



Version 2023.0.1

JBBA WINTER LEAGUES RULES

Winter League Costs

League / team fees are set by the Committee and announced prior to the opening date for team registration, together with required deposit and deadline dates for the remaining balance.

Team Registration and Confirmation

For every new Season, Teams must be registered by their Captains / Team Owners.

Opening and closing dates for Team registrations will be announced by JBBA well in advance of the Season.

Upon Registration, Teams will be vetted by JBBA Committee and League Managers to determine if they meet criteria for participating in League. JBBA may refuse entry for Teams if for example they do not have sufficient number of players who are willing and able to fulfil Referee Duties.

Key requirements

All players must be registered with the JBBA as members. All members, players, coaches, officials and other personnel participating in JBBA operations are expected to follow the JBBA Code of Conduct.

All players must be correctly linked to their league team.

Team captains are responsible for all communications between the league managers/JBBA and their team.

Teams are required to provide suitably skilled referees and table officials for the other games on their game night. See section Referee and table duties for teams below.

Fixtures schedule and officiating duties of teams will be circulated prior to the start of the season by the Committee and league managers. Typically the teams will have a period of 1 week following the release of the schedule to suggest changes or corrections. After that, the fixtures schedule and officiating duties will be observed. On the occasions where games cannot be played, they will be rescheduled.

If a team does not have enough players for a game, this will result in a forfeit and there will be no rescheduling.

Teams may also be required to provide match reports following their games, and such duties will be set at the beginning of the season by the Committee.

Referee and table duties for teams

In both Div1 and Div2, Teams are required to provide referees and table officials for other games on game night. To ensure there are enough suitably skilled refs per Team, the following will be observed.

Experienced Referees are JBBA members who can referee any Div1 or Div2 game (ie, including Playoffs) unassisted (ie, without the need for another more experienced ref to be present). If needed, these refs can officiate a game on their own, or with another less experienced ref; and they are able to aid the table officials with answering questions, sorting out problems that may occur, etc.

Every game must be officiated by at least 1 Experienced Referee.



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Upon registration, Teams must provide a list of names of their Experienced Referees. There is a minimum number of such referees required per Team; Div1 Team need 4 such refs; Div2 Teams need 3.

It will be the responsibility of the Division Manager and the JBBA committee to confirm that the level of said referees is sufficient. In case of doubt, or indeed for any new players that have not refereed before in Jersey, JBBA may set up friendly games and ask said players to referee for observation.

Typically when officiating games, Teams are encouraged to match up their Experienced Referees with other Team members who are less experienced refs, in order to help them develop. However for critical games, playoffs, etc., two Experienced Referees will be the better option.

A referee may start a season as a beginner and then be classified as Experienced, given a sufficient number of games officiated during that season.

Teams recruiting Juniors

Teams in Div1 and Div2 are encouraged to use Juniors (u17 and/or U21) in their rosters. When recruiting a Junior player for the new season (or keeping in roster from previous season), Team captains must inform the Junior Island Teams coaches. The coaches may need to suggest changes in such recruiting, in order to have an even split of juniors across teams, or to ensure juniors get sufficient court time in their teams, or they do not get overloaded with too many games, across different divisions.

In the unlikely event there is a clash of opinions about said recruiting between Junior Coaches and Teams, the matter will go to the JBBA committee.

Note the intention of this policy is not to restrict Teams, but to protect our junior athletes from overplaying; and to ensure they get good opportunities for development when they play in their respective teams.

Players' transfers and playoff eligibility

Players are allowed to play in more than 1 division.

Players are allowed to be transferred to a different team in the same division.

During the season, teams can sign up players (either new players or by transfer from another team), until the player transfer deadline date is reached.

The Player Transfer Deadline Date is provisionally set for both Divisions as the February 10, (@23:59:59).

At the start of the season, Division managers may announce a different date as the official transfer deadline for their division and for that season. Teams can accept or reject this new date, or offer alternatives, etc. If no such announcement and/or agreement occurs before the start of the season, the provisional date will be automatically accepted as the official one for that season.

For a player to be eligible to play in the playoffs for a team, they must play (actively enter the game, not just name of scoresheet and DNP) in at least two regular season games for said team before the player deadline date.

If a player plays for Team A before Player Transfer Deadline, then transfers and plays for Team B before the end of regular season, they lose the right to play for Team A in playoffs. They can then play for Team B in playoffs, assuming they meet the playoff eligibility criteria (play in game for Team B prior to Player Transfer Deadline).

Teams are responsible for their players' eligibility for games. Violation of eligibility or other League rules may lead to penalties for Teams in question, eg game forfeits.



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Season Structure

Both Division 1 and Division 2 have regular season and playoffs.

The number of games and rounds in the regular season depends on the number of teams registered in the division, availability of facilities, etc. As a rough guideline, in the 10 year period 2013-2023, the number of regular season games varied between 15-20, played in 2, 3 or even 4 rounds. In that 10 year period, Division 1 typically had 4-5 teams; and Division 2 6-8 teams.

Competition Rules

Regular Season

Game results are awarded as follows:

Winning Team: 3 points; Losing Team 1 point (Draws are not allowed); Game forfeits/double forfeits: 0 points

In the case of two teams having the same number of points in the standings, the classification is determined following current FIBA regulations.

NOTE: Awarding 3 points for the Winning team when draws are not allowed is not needed, but was left as a feature to make it easier to implement standings tables on the website, etc; draws may still be allowed eg. in Summer League games. Having 3 points for Winning team instead of 2 makes no material changes to the final standings of the regular season.

The standings table at the end of the regular season determines which teams qualify for the playoffs.

Playoffs

Every official basketball league competition (in the world) finishes with playoffs. The team who wins the last game of the playoffs finals is crowned champions for that season.

As a rough guideline, the top teams in the standings table at the end of the regular season will qualify for the playoffs; and the bottom team(s) will not. The number of teams that make it into

playoffs will be determined by the total number of teams in the division. The goal is to provide a competitive regular season and a climactic end. We want to give incentives to the teams for being competitive during the season; and for peaking during playoffs.

The playoffs games will be played in the same format and rules as the games in the regular season. Eg., if regular season games are played with 2 refs (instead of 3), or with running clock, the same should apply for playoffs.

See also the section above on players' eligibility for playoffs.

The exact format and number of teams in the playoffs will be confirmed before the start of the season by the division managers, following consultation with teams.

Division 1 Playoffs

For a 4-team Div1 league, and starting from the 2023-2024 Season, we will run the following Play-off format:

The Team who finishes 1st in regular season will qualify directly for the Playoff Final.



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Teams in 2nd and 3rd place will play a Play-in series. Team in 2nd place will need 1 win to get to the final; while Team in 3rd place will need 2 wins to get to the final.

The winner of the play-in series will play in the Playoff Final.

The Play off Final will be best of 3 games: 2 wins required for the championship.

Notes

The incentive to win the regular season is to not have to play in series.

The incentive to finish 2nd is having to only win 1 game in the Play-in series to get to the final.

Previous Div1 Play-offs format: Up to season 2022-2023, only the top 2 Teams in regular season made it into the Playoffs and straight into the Finals series. The Final was a best of 5 series, which the top team entered having been awarded 1 win already; and requiring only 2 wins for the championship.

Division 2 Playoffs

In Division 2, for 6 to 8 teams competing in the regular season, 4 teams will make the playoffs semi-finals.

The top 3 teams will qualify for the semi-finals directly.

Teams in 4th and 5th place will play 1 knock-out play-in game, the winner of which will take the 4th playoffs semi finals spot.

Semi-finals: The semi-finals pairs are cross-matched from the top 3 in the standings table and winner of play-in game:

- 1st vs 4th (ie winner of play-in game)
- 2nd vs 3rd

The semi-finals are single knock-out games (no series).

The winners of the semi-finals will play in the Division 2 finals: a best of 3 series. The team who gets 2 wins are crowned champions.

The advantage awarded to the top finishers of the regular season is that they get to play the weakest team of the top 4 in the semis.

Game Rules

To the degree that this is can be supported by personnel and facilities, JBBA leagues will follow the current FIBA and Basketball England competition rules.

In addition, the following are in effect in Division 2:

- **Running clock:** The game will be played with running clock and not stop clock. Running clock means that the game clock only stops for timeouts, at end of quarter, or when there is significant delay in the game (injuries, equipment malfunction, table officials require clarification, etc). under running clock, the game clock does not stop for free throw, foul calls and out of bounds calls or other violations.
- **Running clock exception:** the game clock will be run as stop clock in the last 2 minutes of the game, if the points difference is 5 or less. If the points difference is larger than 5 points entering the last 2 minutes period, it will change to stop clock if and when it becomes 5 points or less.



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- **Overtime:** If the scores are tied, overtime periods of 2 minutes will be played until one team has more points than the other (at the end of the 2-minute period).
- **Overtime Exception:** If there are time constraints preventing standard overtime, overtime will be played as 'golden goal' (i.e. next basket wins) to force a winner.
- There is 1 time-out per half.
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Disciplinary Policy

All members, players, coaches, officials and other personnel participating in JBBA operations are expected to follow the JBBA Code of Conduct.

FIBA and England Basketball rules will apply.

The Committee and League managers will have the power to address any issues arising from day to day league operations as and when required. These powers include and are not limited to, disciplinary meetings; penalties on teams or players; imposing temporary or long term bans, and so on. All parties involved will be able to present their cases to the Committee.

Reports, Objections, Complaints, etc

Teams may report or object any violations of the League technical rules, eg. player eligibility for games, etc. - or indeed any matter of concern. Such reporting should be made to League Managers at first instance, and the Committee, if that is deemed necessary.

Referees are encouraged to report back to the League Managers and/or Committee regarding any problems arising from or observed during games, eg Teams and players' conduct, venue or equipment related issues, safety and wellbeing concerns, etc.

Said reporting can be done verbally, via message or email, or in relevant group convos - League Captains' group, Committee group, etc. - taking into account potential privacy matters and in accordance with the Code of Conduct and Safeguarding principles.

Contact Us

If you have any question or would like further information, please visit www.basketball.je or email admin@basketball.je