

Welcome to the 2027 Bulls Representative Season!

Welcome to Bulls Basketball Australia and the 2027 Junior Representative Basketball Program.

We are proud to welcome our junior athletes and families to a season focused on player development, team growth and positive representative basketball experiences.

Building Better Players. Developing Stronger Individuals. Inspiring Our Community.

Bulls Basketball Australia is more than a basketball association. We are a community committed to developing young athletes both on and off the court, providing a positive, inclusive and supportive environment where players can reach their full potential.

Our philosophy extends beyond winning games. We focus on **player development, teamwork, resilience, respect and discipline**, and equipping young athletes with valuable life skills while building confidence, character, and a lifelong passion for basketball.

With a proud history originating as Ryde Bulls and evolving into Bulls Basketball Australia, our association continues to grow. Through renewed leadership, strategic partnerships, and enhanced development pathways, we remain committed to providing meaningful opportunities for players at every level.

Our strength lies in our community of players, coaches, team managers, volunteers and families, all working together towards a shared vision of excellence, inclusion, and continuous improvement.

As we welcome the 2027 season, we look forward to building on our legacy, strengthening our basketball community and inspiring the next generation of athletes.

LET'S GO BULLS!

2027 Representative Season Overview

Metro Junior League Key Dates:

Pre-Season Week 1 – 13/14 February	Round 8 – 23 May
Pre-Season Week 2 – 20/21 February	Round 9 – 30 May
Pre-Season Week 3 – 28 February	Round 10 – 6 June
Pre-Season Week 4 – 7 March	Round 11 – 20 June
Round 1 – 14 March	Round 12 – 27 June
Round 2 – 21 March	Round 13 – 4 July
Round 3 – 4 April	Round 14 – 11 July (TBC)
Round 4 – 11 April	Semi Finals – 18 July
Round 5 – 2 May	Grand Finals – 25 July
Round 6 – 9 May	State Cup – 13/14/15 August
Round 7 – 16 May	

Player Expectations

Representative basketball requires a higher level of dedication than recreational or local competition basketball. Players should understand that development is a continuous process requiring consistent training, discipline, preparation, and effort.

At Bulls Basketball Australia, we expect players to:

- Demonstrate a positive attitude towards learning and improvement.
- Attend scheduled team training sessions and competitions.
- Take responsibility for their individual basketball development.
- Be receptive to coaching instructions and constructive feedback.
- Apply skills, strategies, and team concepts learned during training.
- Demonstrate resilience when faced with challenges, setbacks, or reduced playing opportunities.
- Prioritise team success over individual statistics and recognition.

Our expectation is not that every player performs perfectly, but that every player demonstrates consistent effort, accountability, and commitment to improvement.

Training & Game Day Expectations

Official representative team training will commence in January, with two 90-minute sessions each week: one team-specific session and one combined session with another team in the same age group. The training schedule will be announced to all teams before the end-of-year break in December 2026.

Players are expected to:

- Attend all scheduled team training sessions unless a reasonable absence has been communicated.
- Arrive punctually and ready to participate.
- Bring appropriate training attire, basketball shoes, water and equipment required.
- Maintain focus and demonstrate maximum effort throughout each session.
- Participate actively in individual skill development and team-based activities.
- Communicate injuries, illness or physical limitations to their coach.

Primary Association Registrations

Players must maintain current Basketball NSW membership and meet the registration, transfer, primary-association, local competition, and eligibility requirements that apply to their specific 2027 competition.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - All selected players chosen in the Bulls representative program must list their primary BNSW registration with Bulls Basketball Australia. If not currently listed with the Bulls, players must change this upon renewal to continue to be eligible.

Please use the link below to change primary registration when current registration is about to expire:

https://registration.basketballconnect.com/userRegistration?organisationId=17c6213f-7d5d-4dae-9e6f-54b5f8f0d953&competitionId=ec2411de-337e-4564-8624-e1d7bfca9e87

Mandatory Local Competition Participation – Representative Player Eligibility

As part of Bulls Basketball Australia's Representative Program eligibility requirements, all junior representative players are required to register and actively participate in the Bulls Local Competition throughout the 2027 season.

This mandatory commitment applies to both competition seasons:

- Summer League: February – June 2027
- Spring Season: July – December 2027

Participation in our Local Competition is an essential component of the Bulls Representative Player Development Pathway. It provides players with consistent game experience, opportunities to develop their basketball IQ, and the ability to apply their skills in a competitive environment.

Representative Trial Eligibility Requirements

Any player who is not registered and actively participating in the required Bulls Local Competition season, and who has not obtained a formally approved exemption, will be deemed INELIGIBLE to participate in Bulls Representative Trials. This requirement is mandatory and will be strictly enforced to ensure fairness, accountability and consistency across all junior representative programs.

Please note: No Local Competition registration or approved exemption means no eligibility to trial. No exceptions will be made outside of the formal exemption process.

We appreciate the cooperation and commitment of all players and families in supporting the standards and development expectations of Bulls Basketball Australia.

Please feel free to email basketball@bullsbasketball.au for any queries regarding our local competition.

Representative Program – Playing Time & Player Roles

Bulls Basketball Australia recognises that playing time is an important consideration for players and families. However, representative basketball is a competitive environment, and playing time may vary according to team requirements, player readiness, training commitment, performance, attitude and game circumstances.

Playing time should not be viewed as the sole measure of a player's value or development. Our coaching approach aims to balance competitive team objectives with meaningful opportunities for player improvement.

Our Development Player (DP) program is designed to provide emerging athletes with access to representative-level training, coaching and team environments that support their progression towards future competitive opportunities. Development Players are expected to demonstrate the same level of commitment, discipline and respect as full representative squad members.

Bulls Basketball Australia recognises that Development Players and their families make a significant commitment to participate in the representative program. In return, our coaching staff will provide an inclusive, purposeful and development-focused training environment.

Coaches are expected to:

- Actively include Development Players in appropriate team training activities.
- Provide opportunities to participate in skill development drills, team concepts, and competitive scrimmages.
- Ensure that Development Players are not consistently excluded from meaningful training activities solely because of their development status.
- Adapt training activities where appropriate to challenge players according to their ability and readiness.
- Recognise the contribution Development Players make to overall team preparation.

Development Player selection does not guarantee competition roster placement, game participation or court time. Each player's competition opportunities remain subject to eligibility requirements, competition regulations, team needs, and coaching decisions.

Why We Attend Development Tournaments

Each year, Bulls Basketball Australia allocates selected development tournaments to support team development and season preparation. Events such as the ***Central Coast Classic*** and ***Nunawading Spectres Tournament*** in Melbourne should be positioned as planned learning opportunities rather than simply additional fixtures.

Tournament basketball offers consecutive games, unfamiliar opponents, travel routines, and changing competitive situations that accelerate learning when paired with deliberate coaching feedback. This is a great opportunity for all players to build team culture and chemistry without the added pressure of representative games.

Tournament participation and selection, dates, travel, accommodation, supervision, and any additional family costs will be confirmed in advance. Entry fees to these tournaments is covered by your fees.

https://ccbasketball.com.au/coastal-classic-2027/

Division 1 & Division 2: Friday, January 29 – Sunday, January 31, 2027

Division 3: Friday, February 5 – Sunday, February 7, 2027

https://www.nunawadingbasketball.com.au/nunawading-spectres-tournament/

Date: King's Birthday long weekend, June 2027

Location: Melbourne, Australia (centered around the Nunawading Basketball Centre)

Format: Three-day junior basketball tournament featuring domestic and representative teams [1, 2, 3, 4]

Representative Fees and Payment Structure

Our representative fees for the 2027 season are as follows:

- **Rostered players: $1,990** – Paid in 3 instalments due as follows:
  - **Upon acceptance - $664 (due by 9 Nov 2026)**
  - **2nd Instalment due 30th December 2026 - $663**
  - **3rd Instalment (Final Payment) due 29th January 2027 - $663**

- **Development players: $1,150** – Paid in 2 instalments due as follows:
  - **Upon acceptance - $664 (due by 9 Nov 2026)**
  - **2nd Instalment (Final Payment) due 30th December 2026 - $486**

Acceptance Fee instalment: due by 9 Nov 2027 upon acceptance of the written offer.

Second instalment: due by 30th December 2026 – prior to the official commencement of rep training in January & attendance of Central Coast Classic Tournament.

Final instalment: due by 29th January 2027 – prior to the start of pre-season. All Rep Fees must be paid prior to the start of pre-season.

Our fees include the following (cost estimate per player):

1. Entry into the Waratah MJL – Squad only ($330)
2. Entry into Central Coast Classic – Squad only ($70)
3. Entry into Nunawading – Squad only ($60)
4. Game Day Admin (Eg Referee and Supervisors) – Squad only ($200)
5. Coach Travel Allowance – Squad only ($107)
6. Training Court Hire ($1,070)
7. Admin Fee ($72)

Active Kids vouchers are accepted.

All parents receive membership to our sponsors ***Wests Ashfield Leagues Club*** which will provide discounts to the use of the Wests Ashfield Leagues Club bars and restaurants.

Payment Assistance

Families experiencing financial difficulty should contact the Bulls administration privately before a due date to request consideration of an agreed payment plan.

Refund Policy

All refund requests must be submitted in writing to Bulls Basketball Administration. Each request will be reviewed fairly, with consideration given to the circumstances and the Association's financial commitments.

Other Costs for the Season not included in Rep Fees

The other costs for the season include the following:

1. **Bulls Basketball Representative Uniforms**
2. **Merchandise**
3. **Travel and accommodation for tournaments**

Game Uniforms & Training Gear

All players must have their representative apparel which consists of the following:

1. Reversible game singlet
2. Reversible game shorts
3. Warm up top
4. Reversible Training singlet

There are other pieces of merchandise also available, including hoodies, backpacks, sports bags, towels, and socks.
All players will be issued with a complimentary Bulls water bottle, so there is no need to purchase this, unless you would like more than one.

All other items can be ordered through the online store at www.innerwestbulls.dkmblue.com.au

Respect the Game: A Shared Responsibility

Bulls Basketball supports the Basketball NSW ***"Respect the Game"*** principles: basketball should be safe, inclusive and enjoyable for players, referees, coaches and spectators.

https://www.bnsw.com.au/respect-the-game/

Parents and guardians are vital in creating a positive environment. We ask all spectators to model respectful behaviour towards referees, coaches, players, and other families at all times.

Basketball NSW enforces a strict **Zero Tolerance Policy**—abuse, criticism, or interference will not be accepted. Spectators must remain outside the "Field of Play" (court area) unless invited by an official, and banned items such as vuvuzelas, cowbells, drums, and inflatable noise-makers are not permitted. Referees, many of whom are young and still developing, deserve encouragement and respect.

https://www.bnsw.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Conditions-of-Entry.pdf
https://www.bnsw.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Basketball-NSW-No-Zone-Implementation-Guide.pdf

Social media & Online Conduct Policy

Bulls Basketball Australia and Basketball NSW expect all players, parents, coaches and supporters to maintain respectful and responsible behaviour across all social media and online communication platforms, including WhatsApp, Heja and team group chats.

Online behaviour can affect individuals, team culture and the reputation of the Association.

Parents and guardians are expected to:

- Maintain respectful online communication and avoid negative or inappropriate comments about players, coaches, officials, families or basketball associations.
- Refrain from discussing team selections, game strategies or grievances on social media. Concerns should be raised through the appropriate Association channels.
- Monitor their child's online activity and encourage positive, respectful interactions.
- Report concerns involving bullying, exclusion, inappropriate language or harmful online behaviour to the Team Manager or Association.

Communication & Reporting

- Official Association communications should be directed to parents and guardians through approved channels.
- For non-urgent concerns, families are encouraged to allow a 24 to 48-hour cooling-off period before raising the matter.
- Child safety, bullying or safeguarding concerns requiring immediate attention must be reported promptly and are not subject to the cooling-off period.

All members of the Bulls Basketball community are expected to contribute to a safe, positive, and respectful environment, both on and off the court.

Injury & Insurance

Basketball carries some risk of injury, but all registered players are covered by Basketball NSW's personal injury insurance during sanctioned activities such as games, training, and tournaments. Families are encouraged to help reduce risks by ensuring proper warm-ups, cool-downs, and the use of mouthguards. Even with precautions, injuries can occur, and it's important to follow medical advice and keep team staff informed.

https://www.bnsw.com.au/about/insurance/

https://www.bnsw.com.au/report-an-injury/

Representative Sponsorship

Bulls Basketball offer sponsorship packages to support our Junior and Senior representative teams.
We are also more than happy to create tailored sponsorship packages to align with your organisation's marketing and community engagement goals.

Please contact Danny Kordahi
(m) 0414 450 206 (e)danny@dkmblue.com

https://www.innerwestbulls.com/rep-sponsorship-opportunities/

Acknowledgement & Agreement

By accepting a place in the Bulls Representative Program, families acknowledge that they have read and understood the expectations outlined in this handbook. Continued involvement depends on meeting these standards, which include upholding Basketball NSW and Bulls policies, demonstrating respect on and off the court, and fulfilling both player and parent commitments. Your partnership ensures a safe, positive, and successful experience for all.

If you require any assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out!
You can email us at admin@bullsbasketball.au or approach any of the Association officials — we're always happy to help.