



STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

INFORMATION PACK



OVERVIEW

The Cockburn Cougars WABL program is a year-long commitment to basketball. Administered and delivered by Cockburn Basketball Association (CBA) the Cockburn Cougars compete within both the Western Australian Basketball League (WABL) and Basketball Western Australian State Championships Tournament (State Champs).

This document focuses on the operations of the 2024 State Championships, which in turn leads directly into the 2025 WABL program. It is important the following appendices that are read and understood, as they form the basis of **CBA's assumptions/expectations of player and parent knowledge**.

- [CBA WABL Player Selection Policy](#)
- 2024/25 Parent and Player Expectation Guide Excerpt (appendix II)
- [BWA Codes of Conduct](#)

BASKETBALL WA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Basketball Western Australia's State Championships are held over FIVE weekends in November and December each year. Cockburn Basketball Association enters boys and girls teams in maximum of five (5) divisions for the below age groups.

- Under 11 – 2014 & Younger
- Under 13 – 2012 & 2013
- Under 15 – 2010 & 2011
- Under 17 – 2008 & 2009
- Under 19 (Men) – 2006 & 2007
- Under 20 (Women) – 2005, 2006 & 2007

Trials commence early October and are the entry point for most athletes in representative basketball for the Cockburn Cougars. Once selected, teams train until their allocated tournament weekend.

Tournament weekends consist of teams from associations all over Western Australia, with majority taking place at Bendat Basketball Centre (Bendat). Divisions 2-5 compete over the first four (4) weekends, with Championship division teams concluding the State Championships in the State Titles held in mid-December.



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BASKETBALL LEAGUE (WABL) – 2025

State Championships is the first step in a year long process within the Cockburn Cougars WABL program.

Selection in the 2024 State Championship program will guarantee athletes a position on a 2025 WABL team as either a full-time or train on athlete. Teams are to be announced following the completion of the State Titles weekend, with pre-season training to commence mid-late January. Selection in a specific grade for State Championship does not guarantee athletes will remain in that team come final selection for WABL 2025.

The official WABL season commences in February with the grading tournament, to sort each association's individual teams into the correct WABL division, to maximize the quality of games each season. The 2025 season begins, mid-April, running until finals in September. Home games are played at Wally Hagan and away fixtures at venues from as far north as Joondalup, east to Kalamunda and Mundaring, and south to Bunbury.

Further information on this process and the 2025 WABL season will be communicated during the backend of 2024.

BASKETBALL WA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKENDS

Age Group	Dates	Venue
U11B & U13G	November 16 & 17	Bendat Basketball Centre
U11G & U15B	November 23 & 24	Bendat Basketball Centre
U13B & U15G	November 30 & December 1	Bendat Basketball Centre & Warwick Stadium
U17s, U19B & U20G	December 7 & 8	Bendat Basketball Centre & Warwick Stadium
Championship Divisions (State Titles)	December 13, 14 & 15	Bendat Basketball Centre



OPERATIONS

The following information outlines the process undertaken to administer and deliver the Cockburn Cougars State Championship and WABL program. All information will be continuously communicated through emails, WABL WhatsApp chats and CBA socials.

2024/25 COCKBURN BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION – KEY DATES

August 29	2024 State Champs Registrations OPEN
October 2	2024 State Champs Registrations CLOSE
October 3	2024 State Champs Trials Commence
November 16 to December 8	State Champs Weekends: 1 – 4
December 13, 14 & 15	State Titles Weekend
December 18	2025 WABL Teams Announced

VENUES

Due to the CBA's continuously growing WABL program, multiple venues must be utilised to deliver all trials and training required for State Champs. Below are the key venues utilised (see appendix III).

- **Wally Hagan Basketball Stadium** - 5 Hurford St, Hamilton Hill WA 6163
- **Emmanuel Catholic College** - 122 Hammond Rd, Success WA 6164

Additional venues may be required, if so, these changes will be communicated.



COACHES

CBA is fortunate to have a dedicated and experienced coaching cohort throughout all age groups in the Cockburn Cougars WABL program. Coaches are appointed prior to State Champs and continue their role through the following years WABL season. These coaches are led by CBA's experienced Talent Development Coordinators, Andy Stewart and Mark Clayden, as well as a team of lead coaches for each age group (boys and girls).

TRIALS

Trials are the first opportunity for athletes to experience representative basketball. New and existing athletes are all eligible to partake, **with the expectation that all athletes are registered and competing in the Winter and Summer CBA Domestic Competition.**

Trials consist of 2-5 tryout sessions, with athletes that have not yet competing in the Cougars WABL program given the first opportunity. Cuts will be made throughout the process and communicated to parents and athletes within 48 hours of the tryout session.

All teams are chosen by the CBA talent development co-ordinators, and the appointed lead coach of the age group, in conjunction with the corresponding age group head coaches. For more information on selections, see appendix I.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS TRIAL DATES

	Trial	Date	Time	Venue	Court
11 Girls	1	Sunday, 6 October 2024	12:00 - 2:00	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4
	2	Wednesday, 9 October 2024	4:00 - 6:00	ECC	1 & 2
	3	Sunday, 13 October 2024	10:00 - 12:00	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4
	Trial	Date	Time	Venue	Court
13 Girls	1	Thursday, 3 October 2024	5:30 - 7:30	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4
	2	Sunday, 6 October 2024	10:00 - 12:00	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4
	3	Thursday, 10 October 2024	5:30 - 7:30	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4



15 Girls	Trial	Date	Time	Venue	Court
	Non-WABL *	Sunday, 13 October 2024	9:30 - 11:00	ECC	1 & 2
	2	Sunday, 20 October 2024	10:00 - 12:00	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4
	3	Thursday, 24 October 2024	8:00 - 9:30	ECC	1 & 2
4	Thursday, 31 October 2024	8:00 - 9:30	ECC	1 & 2	
17 Girls	Trial	Date	Time	Venue	Court
	1	Thursday, 10 October 2024	7:30 - 9:00	Wally Hagan	2 & 3
	2	Monday, 14 October 2024	7:00 - 8:30	ECC	1 & 2
	3	Sunday, 20 October 2024	8:00 - 10:00	ECC	1 & 2
20 Girls	Trial	Date	Time	Venue	Court
	1	Thursday, 7 November 2024	6:30 - 8:30	ECC	1 & 2
11 Boys	Trial	Date	Time	Venue	Court
	1	Thursday, 3 October 2024	4:00 - 5:30	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4
	2	Sunday, 6 October 2024	8:00 - 10:00	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4
	3	Thursday, 10 October 2024	4:00 - 5:30	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4
4	Sunday, 13 October 2024	8:00 - 10:00	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4	
13 Boys	Trial	Date	Time	Venue	Court
	1	Sunday, 13 October 2024	12:00 - 2:00	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4
	2	Thursday, 17 October 2024	4:00 - 5:30	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4
	3	Sunday, 20 October 2024	10:00 - 12:00	ECC	1 & 2
4	Thursday, 24 October 2024	4:00 - 5:30	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4	
15 Boys	Trial	Date	Time	Venue	Court
	Non-WABL	Monday, 14 October 2024	5:30 - 7:00	ECC	1 & 2
	2	Thursday, 17 October 2024	7:00 - 9:00	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4
	3	Sunday, 20 October 2024	8:00 - 10:00	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4
	4	Thursday, 24 October 2024	6:30 - 8:00	ECC	1 & 2
5	Thursday, 31 October 2024	6:30 - 8:30	ECC	1 & 2	
17 Boys	Trial	Date	Time	Venue	Court
	1	Thursday, 24 October 2024	7:00 - 9:00	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4
	2	Sunday, 27 October 2024	9:30 - 11:30	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4
	3	Thursday, 31 October 2024	7:00 - 9:00	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4
4	Sunday, 3 November 2024	11:00 - 12:30	Wally Hagan	2, 3 & 4	
19 Boys	Trial	Date	Time	Venue	Court
	1	Sunday, 27 October 2024	8:00 - 10:00	ECC	1 & 2
2	Wednesday, 6 November 2024	7:00 - 9:00	ECC	1 & 2	



TRAINING

As mentioned, due to an expanding WABL program, multiple venues are utilised to deliver training for all State Champ teams.

With the challenge of court space due to expanding teams, external bookings and domestic competition growth, CBA endeavours to deliver a consistent and fair training schedule where applicable.

Training schedule and updates will be communicated through the CBA website and various communication channels during the trialling process.

State Champs Training Schedule – [Online](#)

All athlete absences from trainings must be communicated to the teams head coach prior to the session. For more information on training expectations see appendix II.

UNIFORM

All athletes are required to be in CBA uniform for all training sessions. Uniform can be purchased prior to the first training session by visiting the CBA merchandise website.

Item	Requirement
Black Training Shorts	Essential
Reversible Training Singlet	Essential
Blue WABL Playing Shorts	Essential
Polo Shirt	Optional
T-shirts	Optional
Drink Bottle	Optional
Duffle Bag	Optional
Backpack	Optional



FEE PAYMENT

Registration/Trial Fee: \$40.00 (upon registration)

Training/Tournament Fee: \$120.00 (once teams announced)

Venue Entry Fee: Free

COMMUNICATION

As mentioned, all information will be continuously communicated through emails, WABL WhatsApp chats and CBA socials. Please ensure that junk mail is checked throughout the process.

Enquiry	Contact
General State Championships Enquires	Michelle Berry – Basketball Operations Coordinator E: michelle@cougarfamily.com
	Lachlan Wilkins – Basketball Operations Manager E: lachlan@cougarfamily.com
Training or Game Absences	Teams Head Coach (once appointed)
Accounts & Fees	Michelle Bradford – Finance Manager E: accounts@cougarfamily.com



Appendix I. CBA WABL Player Selection Policy

Link - <https://cougarfamily.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/023-POL-WABL-WABL-PLAYER-SELECTION-POLICY-2.0-APPROVED-OCT-2023-1.pdf>

Appendix II. 2024/25 Parent and Player Expectation Guide Excerpt

PLAYER EXPECTATIONS

Cockburn Cougars are leaders in on and off court behaviour, so it is important that all athletes play hard, smart, decisive, and fair. Cougars show respect and play with humility.

Cougars play for the Cougar Family before all else. Playing for the team comes next. Then finally, each individual. Some of the best players in the world make personal sacrifices; our family is no different. At Cockburn we are a family, something we are all proud of. Something we should stay proud of.

As a Cougar athlete, communication is key. Any issues that arise, it is important to make an attempt to resolve them. The process of conflict resolution is indicated further on in this document.

It is expected Cougar athletes:

- Always conduct themselves in a manner reflective of the club's mission. This includes embracing the Cougar Values and abiding by the Code of Conduct.
- Are financial with both their domestic and WABL team, in order to be available for selection. The CBA Chief Executive Officer will consider financial issues on a case-by-case basis.
- Arrive at the designated venue in a timely manner as directed by each coach.
- Inform the coach directly, at the earliest possibility, if they cannot attend training or will be late. It is unacceptable to inform the coach on the day of unavailability unless it is a case of sudden illness.
- Inform the coach of any pre-existing injuries. In the case of an injury, attendance at training and games is still expected, provided the injury does not stop this.
- Do not attend training and games if illness can be passed onto others.
- Do not miss training to study unless there is an examination the next day. If this is the case, it is important the coach is aware well in advance. If you need help with time management, consult the CBA Talent Development Co-ordinators.
- Respect all training and game venues, leaving them damage free, clean and tidy.
- Wear the Cockburn Cougars training singlet, CBA black shorts, bring a basketball and drink bottle to all training sessions.
- Respect all equipment
- re leaders with their on court and bench behaviour at all times, supporting team mates on and off the court.



PLAYING TIME

- Cougar athletes are entitled to a MINIMUM number of 'playing opportunities' per game, per age group. A playing opportunity is defined as the athlete starting a quarter or being substituted into the game.
- U12 athletes will be guaranteed a MINIMUM of 3 playing opportunities, U14 athletes will be two, U16 athletes will be two and U18 athletes will be one.
- The length of opportunity is at the discretion of the head coach, and subject to their individual assessment. Coaches are instructed to be explicit with their instructions to athletes, so it is clear what is expected of them. This process is not designed to punish simple skill errors, but to hold athletes accountable to instructions from their coach. It also ensures athletes are not sat off the court for an entire game.
- NOTE: Athletes who play more than 15% of total game time are deemed to have used their total minimum playing opportunities, and their remaining playing time is at the sole discretion of the head coach.
- The above is also dependent on meeting the club and team expectations throughout the season, this includes:
 - Attendance and punctuality
 - Behaviour and appearance
 - Attitude towards their team, teammates, coaches, officials, and opposition

WABL/STATE CHAMPS PLAYERS DOMESTIC BASKETBALL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Domestic Competition is an important element of the Cockburn Basketball Association. It is the lifeblood of the Cougar Family. The objective of the competition is to involve athletes in a competition that players want to be a part of, and can develop in, without the cost and travel associated with WABL.

Games are currently spread throughout the week depending on age group and it is an expectation that all WABL athletes are involved in the Cockburn Domestic Competition in all terms of the school year.

To be eligible for State Championships/WABL team selection, players must:

- Be registered and active participants in a CBA domestic team or registered and financial in a CBA summer domestic team. Parents can contact competitions@cougarfamily.com if they would like to find a team, noting, some age groups are already filled. **Being on a waitlist does not count as being in a team.**
- Athletes must continue registration and participation in both summer and winter CBA competitions to be eligible in the Cougars WABL program.



- Be fully financial with their domestic club (or individual team) by the due date specified by the domestic club. Athletes with financial issues must make their situation known to the junior domestic club who may contact the CBA Basketball Operations Manager.
- Athletes who are not involved in a Cockburn domestic program or WABL team may be allowed to train with a team if granted by the CBA Basketball Operations Manager.

Athletes who regularly do not turn up to domestic games without notification to their domestic team coach/manager will not, unless a reasonable excuse can be given, may not be able to play in the designated State Championships/WABL weekend if deemed appropriate by the CBA Basketball Operations Manager.

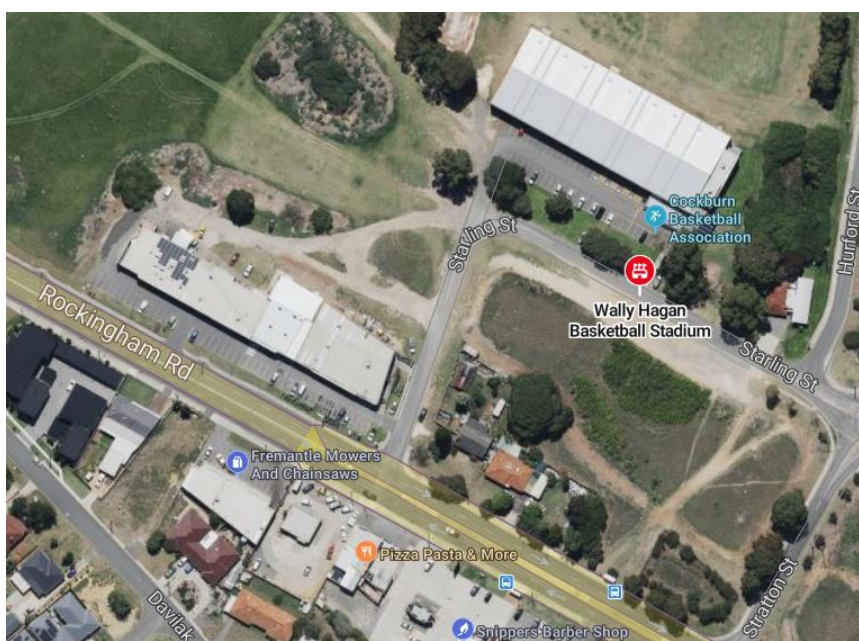
Players with a long-term injury must notify their domestic club and the CBA Basketball Operations Manager to give updates on their situation, which includes clearance from a medical professional. This must be satisfactory to the CBA and may require further engagement with the CBA's strength and conditioning partners if appropriate.

Players wishing to be excluded from playing in the junior CBA competition must apply for an exemption via the CBA Basketball Operations Manager, who will approve or deny the request.

Appendix III. CBA Trial & Training Venues

Wally Hagan Basketball Stadium

Access through Starling St off Rockingham Rd





Appendix III. CBA Trial & Training Venues

Emmanuel Catholic College

Entrance through Kemp Rd off Beeliar Dr.

Gates and venue are opened by coaching staff, please be mindful when dropping off/picking up athletes.

