BY-LAWS

MORWELL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION Inc.

09/10/2023

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1. OVERVIEW

These By-Laws shall be the By-Laws of the Morwell Basketball Association Incorporated herein after referred to as the "MBA" and all previous By-laws are hereby revoked.

The Committee of Management of the Morwell Basketball Association, herein after referred to as the "MBA Committee" shall be the body responsible for the implementation of these By-laws.

Competitions will be administered in accordance with these By-laws and the Codes of Conduct for Basketball as set out by the International Basketball Federation (FIBA), Basketball Australia and Basketball Victoria, excepting individual By-laws as set out below by the MBA.

The MBA Committee reserves the right to adjudicate in the best interest of Basketball, on any matters not specifically covered by these By-laws. The MBA Committee also reserves the right to vary or set aside the application of these By-laws as they see fit, in the best interests of Basketball.

The MBA Committee supports and abides by the Basketball Victoria constitution and the Basketball Victoria By-Laws. Should any of the following By-laws conflict with the Basketball Victoria By-laws, the MBA By-laws shall take precedence.

The MBA Committee may amend anything in these By-laws at any time it deems fit. When any such amendments to the By-laws are made, the MBA shall cause all teams/clubs who may be effected by such changes to be notified in writing of the amendments as soon as practicable and for a notice of the changes to be posted at the stadium.

Where special circumstances, contrary to these rules exists, any player/team may apply for consideration, in writing, to the MBA Committee.

The MBA Committee may prescribe and amend any fees, charges and fines at anytime it deems fit.

All individuals participating in our sport whether as a player, coach, official, administrator, Parent or spectator are expected to abide by the relevant Basketball Victoria Codes of Conduct.

The MBA supports and abides by the Basketball Victoria "Anti-Discrimination By-laws"

The MBA adheres to the Basketball Victoria "Member Protection Policy"

The MBA adheres to the Basketball Victoria "Social media Policy"

The MBA Committee of Management reserves the right to arbitrate in the best interest of our sport and competition, on any matter not covered by these playing regulations.

2. Domestic Competition

The MBA committee will run and administer both the Senior and Junior competitions.

Any person who wishes to enter a team or teams in competitions conducted by the Association shall make their application to the Association on the prescribed form.

All Junior competitions will be structured on age guidelines in accordance with Basketball Victoria subject to these By-laws. Proof of date of birth may be required for all junior competitions.

All junior team coaches who are over 18 years of age must have a current Working with Children Check Card.

All competitions will be managed in accordance with the current FIBA Official Basketball Rules except where modified by these By-laws.

All tribunals will be conducted as per Basketball Victoria's Tribunals By-laws.

Any matter not covered by the scope of these by-laws, provided it comes within the objects of the Competition shall be dealt with by the MBA Committee.

2.1 Competition Structure

The duration of the season shall be determined prior to the beginning of the season's commencement. Usually, regular season games and finals will not be scheduled across school holidays and long weekends however the MBA committee reserve the right to use these days where they see fit.

2.2 Registration

2.2.1 Team Registration (Senior competition)

2.2.1.1 Prior to the commencement of a new season, teams seeking entry to the MBA Senior competition can enter via the Morwell Basketball Association website. An "Online Registration portal" will be opened on the website not less than 4 weeks prior to the start of a new season. The "Online Registration portal" will close before the first round of the new season. Once the "Entry Window" has closed entries are subject to the provisions covered under clause 4.1.8 "Late Entries".

2.2.1.2 Teams may register as many players as they wish. A maximum of 10 players may be added to a single match under the electronic scoring system.

2.2.1.3 To participate in an MBA competition, teams must apply for entry by:

- Team captains lodging a team entry via the MBA PlayHQ portal and inviting players to register to their team using the team link issue at the time of team registration.
- A minimum of 5 players must be entered to the team for the team to take the court for the first game of the season.
- Teams will be classed as "Existing" or "New".

2.2.1.4 Teams may be refused entry due to:

- Noncompliance with 4.1 above.
- Unpaid fines,
- Proving unreliable in previous seasons,
- Previous withdrawal from a fixtured competition,
- Non-payment of prescribed fees, and/or

- An MBA Committee decision taken in the best interest of basketball for this Association.

2.2.1.5 Receipt of the team entry and payment of the required fees does not guarantee acceptance of the entry into MBA Competition. The MBA reserves the right to refuse entry to the competition as it sees fit.

2.2.1.6 The MBA reserves the right to reject any team name deemed by the committee to be offensive, raciest or against the philosophy of the MBA.

2.2.1.7 The MBA reserves the right to grade or re-grade any team entry as it sees fit to ensure an even and fair competition.

2.2.2 Late Entry.

2.2.2.1 Acceptance of late team entries received after the designated closing date will be at the discretion of the MBA committee and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

2.2.2.2 The MBA committee reserves the right to refuse entry into its competitions or suspend / cancel the registration of any team as it sees fit whether pre-seeding or during the competition season.

2.3 Player Registration

2.3.1 The MBA committee reserves the right to refuse entry into its competitions or suspend / cancel the registration of any individual player (Senior or Junior) as it sees fit whether pre-seeding or during the competition season.

2.4 Player Registration (Seniors)

2.4.1 All players must be registered to their team prior to competing in any competition. All players must complete the online registration form with all required information of the player as designated by the MBA. Players under 18 years of age must also supply the details of their Parent/Guardian.

2.4.2 Individuals currently under suspension by the Basketball Victoria Tribunal or FDBA Match Committee may not register or play in the MBA until the suspension is served.

2.4.3 For seasons where there is sufficient entries to run more than one grade, a player may play in two levels of play if those levels of play are only one level above or below in any particular season. (i.e. - If playing A grade, the player may also play B grade but cannot play C grade and A grade.

2.4.4 A senior player may play with as many teams as desired however shall only play with one team in any competition.

2.4.5 Players must be a minimum of 15 years of Age prior to the commencement of the season to be eligible to participate in the senior competitions unless:

A written request is received from the players parent or guardian and that request is reviewed and granted by the committee prior to the under age player taking the court. All requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

2.5 Player Registration (Juniors)

2.5.1 All players must be registered to the Association prior to competing in any competition. Parents or Guardians of Junior players must have a PlayHQ account and register their child under their account to the upcoming or current Junior season.

2.5.2 Junior players must be registered and play in their own age group. Junior players may register to play in a second, higher age group but a final decision allowing the request is at the discretion of the MBA committee. Junior players must play in their correct age group prior to playing in the higher age group. In the event of a clash of game times, the Junior players correct age group will take precedence unless to prevent a forfeit in the higher age group. Players wishing to play a second game in a higher age group

must be a current member of a Morwell Basketball Association Representative Squad team.

2.5.3 Players under the age of 7 are not permitted to participate in the U10 or higher Junior Competition. Players must be 7 years of age prior to the beginning of the season they wish to participate in.

3 Fees and Charges

3.1 Players must register and pay their prescribed registration fee before taking the court for their first game.

3.2 New players wishing to join a team after the first round must obtain MBA committee approval prior to registering and pay all prescribed fees and charges prior to their first game.

3.3 All players must pay the annual Basketball Victoria (BV) Affiliation fee. Players that have paid this fee at another Association need not pay this fee a second time.

3.4 All Association registration fees will be at the discretion of the MBA committee and will be published prior to the availability of entry forms each season.

3.5. MBA offers a reduced fee to those players participating in more than one team in the domestic competition in the same season. For Junior players registered and playing in the Junior competition, registering into the Senior competition in the same season will be considered to be playing a second game and will be charged as such for their Senior registration. Details of fees will be published by the MBA within the team and player PlayHQ entry forms.

3.6. All registered players become members of the Morwell Basketball Association and are subject to the rules of the Morwell Basketball Association Constitution, By-Laws and playing conditions.

3.7. Refunds of registration are at the discretion of the MBA committee.

4 Fill-in Players

4.1. Fill-in players are permitted to be used in the Morwell Basketball Association.

4.2. A fill-in player must pay the prescribed fill-in fee prior to taking the court. Non-compliance will result in the player being deemed ineligible and subject to rule 8 while the match will become a forfeit.

4.3. A fill-in player, already registered to another team in the same competition, may fill-in twice in a higher grade or division than their registered grade or division upon payment of a fill-in fee. If they play a third game in the higher grade or division, they must become fully registered in that higher grade or division.

4.4. A fill-in player, not already registered to another team in the same competition, may fill-in twice in any season. If they play a third game in the same season, they must become a fully registered player before taking the court for their third game.

4.5. Junior and Seniors: teams may use fill-in players only to prevent a forfeit and only to make a total of 5 players (i.e. make the fourth and fifth players).

4.6. If after the commencement of the game, a team's regular player(s) arrive, the fill-in player(s) must leave the court and take no further part in the game.

4.7. All games played as a fill-in will count towards finals qualifications once fully registered and insured.

4.8. No fill-ins are permitted within the final three (3) weeks of competition for all grades.

- Under 8 & 10 competitions are exempt from this rule.

5. Transfers / Clearances

5.1. Seniors

5.1.1. If a player registered with an affiliated team desires to transfer to another affiliated team, they shall apply to the former team for a clearance. They may not play for another team without first applying for and obtaining a clearance along with the approval of the Morwell Basketball Association Executive. A player will not be permitted to seek a clearance later than halfway through the season. If this occurs on an odd week, the higher even week will apply.

5.1.2. Applications for a clearance must be made on the special form provided which shall be filled out, dated and signed by the applicant and forwarded or handed to the Morwell Basketball Association Secretary. Upon receipt of a correctly filled out application form, the Secretary shall record the particulars of the form and then forward it to the affiliated team from which the transfer is being sought.

5.1.3. If the application for clearance is not dealt with and returned to the MBA Secretary within 14 days, the application will be automatically granted.

5.1.4. If the application is refused, full reasons for such refusal MUST be stated on the form. If the member is non-financial, details of arrears must also be stated.

5.1.5. Open clearances will be available to all players at the end of each season. Any player of a team or club that has been disbanded may play for any club of their choosing provided that all financial obligations to the Morwell Basketball Association are met in full.

5.1.6. A player is permitted to apply for a clearance as many times as they wish.

5.1.7. A player refused a clearance in the first half of any season may appeal in writing to the MBA Secretary within 7 days of such refusal. The appeal will be heard by the Executive and its decision will be final and binding.

5.1.8. Upon receipt of such written appeal, the MBA Secretary shall record the appeal particulars and notify the following parties of the date and time when the appeal will be heard -

(1) The club which refused the clearance.

(2) The club to which the player wishes to be cleared.

(3) The player concerned.

One representative from each Club concerned may then attend the appeal meeting and speak on the matter, as well as the player involved.

5.2. Juniors

Clearance applications for juniors are to be signed by both coaches and parents involved and handed to the MBA Committee Secretary for approval. If not signed by all parties concerned then the clearance application is to go to the MBA Committee for decision at the next scheduled Committee meeting.

6. **Player Eligibility**

6.1. Season

A Player registered in any particular division who plays more than one third of the seasons games in any higher division in any senior or junior competition shall be deemed to be a player of the higher division and may not return to the lower division without the express approval of the MBA Executive. This will not apply to players playing up a grade to stop a forfeit.

6.2. Finals

6.2.1. To qualify for finals a player is required to play one third the number of available games scheduled, plus one, during any given season. Byes do count as available games.

6.2.2. Players of a team giving a walkover or forfeit will not be credited with having played that game.

6.2.3. Only the players present for the game of the team receiving an un-notified walkover will be credited for that game towards finals qualification.

6.2.4. Where a walkover has been notified the team receiving the walkover will be granted a credit towards finals qualification for all the players fully registered up to the time of the walkover game.

6.2.5. All game qualifications are transferable.

6.2.6. Where particular circumstances exist any player may apply to the MBA committee for exemption to rule 8.2.1. by completing a "Request for Special Permission to Qualify for Finals" form.

6.2.7. "Request for Special Permission to Qualify for Finals" must be received by the MBA Committee by no later than (2) weeks prior to the commencement of finals. Any request received after this time will not be considered.

6.2.8. Each request will be considered individually on its own merit and approval is not guaranteed.

6.3. Regulations regarding ineligible players.

6.4.1. Any team found to have played ineligible players shall forfeit all matches in which these players participated.

6.4.2. If the team playing the ineligible player 'wins' the match, the scoresheet shall revert to a 10 – Nil win to their opponent.

6.4.3. If the team playing the ineligible player 'loses' the match, the scoresheet will stand as 10 – Nil in favour of the opposing team.

7. **Disqualification.**

7.1. Teams may be disqualified from the MBA domestic competition at the discretion of the MBA Committee if teams –

7.2. Have 2 (two) consecutive forfeits without sound reasoning.

7.3. Have 3 (three) forfeits throughout one season without sound reasoning.

7.4. Refuse to pay outstanding fines and fees.

7.5. Breach acceptable standards of behaviour as set out in the Codes of Conduct.

7.6. As a condition of entry, each team agrees to abide by the laws of the game and by the by-laws as written and interpreted by the Morwell Basketball Association.

8. Team Grading.

8.1 Teams may be promoted or relegated at the discretion of the MBA committee.

8.2 Junior Players may be moved between teams to ensure evenness of the Junior competition at the discretion of the MBA Committee.

9. General Rules.

9.1 All matches will be conducted in accordance with the current Official FIBA Basketball Manual except were modified by these playing regulations.

9.2 Uniforms

9.2.1. Each team must register the colours of their uniform on the MBA Inc. team entry form when entering the competition.

9.3. The registered uniform of the players must comply with the Official FIBA Basketball Rules which consist of:

9.2.1. Shirts of the same dominant colour front and back.

9.2.2. Shorts of the same dominant colour front and back, but not necessarily of the same colour as the shirts.

9.4. Undergarments that extend below the shorts may be worn provided they are of the same dominant colour as the shorts.

9.5. All players must be in their team's official uniform by the beginning of round 4 in any season.

Official uniform means –

a) All team members wearing the same colour tops.

b) All team members wearing the same colour shorts (stripes and trims permitted). Playing shorts with pockets are not permitted.

c) All tops must have permanently attached numbers, front and back. Tape, chalk or hand-written ink numbers are not permitted. Each missing or incorrectly applied number will incur a 5-point penalty for each case.

Note: *Correct size for numbers is 100mm for front numbers and 200mm for back numbers.*

Legal numbers are 0 – 99.

d) All players must be wearing their team's official playing top or the team will incur a 10-point penalty for each case.

e) All players must be wearing their team's official shorts or the team will incur a 5 point penalty for each case.

f) In the case of a clash of uniform colours between two teams and the referees' request a change, the first named team on the score sheet (Score pad) must change into alternate playing tops.

9.6. All items of jewellery must be removed with the exception of flat wedding bands. Items of jewellery that cannot be removed must be adequately covered and padded so as to pose no danger to other players. The referee shall be responsible for deciding if the item has been adequately covered and padded. If it is not adequate, the player may not take the court. The decision of the referee will be final.

9.7. All players are required and expected to have closely cut fingernails prior to taking the court. Any player found with long nails will be asked to cut and file their nails or wear approved gloves. Taping of the nails is not permitted.

9.8. Scoring tablet / Score sheet

9.8.1 Both teams are responsible for ensuring the Scoring tablet or Score sheet details are correct prior to the commencement of their game.

9.9 Basketball Sizes

The following basketball sizes are to be used for all competitions as stated.

(a) Size 5 – Under 8, 10, 12 Boys and Girls

(b) Size 6 – Under 14 Boys and Girls & under 16, 18, 20 Girls & Senior woman's competitions.

(c) Size 7 – Under 16, 18 & 20 boys and Senior Men's competition.

9.10 Three-point line will not apply to the Under 8, 10 and 12 boys and girl's competitions.

9.11 Foul Line

9.11.1. All Divisions (both seniors and juniors) will shoot foul shots from the foul line except for the Under 8, 10 and 12 boys and girl's competition that will shoot from a line marked 3.7 metres from the face of the backboard.

9.12. Dunking

Any player found dunking the ball and swinging on the ring during warm-up periods will be technical fouled and maybe barred from competing in that game at the discretion of the Referees.

9.13. Late Start

For each minute a team is late their opponents will be awarded 1 point up to half the playing time of the first half of the game. The clock will have deemed to be started at the advertised starting time of the game on the competition fixture.

9.14. Timing Rules

9.14.1. **Regular season** - For games played in a 50-minute schedule, the following will apply.

9.14.1.1. Unless otherwise provided for, all Junior and Senior competition games shall consist of two (2) twenty (20) minute halves. The under 10 Junior competition will consist of two (2) eighteen (18) minute halves to allow for the half time foul shots as covered in Appendix 16.1 of these By-Laws.

9.14.1.2. Unless otherwise advised or noted, two (2) time outs, each of one (1) minute duration will be allowed per team per half.

9.14.1.3. There shall be a half-time interval of two (2) minutes.

9.14.1.4. The game clock only stops when directed to do so by the match officials.

9.14.2. **Finals - Finals games the following will apply:**

9.14.4.1. The clock will stop on all whistles in the last one (1) minute of the first half and the last three (3) minutes of the second half.

9.14.4.2. Substitutions and time outs will be permitted in the last one (1) minute of the first half and the last three (3) minutes of the second half.

9.14.4.3. The clock will stop for all whistles during any extra period.

9.14.5. **Extra Period**

9.14.5.1. All finals matches must conclude with a result. If in the event that a drawn game is produced extra periods will be required as follows:

Three (3) minutes for all Junior finals; and

Five (5) minutes for all Senior finals.

9.14.5.2. In the event a result has not been determined after two (2) extra periods, a third (3rd) extra period will commence with a jump ball from the centre circle and the first team to score either a field goal or a free throw will be declared the winner.

9.15. Playing Requirements

9.15.1. A team must have four (4) players on court before a game can commence.

9.15.2. A minimum of two (2) players per team is required on court for the game to continue.

9.15.3. Players are to supply their full name (i.e. given and surname) on the score sheet or electronic scoring tablet. Initials will not be accepted. Non-compliance will result in the player concerned not receiving credit for that game.

9.16. Scorers

9.16.1. Each team shall supply a competent person of 14 years or older to act as a score table official for all matches except the Grand Final.

9.16.2. If a team fails to supply such a person, then a player must act as their score table official and can remain a substitute for their team during the match but only if the replacement on the score table is also a competent person.

9.16.3. In the case of a team only having five (5) players present and no competent person to act as score table official, rule 11.14.2 will apply and the team must play with four (4) players.

9.16.4. In the case of a team having only 4 players and no competent person to act as score table official, the opposing team shall perform the function of both score table officials to the best of their ability.

9.16.5. Teams which fail to provide a score table official have no avenue for complaint if they are not satisfied with the manner in which the game is either scored or timed.

9.16.6. The MBA Committee will provide score table officials for all Grand Finals.

9.17. Walkovers/Forfeits

9.17.1. For each minute, or part thereof the game is delayed, the opposing team's score is to be increased by two (2) points.

9.17.2. If a team is more than ten (10) minutes late, the match will be called a walkover.

9.17.3. In the event of a walkover by both teams, a double forfeit shall be the result with no premiership points.

9.17.4. A forfeit occurs as follows:

a) A match is abandoned by the referees due to the actions of either/both teams and/or players and spectators.
or
b) Unregistered or ineligible player/s has participated in the match.

9.17.5. The result of the match will be 20-0 if the forfeit is caused by the team winning at the time the match was abandoned. The score of the match will stand if the action is caused by the team losing at the time the match was abandoned.

9.18. Cancellations

9.18.1. If, due to circumstances beyond the control of the MBA, an entire round is cancelled, the matches will not be rescheduled.

9.18.2. Premiership points will not be awarded for a cancelled round.

9.18.3. The cancelled round of matches will be deleted from the fixture and finals qualifications will be adjusted accordingly.

9.19. Points Allocation

Premiership points will be allocated as follows:

- Win = 3 points
- Loss = 1 point
- Draw = 2 points
- Bye = 3 points
- Walkover/Forfeit (Given) = 0 points
- Walkover/Forfeit (Received) = 3 points (Score: 20-0)

9.20. Incomplete Match

9.20.1. If a match is unable to continue within the time scheduled for the match for reasons beyond the control of either team (including circumstances where it is unsafe for the match to proceed) the following shall apply:

9.20.2. Prior to Half Time - the match shall be deemed to be drawn and the scores of the teams at the time the match was interrupted shall be used in calculating the percentage of each team.

9.20.3. Half Time & Beyond - the scores of the teams at the time the match was interrupted shall be deemed to be the final scores of the match. The team with the highest score

shall be deemed the winner of the match and the scores shall be used in calculating the percentage of each team.

9.21. Team Fouls

A team is in a team foul penalty situation when it has committed eight (8) personal fouls in a half.

9.22. Personal Fouls

A player who commits five (5) fouls, personal and/or technical, shall be informed thereof by the match official and must leave the game immediately.

9.23. Time Outs

No time outs are permitted in the last one (1) minute of the first half. Where a time out is in progress prior to the one-minute point, that time out will cease at the one- minute point and play will resume immediately.

No time outs are permitted in the last three (3) minutes of the second half. Where a time out is in progress prior to the three-minute point, that time out will cease at the three-minute point and play will resume immediately.

9.24. Substitutions.

9.24.1. Substitutions will not be permitted in the last one (1) minute of either the first or second half.

9.24.2. Compulsory substitutions are exempt.

9.25. Results & Ladders.

Weekly results of all matches and a ladder displaying team positions will be displayed on the Morwell Basketball PlayHQ webpage.

9.26. Format

9.26.1. The format for the finals will be determined by the committee prior to the start of each season and will be dependent on the amount of entries received.

9.26.2. The MBA Committee may review and amend these playing regulations from time to time to facilitate the running of the competition as they see fit. This may occur at any time with notification being sent to team contacts and published on the MBA website and attached to notice boards.

9.26.3. Where a playing regulation is silent, a decision can be made that ensures the integrity of the MBA is maintained always. The MBA committee may in using its reasonable discretion, in exceptional and extenuating circumstances, alter, vary or waive the requirements set out in these playing regulations relating to the MBA.

10. Conduct of Players, Coaches, Club Officials, Discipline and Tribunals.

10.1. Code of Conduct is the expected Behaviour in basketball of all Players, Coaches, Club Officials, Referees, Administrators, Parents & Spectators. The Morwell Basketball Association Inc. fully supports and abides by the Basketball Victoria codes of conduct and social media policy.

10.2. No person shall be permitted to bring into, have in their possession or consume in any part of the stadium, any alcoholic liquor except where part of a specially sanctioned event. Any person Found Contravening this by-law shall be dealt with by the Tribunal which shall debar such person from entering a stadium under any circumstances of the particular case.

11. Reportable Incidents

11.1. Referees.

11.2. It is the duty of the game officials in any match to report any player, coach, or Club official that

a) Assaults any player, Coach, Club official or Referee.

b) Uses abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language or otherwise misconducts themselves during the process of the game or the following game.

c) Intentionally trips or violently pushes an opponent or creates unduly rough play.

d) Attempts any of the above offences.

11.3. Incidents are to be confined to the list of categories wherever possible.

11.4. Referees on table-duty have the power to report persons for incidents occurring during the game. Association officials are authorised to report any incidents occurring during a game or any breach of good conduct at any time.

11.5. A special report form is provided on which the details of the offence must be entered. The referee should fill out the report form as soon as possible after the incident and then either give such report form to an Executive member of the committee on duty or deliver the report the Association Secretary within 24 hours. If a person is reported on more than one charge, a separate sheet should be used for each charge. The fact that a player, coach or club official is to be reported must be entered on the scoresheet for that game, unless electronic scoring is in use.

11.6. If the incident occurs during a game, the referee MUST notify the person concerned of his/her intension to, and the reason for reporting them at the time of the incident. In the case of a Morwell Basketball Association Executive member or official on table duty lodging a report, they must notify the person of their intention to report them and their reasons for doing so immediately on the completion of the first half of the game or at the completion of the game depending on the period of play of which the incident occurred. The person assaulted or on whom an offence has been committed MUST be similarly notified.

11.7. In the case of an offending person immediately leaving the stadium or confines of the court or a person offending against being rendered unconscious or otherwise physically incapable or, for some other valid reason, a charge will not fail if the required notice is not given by the referee or the official lodging the complaint.

11.8. It is the duty of the manager, coach or captain of each team to acquire from the game officials after each game whether any person is to be reported and also to inspect the score sheet.

11.9. It is obligation of any player coach, club official or spectator to obey the directions given by the Morwell Basketball Association official appointed to take charge of the stadium on any day or night or any other MBA executive member who may issue any such directions.

11.10. The Association Secretary or Tribunal Secretary will notify all persons concerned in any report of the time, date, and place of the Tribunal meeting to hear and determine the charges. Non-attendance of any player or coach involved, after being notified, will render such player or coach liable to a suspension. Any player or coach who gives unsatisfactory, misleading of false testimony before the Tribunal will also be liable to a suspension.

11.11. A Tribunal consisting of not less than three members and not more than five, approved by the Morwell Basketball Association Executive, shall be the disciplinary body, with jurisdiction over all players, Coaches, Club officials and spectators within the Morwell Basketball Association or any affiliated Associations.

11.12. The Tribunal shall have a Secretary appointed by the Morwell Basketball Association Executive and the Secretary shall control all business pertaining to reports received from Referees and Officials and keep such records of Tribunal proceedings as are necessary.

11.13. The Tribunal may also deal with any changes of breach of good conduct alleged against any players or officials of Morwell representative's teams participating either in Morwell or elsewhere, or with any matter delegated to the Tribunal by the Morwell Basketball Association Executive.

11.14. The Tribunal may also discipline any player, coach or club officials who are proved guilty of any breach of good conduct in any hall permanently or temporarily controlled by the affiliated body to report such conduct to the Tribunal.

11.15. In the event of any person charged failing to appear without good cause and without giving notice, after been notified, the case will be heard in their absence and an additional 2-week

suspension be ordered. If the charged player cannot attend a representative may attend in their absence.

11.16. If a referee or official concerned in a report does not appear when notified, the case will be heard in their absence and the referee or official will be reported to the referee's Association or Morwell Basketball Association Executive, whichever the case may be. If unable to attend the Tribunal for some reason, the referee or official is to make available to the Tribunal a letter with details of the charge(s).

Persons to be present at the Tribunal are-

a. The reported person
b. Any other person involved in the incident
c. The person lodging the report
d. Both game referees

11.17. In addition, the reported person may call one witness. Additional witnesses may only be permitted in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Tribunal. The person charged may have an advocate present to speak for themselves but in no case will such advocate be permitted to appear as a witness as well.

11.18. Tribunal Procedure.

The chargers will be read out in the presence of all.

- The person charged will be asked if the charge is understood and the referee or official lodging the report will be asked whether the charge correctly represents their intension.
- The person charged will be asked to plead.
- The referees or officials will present their case.
- The person charged or their advocate may ask questions of the referees or officials.
- The person charged will present their defence.
- One supporting person (not the advocate) may speak.
- The Tribunal is empowered to question any person giving evidence.
- All will be asked to retire while the Tribunal deliberates.
- The decision of the Tribunal will be announced in the presents of all.

Note: In the event of a team being charged, the team will nominate one of their number as spokesperson or may have an advocate. The team will also nominate one of their number as a witness.

11.19. Standard penalties shall be as per Basketball Victoria rules.

11.20. Suspended sentences are not permitted.

11.21. Persons having a good record may incur the smaller range of penalties on the first instance.

11.22. A penalty to a person is doubled if a person has a previous conviction within the preceding two (2) years.

11.23. Additional penalty may be incurred if injury is caused or for other special reasons at the discretion of the Tribunal.

11.24. More severe penalties may be imposed where a team or group is in a brawl. In such case, refusal of future admission of such teams to competition may be recommended to the controlling association.

11.25. Where a team or group are found guilty, the Tribunal may, in addition to any suspension imposed, direct the Association concerned to deduct premiership points from the teams concerned or may fine the team a sum not exceeding $50.00 and/or place the team on a bond not exceeding $50.00 for a period decided by the Tribunal.

11.26. The minimum penalty may be reduced to a reprimand in special cases at the discretion of the Tribunal.

11.27. Where applicable, the Chairman of the Tribunal shall have a casting vote.

11.28. An appeal against the decision of the Tribunal may be made to the Association Executive committee provided that it is lodged to the Association Secretory within seven (7) days. A decision regarding the appeal will be made by the Executive committee independent of the Tribunal Chairman who will supply any information required by the Committee.

11.29. If a person is suspended by the Association or any affiliated Association the Secretary shall immediately notify the Victorian Country Basketball Association in writing. A player who is suspended by any affiliated Association may appeal to the Morwell Basketball association Executive committee.

11.30. A person suspended by the Tribunal is not permitted to play, coach or referee for the duration of the period laid down by the Tribunal.

11.31. A disqualified coach or official shall not contact their team directly or indirectly from 15 minutes before the game time until the conclusion of the game. They must sit on the side of the court opposite to the player's bench. Any violations shall be reported to the Executive committee and this may entail additional suspension.

12. Life Membership

Life Membership of the Morwell Basketball Association is the greatest honour that can be bestowed upon a member of the MBA and is formalized by these by-laws.

12.1. Policy/principles/eligibility applicable to life membership

12.1.1. Life Membership is the highest honour that can be bestowed on an individual by the Morwell Basketball Association for longstanding, valued and meaningful service to the Morwell Basketball Association.

12.1.2. There is only one category of Life Membership and the award shall be restricted to those whose association with the Morwell Basketball Association extends for a lengthy period, generally for at least twelve (12) years, and whose service to Morwell Basketball is worthy of the highest honour in a voluntary capacity.

12.1.3. Mere longevity is not sufficient grounds to qualify a person for this award; rather, the potential Life Member must have made a significant, memorable, positive, commendable, and lasting contribution directly to the running of the Morwell Basketball Association. They must have demonstrated a significant contribution to the organisation or Association over a majority of those years. Participation will be at a much greater extent than the average member.

12.1.4. While an association with the Morwell Basketball Association and basketball as a sport in general, over a lengthy period would normally apply, the award may be made in exceptional circumstances where the individual concerned had made a distinguished contribution over a shorter period. Awards in such instances will be extremally rare.

12.1.5. No person shall qualify automatically for any award.

12.2. Process

12.2.1. Nominations for Life membership are to be lodged with the Secretary, Morwell Basketball Association. The nominator, being a member of the Association is to provide a written submission addressing the criteria in clause 12.1

12.2.2. The Secretary is to provide a copy of the nomination to the Committee of Management and the nomination is to be noted as an agenda item for the Committee meeting.

12.2.3. The Committee of Management must consider the nomination in the light of the general principles described in clause 12.1 and each nomination must be considered on its merits and not to make direct comparisons with other Life Members.

12.2.4. The Committee of Management must decide whether to endorse the nominee for potential Life Membership using a motion of one, seconded by another and passed by a vote of four (4) and if passed, will provide a statement of reason for the decision which is to be noted in the minutes of the Committee of Management meeting.

12.2.5. The statement of endorsement from the Committee of Management will be presented at the following AGM and a vote called to grant Life Membership to the nominee requiring endorsement by 75% of eligible voters.

12.2.6. Presentation/conferring of the award will take place following the successful vote and the new Life Member will be acknowledged and presented with the Morwell Basketball Association Life Membership plaque and Life Membership pin.

12.3. **Presentation / Conferring of Awards.**

12.3.1. Once approved, it becomes the responsibility of the President to inform awardees.

12.3.2. All awards will be recognized on the Life members Honour Board, a Life members certificate and plaque and Life members lapel pin.

12.3.3. Life members shall be granted the privileges of free admission to all functions held by the Association and are exempt from any fees or charges associated with the Morwell Basketball Association.

12.3.4. Life Members have the right to receive notice of, attend and vote at Annual General Meetings

12.3.5. Life Membership to the Morwell Basketball Association and the privileges associated with the Life Membership are not transferable to any other person.

13. Miscellaneous

13.1. The MBA Committee will decide from time to time -

a) What registration fees will be paid by affiliated bodies.
b) What admission levy will be made.
c) What trophies and awards will be made.
d) What regulations governing timing of games will apply.
e) Any other matters in respect of draws or in connection with competition games not specifically mentioned in the foregoing By-laws.

13.2. All monies owed to the Association including fines, social functions, singlet hire or any other contingency, MUST be paid within thirty days, otherwise teams will be debarred from taking part in any competition matches until such monies are paid in full.

13.3. In the event of Best and Fairest trophies being awarded, the tallies and the votes respectively will conclude at the last home and away game.

13.4. The Association will not accept any responsibility for any property or valuables other than such property or valuables direct under its control.

13.5. Participant's Protection By-Laws: As prescribed by Basketball Victoria.

13.6. **Codes of Conduct:** The MBA Inc. employs the current Codes of Conduct policies prescribed by Basketball Victoria.

13.7. **Social Media Policy:** As per the current Participants' social media Policy of Basketball Victoria.

13.8. **Participant's Protection By-Law:** As prescribed by Basketball Victoria

13.9. **Climate Policy:** As per the current Participants' Protection By-Laws of Basketball Victoria.

13.10. **Pregnancy:** As per the current Participants' Protection By-Laws of Basketball Victoria.

13.11. **Infectious Diseases:** As per the current Participants' Protection By-Laws of Basketball Victoria.

13.12. **General Safety:** As per the current Participants' Protection By-Laws of Basketball Victoria.

13.13. **Drug Policy:** As per the current Drugs in Basketball Policy prescribed by Basketball Victoria.

13.14. **Blood Policy:** As per the current Basketball Australia Blood Policy.

14. Appendices

14.1. Junior development rules

14.1.1. At the half time break of all Under 10 age group games, all players will be given one set of 2 foul shots. If the player does not make the first foul shot they will be given a second foul shot. If the player makes their first foul shot they will not receive a second shot. All points scored will be then added to the team total (1 point per basket).

14.1.2. Each team must be given the same opportunity to score the same amount of points from the half time fouls shots so if one team has fewer players than the other team, the team with the lesser amount of players may ask players to have another set of foul shots to make up the difference in player numbers. Individual players can only have one set of extra foul shots. Under 10 age group games are to be 18-minute halves to accommodate for the extra time at half time for foul shots.

14.1.3. A 20 point 'Mercy rule will apply to all Junior games reduced to 10 points for the Under 10 competition. Teams that have the points advantage will not be allowed to press and must return to behind the oppositions 3-point line to play defence.