



2023 State Championships/ 2024 WABL Handbook



A guide for players, parents and coaches who would like to become involved with the Hills Raiders representative basketball program.

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Who are the Hills Raiders?

The Hills Raiders Basketball Association was established in 1972 and has grown into a thriving domestic competition since that time. The Raiders have regularly sent teams to play in the annual BWA State Championships, and this participation led to the vision of a WABL franchise. The bid was spearheaded by Bob Little, former Hills Raiders president, and culminated with the Raiders being introduced as the 13th WABL club in the 2019 season.

Hills Raiders Vision;

Basketball to be the sport of choice in the Eastern Hills community by fostering a high participation for all ages in an enjoyable domestic competition that supports a strong high performance pathway.

Hills Raiders Values;

- To act within the rules and spirit of our sport.
- To display respect and courtesy towards everyone involved in our sport and prevent discrimination and harassment.
- To prioritise the safety and well-being of children and young people involved in our sport.
- To encourage and support opportunities for participation in all aspects of our sport.

Our development pathway is designed to not only achieve success on the court but also to allow our athletes to reach their potential.

What is WABL?

The Western Australian Basketball League (WABL) is WA's premier junior basketball competition catering for athletes in the following age groups: U12, U14, U16, U18, U20 and Open Age (WABL Championship)

The WABL is currently comprised of 13 Basketball Associations from both the metropolitan and country regions extending from Joondalup to the Southwest (Bunbury). The Hills Raiders are the most recent addition to that group, coming into the league for the 2019 WABL season.

What WABL is not?

WABL is not a participation program that is available to everyone but is selective. If you miss selection, there is an opportunity to gain the skills and knowledge you need for future selection by playing in a Domestic junior basketball competition and by seeking individual skills development

WABL is not for athletes who are unable to commit the time and energy required to compete at the representative level. All WABL athletes must respect the fact that their selection means someone else has missed out and honour the privilege of the selection accordingly.

WABL is not for individuals whose happiness in the program is overly dependent on; winning, playing with certain friends, playing under certain coaches and being given a certain amount of court time. All representative team environments come with challenges and payoffs.

Time commitment involved with State Championships

State Championship trials 2023 will encompass the 2024 WABL trials. Three sessions will be conducted with the initial session (weekend of the 14th/15th October) dedicated to non-current Hills Raiders WABL athletes.

State Champs training will be held for 2 hours, every Sunday leading into the State Champs competition weekend starting on Sunday 29th October.

State Champs competition involves 4-5 short games over an entire weekend. The State Champs competition weekends for 2023 are:

Age	Division	Dates (Bendat Basketball Centre)
U11M U13W	Division 2 and 3	18/19 November 2023
U11W U15M	Division 2 and 3	25/26 November 2023
U13M U15W	Division 2 and 3	2/3 December 2023
U17M U17W U19M	Division 2 and 3	9/10 December 2023
All Ages	Division 1 – State Titles	16/17 December 2023

Time commitment involved with WABL

2024 WABL trials will be held in conjunction with State Championship trials 2023. Depending on team structures an opportunity may arise to attend trials in January 2024.

The WABL pre-season will commence in the first week of February. All athletes are expected to attend all training sessions without exception. A minimum of one 90 min training session will be conducted per week.

The WABL grading tournaments are then held at the end of February/early March. The grading tournaments for most age groups are held on two days over consecutive weekends. (i.e. Saturday on weekend 1, Sunday on weekend 2).

At the completion of the WABL grading tournaments, all teams continue to train until the end of Term 1; again with a minimum of one 90 min training session per week.

The WABL regular season starts on the final Sunday of the Term 1 school holidays. One game per week is played every Sunday for 16 weeks (with a two-week break in the school holidays).

WABL finals then run for three weeks after the regular season concludes.

THE TIME COMMITMENT FOR WABL IS SIGNIFICANT. athletes are expected to attend every training session and every game, even if injured.

Financial Commitment for State Championships

2023 Required Fees

Trial Fee	New athletes	\$30
Trial Fee	Current WABL (2023) athletes	\$20
	Warm-up shirt (required)	\$40
Uniform	Reversible training singlet	\$30
	Shorts (required)	\$35
State Champ	U11/U13	\$235*
Fees	U15/U17	\$270*
	U19	\$160

*WABL grading fee included (non-refundable to those not continuing on with WABL 2023)

Financial Commitment for WABL

2024 Required Fees

	U12/U14	\$470
	U16/U18	\$520
WABL Fees	U20	\$590
	Open	\$450
	Development athlete U12/U14	\$300
	Development athlete U16/U18/U20	\$350
	Warm-up shirt (required)	\$40
Uniform	Reversible training singlet	\$30
	Shorts (required)	\$35
Weekly Game Fee	All athletes	\$15

The annual BWA affiliation fee may also be required to be paid at the time of registration, depending on the timing of the last affiliation payment for the athlete.

Payment will automatically be generated through PlayHQ on registration.

Payment plans will be available upon request.

Refund Policy

Refunds will only be applied under the following conditions

1. The Athlete sustains an injury or illness which will prevent them in participating in the registered competition
2. The Athlete has a change in circumstances (relocated from the Perth Metro area) and is unable to attend training or participate in the registered competition.
3. Problems have been identified which have not been successfully rectified despite efforts made by all those involved.

Domestic & General Commitments

Domestic Commitments:

All athletes participating in representative basketball are expected to play domestic basketball at HRBA. Exemptions apply in certain circumstances.

General Commitments:

- All athletes, coaches, parents, and spectators must agree to abide by the Hills Raiders and Basketball WA's Zero Tolerance Policy ([Appendix 1](#)).
- There is a significant financial commitment for the WABL season. Fee structures will be confirmed following tryout completion.
- athletes are expected to attend training and games even if injured.
- athletes are only permitted to train in HRBA sanctioned training sessions for insurance purposes.
- For any major injury, including concussion, athletes are required to provide medical clearance prior to recommencing training or games.

WABL basketball is directly controlled by Basketball WA and the following BWA policies contain important and relevant information for WABL families.

- [Member Protection Policy](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Code of Conduct \(athlete, Coach, Parent & Spectator\)](#)
- [Social Media Policy](#)
- [Inclusion Policy](#)

Selection Process

Stage 1: Trials

Following each trial all athletes will be advised if they are successful for attendance to the next trial date.

Girls

14th/15th October - Open to Non- Hills Raiders WABL athletes. Hosted at Mundaring Christian College - Primary Campus on Saturday and Mundaring Arena on Sunday

Age	Time
U11 (YOB 2013/14)	0900 - 1100 (Saturday MCC)
U13 (YOB 2011/12)	0900 - 1100 (Saturday MCC)
U15 (YOB 2009/10)	1400 - 1600 (Sunday Arena)
U17 (YOB 2007/08)	1400 - 1600 (Sunday Arena)
U19 (YOB 2005/06)	1400 - 1600 (Sunday Arena)

21st/22nd October - All athletes. Hosted at Mundaring Christian College - Primary Campus on Saturday and Mundaring Arena on Sunday

Age	Time
U11 (YOB 2013/14)	0900 - 1100 (Saturday MCC)
U13 (YOB 2011/12)	1000 - 1200 (Sunday Arena))
U15 (YOB 2009/10)	1400 - 1600 (Sunday Arena)
U17 (YOB 2007/08)	1400 - 1600 (Sunday Arena)
U19 (YOB 2005/06)	1400 - 1600 (Sunday Arena)

Boys

14th/15th October - Open to Non- Hills Raiders WABL athletes. Hosted at Mundaring Christian College - Primary Campus on Saturday and Mundaring Arena on Sunday

Age	Time
U11 (YOB 2013/14)	1430 - 1630 (Saturday MCC)
U13 (YOB 2011/12)	1100 - 1300 (Saturday MCC)
U15 (YOB 2009/10)	1200 - 1400 (Sunday Arena)
U17 (YOB 2007/08)	1600 - 1800 (Sunday Arena)
U19 (YOB 2005/06)	1600 - 1800 (Sunday Arena)

21st/22nd October - All athletes. Hosted at Mundaring Christian College - Primary Campus on Saturday and Mundaring Arena on Sunday

Age	Time
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U17 (YOB 2007/08)	1600 - 1800 (Sunday Arena)
U19 (YOB 2005/06)	1600 - 1800 (Sunday Arena)

Stage 2: State Champs

The State Championships are an important part of the Hills Raiders' WABL selection process, and while alternative entry to the WABL program is possible, these games are used as the primary team selection tool following trials.

Stage 3: WABL Team Selection

Following the State Championships the Raiders WABL program may conduct additional try-outs, skill development sessions, practice games and pre-season training to determine team selection.

Team announcements will be made, team coach appointed and emails sent to selected athletes to confirm acceptance of their position in the team.

When an athlete accepts their position in the team they are expected to:

- Conduct themselves in a manner reflective of the club's mission at all times. This includes abiding by the Code of Conduct as a minimum standard.
- Are financial with both their domestic and WABL team, in order to be available for selection. The WABL Coordinator and HRBA Executive 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/team manager 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.
- Respect all training and game venues, leaving them damage free, clean and tidy.
- Wear the Raiders training singlet, bring a basketball and drink bottle to all training sessions.
- Respect all equipment.
- Always follow the instructions of coaches.
- Poor behaviour or attitude at training may result in the athlete being ejected from training immediately (unable to participate). If this behaviour or attitude continues then a formal interview will be requested between the coach, athlete and parent/guardian.
- Clear and concise communication is the key.

Development positions may be offered to athletes showing potential to play WABL level. These athletes, if they accept the offer of a development athlete, are expected to adhere to those requirements of an athlete, including training commitments. They are not expected to attend away games unless the coach has indicated that there may be an opportunity to play.