



SOUTH WEST METRO BASKETBALL INC

JUNIOR REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM

2025-26 Season Handbook

UPDATED 05/2025



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1. Introduction

Welcome to the South West Metro Pirates junior representative program! We hope that all players joining the 'Ship' will enjoy their experience and can fulfill all their ambitions in the sport with us.

The purpose of this handbook is to inform prospective parents and players of general information about our representative program and outline all key terms, conditions and expectations. It is important that you have read and understood the requirements and obligations should you accept a position into one of our teams.

1.1 Contacts

Your team manager is the first point of contact for most matters. Team management may also set up a Facebook or WhatsApp group to communicate with team parents throughout the season. However, should you need you need to contact an SWMBI staff member directly:

Diana – Rep Coordinator

First point of contact for our coaches for various coaching, selection and on-court matters. Diana is the primary contact should you need to discuss selection or player-coach related issues and will act as a liaison between these parties if necessary. Repcoordinator@southwestbasketball.com.au

Linda Reid – Accounts Manager

Any questions or issues pertaining to payment of representative fees should be directed to Linda. Linda is the current First point of contact for Managers. accounts@southwestbasketball.com.au

Luke Kivela – Competitions, Participation & Operations Coordinator

First point of contact for team managers and will assist with most administrative matters throughout the season. Luke can also assist parents with any general enquiries if not able to be answered by your team manager including any unresolved issues. Competitions@southwestbasketball.com.au

1.2 Key Information Sources

SWM Website – www.piratesbasketball.net.au

SWM Facebook - www.facebook.com/SWMPirates

SWM Instagram - [@southwestmetropirates](https://www.instagram.com/southwestmetropirates)

Basketball Queensland (draws & results, rules, policies etc.) – www.queensland.basketball

2. Selection Trials

- 2.1 The trial format is at the discretion of SWMBI and will be outlined at announcement. Trials will be conducted by head coaches for the trialling age group, with oversight from the SWM Coaching Director and appointed independent selectors.
- 2.2 All participants must be registered to and have been actively participating in the current SWM Junior Club Competition season at time of trials to be eligible to participate.
- 2.2 All participants must have registered and paid the trial fee to be eligible to participate.
- 2.3 All participants must be financial with SWMBI at the time of trials to be eligible to participate.
- 2.4 Any participant who last played representative basketball for another association must submit to SWMBI an approved *BQ Player Transfer* form prior to be eligible to participate.
- 2.5 Attendance at all trials is compulsory to be eligible for selection. Extenuating circumstances for absence such as injury or illness can be taken into consideration for possible team selection. A written submission, including evidence, must be made to the SWM Coaching Director (doc@southwestbasketball.com.au) before trial commencement.
- 2.6 All trials will be held in a 'closed' environment meaning no parents or general spectators will be permitted within the venue for the duration. *(this policy will not apply to Under 12 trials)*

3. Selections, Offers & Season Expectations

Teams will generally consist of 10 players, a Head Coach, an Assistant Coach and a Manager. Adjustments to the number of players in a team may be granted at the approval SWM Coaching Director if requested by the Head Coach. No team will exceed a maximum of 12 players.

SWMBI will nominate up to 4 teams per age group and gender to compete in each representative season. The number of teams nominated will be dependent upon meeting Basketball Queensland requirements along with the standard of resources available within the association.

First team named ***SWM Pirates Gold*** (will grade for Premier League)

Second team named ***SWM Pirates Purple*** (will grade for League 2)

Third team named ***SWM Pirates Red*** (will grade for League 3)

Fourth team named ***SWM Pirates White*** (will grade for League 4)

The association may elect to grade a team for a lower division than prescribed above if deemed appropriate, with the exception of Gold teams who will always grade for Premier League.

- 3.1 Teams will be selected based on several factors including but not limited to attitude, commitment, ability and behavioural conduct in line with the association values. Final decisions on player selections are made by the team's head coach, SWM Coaching Director and any independent selectors.
- 3.2 If your child is selected to a team an offer will be emailed to the address supplied in your trial registration. You will have 48 hours to accept or decline the offer of selection. A \$100 deposit toward your rep fee will also be required at the time of accepting the offer. *(continued over)*



If no response is received within 48 hours then this team offer will be automatically revoked and given to another player. No additional offers will be granted for any team in the age group for that season.

3.3 **Team Offer Acceptance Policy**

To ensure the integrity of our trial and selection processes is maintained, and that only those committed to representing Pirates are involved, it is important to be aware of the following obligations and penalties for withdrawing after accepting a position into one of our teams:

- a) Upon accepting a team offer, you acknowledge that you are liable for the full amount of representative fees for your child even if you later choose to withdraw.
- b) Any player who declines, or does not respond to, an offer for our first team (Gold) will be prohibited from trialling for any future SWMBI representative for a period of two (2) years.
- c) Any player who withdraws (or is removed) from any team after accepting an offer will be prohibited from trialling for any future SWMBI representative team for a period of two (2) years.

3.4 **Participation in SWM Junior Club Competition**

All players who accept a position to our representative program MUST immediately join a club, if not already, and commence participation in our domestic competition. It is a strict Basketball Queensland eligibility requirement that players are actively involved in an association's club competition in the lead up to a representative season (and during). Failure to adhere means the player will be deemed ineligible for our representative teams and therefore be immediately removed from our program.

3.5 **Team Changes**

After initial team selections, SWMBI reserve the right to move players between teams at any stage before or during the season if:

- a player has withdrawn from a team.
- a player is absent for a particular round (temporary move).
- a player/family has requested to drop down to a lower division team.

In the case of a player withdrawal SWMBI may bring in a replacement player. Preference for selection of replacement players will be those who initially trialled for that age group.

Any movement of players between teams will only take place after discussion and agreement between the family of the player, coaches of the involved teams, and the SWM Coaching Director.

3.6 **Court Time**

Players and parents must understand prior to engaging in our representative program that there are no guarantees on the amount of court time any player will receive.

Coaching staff have a responsibility to obtain the best possible results for their team, whilst also providing development opportunities for every player. These two ideals are often in conflict and will result in some players receiving less court time than other more experienced players.

Playing time will be determined by the coaching staff, based on players meeting realistic roles and expectations that have been clearly communicated to the player and parents throughout the season.



4. Uniform

4.1 Players must own and wear a complete SWMBI uniform when representing our association at representative team training, SQJBC fixtures and during the State Championships.

4.2 Compulsory uniform

Training uniform consists of:

- *SWM reversible training singlet*

Gameday uniform consists of:

- *SWM polo*
- *SWM playing socks*
- *SWM playing shorts (boys - gold, girls - purple)*

When attending games all players must be dressed in a SWM polo and SWM playing shorts.

4.3 Uniform costs are in addition to your representative fee. If you do not own any of the above compulsory items they must be purchased ASAP upon team acceptance. Ordering is done via our online store with information to be provided in your letter of offer. Additional or optional Pirates merchandise for players or family is also available for purchase.

5. Fees & Payments

5.1 Summary of fees

	Under 12	Under 14, 16 & 18
<i>Deposit</i>		\$100.00
<i>Instalment 1</i>		\$282.50
<i>Instalment 2</i>		\$282.50
<i>Instalment 3</i>		\$282.50
<i>Instalment 4</i>		\$282.50
TOTAL	TBA	\$1230.00

Invoices for fees will be sent soon after team offer acceptance with all due dates to be outlined within.

5.2 Inclusions & exclusions

The season representative fee for your child covers all the following:

- SQJBC team nomination fee
- SQJBC grading tournament fees
- SQJBC season game fees
- SQJBC referee & supervisor fees
- SQJBC finals game fees
- Wildcard Challenge game fee
- State Championships team nomination & game fees
- State Championships Referee fees
- First aid / sports med officers
- Training venue hire (2x 1.5hr sessions p/week, for minimum 4 weeks prior then during season)
- Pirates water bottle & Socks
- End of season function (for player)
- Uniform & equipment levy
- Referee Levy
- Administration levy



The following is not included in your representative fee and will be at an additional cost:

- Any required compulsory uniform items
- Any optional or additional uniform/merchandise items
- Any pre-season games organised by team management
- Hire and other associated costs for additional training or programs organised by team
- State Championships expenses such as travel, accommodation and food*
- State Championships travel and accommodation for team management**

** dependent on location – costs will vary*

*** two members of coaching/management group are to be covered by the team, if required*

- 5.3 Upon acceptance of their child's selection to a representative team, parents agree to be liable for the entire representative fee to SWMBI. This fee will be invoiced in instalments as outlined in **5.1** with an option also to pay the entire amount upfront. The initial \$100 non-refundable deposit is payable at the time of accepting a team offer.
- 5.4 Invoices will be sent to the parent/carer email provided in the player's team offer acceptance. It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to advise SWMBI if these details change.
- 5.5 Any failure to make payment on an invoice by the stipulated due date with result in your child being prevented from further participation until any overdue payment is made.
- 5.6 Parents/Carers acknowledge that if their child incurs an injury or illness during the season, they remain responsible for entire amount of representative fees. SWMBI will not consider requests for fee reductions where a player is absent for a partial amount of the season.

SWMBI will only consider requests to reduce fees for a player who has withdrawn from the program where the family has consulted first with team management in a timely manner, and a written submission has been provided outlining reasonable grounds for withdrawing.

- 5.7 Should there be personal circumstances, such as financial hardship, that will inhibit a player's ability to pay representative fees as per the defined schedule, the parent/carer must contact Linda (accounts@southwestbasketball.com.au) ASAP to discuss the situation and alternative options. These discussions will be held in the strictest confidence. Parents will be bound to the terms of any alternative plan and their child will be prevented from participation if they are not met.

6. Player Obligations

6.1 Club Competition

Players must maintain a registration to a club and actively participate in our Junior Club Competition while a member of our representative program. **At least a 50% participation rate** of club games must be upheld in order to continue being eligible for SWMBI representative activities – this participation period encompasses from the time of team selection through to the State Championships.

6.2 Program Attendance

Attending all training sessions and games is mandatory. It is expected that players attend training even when injured - you may be missing important information by not attending.

If the player cannot attend prior notice must be given to the team coach and/or team manager along with a valid reason to why the player cannot attend. A player with a contagious illness (e.g. flu) should not attend training or a game, however still must notify team management prior.



A player's court time may be affected at the coach's discretion should they not attend training or games without satisfactory reason. Repeated absence may result in the player being removed from the program.

6.3 Abide by the BQ Players Code of Behaviour

- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the competition.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials and sledging other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviours in any sport.
- Work equally hard for yourself and/or your team. Your team's performance will benefit, so will you.
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are made by your team or the opposition.
- Treat all participants in your sport as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor.
- Cooperate with your coach, team-mates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Refrain from engaging in negative or destructive discussion or postings on social media about players, coaches, spectators, officials, administrators or other basketball participants, that may be viewed as abusive, harassing or offensive in nature.

7. Parent/Carer Obligations

- 7.1 Be responsible to provide transport for their child to all training and games. (& appropriate uniform)
- 7.2 Perform scoretable duties for SQJBC and State Championship games - teams must provide 2 scoretable officials for every game. Your team manager will have a roster process in place.
- 7.3 Only record games or training sessions with the consent of the coaching staff, parents and players.
- 7.4 Contribute to volunteer roles that assist the running of the team activities Including but not limited to fundraising, event setup/clean-up, uniform washing etc.
- 7.5 Understand that your actions, along with any other family members, can have consequences that directly affect your child's involvement in our representative program (see 9.2 – Player Entourage)
- 7.6 Abide by the BQ Parents Code of Behaviour
 - Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
 - Encourage children to participate, do not force them.
 - Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
 - Encourage children always to play according to the rules and to settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
 - Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a competition.
 - Remember that children learn best by example. Appreciate good performances and skilful plays by all participants.
 - Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
 - Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.



- Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials and administrators. Without them, your child could not participate.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Refrain from engaging in negative or destructive discussion or postings on social media about players, coaches, spectators, officials, administrators or other basketball participants, that may be viewed as abusive, harassing or offensive in nature

8. Social Media

All participants (players, parents/carers, team staff) must take care with their online activity for anything that relates to SWMBI, its members, and anyone or anything associated with the wider Basketball Queensland community. These general rules must be abided by:

- No swearing or offensive wording
- No inappropriate, defamatory or derogatory pictures, posts or comments
- No confidential information to be posted
- Only truthful information is to be posted
- If someone requests something be removed, it must be removed
- Any offensive comments from the public on your own posts are to be removed immediately

The ***Basketball Queensland Social Media Policy***, available from the Basketball Queensland website, provides a comprehensive framework that all participants must abide by. Any person found to be in contravention of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action by SWMBI and/or BQ.

9. Player Removal

9.1 SWMBI may at its discretion remove a player from a team anytime during the season due to behaviour or conduct that:

- a) is outside the mission or values of the association
- b) breaches any term or obligation as outlined in this handbook
- c) breaches any Code of Conduct or Policy of SWMBI, BQ or BA

Further sanctions may also apply including refusal to accept a player's nomination to future rep trials and/or suspension from all SWMBI programs. A final decision for removal of a player will be made in consultation with SWMBI CEO.

9.2 Player Entourage

In addition to their own conduct, a player is deemed to be responsible for the behaviour and conduct of their entourage who attend any activity or event in which the athlete participates. The expression "entourage" includes parents/carers, family members, coaches, trainers, friends, and any other person associated with the player.

If it is determined that a breach of any SWMBI/BQ/BA code or Policy has occurred, including any term or obligation outlined in this handbook, by a member of this entourage then it is open to SWMBI to impose penalties on the athlete and family as follows:

- a) immediate removal of the player from further participation in the current representative season, and/or



- b) refusal to accept any nominations from that player or siblings for future representative teams for a specified period, and/or
- c) suspension of the player or entire family from participating in all SWMBI programs for a specified period.

Imposing a penalty on a player for the behaviour of their entourage is to be seen as a last resort for disciplinary action, except in extreme cases, and such action would not be taken without having sought to engage with and counsel the offending person and player in relation to the unacceptable conduct.

9.3 Unfinancial Players

Defaulting on payments of representative fees, domestic competition (or club) fees, or any amounts owed to SWMBI during the season will result in the player being deemed unfinancial. Players who are unfinancial will be excluded from participating in all SWMBI activities, including both club and representative, until all outstanding debt has been cleared.

10. Personal Injury Liability & Medical

10.1 SWMBI shall not be liable for any loss suffered, nor shall it be liable for any damage to property.

10.2 Basketball is a recreational activity that carries injury risk. It can be assumed that personal injury may occur and SWM Basketball shall not be liable for any personal injury suffered.

10.3 SWMBI strongly recommends that all players have private health insurance that covers hospital, ambulance, physio and dental.

10.4 The Queensland Civil Liability Act 2003 may be applicable for personal injury claims.

10.5 Insurance Cover

All official SWM representative activities are covered by Basketball Queensland's insurance scheme. To have access to this insurance players must ensure they maintain a current BQ registration.

Further Information about BQ's insurance scheme can be found here –
<https://vinsurancegroup.com/basketball/>

10.6 Basic medical details for players will be collected by SWM for each season. This information will be accessible only by the Team Manager or SWM Operations Manager in the instance of a medical emergency during the season.

11. Complaints

11.1 Game-day

Incidents and complaints at any Basketball Queensland game must be reported to your Team Manager, who may elect to report it to the Court Controller at the venue if necessary. Paperwork is to be completed at that venue at the time of the concern. Complaints are formally followed through by the Association hosting the game and BQ if required.

11.2 Internal

Any issue of misconduct by a player, parent, coach, manager, official or spectator associated with SWMBI, that cannot be safely and amicably addressed within the team, should be brought to the attention of the BOM in writing as soon as possible (bom@southwestbasketball.com.au). Depending on the nature of the complaint the BOM may forward to, or work in conjunction with, the Junior Representative Committee, Coaching Director and/or SWMBI Board to address it.

12. SQJBC Overview

The South Queensland Junior Basketball Competition (SQJBC) is a representative competition conducted in the south-east region of Queensland. The competition caters for boys and girls in Under 12 to Under 18 age groups. SQJBC provides a competition pathway for elite junior players representing their associations, with Basketball Queensland's affiliated associations in the south-east Queensland region eligible to enter.

SQJBC is played in a league format with each age group consisting multiple divisions. Generally, each division comprises of 8 teams playing each other twice (there can be exceptions at times in lower divisions).

The SQJBC season can be divided in four sections: *Grading, Regular Season, Wildcard Challenge, Finals*

Grading

SQJBC Grading Tournaments are held late in the school term prior to the regular season. The purpose of Grading is to place teams within divisions of equal calibre for the upcoming season. The format of these grading tournaments generally consists of pool games followed by qualification crossovers. Teams will often play over multiple days and/or weekends.

Regular Season

The SQJBC Regular Season consists of 18 games, although there can be exceptions in lower divisions where team numbers can sometimes vary from the standard 10-teams. Games generally are played across 8 weekends/rounds – usually a Sunday with 2 games played per round. There can be occasions where rounds are played on Saturday, or even on both days of a weekend.

Wildcard Challenge

The Wildcard Challenge is played the weekend following the final regular season round. This fixture allows teams who finished the regular season in 1st or 2nd an opportunity to challenge teams placed 7th or 8th in the league above for their division spot at the State Championships.

Finals Weekend

The Finals Weekend will take place one week after the Wildcard Challenge. Semi-finals are played on Saturday (1st v 4th, 2nd v 3rd) followed by Grand Finals on Sunday.

Players must play a minimum of 40% of games to qualify to play finals for their team. In the case that 40% is not a round number then the total will be rounded up (e.g. 5.6 games become 6 games required).

Confirmed SQJBC dates, venues, draws etc. will be sent to your Team Manager to pass on as soon as this information becomes available.



13. State Championships Overview

The BQ State Championships is the premier representative basketball competition available to junior players in Queensland. Entry nominations are open to all BQ affiliated associations who have competed in the SQJBC, CQJBC or NQJBC representative competitions.

Each tournament is segmented by age group (Under 12, Under 14, Under 16, Under 18) while teams are also designated into divisions to allow for strong competition in an even playing field. Each tournament runs for four to five days and teams will generally play a total of 6-8 games over the course.

Format

There are several divisions at the State Championship in which teams compete - your team's SQJBC division aligns to what State Championship division they will participate in. The previously mentioned Wildcard Challenge can provide an opportunity for your team to participate in a higher division than what they would have initially qualified for (or conversely, a lower division if they lose this game as the higher ranked team).

The competition format has teams play within pools for the first couple of days. At the conclusion of this stage teams will then usually play a series of cross-over finals (quarter finals, semi finals etc) to determine their final placing – hopefully as a State Champion!

Costs

All nomination, game, referee and first-aid expenses pertaining to the State Championships are covered in your representative fee.

Any required travel, accommodation and food during this event is of additional cost to the player. Any travel and accommodation for two members of the team management is to also be covered by the team (this cost is shared equally amongst families within the team). This tournament can be held anywhere within Queensland so these costs can vary greatly depending where your age group is held. There will be opportunities for teams to fundraise to offset these costs, and we encourage teams and their parents to get involved and undertake these fundraising initiatives.

Please note there are daily venue entry fees at the State Championships for families and spectators. Entry is free for players and team officials.

Your acceptance of a position in a team for your child confirms you understand and agree to all terms set out within this 2025/26 SWM Junior Representative Handbook.