
  - b. Demonstration of Games Qualification

For the sole purpose of game qualification, a player shall be considered to have played in that particular game when the player is in uniform and able to take the court and signs the back of the scoresheet in a manner that permits identification, in his/her own hand on the day of the match, beside their name in BLOCK LETTERS.
  - c. Exemptions: (Finals)

If a team can convince the VJBL Administrator, they cannot field eight (8) qualified players for VJBL Grades and seven (7) qualified players for VJL/Regional Grades the Administrator may grant permission for a player from a lower grade or age group to play. The player from the lower age group must not be from a higher grade.

**Medical certificates may be accepted as evidence of injury/illness and can be used for exemption to game qualification criteria only if the medical certificate is submitted WITHIN FOURTEEN (14) DAYS OF THE DIAGNOSIS/INJURY.**