



2026 Player & Parent Handbook

About Mornington Basketball

There was a real need for Mornington based basketball body and the association grew out of increasing difficulty for new players or teams to be accommodated at either Frankston or Dromana. Towards the end of 1991 the formation and subsequent incorporation of the Mornington District Basketball Association (MDBA) took place. The Doncaster Basketball Association sponsored the association to the V.B.A and all was ready for the 1992 season. With all the associated costs, foundation membership was offered – Adults \$30, Students \$15 with momenta issued for those that helped out. In November 1991 the uniforms for four representative teams were decided. The main colour of Purple with Green and white were accepted as the club colours. The first representative teams entered were Div 4 Men's, U18 Boys, U18 Girls and a U16 Boys team. There were also 56 teams in the Domestic competition and the first courts were at Mt Eliza Secondary College and Padua College.

A more professional approach was taken and Bob Clinton was approached and accepted the position of Coaching Director. Over the next several weeks tryout were held at Mornington Secondary College and finally 15 teams – 3 girls teams, 8 Boys teams, 2 Men's teams and 1 Woman's team were formed. There was a competition held to name the representative teams with an overwhelming response the Committee at that time decided on the "Breakers". The association joined forces with "Life be in it" who were managing the two new courts at Peninsula School and these courts became our home courts until the move to David Collings Centre on Dunn's road late in 1993. From 1993 the Mornington Basketball Association operated from the David Collings Leisure centre until the construction of our own 3 court stadium in partnership with Mornington Secondary College.

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Welcome to Mornington Breakers in 2026

Mornington Basketball (MDBA) was established in 1991 and has grown to be the largest basketball Association on the Mornington Peninsula. We have over 5500 members and operate a large and robust domestic competition, development programs and junior and senior Breakers representative programs.

Our junior Breakers program is made up of players that participate in our domestic competition and are selected for the Mornington Breakers competition in the Victorian Junior Basketball League (VJBL).

The Mornington Basketball team comprises myself Samantha Browne - General Manager, Director of Coaching - Andrew Sherwell, Basketball Development Manager - Nathan Cumberland, Finance Coordinator - Deb Kruger and Administration & Communications Coordinator - Madison Smith. We are governed by a Committee of Management with Mr Brett Spicer as the President.

This booklet has been prepared to assist you in understanding the junior Breakers program, various processes, procedures and policies that govern player, parent and coach involvement. Please take time to read this booklet and to refer back to it as the season progresses.

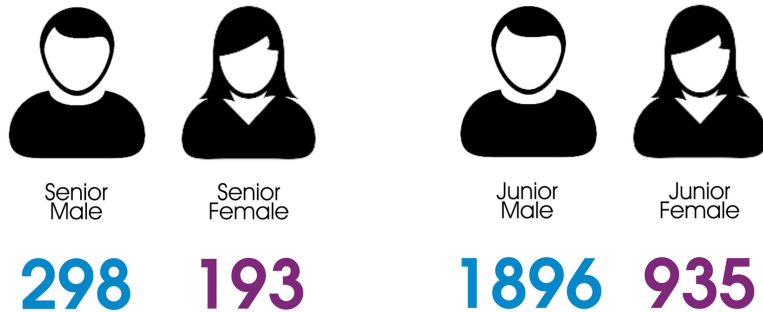
Please feel free to reach out to the staff during the season we are here to support you and your player on their basketball journey.

I very much look forward to a strong and successful Breakers 2026!

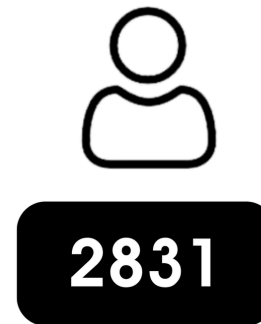




Our Playing Members



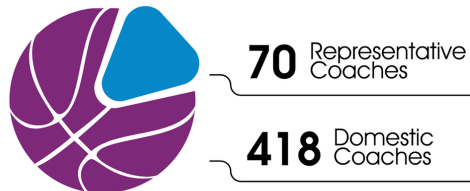
Other Members



Our Teams



Our Coaches



Our Team Managers



Our Growth

In the past 4 years

28.28%

Increase in participation within our domestic competitions

In the past 2 years

14.65%

Increase in participation within our domestic competitions

Total Number of Volunteers

1000+



Total Number of Referees

100



Total Number of Visitations Per Year

500,000+



DESTINATION 2028



PURPOSE: We provide pathways for our community to achieve personal growth and development, social involvement, sporting enjoyment and excellence. We offer this in an inclusive, safe, community and family focused, healthy and fun environment.

VISION: Through engagement, leadership, innovation and opportunity, Basketball becomes the sport of choice for the community of the Mornington Peninsula.



PATHWAYS

COACHING PATHWAYS

We will implement progressive & innovative processes and pathways to attract, develop and retain high quality coaches through our domestic and representative programs.

PLAYER PATHWAYS - DOMESTIC

From Grassroots to Masters, we will create a strong and robust domestic competition and program for all players of all abilities, in a safe and enjoyable environment.

PLAYER PATHWAYS - REPRESENTATIVE

We are committed to creating a high performance culture and achieving competitive outcomes. We aim to achieve year on year improvement in our Junior and Senior Representative rankings.



INFRASTRUCTURE

Our growth goals will be achieved and supported through our focus on long term infrastructure and facilities development.

We will proactively plan, prepare and deliver facilities to meet the future growth demands of the Peninsula Basketball Community.

We aim to secure a multiple court stadium on the Mornington Peninsula, purpose built for the needs of the broader community.



SUSTAINABILITY

We will create an association which is financially sustainable to allow future generations to enjoy the benefits of belonging to Mornington Basketball. This will be achieved by establishing a long term, adaptable and sustainable business model, through increasing revenue, the diversification of income streams and a strong focus on commercial viability.

Longevity is critical and as not-for-profit organisation we will successfully administer the sport of basketball and continue to invest in our pathways and programs to ensure we achieve business sustainability and long term continual improvement both on the court and off the court.



COMMUNITY

We will increase participation by creating and nurturing a community focused environment where the values of our associations are the foundations of our culture.

Growth in engagement and participation will be the outcome of a quality, high performance, competitive and respected basketball program.

We will be pro active within the broader community and a prominent community representative on the Mornington Peninsula.

We will provide transparent communications across our community and provide pathways and opportunities to encourage our members to be active and engaged in local initiatives and activities.

COMMUNITY

ACCOUNTABILITY

SPORTSMANSHIP

INTEGRITY

TRANSPARENCY

RESPECT

VALUES

DESTINATION 2028



COMMUNITY

We are a proud community and family-oriented Association. We will proactively drive and support community initiatives that encourage children and their families to lead healthy, happy and active lives.



ACCOUNTABILITY

We embrace the privilege of administering a Community Basketball Association, and acknowledge the responsibility to our members to deliver an association and experience that is sustainable, professional, successful and enjoyable.



SPORTSMANSHIP

We are good sports both on and off the court. We model our core values and are proud to belong to Mornington Basketball where we strive to operate, train and play to our potential.



INTEGRITY

We act with integrity, which is demonstrated and recognised through our respectful behaviours, high standards and our transparent and open communication.



TRANSPARENCY

Our transparent business operations and communication provides certainty for our members and enables people to share ideas, knowledge and collaborate towards common goals.



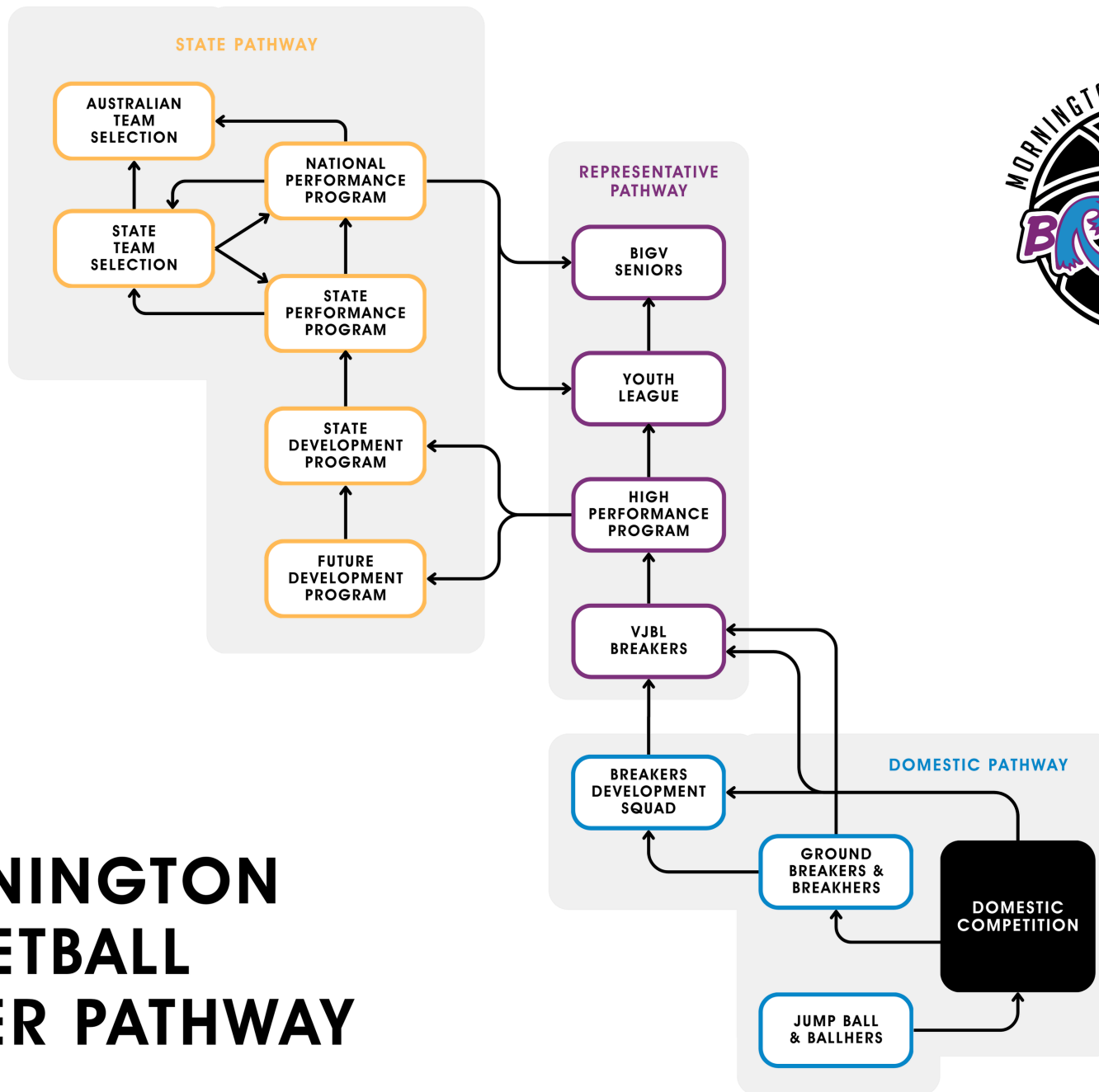
RESPECT

We extend respect through all our interactions both on and off the court. We earn the respect of others through our consistent behaviours and the commitment to our values and culture.

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1051 Nepean Hwy, Mornington VIC 3931

MORNINGTON BASKETBALL PLAYER PATHWAY



What is VJBL?

The VJBL competition is played on a Friday evening at associated venues across the state. Each week over 1300 teams participate in the competition which equates to about 650 games on 200 Courts across approximately 80 venues. The VJBL is arguably the largest competition of its kind, offering a graduated system of junior basketball competition giving opportunities for players to reach the peak, but also to climb the foothills.

The VJBL is made up of associations who enter representative teams. These teams are selected from a 'domestic' competition that is played out of that particular association.

The VJBL Competition comes under the governing body of Basketball Victoria.

The League was designed to give keen junior basketballers an opportunity to participate at a more competitive level than their local domestic competitions. The VJBL allows teams to compete against composite teams from other Associations. The competition has developed as such to incorporate Associations Victoria wide.

There are 3 tiers of competition within the VJBL:

- VICTORIAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP LEAGUE (HIGHEST LEVEL OF COMPETITION) (VC)
- VICTORIAN JUNIOR LEAGUE (VJL)
- REGIONAL LEAGUE (RL)

Games within the VJBL structure are usually played for about 40 weeks of the year commencing approximately early-mid November and going through to September the following year.

There are usually two areas of competition played throughout the year as follows:

Grading Phase One & Two – Usually late November – March. This is considered the most important part of the VJBL season as grading decides where the teams will play throughout the Championship season. The strongest team will be placed on the court. Grading also impacts our teams rankings position in seasons to come.

Championship Phase for the whole competition, goes from March through to September.

VJBL Calendar and Fixtures

In the early stages of the Phases, fixtures are usually posted on a weekly basis, due to the fact that VJBL may need the results from the previous week. As soon as possible, blocks of fixtures are accessible for families to plan.

Ladders are contingent on results being obtained.

The 2025/26 VJBL Calendar can be obtained via the Basketball Victoria website.

VJBL Delegate

Our VJBL Delegate is responsible for managing communication between the League and Mornington Basketball. Parents, coaching staff or anyone else are not permitted to make direct contact with VJBL.

All communication between the League and our Club is through our VJBL Delegate, Madison Smith.

Communication

We communicate to our members through MyHoops. Download the app for free to receive important updates, news, and notifications directly from us.

Mornington Basketball also use Facebook and Instagram and our website address is morningtonbasketball.com.au

Breakers Eligibility

To be eligible to represent Mornington District Basketball Association as a Mornington Breaker all players up to the Under 18 age group must:

- Participate in the MDBA domestic competition both Summer and Winter for the duration of the VJBL season.
- Must participate in a minimum of 5 matches per season.
- An injured player may submit a request for an exemption from domestic to the MDBA Management, which must be supported by a medical certificate.

Any player that does not comply with the above will:

- Be suspended from the Breakers VJBL team by Round 5 of the Summer season until they register in a domestic team or pay a \$300 fine for each season they are not a registered domestic player.

A player may be eligible for an exemption from domestic if the following applies:

- Player in VJBL under 20's
- Player over 18 years of age
- Player studying full time, Year 12 only
- Big V, Youth League or Senior full time listed player
- State Development Program, State Performance Program, National Performance Program
- Scholarship or equivalent in another sport
- State team or national team representative in either basketball or another sport

Exemption request must be submitted to the MDBA Management with supporting evidence.

Registration and Match Fees

Breakers fees are partially subsidised by other business areas and contribute towards, court hire, coach expenses, facility utilities, business insurance, VJBL entry fees, administration, coach expenses, staff and capital building expenditure to name a few. Breakers fees do not cover uniform, weekly match fees, tournament entry fees and uniforms.

A team sheet fee is applied to each team for games played at their home venue and away games – The team sheet fee covers players and spectators regardless of numbers. Currently team fees range from about \$125 to \$160 per game. This varies on the standard played and the time allocated for each game depending on the level of games during the season

2026 U12-18 ACCEPTANCE DEPOSIT

Acceptance Deposit - due by 5pm on 17th October 2025

- \$200 per player, non-refundable acceptance deposit.

New players must also pay an additional \$120 at the time of deposit for their playing singlet, playing shorts and socks.

2026 U12-18 REGISTRATION FEES

Balance of Fees - due by 5pm on 7th November 2025

- 1 player - \$515
- 2 players - \$443.50 each - \$887 total
- 3 players - \$372 each - \$1116 total

The balance of fees is paid via PlayHQ when you register to Mornington Breakers Basketball Club. You have the option to pay via credit/debit card, PayPal, Google Pay, Apple Pay, PayPal Pay in 4. If you wish to pay via instalment you must create a PayPal account and select Pay in 4.

* no sibling discount applies to U20 players as their fees will already be substantially discounted

If a family is having financial difficulties, please contact MDBA's General Manager at your earliest convenience at manager@morningtonbasketball.com.au

Player Movement

Mornington Basketball reserves the right to remove or regrade players to higher or lower teams in accordance with the VJBL Rules of Operation during Grading or the Championship season. Players are not confirmed on a team until grading is complete. If a player is removed from a Breakers program during 'grading', fees will be refunded. Should a player during practice or grading games fail to perform to the coaches satisfaction the coach shall discuss the matter with the Director of Coaching and General Manager.

Both the Director of Coaching and General Manager will meet with the player and the parents to discuss the improvements required and a time within which those improvements are to be made. The meeting will be documented. If the player within the specified time fails to improve to the satisfaction of the coach and Director of Coaching, the player will be removed from the program and advised both verbally and in writing of the decision.

Breakers Coaching

The Director of Coaching takes overall responsibility for coach appointments and management. Breakers coaches are accredited under the National Basketball Coaches Accreditation Scheme. Each team will be allocated a Head Coach and some teams will be allocated an Assistant Coach. All coaches are required to conform with VJBL rules, which include the requirement for Working with Children (WWC) checks and the signing of a statutory declaration in regards to their character and conduct. Coaches are expected at all times to align with the Mornington Basketball Values of Community, Accountability, Sportsmanship, Integrity, Transparency and Respect.

All coaches should strive to improve their knowledge of the game and how best to impart the various skills to their players. This is generally undertaken by attending MDBA coaching meetings and clinics, personal endeavours and upgrading qualifications. Our coaches are volunteers and spend many hours preparing sessions for their teams. Some coaches have years of experience coaching basketball, some are new to coaching and everything in between. We value our coaches and support them whole heartedly no matter where they are on their coaching journey.

Any queries regarding Coaching should be referred in writing to the Director of Coaching, Andrew Sherwell.

Volunteer Screening & Child Safeguarding Policies

Mornington District Basketball Association (MDBA) volunteer screening process supports our Statement of Commitment to Child Protection. MDBA is committed to safeguarding children from harm and abuse and to support this we have mandatory screening processes as outlined on this page.

WHAT EVERY COACH AND TEAM MANAGER MUST DO

Any person in our Association who works, coaches, supervises or has regular unsupervised contact with people under the age of 18 years is required to:

- Hold a valid Victorian Working With Children Check (WWCC) and MUST have Mornington District Basketball Association listed as an organisation you are associated with;
- Register online with their team in PlayHQ and complete the Member Protection Form.
- Inform MDBA and Basketball Victoria if you are unable to truthfully complete the Member Protection Form.

CHILD SAFETY STANDARDS

Basketball Victoria and Mornington District Basketball Association (MDBA) is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. We support the rights of the child and will act without hesitation to ensure a child safe environment is maintained at all times.

To view the Basketball Victoria and Basketball Australia Child Safeguarding Policy, please follow this link: [Basketball Victoria + Basketball Australia Child Safeguarding Policy](#).

To read the Mornington District Basketball Association Statement of Commitment to Child Protection, please follow this link: [Commitment to Child Protection](#)

Basketball Victoria and Mornington District Basketball Association (MDBA) are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of Children in basketball by providing a safe and inclusive environment and by ensuring that everyone involved in basketball is educated and informed of their responsibilities to protect and look after Children.

If you are concerned and wish to make a complaint in regards to suspected child abuse please follow this link to our [Report](#) page and contact our Child Safety Officer:

MDBA Child Safety Officer
Brett Ward
childsafety@morningtonbasketball.com.au
0401 402 406

Team Manager Responsibilities

A Team Manager will be appointed to each team and is normally a parent of a player in the team, responsible for:

- Administration support to the Team and the Coach.
- Communicating important information to players and families.
- Assisting the coach ensuring the safety of all players throughout every game and training.
- Acting as the main point of communication between the team and association.
- Manage issues or concerns from players or parents.
- Liaise with the Head Coach in regards to any issues or concerns raised and develop an action plan for finding a resolution.
- Escalate any issues or concerns to the association should matters not be able to be resolved at team level.
- Ensure a First Aid Kit is available.
- Maintain up to date medical information.
- At each game, pre pay for the scoresheet, arrange scorers, ensure coaches sign in.
- Periodically help organise social functions and tournaments.
- If requested by team coach, arrange for a parent to keep statistics or video of games.
- Promote to parents, players and coaching staff the MDBA Values and Basketball Victoria's Code of Conduct.

Issue Process

From time to time, contentious issues arise that may cause some concern. It is important that these issues are raised and dealt with at the earliest possible stage. Parents must respect Coaches and realise that sensible and productive discussions rarely occur if a person is upset and emotional. Most issues can be resolved through discussion with the Team Manager and/or Coach.

Parents and players are advised not to raise a contentious issue with a coach immediately after a game.

Any parents concerned about their child should communicate directly with the Head Coach at a mutually agreeable time outside of a match.

Complaint Process

Any member of the program wishing to lodge a formal complaint must follow the below process:

- Complaints to be placed in writing, including your name and contact details and sent to the Team Manager;
- Team Manager is to contact the MDBA General Manager and forward the complaint;
- All subsequent correspondence will be sent via the Team Manager.

Once received MDBA will decide:

- If the matter is able to be resolved internally
- If a formal complaint is initiated
- Referral to Basketball Victoria Tribunal
- Referral to Basketball Victoria for Member Protection consideration

If you are not satisfied with the outcome or response, you should direct your inquiry to the MDBA General Manager.

Refer to the [complaints page](#) for more information.

Breakers Training

Training sessions are compulsory for all players. It is recommended that players arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the starting time to stretch and prepare for the session. If for some unavoidable reason you cannot attend you must notify your coach or team manager well in advance. Our coaches spend many hours preparing these training sessions based on all players being in attendance. Notifying of non-attendance at last minute is not acceptable and may result in reduced court time. Training information can be found [here](#).

The days and times of training sessions are set by the club. Players are expected to commit to these training times and the club does not work around individual outside commitments in scheduling training. Training sessions may consist of on court sessions and a variety of off court sessions.

Breakers have a tailored squad training program which includes:

- 1 Team Session Per Week (1-1.5 Hours)
- 1 Squad Session Per Week (1 Hour)

Player Expectations

All players are expected to:

- Behave in line with the MDBA Values
- Abide by the MDBA By Laws, Rules and Policies
- Abide by Basketball Victoria's Player Code of Conduct
- Attend all compulsory training and skills sessions
- Attend all games even when injured, although not when unwell.

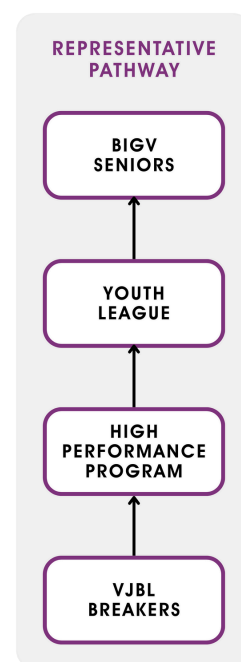
- Report all injuries to their coach Before playing or training
- Pay fees on time

Attendance at both games and training must be given priority as this is how a player develops. Attendance is monitored and players may be penalised, removed or not selected if attendance is considered unsatisfactory.

Breakers Pathway

The Mornington Breakers Representative Program competes in the Victorian Junior Basketball League (VJBL) and the Division 2 Big V Competition.

The Representative Player Pathway is focused on getting our players from the VJBL Breakers through to BigV Breakers, as well as providing opportunities for some athletes to represent us in the Victorian State Programs.



HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

Mornington Basketball High Performance Program provides additional training to a select number of identified talented Breakers players that display the greatest potential within the Breakers program or have the ability to achieve selection into Basketball Victoria Development Programs. The program offers professional focused coaching in an athlete first environment.

The program will prepare players mentally for elite level basketball, develop goals and basketball IQ, improve advanced fundamentals, increase fitness and overall health. The High Performance Program is the Mornington Basketball Pathway program that leads into potential selection in the Youth League and Senior Program in years to come.

YOUTH LEAGUE

Our Youth League teams play in BigV competition. Players aged 23 and under can be selected for this team and compete in the season from March to August.

BIGV SENIORS

The Senior BigV teams are the pinnacle of the Breakers Player Pathway. Players selected into this team will compete in the BigV competition.

Court Time

Court time in the Breakers program is not guaranteed. The coaches may give some players more or less court time based on the match at hand, players skills and ability, training attendance, player attitude and player performance. Not all players in each team will be of equal ability, some players will have a key position on a team and others will be a role player (selected on a team for a specific task).

With this in mind, some players may rarely come off court while others will receive very limited minutes. Players that receive limited minutes benefit from training with and against stronger more skilled players, which will ultimately increase their opportunities for more court time in the future. Court time is solely at the coaches discretion and will be supported by MDBA Management. Complaints from parents or players in relation to court time are given little consideration.

Injuries

Registered players are covered for expenses associated with injuries incurred at games, tournaments and training by the Basketball Victoria Insurance Policy.

Players must advise Team Coaches of any injury prior to training sessions or games. Injured players (not unwell) are required to attend all games and training sessions to ensure an easy transition back to matches and training following the injury.

If a player has a long term injury it is imperative that a medical certificate from a registered practitioner is submitted to the MDBA office as a matter of priority as this will ensure that the player receives qualifying matches when injured.

All Breakers training sessions must be sanctioned by MDBA General Manager to be covered by Basketball Victoria insurance.

Tournaments

During the season the coaching staff may elect to play tournaments as they wish and this is at the teams expense. All teams will participate in the;

Southern Peninsula Tournament: 7th – 9th November 2025 and the Eltham Dandenong Australia Day Tournament – 23rd - 26th January 2025

Uniforms

All players are required to wear the official Mornington Breakers uniform for pre-game warm-up, during the course of the game and at training sessions.

New players must pay an additional \$120 at the time of their deposit for their playing singlet, playing shorts and socks.

All other items (excl Warm Up Top) can be purchased via the [Mornington Basketball online uniform shop](#).

The Mornington Breakers Uniform comprises of the following compulsory items:

- Playing Singlet
- Playing Shorts
- Training Singlet
- Warm Up Top
- Hoodie
- Socks
- Backpack

Contact Details

President: Brett Spicer
[**president@morningtonbasketball.com.au**](mailto:president@morningtonbasketball.com.au)

General Manager: Samantha Browne
[**manager@morningtonbasketball.com.au**](mailto:manager@morningtonbasketball.com.au)

Director of Coaching: Andrew Sherwell
[**doc@morningtonbasketball.com.au**](mailto:doc@morningtonbasketball.com.au)

Basketball Development Manager: Nathan Cumberland
[**development@morningtonbasketball.com.au**](mailto:development@morningtonbasketball.com.au)

Finance Coordinator: Deb Kruger
[**finance@morningtonbasketball.com.au**](mailto:finance@morningtonbasketball.com.au)

Administration & Communications Coordinator: Madison Smith
[**admin@morningtonbasketball.com.au**](mailto:admin@morningtonbasketball.com.au)