



Junior Open and Molten Junior Premier League Guidelines

Basketball ACT

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Introduction

Basketball ACT (BACT) has implemented several changes to how both the Open and Junior Premier League (JPL) competitions will operate moving forward. These decisions were made not only in response to the feedback received from our broader community, but also with the insight and guidance of our Officials cohort, our Performance Manager, and a focus on what BACT believe is in the best long-term interest of the competition.

Summer Junior Open

- Junior Open is open to all club/school teams, there will be no restrictions on numbers in divisions
- Each club may only have one team compete in Junior Open per age group and gender
- There will be no pools in Junior Open
- Open will be an 11 Round competition, with 3 additional weeks of finals for the top six teams and 3 weeks of tournament qualifying games for teams that are in any division with more than 8 teams.

Finals in Junior Open

- First and second don't play in Elimination Final and go straight through to Semi Final round
- Two Elimination Finals, 3 v 6 and 4 v 5
- Semi Finals 3 v 6 winner will play 2nd on the ladder, 4 v 5 winner will be played against 1st on the ladder
- Grand Finals are the 2 winners of the Semi Finals games

Qualifying for Molten Junior Premier League

- Any Junior Open division that has 8 teams or less, all will qualify for JPL
- Top six on the ladder (in a division with more than 8 teams) at the end of the regular season automatically qualify for JPL
- Any team outside of the top six on the ladder (with more than 8 teams in the division) will play in tournament style* qualifying games over the Elimination Final, Semi Final and Grand Final weekends.
- The teams who didn't make top six in an Junior Open Division with more than 8 teams will play each other once in the tournament, and the top two on the tournament ladder will advance through to JPL
- If a Junior Open division has less than 8 teams and a division 1 team (who's club does not currently have a team in that division in Junior Open) is clearly strong enough to play in JPL that team may be offered a space in JPL, this will be at the discretion of BACT
- Under 12's will play on a Saturday night in Open to alleviate court pressure and referee fatigue

**Tournament style games may be played on both Friday and Saturday night and will be 8-minute quarters. They will be running clock except in the last 2 minutes of the*

game and only if the score difference is 10 points or less regardless of the age group. There will be no draws, overtime will work the same as JPL.

In the case of teams being tied for first or second place on the Tournament ladder the higher finishing positions shall be determined in the following order:

1. The head-to-head ratio of wins and losses between the teams concerned across Tournament games;

2. If still equal or cannot be determined by previous point, the head-to-head percentage of points for and against between the teams concerned in the Tournament games;

3. If still equal or cannot be determined by previous point, the overall percentage of points for and against between all teams in the Division in the Tournament games;

4. If still equal or cannot be determined by previous point, the team with the lesser number of forfeits, duty penalties or disqualifications. The process continues to involve all teams until all placings can be determined.

Molten Junior Premier League (Winter)

- JPL will become an 8 team or less competition in each Age Group/Gender (our preference is 8)
- Each club may only have one team compete in JPL per age group and gender
- JPL will run for 14 weeks, plus two weeks of finals. This means in an 8-team competition each team will play each other twice
- All JPL divisions will remain playing on Friday night

Trials & Transfers

- Public trials will only be allowed before the Junior Open season, all clubs/schools must abide by the trial dates set by BACT. Clubs can hold internal trials only, before the JPL season. This means a player is signing up for 12 months with their club (for both the Junior Open and JPL season)
- Players cannot transfer between Junior Open and JPL unless they have approval from BACT (please refer to the Junior Competition Rules and By-Laws for more information on transfers).
- If a player (who is not restricted) is from a Junior Open team that was not successful in making JPL, and they have BACT's approval to transfer they can only transfer to another Division 1 team for their new club, they will not be permitted to play in JPL that season.
- Restricted players from teams that do not receive a spot in JPL will only be able to go on a local interchange to a club that does not already have their limit of restricted players allowed, unless in the case of all club teams having a full allocation of restricted players, BACT will then make a decision on where they player is able to play based on the players circumstances, such a previous connection to the club, what clubs are in their area and what is in the best interest of a fair competition.

- Restricted players in a team that didn't make JPL will be able to play for their team in Division 1 if they were a registered member of the team before the start of the Open season, played at least 50% of games in Open or can supply a medical certificate for an injury, and BACT feel it is in the best interest of the Division 1 competition

