



GUIDELINES FOR BREAKERS TRAINING ABSENCES

These guidelines have been developed to assist Coaches in managing Breakers training absences throughout the season. These are guidelines not rules and coaches may choose to adapt these guidelines to meet each individual circumstance. It is **solely** at the Coach's discretion as to how they manage training absences.

Notice of training absence

In most circumstances families will be aware of a significant sporting or family event at least 4 weeks prior and we expect coaches are given maximum notice with a further reminder closer to the time.

Standard notice requirements:

- 4 weeks' notice should be standard practice
- Minimum of 2 weeks' notice
- Reminder given to Coach and Team Manager 1 week prior

Sick / Unwell

If a player is sick they do not attend training. If a player misses 2 or more training sessions in a row the Coach may request a medical certificate if they believe it is necessary. As the player has missed a training session and preparation for that game, it is not unreasonable for the player to have reduced court time following illness or until full match fitness returns.

Injured

A player that is injured and is able to comfortably watch a training session should be in attendance. This assists the team and player in transitioning back following the injury and keeps them up to date with the teams set plays etc. As the player has missed a training session and preparation for that game, it is not unreasonable for the player to have reduced court time following an injury until full match fitness returns.

State/National representation

A player that has the opportunity to represent at a State or National level in any sport and will miss a training session/s on occasion is acceptable and should be recognised for their achievement and celebrated. If it entails a number of missed training sessions or matches, this should be discussed with the Coach as early as possible and an agreed plan implemented for how it will be managed for the season.

Special Occasion

It is acceptable for a player to miss a training session for a significant special occasion. It is preferential that this is kept to a minimum throughout the season. It is acceptable for a Coach to reduce court time or similar if they have missed an important element of a training session in the week following the absence.

Other sports

A player that commits to participating in another sport that clashes with their Breakers commitments on a regular basis i.e (more than twice in a season) will need to address this with the Coach as a matter of priority. A player that regularly misses training due to other sports may have reduced court time or similar throughout the season.

Other sports (representative level or finals)

A player that commits to other sports that makes a final, and has had satisfactory attendance at training sessions should be given the support to participate in a finals match. The same approach should be given to a player that is participating in another sport at representative level (i.e equivalent to VJBL). It will solely be at the Coach's discretion if that player has reduced court time or similar in the week following the absence and this may be based on how the team is performing and how much impact the player has on the teams results.

Holidays

If a player is going to be on holidays the Coach must be made aware asap. Pre-planning holidays for the season is recommended. A player that misses training sessions and/or matches due to holidays may have reduced court time or similar in the weeks following.