



# FDBA Domestic Competition Rule Changes

## Winter 2015

*The following changes to FDBA's domestic competition will be introduced and trialled over the Winter 2015 season. Member / Club feedback taken at the end of the season will be used to help determine the success of these changes before a final decision is determined by the FDBA Board of Management as to which rules will become permanent changes adopted into the Competition By-Laws.*

### **PART 1 – CHANGES AFFECTING ALL FDBA DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS**

#### **1. Competition Clock Management - Clock stops last minute of 1<sup>st</sup> half**

**Rule Change:** During the last minute in the first half the clock will stop on all whistles. Teams would not be permitted to call a time out.

**Benefits:** FDBA is committed to ensuring all members receive maximum playing opportunities. This rule also removes the possibility of deliberate time wasting tactics in the final moments of the first (e.g. fouling to prevent a team from getting a scoring opportunity). It is also intended to help scorers remember to stop the clock in the final minute of the second half.

#### **2. Competition Clock Management – Games starting on time**

**Rule Change:** FDBA is committed to making sure games start on time and will be trialling initiatives to deliver quality based matches. We also welcome feedback on games not starting on time via [info@frankstonbasketball.asn.au](mailto:info@frankstonbasketball.asn.au)

**Benefit:** FDBA recognizes all teams should be entitled to play two full 18min halves. The onus still remains with both teams to be ready at the scheduled time - Clock will start at the scheduled time for avoidable time delays caused by teams (e.g. alternative tops, pregame administration etc.). In these situations clock would start and 1 point penalty imposed on infringing teams.

#### **3. Competition Schedules - Public Holidays**

**Proposal:** No games will be scheduled on the date of a National / State Public Holiday. All other dates including weekends either side of the public holiday will be recognized as regular competition schedule dates.

**Benefit:** FDBA recognizes domestic basketball as recreational and fitness outlet for many. Whilst the impact is minor, the increased playing opportunities fall in line with FDBA goals to promote healthy lifestyles for all members.

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## **PART 2 – CHANGES AFFECTING FDBA SENIOR DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS**

### **4. ‘Grading’ matches to be included in season ladder and results**

**Change:** Matches played under the ‘Grading’ phase would have player qualification, results and ladder standings included in season standings.

**Benefit:** Based on member feedback many existing teams felt the ‘Grading’ matches were of no value to them or the competition. Existing teams remain relatively unchanged from season to season, with the major focus for grading with new teams. This change will allow all teams to jump straight into full scale competition and allow FDBA to shorten / extend ‘grading’ according to each competition requirements.

### **5. Competition Divisions Titled within A to D Grouping**

**Change:** All competitions, no matter how many divisions, would have a grading title within A to D grade. Where more than 4 divisions exists the divisions would be split using a numbering system e.g. B1, B2, B3 etc. Example of current division title vs new division titles;

| <b>Current Division Titles</b> | <b>New Division Titles</b> |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Monday Men - A                 | Monday Men - A             |
| Monday Men - B                 | Monday Men - B1            |
| Monday Men - C                 | Monday Men - B2            |
| Monday Men - D                 | Monday Men - C1            |
| Monday Men - E1                | Monday Men - C2            |
| Monday Men - E2                | Monday Men - C3            |
| Monday Men - F                 | Monday Men - D1            |
| Monday Men - G                 | Monday Men - D1            |
| Monday Men - H                 | Monday Men - D3            |

**Benefit:** Large competitions with many divisions generally have small differences in standard. This would enable new teams entering competition a simple choice for selecting what division they think they are capable of playing in – e.g. A to D grade vs A to H grade. This should help ensure teams are graded correctly within a shorter period of time.

### **6. Senior Mixed Competition play in Key area**

**Change:** The following rule change will be implemented regarding the play in the key area for all senior mixed competitions;

- In the first half only female players can enter the key at both ends
- In the second half only male players can enter the key at both ends

**Benefit:** This change will make the game flow more like a regular basketball game and place more importance on team work between genders. Teams would also have more incentive to play 3 female players in the first half and 3 male players in the second half leading to fairer match ups and overall playing opportunities for both genders.

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## **PART 3 – CHANGES AFFECTING FDBA JUNIOR DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS**

### **7. Junior Competition 12 Point Rule for Representative Players**

**Change:** 1 point for top age and ½ point for bottom aged players in East / Regional divisions of VJBL competition.

**Benefit:** Based on Club and Junior Competition Committee feedback, this rule has adopted to recognize the difference between ‘domestic-only’ and regional graded VJBL players. This change is designed to remove the ‘VJBL super teams’ stacked with VC / VJL level players and topped up with Regional players that can unbalance the overall strength and depth of our junior competitions.

### **8. Mercy Rule**

**Change:** when a team has a lead of 20+ points in junior competitions they cannot extend their defence past the 3point line. Originally this rule stated teams must play from behind the half court line.

**Benefit:** In instances where grading is difficult or not possible (e.g. less than 10 teams) stronger teams still manage to steal the ball at half court and score easily. This will allow struggling teams to be able to advance the ball up to their basket and attempt to score.

### **9. U8 Boys & Girls Competitions combined into U8 Mixed Competition**

**Change:** all boys, girls and mixed gender U8 teams are placed into a single ‘Under 8 Mixed’ competition.

**Benefit:** Smaller clubs will find it easier to attract and retain members at this level. By combing the current group of boys only, girls only and mixed teams the overall depth of the competition will increase – this will create better playing and grading opportunities for all players / teams to develop. Based on initial feedback FDBA will also offer the lowest division as a ‘Girls Only’ for registration and grading purposes.

### **10. Saturday Junior Competition – Club Based teams only from Winter 2015**

**Change:** All teams playing in Saturday (U8-U14) competition will be required to register via approved FDBA affiliated clubs.

**Benefit:** Club based team tend to have better support network for longevity and more efficient channels of communication from association, club and team. The administrative efficiencies will benefit both clubs and FDBA administrators, and provide a better registration experience for members. Also, as players develop within clubs with multiple teams in each age group, the club will be able to shift players into teams appropriate to their skill level – creating stronger overall competition at the top end, more positive playing experience for all players, leading to better retention, and a better overall system to grade teams.