



EASTERN SUNS DOMESTIC GRADING POLICY

1. Overview

In accordance with the Eastern Suns Basketball Competition and Local Playing Rules, KDBA reserves the right to grade each age group to ensure fair competition. Each age group will be graded into divisions of 4 to 9 teams per division. Competitions may be graded if less than 9 teams are entered. For age groups with less than 9 teams in total the Competition Group reserves the right to merge 2 divisions for the regular season and run separate finals series for each division. This will be communicated to the affected clubs before the end of the grading period.

All junior and senior team entries are subject to a separate grading process at the commencement of each domestic competition season.

2. Junior Teams

Each season domestic clubs are required to submit team entries as existing or new teams and nominate them to a division. Teams will be subject to a grading review dependent on this classification and will be allocated an initial starting division.

2.1 Existing teams

Existing teams are those that a domestic club considers to be of comparative strength to their previous season.

The Competition Group will consider the following factors when determining initial grade allocation for existing teams:

- a) Previous season results – ladder position, win/draw/loss ratio and percentage
- b) Finals series results
- c) Grading nomination
- d) Player changes
- e) Individual player attributes
- f) team potential/scope for improvement
- g) WABL Cap

2.2 New teams

New teams are those that are comprised of a combination of players that cannot be considered an existing team. The domestic competition management group will consider the following factors when determining initial grade allocation for new teams:

- a) Grading nomination
- b) Individual player statistics & experience
- c) Individual player attributes
- d) Team potential development
- e) WABL Cap



3.3 Junior Competition Clubs

Each season the Competition Group will meet with the domestic clubs prior to season launch to oversee the grading of all junior domestic competitions.

3.4 Grading Phases

The junior season will be structured into the following grading phases:

- a) Grading Phase 1 – Rounds 1 & 2. Changes are made for round 3, premiership points do not contribute to the regular season ladder.
- b) Grading Phase 2 – Rounds 3 & 4. Changes are made for round 5, premiership points do not contribute to the regular season ladder.
- c) Confirmation Phase – Rounds 5 & 6. Changes are made for round 7. Premiership points contribute to the regular season ladder. Teams that are re-graded carry across premiership points.

KDBA reserves the right to re-grade teams outside of the specified grading phases in exceptional circumstances including, but not limited to:

- a) Significant loss of players
- b) Addition of players who have played in a higher level of competition
- c) Sustained dominant or uncompetitive results
- d) Inconsistent results post round 4 compared to grading phases 1 and 2
- e) Player Welfare
- f) Win/loss Percentages

3.5 Unfair Grading Determination

If the Competition Group determine that a team or teams are believed to have a skill level exceeding most teams in that age group's highest-graded division, the following options will be presented to the team's club:

- a) The team is divided, and players are merged with players from lower-graded teams in their relative age group
- b) One or more players are moved to a team in a higher age group
- c) The entire team is moved to a higher age group

If the club committee does not agree on a preferred option within the specified time limit, then option (c) will be applied.