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"Bentleigh Lakers is a child safe family club that aims to provide a welcoming and inclusive environment for everyone!"

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1. Winter 2023 Overview

Bentleigh Lakers is a member of the McKinnon Basketball Association (MBA), and we place teams in the MBA's domestic competition.

To play competition basketball with our Club, players must be born in 2006 or later and turn 5 before the start of the season.

The age groups and ball sizes are:

Under 8	Born 2016, 2017 Size 5 ball
Under 10	Born 2014, 2015 Size 5 ball
Under 12	Born 2012, 2013 Size 5 ball
Under 14	Born 2010, 2011 Size 6 ball
Under 16	Born 2008, 2009 Boys: size 7 ball, Girls: size 6
Under 18	Born 2006, 2007 Boys: size 7 ball, Girls: size 6

The Under 8 competition was introduced in the Summer 2022-23 season and more information can be found at <https://www.mckinnonbasketball.org/under8>

Key dates for the winter season 2023 are:

Mar 6th - Registrations Open
Apr 3rd - Registrations Close
Apr 3 rd -5 th - New Player Session (exact date/time tba)
Apr 22 nd - Teams Announced
Apr 24 th - Training starts (no training Anzac Day)
Apr 29 th /30 th - Competition Commences
Sep 2 nd /3 rd - Finals commence
Sep 14 th - Presentation Night (U8s to U14s only)

2. Child Safety

Bentleigh Lakers is a Child Safe Club. Every person in the basketball community has a responsibility to understand their role in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people in our care.

All our volunteers must abide by the relevant Code of Conduct and those aged 18 and over must have a valid Working with Children Check and abide by Child Safe Code of Conduct and complete online Child safeguarding training.

All members and volunteers are expected to immediately advise the Club's Child Safe Officer, Jo Morley, at registerforlakers@gmail.com of any concerns that they may have about the welfare of a child.

Please refer to our Child Safe resources <https://bentleighlakers.com.au/child-safety/> and Basketball Victoria's Child Safe information at <https://www.basketballvictoria.com.au/resources/association-resources/child-safe-standards>

3. How to Register

Registration is via PlayHQ, a registration system run by Basketball Victoria and used by most basketball Clubs in Victoria. **Registration opens March 6th and closes April 3rd.** Register by:

- Going to our website www.bentleighlakers.com.au and clicking on the blue registration button; or
- Using this link <https://www.playhq.com/basketball-victoria/register/e20462>

If you have any problems registering, please check <https://support.playhq.com/hc/en-au>

If the player is **transferring from another Club** associated with the MBA, you'll be prompted to trigger a transfer request. This will automatically trigger a request to approve to the 'from' and 'to' clubs and the MBA. Once all approvals have been given, you'll receive an email advising that you that registration can be completed. This approval process may take a couple of days.

4. Fees

Fees for the season are as follows and will be charged as a total amount at the end of the registration process:

Bentleigh Lakers Basketball Club Registration Fee: \$280 (coach, volunteer and multiple child discounts are available – see below).

Basketball Victoria Annual Participant License Fee: \$29. This fee is charged by Basketball Victoria and covers a 12-month period and includes insurance coverage. More information is available at <https://www.basketballvictoria.com.au/play/registration-information> If the player's current license expires during the Winter 2023 season, you'll be charged this fee.

Association Registration Fee: \$84. This fee is set by the MBA and covers the stadium entry for the player and unlimited spectators (exc. finals). No fee will be charged at the stadium entrance.

Final's Team Sheet Fee: Semi Final **\$77 per team**, Grand Final **\$85 per team**. The upfront registration fee does not cover finals costs. Each team that reaches a final will be required to pay the fee at the stadium door. Team Managers should arrange collection of this fee prior to the game.

Uniform (shorts & singlet): \$100 – refer uniform section (this is not part of the registration process)

Coach and Volunteer Discounts

Coach discounts are available and range from 25% to 100% of the Club Registration Fee depending upon credentials and number of seasons coached. The discount code will be sent to you before registrations open if you've registered as a coach for Winter 2023 (email has been sent with link) and your compliance

is up to date. Otherwise, the discount will be refunded during the season. We welcome new coaches – you can indicate your interest by emailing registerforlakers@gmail.com

Volunteer discounts (Committee Members and Age Group Coordinators) are available upfront. You'll be sent the relevant discount code or contact the club at registerforlakers@gmail.com

Multiple Child Discounts

A 10% discount will be automatically applied during registration for the 2nd and subsequent children as long as you register under the same account.

Get Active Kids Voucher

The Get Active Kids Voucher Program is a Victorian Government initiative which helps eligible families get their kids involved in organised sport and active recreation activities. Eligible children may receive up to \$200 to cover the costs for registration fees.

Round 6 is now open for applications and will close at **5pm on May 10th**.

To apply go to <https://www.getactive.vic.gov.au/vouchers/>

Please select **Basketball Victoria** (Provider 2951096) as the provider.

Then when you register with the Lakers for the Winter 2023 season, input the voucher code into the "Enter a voucher code" area on the 'Payment & Summary' page and click 'Apply'.

Refunds

Registering to play with the **Bentleigh Lakers** signifies an ongoing commitment to the club for the upcoming season. A player withdrawal after registration is very disruptive not only to individual teams but the entire age group and creates considerable work for the volunteers on our committee. Please refer to our Refunds Policy at <https://bentleighlakers.com.au/fees-refunds/>

5. New Player Session

A New Player Session will be held during the last week of Term 1 (date and time tba). At this session, our Age Group Coordinators will assess players' skills to ensure they're placed in the right team. Sample uniforms will be available to try on for sizing - see uniform section below. More information about the New Player Session will issue in due course.

6. Uniforms

Existing Players – if ordering a new singlet, please use the Player's existing Club Approved Singlet Number – DO NOT CHOOSE A NEW SINGLET NUMBER

New Players – MUST have a Club Approved Singlet Number before ordering a uniform. These will be allocated by the Club after registration. Players cannot choose their own number.

Uniforms can be ordered by clicking on the yellow uniform button on our home page or using this link http://www.impactsports.com.au/club/bentleigh_lakers/

These are the critical dates for uniform ordering:

March 30th – this will guarantee uniform delivery before the start of the season.

April 5th – uniform should be delivered before the start of the season but there's no allowance for production delays.

After April 5th – uniform will arrive after the start of the season. Players may wear plain black/navy shorts and t-shirt for the first 4 rounds without any team penalty.

Sizing charts are also available in the online shop, or you can contact the Club at registerforlakers@gmail.com to try on samples. There will be sample uniforms to try on at the New Player Session but please be mindful of the ordering dates above – we can't guarantee delivery before the season starts if there is a production delay.

Uniforms will be delivered to the Club, and you'll receive an email arranging collection. When ordering, there is also an option, at a cost, to have the uniform mailed directly to you.

If you wish to use a 2nd hand uniform/hand-me-down, please get Club approval at registerforlakers@gmail.com to ensure there'll be no number clash in your child's age group.

7. Teams and Selection Policy

After registrations close, the Age Group Coordinators will form teams based upon their knowledge of the players and in accordance with the Club's Selection Policy which aims to:

- Ensure the enjoyment of all players within the club – through equal participation,
- Place players in teams appropriate to their current or future skill level and development,
- Develop all players to the maximum of their ability, and
- Field competitive teams in all divisions in each age group.

Find the complete Selection Policy at <https://bentleighlakers.com.au/team-selection-policy/>

Each team will have a Coach as well as a Team Manager, a role that has to be filled by a parent. You can indicate during the registration process if you'd like to take on these roles. We can't run the Club without these important roles.

The Age Group Coordinator will advise team details by **April 22nd**. This will include details about the coach and the training day/time/venue.

As a community-based basketball club, we rely heavily on parents/guardians/siblings/relatives/friends to volunteer as a coach. Like many clubs, we struggle to find coaches, so please consider taking on this role. We offer support for coaches through training and on-line resources.

8. Training

Training is on a weeknight and runs for up to 1 hour. Our training venues are Valkstone, McKinnon and Hughesdale Primary Schools.

We have up to 100 teams to schedule and therefore we can't be precise about training days/times until teams are formed and coaches appointed. During the registration process you can advise what days/times don't suit and we do our best to accommodate but there are no guarantees.

The Age Group Coordinator will advise teams and training day/time/venue by **April 22nd**. Training will commence the week starting **April 24th** (note: April 25th is Anzac Day and there will be no training).

Training is to be held in a covid-safe manner. Please don't send your child to train if they're unwell.

Players should bring their own drink bottle and wear appropriate sport attire and shoes.

Our training venues are under licence, and we must respect the schools' rules. In general:

- The stadium is only to be used for the allotted training time.
- We have access to the basketball court, toilets and designated entry/exit area. No other area is to be used including other rooms within the stadium and school grounds/playgrounds.
- No school equipment or furniture is to be used or moved.
- No players/children are to be on school premises unless an adult is present. Parents are to remain with their children until the coach arrives.

9. Competition, Fixtures and Bylaws

Bentleigh Lakers places its teams in the competition run by the MBA. Boys play on Saturdays and Girls on Sundays. U8 mixed teams play Saturday mornings.

The day starts with the under 8 age group and finishes with the oldest age group. The U8s play at Bentleigh Secondary College. All other games are at a variety of venues including GESAC, Bentleigh, McKinnon and Brighton Secondary Colleges, and Coatesville Primary School.

The MBA will release the season **fixture** in the week preceding the commencement of the season. You can access the fixtures at <https://www.playhq.com/basketball-victoria/org/mckinnon-basketball-association/8de290c6>. Your Team Manager will advise you about the game details on a weekly basis.

The season will have **14 rounds plus finals** as per the table below. The first 4 weeks are grading rounds, and teams may move between divisions within an age group and game times/venues may change. We recommend that you check the fixture each Friday during the grading rounds.

The domestic competition bylaws can be found at <https://www.mckinnonbasketball.org/domestic-1>

Round 1 - grading	Apr 29/30th
Round 2 - grading	May 6/7
Round 3 - grading	May 13/14
Round 4 - grading	May 20/21
Round 5	May 27/28
Round 6	Jun 3/4
King's Birthday	Jun 10/11
Round 7	Jun 17/18
School Holidays	Jun 24-Jul 9
Round 8	Jul 15/16
Round 9	Jul 22/23
Round 10	Jul 29/30
Round 11	Aug 5/6
Round 12	Aug 12/13
Round 13	Aug 19/20
Round 14	Aug 26/27
Semi Finals	Sep 2/3
Grand Finals	Sep 9/10

10. Code of Conduct

By registering to play with the Bentleigh Lakers, players agree to abide with our Player Code of Conduct which can be found at <https://bentleighlakers.com.au/player-code-of-conduct/>. Please ensure your child is aware of the Club's expectations.

To ensure a safe and enjoyable playing environment for all participants, the MBA has Codes of Conduct and a Zero Tolerance Policy to address inappropriate and unsportsmanlike behaviour from players, coaches, team managers, parents and spectators. Find it at <https://www.mckinnonbasketball.org/policies>

The Club has a number of other policies including our Child Safe Policy which can be found at <https://bentleighlakers.com.au/category/policies-procedures/>

If you have any questions, please check out our website www.bentleighlakers.com.au or contact the Club at registerforlakers@gmail.com.