



Information Pack



Championship Dates

The 2027 Championships will be held on the following dates:

- **Senior Country Championships**, 23rd & 24th January 2027, State Basketball Centre.
- **U18 Country Championships**, 20th & 21st February 2027, State Basketball Centre.
- **U12 – U16 Junior Country Championships**, 5th - 8th March 2027, State Basketball Centre, Mitchell Park Sports & Community Centre, St Clair YMCA, The Lights Community and Sports Centre.

There will be Friday night games for Associations within 100km of St Francis de Sales, Mount Barker. Any other Associations willing to play Friday night please indicate on your team sheet.

2027 Age Group Dates

- **Under 12s** - 1st Jan 2016 - 5th March 2019
- **Under 14s** - 1st Jan 2014 - 31st Dec 2015
- **Under 16s** - 1st Jan 2012 - 31st Dec 2013
- **Under 18s** - 1st Jan 2010 - 31st Dec 2011
- **Seniors** - 23rd Jan 2013 or older

Key Dates

The key dates outlined in the tables below are grouped under the following headings, with the relevant requirements and information detailed under each heading.

Team Nominations include the following:

- Team Nominations - Basketball Connect
- Team Sheets - Jotform
- Fixture Requests - Jotform

Player & Team Staff Registrations - Basketball Connect

Player Exemption Requests - Jotform

Referee & Referee Coaches include the following:

- Availability - Jotform
- Registration - Basketball Connect

Grading & Re-Grading Requests include the following:

- Grading Requests - Jotform

Key Dates

Senior Country Championships: 23rd & 24th January 2027		
CLOSE	Tuesday 1 st September 2026	Player Transfer Requests
OPEN	Thursday 1 st October 2026	Team Nominations
OPEN	Thursday 1 st October 2026	Player & Team Staff Registration
OPEN	Thursday 1 st October 2026	Player Exemption Requests
OPEN	Thursday 1 st October 2026	Referee & Referee Coaches
OPEN	Thursday 1 st October 2026	Grading Requests
CLOSE	Tuesday 1 st December 2026	Team Nominations
INFO	Friday 4 th December 2026	Draft Grading Released
OPEN	Friday 4 th December 2026	Re-Grading Requests
CLOSE	Wednesday 9 th December 2026	Re-Grading Requests
INFO	Friday 11 th December 2026	Final Grading Released
CLOSE	Tuesday 22 nd December 2026	Referee & Referee Coaches
INFO	Tuesday 22 nd December 2026	Fixture Released
CLOSE	Sunday 17 th January 2027	Player & Team Staff Registration
CLOSE	Wednesday 20 th January 2027	Player Exemption Requests

U18 Country Championships: 20th & 21st February 2027		
CLOSE	Tuesday 1 st September 2026	Player Transfer Requests
OPEN	Thursday 1 st October 2026	Team Nominations
OPEN	Thursday 1 st October 2026	Player & Team Staff Registration
OPEN	Thursday 1 st October 2026	Player Exemption Requests
OPEN	Thursday 1 st October 2026	Referee & Referee Coaches
OPEN	Thursday 1 st October 2026	Grading Requests
CLOSE	Tuesday 1 st December 2026	Team Nominations
INFO	Friday 4 th December 2026	Draft Grading Released
OPEN	Friday 4 th December 2026	Re-Grading Requests
CLOSE	Wednesday 9 th December 2026	Re-Grading Requests
INFO	Friday 11 th December 2026	Final Grading Released
CLOSE	Monday 25 th January 2027	Referee & Referee Coaches
INFO	Monday 25 th January 2027	Fixture Released
CLOSE	Sunday 14 th February 2027	Player & Team Staff Registration
CLOSE	Wednesday 17 th February 2027	Player Exemption Requests

Key Dates

Junior Country Championships: 5 th - 8 th March 2027		
CLOSE	Tuesday 1 st September 2026	Player Transfer Requests
OPEN	Tuesday 1 st December 2026	Team Nominations
OPEN	Tuesday 1 st December 2026	Player & Team Staff Registration
OPEN	Tuesday 1 st December 2026	Player Exemption Requests
OPEN	Tuesday 1 st December 2026	Referee & Referee Coaches
OPEN	Tuesday 1 st December 2026	Grading Requests
CLOSE	Sunday 31 st January 2027	Team Nominations
INFO	Friday 5 th February 2027	Draft Grading Released
OPEN	Friday 5 th February 2027	Re-Grading Requests
CLOSE	Monday 8 th February 2027	Re-Grading Requests
INFO	Wednesday 10 th February 2027	Final Grading Released
CLOSE	Friday 12 th February 2027	Referee & Referee Coaches
INFO	Friday 12 th February 2027	Fixture Released
CLOSE	Sunday 21 st February 2027	Player & Team Staff Registration
CLOSE	Tuesday 2 nd March 2027	Player Exemption Requests

Championship Finance

The Team Nomination fee to cover the expenses relating to hosting the Championships in 2027 will be **\$400 (incl.GST) per team**. Associations will be invoiced following each Championship.

The **finances and rebates for Officials** are as follows:

- Referee Non-compliance - **\$350** fine
- A non-country Referee registered (**minimum 5 games**) - **\$150** fee
- Late withdrawal Referee - **Non-compliance fee + \$350** fine
- Country Referee Coach (**minimum 6 games**) - **\$50** rebate

Refer to Rules of Operation: Section 5

The fines for Team withdrawals are as follows:

- If an Association withdraws a team after team nomination close, an Association is liable for up to **50%** of the team nomination fee.
- If an Association withdraws a team once initial grading has been released, an Association is liable for up to **100%** of the team nomination fee.
- If an Association withdraws a team once the fixture has been released, an Association is liable for **100%** of the team nomination fee and will also be fined.

Refer to Rules of Operation: Section 1 Rule 1.2.2

Referee Pay Structure

The Referee pay structure will be as follows:

SA Country Championships 2027		UNDER 12 + 14 ALL	UNDER 16 + 18 D1	UNDER 16 + 18 D2+	SENIORS D1	SENIORS D2+
	LEVEL 0	\$18.00	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$20.00	\$18.00
	LEVEL 1C	\$19.00	\$23.00	\$19.00	\$22.00	\$19.00
	LEVEL 1B	\$20.00	\$24.00	\$21.00	\$25.00	\$20.00
	LEVEL 1A	\$22.00	\$26.00	\$23.00	\$27.00	\$22.00
	LEVEL 2+	\$24.00	\$27.00	\$25.00	\$29.00	\$24.00
		SHADOW	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4
REFeree COACH		\$0.00	\$18.00	\$20.00	\$24.00	\$28.00

Updated May 2026

Referee Requirements

Associations will be split into two categories based on travel distance to the State Basketball Centre, Wayville SA. (refer to Appendix 3)

For a referee to be considered “nominated” they must meet the below requirements:

3+ Day Championship

- **Category A** - Must supply a minimum **1 Referee per 2 Teams**; with a minimum number of **10 games** to be covered across the Championship.
- **Category B** - Must supply a minimum of **1 Referee per 1 Team**; with a minimum number of **5 games** to be covered across the championship.

2 Day Championship

- **Category A** - Must supply a minimum **1 Referee per 2 Teams**; with a minimum number of **8 games** to be covered across the Championship.
- **Category B** - Must supply a minimum of **1 Referee per 1 Team**; with a minimum number of **5 games** to be covered across the championship.

Referee Categories

The following table outlines the referee nomination and compliance requirements that each Association must meet in accordance with their allocated category. (For more information refer to the Rules of Operation Section 5 Rule 5.1.1)

Category A	Category B
Bordertown	Adelaide Plains
Broken Hill	Barossa Valley
Burra	Eastern Hills
Clare	Great Southern
Crystal Brook	Light
Gilbert Valley	Murray Bridge
Jamestown	Strathalbyn
Kangaroo Island	Willunga
Keith	
Mallee	
Millicent	
Mount Gambier	
Naracoorte	
Northern Bullants	
Peterborough	
Port Augusta	
Port Lincoln	
Port Pirie	
Riverland	
Roxby Downs	
SYP	
Whyalla	
Yorke Valley	

Competition & Divisions

The championships should operate through a clearly defined two tier structure, with Premier divisions providing a performance pathway environment for the strongest teams and officials, and Open divisions providing a competitive and supportive pathway for officials, emerging players, developing teams and smaller associations.

Both tiers are equally important to the strength of country basketball and must be underpinned by clear eligibility, consistent standards and respect for association representation.

Premier Tier

- Championship (Div 1)
- Reserves (Div 2)

Open Tier

- Open 1 (Div 3)
- Open 2 (Div 4)
- Open 3 (Div 5)

Player Transfer Requests

All Player Transfers are required to be submitted through the online Player Transfer Request form no later than the **1st of September**, prior to the summer season. All transfers are subject to approval from the Championship Manager & CCSC.

- Players who intend to play for a different Association and do not satisfy 3.1.1 dot point 3 must have an approved player transfer.
- For a Player Transfer to be considered it must have adequate information and reasoning within the Player Transfer Request form.
- Associations will only be allowed to accept one (1) Player Transfer per Age Group per 12 month period.
- Junior Players will only be eligible for one (1) transfer throughout their junior career.

Failure to submit an online Player Transfer Request could result in forfeits or team disqualification.

For more detailed information refer to the Player Transfer Process document

Mercy Rule Process - U12 & U14 Open Tier ONLY

Step 1 – Mercy Rule Activated

The Mercy Rule will come into effect immediately when a team gains a lead of 20 points or more.

Step 2 – Mercy Rule Ceases

If, at any stage during the game, the score margin is reduced to less than 20 points, the Mercy Rule will immediately cease to apply.

The leading team may then resume normal defensive play, including full-court defence where permitted under the Rules of Operation.

Step 3 – Mercy Rule Reinstated

If the leading team again establishes a lead of 20 points or more, the Mercy Rule will immediately be reinstated and the requirements outlined above will again apply.

Coaches' Responsibilities

- Coaches are responsible for ensuring their players understand and comply with the Mercy Rule.
- When the Mercy Rule is in effect, the coach of the leading team must ensure their players retreat behind the three-point line in the backcourt and do not apply defensive pressure until the offensive team has advanced the ball into the frontcourt.
- Coaches should use the Mercy Rule as an opportunity to promote player development, sportsmanship, and positive game management.
- Failure to comply with the Mercy Rule may result in the officials stopping play to provide direction. Continued or deliberate non-compliance may result in the coach being issued with a warning and/or a technical foul in accordance with the FIBA Official Basketball Rules.

Officials' Responsibilities

- Officials are responsible for monitoring the score margin throughout the game.
- Once the 20-point margin is reached, or the margin falls below 20 points, officials should clearly communicate to both teams that the Mercy Rule has been activated or has ceased to apply.
- Officials should provide teams with a reasonable opportunity to comply before resuming play.
- Teams are expected to comply immediately following the officials' direction.

Key Forms & Requests

Associations are responsible for ensuring all required forms are completed and submitted by the relevant deadlines. Submission of a form does not guarantee approval, and all requests remain subject to approval as per the Rules of Operation Section 3.

Player Exemption Request Form (close 48 hours prior to Championships)

- Player doesn't meet eligibility due to attending boarding school.
- Player doesn't meet eligibility due to injury.
- An U16 player wishes to play U18s.
- A player's home Association doesn't nominate a team in their age group, and wishes to play for the nearest Association that has an available position.
- A player competes for two Associations. The player wishes to compete in a higher division with the second Association as their home association is competing in a lower division.
- Requires consideration outside the standard eligibility requirements.
- A player needs to be added to team sheet after team nominations have closed.

Player Transfer Request Form (Close 1st September)

- Players who intend to play for a different Association to which they played in the previous Championships.

Team Sheet

- List of players within the team including Coaches and Team Managers.

Grading Request Form

- A Grading Request is made by an Association to request that a team be reviewed for placement in a lower division than they must nominate.
- A Re-Grade Request is made by an Association to request that a team be reviewed for placement in a lower division after draft grading has been completed.

Fixture Request Form

- Coaching clashes
- Game time requests

Referee Availability Form

- To advise when referees and referee coaches are available during the Championship.
- **SCC Availability**
- **U18 Availability**
- **JCC Availability**

First Aid

As facilities in some stadiums may be limited, each team is required to supply their own first- aid requirements, ice will be made available for injuries.

Where Sports trainers are available, the decision of the trainer will be upheld. If this is not upheld the player will be deemed as an ineligible player and penalty will be as per the Rules of Operation Appendix 1.

Nomination & Grading

Each Association must nominate their first team into the assigned division as per the Rules of Operation, any subsequent teams can be nominated into any division.

All nominations must be entered into Basketball Connect using the **Teams Module**. Teams MUST be named using the following format (Association, Age Group, Gender, Division.) e.g.

- **Juniors & U18s** - Whyalla U14G1 or Great Southern U18B2
- **Seniors** - Eastern Hills M3 or Willunga W1

Associations must submit a Team sheet for each Team nominated, team sheets must be fully completed with full names, experience and DOB.

All Teams must submit each team for grading with an initial grade nominated in Basketball Connect.

“Not Submitted” under the Grade column means you have not submitted the initial grading for that team, which means it has not been sent to SA Country and will not be considered nominated.

To Submit a team for grading tick the box on the left next to the team and then click “Submit for Grading” on the bottom of the page.

Teams											
Search...											Action
Division											
All x											☐ Incl. Deleted
☐	Team Name	Organisation	Division	R #	P #	C #	M #	O #	Reg Status	Grade	Chi
☐	Port Augusta U18G1	Port Augusta Devils	U18 Girls Div 1	0	7	1	1	0	Not Required	Pool A	
☐	Port Lincoln U18B D2	Port Lincoln Basketball Association Inc	U18 Boys Div 1	0	0	0	0	0	Not Required	Not Submitted	
☐	Whyalla 18G3	Steelers	U18 Girls Div 3	0	8	3	1	0	Not Required	3	

Nomination & Grading

The following table sets out the minimum grade each Association's first/best team MUST nominate into. (Divisions are based on Junior numbers only)

Association	Juniors	Seniors	All
Premier Tier - Championship			
Eastern Hills	840	570	1410
Barossa Valley	811	301	1112
Great Southern	618	488	1106
Riverland	602	444	1046
Yorke Valley	592	285	877
Whyalla	550	665	1215
Broken Hill	546	191	737
Port Augusta	502	372	874
Mount Gambier	456	364	820
Premier Tier - Reserves			
Port Lincoln	448	138	586
Murray Bridge	412	130	542
Port Pirie	366	241	607
Light	328	213	541
SYP	321	136	457
Willunga	287	128	415
Strathalbyn	281	164	445
Adelaide Plains	254	72	326
Naracoorte	225	108	333
Kangaroo Island	220	183	403
Millicent	169	111	280
Bordertown	158	171	329
Open Tier - Open 1			
Roxby Downs	145	123	268
Keith	114	63	177
Mallee	73	58	131
Northern Bullants	-	-	-
Peterborough	124	0	124
Clare	251	101	352
Gilbert Valley	100	10	110
Burra	71	69	140
Jamestown	128	83	211
Crystal Brook	125	49	174

Timing Regulations

Minor Round Games

- 60-minute timeslots.
- 10-minute quarters.
- All games will have a running clock.
- Clock stops for all timeouts (2 in first half, 3 in second as per FIBA rules).
- Clock stops on all whistles in the last 2-minutes, 4th Qtr only.
- Clock stops after a basket in last 2-minutes, 4th Qtr Only.
- 1 minute break for 1st & 3rd Qtr breaks.
- 2 minute break for half-time.
- No subs in the last minute of the first 3 quarters (except for a player on 5 fouls or after a timeout).
- Premier Tier will use 24 & 14 second shotclock. (excluding U12s, amended U14s Shotclock to start at halfway)
- No overtime!

Finals

- **Championship Division U16, U18 & SCC ONLY**
 - Semi & Quarter Finals 60-minute timeslots.
 - Grand Finals 75-minute timeslots.
 - 10-minute quarters for QF & SF.
 - 8-minute quarters for GF.
 - Fully timed-clock stopping on all whistles for GF Only.
 - Clock stops after a basket in last 2-minutes, 4th Qtr only.
 - Use 24 & 14 Second shotclock.
- **All other Divisions**
 - Finals 60-minute timeslots.
 - 10-minute quarters.
 - All games will have a running clock.
- Clock stops for all timeouts (2 in first half, 3 in second as per FIBA rules).
- Clock stops on all whistles in the last 2-minutes. 4th Qtr Only.
- Clock stops after a basket in last 2-minutes. 4th Qtr Only.
- 1 minute break for 1st & 3rd Qtr breaks.
- 2 minute break for half-time.
- No substitutions in the last minute of the first 3 quarters. (except for a player on 5 fouls or after a timeout).
- Premier Tier will use 24 & 14 second shotclock. (excluding U12s)

Overtime

- 3 Minutes per overtime period.
- Timing rules same as specified in Finals section.
- Fouls remain the same.
- 1 Timeout per team per overtime period.

