



Fact Sheet

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the starting age for competitive basketball?

Seven-years-old is a good starting age for competitive team basketball, although some kids are ready to start by age six. Coaches teach game play, rules, and teamwork along with skill throughout the season.

When do the seasons run?

The Eastern Districts Junior Basketball Association (EDJBA) seasons coincide with school terms.

The **Winter** season runs from April to September (school terms 2 & 3); and the **Summer** season runs from October to April (school terms 4 & 1).

What times are the games played?

Games are scheduled on Saturdays at 50-minute intervals from 8:30 am to 9:00 pm. For the younger age groups, U9–U11, about 50% of games are morning games, starting between 8:30 am and 11:50 am. For these age groups, it's rare to have a game at 3:10 pm or later, but they do happen.

Older age groups (U15 and up) can be expected to play at least 1–3 late games per season, 7:20 pm or later. Factors that influence the fixturing of games include school sport, coaches who also play, and coaches who coach multiple teams. To avoid clashes, game times can often go outside of the typical range. Even if this is not applicable to your team, it could be for some of the teams that you play against.

Where Are Games Played

Our games are played at our home venues of Ivanhoe East Primary School and La Trobe Sports Stadium. Most of the other clubs are close by and many venues are handy to the Eastern Freeway. The furthest venues are in Research, Warrandyte and Park Orchards. On average, Ivanhoe teams can expect to play once or twice a season at suburbs farthest away.

Weekly fixtures are published on the PlayHQ website. Once you know which team you are in, you can access fixtures for your team easily by going to the PlayHQ website (search for Ivanhoe Knights, Winter 22 season, then your team). A link to all fixtures can also be found on the Ivanhoe Knights website.

When and where is training held?

Training is one hour per week and is held between 5.00pm to 9.30pm Monday to Thursday. Younger age groups train at earlier times.

We train at Ivanhoe East Primary School, Ivanhoe Primary School, Ivanhoe Grammar School, La Trobe Sports Stadium and Thornbury High School. Players are expected to be able to train at any one of these venues.

What are the age groups?

For **Summer** season teams are made up of children who are under 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 21 years on 1st July before the season begins.

For **Winter** season teams are made up of children who are under 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, and 21 on the 1st of January before the season begins.

Who runs the club?

A volunteer committee consisting mostly of parents take on the various tasks required to keep the club running smoothly. Our committee is complimented by a full time Administrator and Coaching Director. We are always looking for more volunteers. If you are interested in joining the committee or would like to assist in any way, please contact the Club.

Who coaches the teams?

Our coaches are mainly parents, current players from older teams, or past players. Many of our coaches are young people giving their time to help your children and to learn themselves, and it is important for parents to give them their total support.

What if I have never played before?

The EDJBA competition is large enough to cater for all standards and levels of experience. Teams are selected by the clubs and then graded by the association to ensure that every team gets placed at an appropriate level.

What if I have come from another club?

If you have played with another EDJBA Club in the past, you will be required to get a clearance before playing with the Ivanhoe Knights. This can be done via PlayHQ upon registration.

If you've come from a Club outside the association e.g. a Club that plays in the Coburg, or Diamond Valley associations, then no clearance is required. All previous competition basketball experience should be noted on the registration form.

What does the club expect from players who register for the season?

Players are expected to show commitment to their team by attending training weekly and turning up reliably for games at least 10 minutes prior to starting time. Apart from illness, injury or an occasional special event, players are expected to be available for all games and training, and to advise their coach and team manager in advance if they cannot play or attend training for any reason.

Players who have other regular commitments on a Saturday should make a note of this on their registration form. If possible, attempts will be made to avoid clashes, but players should be aware that requests for particular times can't always be accommodated.

What commitment is expected from parents/guardians/carer's?

Throughout the season you will be rostered on for scoring duty approximately two or three times and possibly a third or fourth time if your team makes the finals. This involves scoring the game with a parent from the other team. You will be provided instructions on how to do this.

How are the teams selected?

Consideration is given to the skills of the players, as assessed by the Age Group Convenor and Selectors after observations and consultation with coaches. Highly valued attributes are commitment to team training and games, punctuality, and positive team attitudes. Team balance (e.g. a good mix of tall and guards, balancing team offensive and defensive skills) is also considered.

Playing up an age group is discouraged by the Club as it's generally not in the best interest of the player to do so.

The club supports the EDJBA's deliberate policy of changing age limit cut-offs to mix up players, as this allows clubs to ensure players learn from each other and it mixes up and enlarges their social networks.

Team selections are not indefinite and are a placement for a single season only.

How are teams graded?

When a team is registered with the EDJBA, the club suggests an initial grade. The team's Round 1 starting grade is a combination of the club's suggestion and the result of dividing all teams in an age group into groups of 8, 10 or 12 teams.

During the first six rounds of a season the EDJBA is looking to achieve a perfect scenario—namely that every match is as competitive. Close competition with tight finishes is more enjoyable for the players and spectators.

This means that during the six-week grading period for an individual team:

- a big loss may move you into a lower grade next week
- a big win may move you into a higher grade next week
- the size of the win/loss can determine the number of sub-grades you move
- for example, a small win may move B9.8 up one step from DA to CD grade or a large loss may move G13.3 down two steps from B1 to B3 grade.

It is not unusual for teams to be ranked by the EDJBA in a different order to their club ranking.

Friend requests

Requests for a single pair of friends to play together are accommodated where possible. Reciprocated friend requests **MUST** be from the same age group (<https://edjba.com.au/age-group-overview/>). If there is a skill difference between the players, they will be ranked in a team suited to the less skilled player (noting that this may mean that the team is graded at a higher level). One sided request's will not be considered.

Refund Policy

Registration refunds for withdrawals will only be given for medical reasons and only up till round 5 and a medical certificate must be provided, a \$50 administration fee will apply.

Withdrawals after round 5 for medical reasons will not be subject to a refund.

What about a uniform?

All players must wear Ivanhoe Knights shorts and singlet during Saturday games. These can be ordered at the New Member Open Day or online. All uniform requirements must be ordered 3 weeks before the season starts to guarantee delivery before the start of the season.

The cost for a new uniform is \$65 for the reversible singlet and \$45 for the shorts. Uniform packs including other merchandise are also available. For more information go to our Uniforms page or read our Uniform FAQ.

Detailed information about our uniform, purchasing arrangements and other merchandise is available on our website, <https://ivanhoe knights.org>.

What other equipment is required?

Players will need a basketball for training, as per size guidelines below:

Age Group	Boys	Girls
Under 8 to Under 11 (inclusive)	Size 5	Size 5
Under 12 to Under 14 (inclusive)	Size 6	Size 6
Under 15 and older	Size 7	Size 6

A drink bottle is required for training and games.

Mouth guards are strongly recommended for players, either custom fitted or the self-moulding variety available from chemists or sports shops.

How is the team's training night determined?

Training nights are allocated by the club in response to coaches' availability. Players' requests are considered but are not guaranteed.

Saturday sport commitments

Unavailability due to other Saturday sport, such as compulsory school sport, can be submitted on the registration form. The Club will use these as a guide and will make every endeavor to facilitate these requests (please note they are not guaranteed).

Development Programs

Teaching and developing our players/coaches is a huge part of what we do at the Knights. Visit our website for session times for our development programs.

- Kinda Knights
- Little Knights
- Development Squad
- Shooting Squad

Custom Teams

For U15s and above, if you would like to be considered as a custom team or friendship team (minimum of 7 players, preferably 8, all within the same age group) you will need to note this on the registration. You will also need to have your own designated coach and Team Manager.

Training and game day availability will be determined based on the coach's availability and requests from individual players will not be considered for custom /friendship teams. The club has the option to add an eighth player if needed. All players need to reciprocate otherwise no guarantee they will be placed together. All custom/ friendship teams need to register before the cut-off date.

Basketball Code of Conduct

Basketball is a tough game with quite a lot of legitimate physical contact and eager team spirit is encouraged. However, all actions when representing the Ivanhoe Knights Club must be within the bounds of appropriate sportsmanship.

Codes of Conduct that describe the expectations of personal behaviors for players, coaches, administrators, officials, and spectators are posted on the Basketball Victoria Web site.

Codes of Conduct signage are posted on the entrance of our stadiums.

Sports Insurance

All players and officials are covered by BV Sports Insurance.

However, the benefits, particularly medical benefits, are minor and all participants are advised to take out other health insurance.

Parents are expected to supervise young children when at venues or arrange for another parent to do so.

Late Registrations

Players will be placed on the waiting list if teams are full however we make every effort to accommodate all requests to join our club.

We welcome your assistance

If you can assist as a coach, team manager, sponsor, etc. Please indicate this on the registration and/or contact the club directly.

Who do I contact if I have any more questions?

Please do not hesitate to contact ikbc@ivanhoe knights.org.

Once the season is under way, your Team Manager is the first point of contact for any queries.

The club's website also contains lots of information at www.ivanhoe knights.org.