



PIRANHAS

The Caulfield Malvern Basketball Club

TEAM SELECTION POLICY

(Effective 13 July 2015)

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Our Club's philosophy is to encourage participation in basketball and provide a positive experience that will allow children to thrive and develop a lifelong love of basketball.

PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY

This Policy explains the Club's process for the formation of teams for the information of our players and their families.

Consistent with our philosophy, the selection of players for teams takes into account a number of factors as set out below. However, our ultimate goal is to place children in teams that will make for an enjoyable experience by balancing friendship groups with individual skill levels. Furthermore, the Club seeks to form teams that will be competitive in the respective grade levels.

FACTORS WE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT

There are many factors that come into play in determining teams such as age, friends wanting to play together, skill level, team balance and chemistry, history of past team experiences, availability of coaches, training time and venue. The Club makes every effort to balance these factors and decisions are ultimately made that are in the best interests of the players and the Club as a whole. The main principles that we apply in allocating players to teams are set out below.

Age – Aligning players by age enables us to try to keep groups of players together as they move through the age ranges. Cut off dates for age groups are 30 June for the following Summer Season and 31 December for the following Winter Season.

Friendships – Playing with friends is an important part of why kids play sport. For teams up to Under 12, we place a greater emphasis on playing with friends as at these levels it is more about fun, learning new skills and developing a positive attitude towards involvement in team sports.

Similar skills – Players tend to have a better experience and more fun when they play with others who have similar skills and aspirations in a grade where they will be competitive with other teams. This becomes even more important as players move into the higher age groups.

Team balance – Where possible, we aim to have an appropriate balance of roles from the point guard to the centre to ensure teams have all round competitiveness.



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Number of players – Our starting point is to have teams of 8 players. This provides the balance between having enough players to cover absences while not compromising court time by having too many players. Teams of 9 or more players are sometimes necessary in order to place all players or cover known absences for the season.

Our Club will accept children who want to play basketball at any time during the year. This means that changes to teams do occur during the season and teams will change from season to season due to new entrants, players leaving or moving up an age group.

WHAT WE EXPECT OF COACHES AND PARENTS REGARDING TEAMS

Coaches

- Focus on participation, not winning and losing.
- Ensure all team members have the chance to play, rotate through positions and are given fair playing time.
- If you coach your own children, treat them like all the other team members.
- Participate in the Club's decisions in relation to team selection and support the final outcome.

Parents

- Help out the coach where possible at training and games.
- Focus on your child's effort and performance, not the score.
- Encourage your child and other team members.
- Respect the selection decisions of the Club and the coach.

PROCESS

Before each season, a Team Selection Committee is formed comprising the Girls and Boys Coordinators and coaches in particular age groups to determine the composition of teams. Coaches from the current season are in the best position to assess the ability, development and attitude of each player in their team. Generally, we assume that players already in teams will wish to continue playing unless otherwise advised.

In February/March (for the Winter Season) and July/August (for the Summer Season), the Club advertises for children to register to play. Registration is done on-line at www.piranhasbasketball.com.au. The Club will use its best endeavours to place all players who have registered by the due date into appropriate teams. Players who do not register by the due date run the risk of not being able to be placed in the most appropriate team.



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Once we have all registrations and after taking into account the feedback received from the coaches of the current season, the Team Selection Committee will allocate players to teams.

We do not generally hold try-outs although we may hold several practice sessions to assist with the team selection process. The first five games are grading games and during this period changes may also be made to teams to ensure that we have the most appropriate outcome for individual players and across teams. We make this clear to all players when we publish the teams.

Once teams are selected, the Club will appoint a coach and team manager to each team. Players are notified of their teams via email from the General Manager generally one week before the first game of the season.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE SPECIAL REQUESTS OR CONCERNS

Players may make special requests regarding teams or players they would like to play with on the registration form. Whilst all requests are considered, not all requests can be met.

All questions related to team selection should be initially directed to the relevant Girls or Boys Coordinator (contact details are on our website). If a parent would like further explanation, the matter will be referred to the President upon request.

Team selection is a complex process and parent support is critical to its success. Over the years, we have found that children are just happy to be playing basketball, settle very quickly into their new teams and form new friends.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

- Players must be financial members of the Club unless the Club has waived the fee or provided an exemption.
- Players may be precluded from selection if there is a concern about their ability to compete safely or if their participation poses a risk to others.
- Players can play in a higher age group at the discretion of the Club. Factors the Club will take into account in exercising its discretion include capability of the player to play in a higher age group, team numbers in both age groups and ensuring appropriate aged players are not deprived of a position in their age group.
- Players that play both Summer and Winter Seasons are given preference in team allocations.