



Season 2026/27 Information Guide

For all enquiries regarding the Junior Representative Program, please contact:
rep@mansfieldbasketball.org.au

Welcome to the Mansfield Eagles Junior Representative Basketball Program for Season 2026/27.

This guide has been prepared to help players and families understand how the representative program operates, the expectations involved, and the opportunities available throughout the season.

What is Representative Basketball?

Representative basketball provides athletes with the opportunity to compete at a higher level than domestic basketball. Players selected into the Mansfield Eagles program represent the Mansfield & District Basketball Association at tournaments throughout Victoria against other basketball associations.

Age Groups for Season 2026/27 are:

Playing Age Group	Year of Birth
Under 10s	2018/2019
Under 12s	2016/2017
Under 14s	2014/2015
Under 16s	2012/2013
Under 18s	2010/2011

Representative squads will include both Gold and Blue teams depending on player numbers and skill levels.

- **Gold Teams** are selected based on skill, attitude, behaviour, commitment, and overall suitability for higher-level competition.
- **Blue Teams** focus strongly on player development and learning.

Domestic Competition

To be eligible for representative basketball, players must participate in the Bendigo Bank Domestic Spring Competition, commencing 27th July 2026, unless an exemption is granted under exceptional circumstances by the Representative Committee.

All Gold teams will play together as a team in the age group above their standard age group. Blue team coaches will aim to have regular scratch matches throughout the season to ensure the team gets to play together as a team and implement skills learnt in training prior to attending tournaments.

All Gold players are also able to play in their own age group individually, not as a part of their rep team as an additional registration in the domestic competition.

Tryout Information

Tryouts will be conducted over two sessions in June 2026. Players are expected to attend both sessions.

These are athlete-only sessions. While tryouts are underway, parents and carers will attend an information and induction session with MDBA representatives.

Tryout Dates

Saturday 13th June 2026 & Saturday 20th June 2026 – Parent Induction Session Sat 20th June 2026 during tryouts	Alex Pullin Stadium	
	10.15 to 11.15 am	Under 18 Boys
	11.30 to 12.30pm	Under 10 Boys & Girls
	1.00 to 2.00pm	Under 16 Boys
	2.15 to 3.15pm	Under 14 Boys
Monday 15th June 2026 & Monday 22nd June 2026 Parent Induction Session Mon 22nd June 2026 during tryouts	Alex Pullin Stadium	
	4.30 to 5.30pm	Under 12 Boys
	5.45 to 6.45pm	Under 12 & Under 14 Girls
	7.00 to 8.00pm	Under 16 & Under 18 Girls

If your child is unable to attend tryouts due to exceptional circumstances such as illness, injury, holidays, or boarding school commitments, please contact rep@mansfieldbasketball.org.au and ensure your child is still registered through PlayHQ.

What to Bring

- Bring a ball and drink bottle

- NO EAGLES CLOTHING TO BE WORN DURING TRYOUTS
- All athletes to wear shorts so we can put a number on their leg for identification
- No parents to approach selectors while tryout is in progress
- Be ready to showcase your skills!

Season Commitment

Representative basketball is a significant commitment running for between 6 and 9 months.

Training will begin in August following team selections and generally involves one session per week, with additional sessions scheduled where required by coaches.

Families are expected to prioritise:

- Training attendance
- Tournament participation
- Domestic basketball commitments

Players are expected to demonstrate commitment, teamwork, and respect for coaches, teammates, and the wider program throughout the season, upholding the Club Culture Statement.

Costs

2026/27 Fees

- Representative Program Fee: **\$220**
- Tournament Fees: Approximately **\$70 per tournament**
- Playing Shorts: Approximately **\$40**

Team jerseys are supplied by the club. Existing shorts from previous seasons may continue to be used.

Optional merchandise including polos, hoodies, bags, and hats will also be available for purchase.

Families experiencing financial difficulty are encouraged to contact rep@mansfieldbasketball.org.au to discuss payment arrangements.

Tournaments

The representative season traditionally includes 5–7 tournaments between September and March, with Junior Country Champs between Feb & April for Gold Teams.

Tournament schedules may vary depending on team divisions and tournament allocations. MDBA will always aim to place teams in the most suitable divisions possible to ensure positive development experiences for players.

By committing to the representative program, players are expected to attend all scheduled tournaments unless exceptional circumstances arise. Any anticipated absences should be discussed directly with the team coach as early as possible. Participation in the representative

program reflects a commitment to your teammates, coaches, and the Mansfield Eagles community as we represent Mansfield across Victoria.

Compulsory Tournaments			
Swan Hill	24 th to 25 th Oct	U12-U18	Blue & Gold
Shepparton (Div 2 & 3)	7 th to 8 th Nov	U12-U18	Blue & Gold
Shepparton (Champs & Div 1)	5 th to 6 th Dec	U12-U18	Gold by Choice
Wodonga	Feb 5 th to 7 th	U12-U18	Blue & Gold
Benalla	Late Feb	U10-U18	Blue & Gold
Mansfield	21 st March	U10	
Wodonga	Late March	U10	
Junior Country Champs	Feb – April	U12-U18	Gold
By Coach/Team Choice			
Wangaratta	TBA	U12-U18	Blue & Gold

Many tournaments now operate under a two-division format, which can sometimes result in both Mansfield Eagles Gold and Blue teams competing within the same division. While MDBA works hard to nominate teams into divisions that best match their skill level and provide a competitive experience, final allocations are determined by tournament organisers and are outside of the Association's control. Once tournament draws are released, MDBA is unable to request changes.

Coaches may also seek to enter additional tournaments following consultation with the Rep Committee of MDBA. Where this occurs, coaches will discuss the opportunity with players and families to confirm availability and willingness to participate.

Code of Conduct & Club Culture

The Mansfield Eagles Representative Program is committed to maintaining a positive, respectful, and supportive environment for all participants. All players, parents, coaches, and team managers are expected to follow:

- Basketball Victoria Codes of Conduct
- MDBA Policies and Guidelines (on our website)
- Mansfield Eagles Club Culture Statement

The Mansfield Eagles Club Culture Statement outlines the shared responsibilities of players, parents, coaches, team managers, and supporters in creating an environment where athletes and families can thrive both on and off the court.

When participating in representative basketball, our players, coaches, and supporters are representing not only the Association, but also the wider Mansfield community. All participants are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects the values of the Mansfield Eagles program and represents our town with pride.

Following team selection, all relevant policies and conduct documents will be provided to athletes, parents, coaches, and team managers. All participants will be required to acknowledge through the registration process that they have read, understood, and agree to abide by these expectations throughout the representative season.

Zero Tolerance Policy

Our representative program relies heavily on the commitment and support of referees, scorers, volunteer coaches, assistant coaches, and team managers. Without these individuals, participation in tournaments and the operation of the program would not be possible.

MDBA maintains a strict zero tolerance approach to inappropriate behaviour or language directed towards referees, coaches, assistant coaches, team managers, or other volunteers by players, parents, or spectators.

Any breach of this policy will be reviewed by the MDBA Complaints and Grievance Committee, acting under delegated authority from the MDBA Committee. Outcomes may include disciplinary action up to and including suspension or removal from the Representative Program.

Coaches

Mansfield Eagles representative coaches are volunteers who generously give their time, knowledge, and energy to support the development of our athletes and the success of the program. We ask all players and families to respect and support our coaches throughout the season.

While there may be times where parents and coaches hold differing views, MDBA expects all communication and discussions to be conducted respectfully and appropriately.

Parents and spectators MUST NOT approach the team bench during games or coach players from the sidelines. Conflicting instructions can be confusing for athletes and may distract them from the guidance being provided by their coach and team structure.

Team Managers

Each representative team will have a Team Manager appointed by the coach and approved by the Mansfield Eagles Junior Representative Committee.

Team Managers play an important role in supporting the smooth operation of the team throughout the season. Responsibilities may include:

- Managing tournament registrations and team requirements
- Coordinating player and family communications
- Distributing tournament schedules
- Organising scoring and fruit duty rosters
- Assisting with general team administration during tournaments

Parent Expectations

Representative basketball is a team commitment that relies on the support and involvement of families throughout the season.

At tournaments, parents and carers are expected to assist with scoring and fruit duties as coordinated by the Team Manager. Parents who are unfamiliar or uncomfortable with scoring are encouraged to gain experience during domestic basketball games throughout the season.

When Mansfield hosts tournaments, families will also be expected to contribute to stadium supervision duties, with each family committing to a minimum of two hours of assistance.

Additional Information

If you have any questions throughout the season regarding the Mansfield Eagles Junior Representative Program, please contact us at rep@mansfieldbasketball.org.au and your enquiry will be directed to the appropriate person.

We wish all players the very best during the tryout and selection process and thank all families for their support and commitment to the program.

We are excited for another great season of Mansfield Eagles basketball and look forward to representing our community with pride throughout Season 2026/27.

Go Eagles! 🦅

