

## Summer 2026/27 Information Pack

Website: [bentleighlakers.com.au](http://bentleighlakers.com.au)

Email: [registerforlakers@gmail.com](mailto:registerforlakers@gmail.com)

Instagram: [@bentleighlakers](https://www.instagram.com/bentleighlakers)

Facebook: [Bentleigh Lakers](https://www.facebook.com/BentleighLakers)

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

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## 1. Season Overview

Bentleigh Lakers Basketball Club is a proud Child Safe Club and a member of the McKinnon Basketball Association (MBA). We enter teams into the MBA's domestic competition. The age groups and ball sizes are:

|                |                                                                         |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Under 8        | Born 2020-2022 (must turn 5 before start of competition)<br>Size 5 ball |
| Under 10       | Born 2018, 2019<br>Size 5 ball                                          |
| Under 12       | Born 2016, 2017<br>Size 5 ball                                          |
| Under 14       | Born 2014, 2015<br>Size 6 ball                                          |
| Under 16       | Born 2012, 2013<br>Boys: size 7 ball, Girls: size 6                     |
| Under 18       | Born 2010, 2011<br>Boys: size 7 ball, Girls: size 6                     |
| Under 19 Girls | Born 2009-2011<br>Girls: size 6                                         |
| Under 23 Men   | Born 2005-2009<br>Men: size 7 ball                                      |
| Senior         | Prior to 2008<br>Women: size 6                                          |

Key dates for the Summer 2026/27 Season are:

|                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3 August - Registrations Open (see section 3)                 |
| 23 August – Registrations Close                               |
| 2/3 September – Uniform order cut-off (see s6)                |
| 2 September - New Player Session (see section 5)              |
| 24 September – Teams Announced (see section 7)                |
| 5 October – Training commences (see section 8)                |
| 3/4 October – Competition Commences (Round 1) (see section 9) |
| 20/21 March 2027 – Finals commence                            |

## 2. Child Safety

Bentleigh Lakers Basketball Club is committed to providing a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment for all children and young people. We believe everyone in our basketball community has a responsibility to help keep children safe and to promote their wellbeing.

All Coaches, Team Managers and volunteers are expected to comply with the Club's Child Safe Policy and the relevant Codes of Conduct. Volunteers aged 18 years and over must hold a valid Working with Children Check (or Victorian Institute of Teaching registration where applicable) and complete any required Child Safe or Safeguarding training in accordance with Club, MBA and Basketball Victoria requirements.

If you have any concerns about the safety or wellbeing of a child or young person, you should report them immediately to the Club's Child Safe Officer:

**Child Safe Officer: Ali Cowan**

**Email:** [registerforlakers@gmail.com](mailto:registerforlakers@gmail.com)

Further information is available at:

**Bentleigh Lakers Child Safety:** <https://bentleighlakers.com.au/child-safety/>

**McKinnon Basketball Association Child Safety:**  
<https://www.mckinnonbasketball.org/child-safe>

**Basketball Victoria Child Safe Standards:**  
<https://www.basketballvictoria.com.au/resources/association->

## 3. How to Register

Registration is completed online through **PlayHQ**, Basketball Victoria's official registration platform, which is used by most basketball Clubs across Victoria.

If you are registering an existing Bentleigh Lakers player, or you already have a PlayHQ account, please sign in using your existing PlayHQ account to complete your registration.

### New for Summer 2026/27

- **U19 Girls** competition for players born **2009–2011**.
- **U23 Men** competition for players born **2005–2009**.

### Registration Period

- **Opens:** 9:00am, Monday 3 August 2026
- **Closes:** 11:55 pm, Sunday 23 August 2026

**Note:** Early Bird, Coach, Committee Member, Age Group Coordinator (AGC) and Multiple Child discounts are available. See **Section 4 – Fees & Costs**.

Register by:

- Going to our website [www.bentleighlakers.com.au](http://www.bentleighlakers.com.au) and clicking on the relevant registration link; or
- Using the relevant link below:
  - **Junior Competition - All players born 2005 to 2022 EXCEPT Girls born prior to 2008 (U8 players must turn 5 before the start of the season)**  
<https://www.playhq.com/basketball-victoria/register/21edd9>
  - **Senior Competition - Women born prior to 2008**  
<https://www.playhq.com/basketball-victoria/register/c99878>

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 which will be sent to the 'from' and 'to' Clubs and the MBA. Once all approvals have been given, you'll receive an email advising that registration can be completed. This approval process may take a couple of days.

## 4. Fees & Costs

**Registration Fees** for the season are as follows and will be charged as a total amount during registration:

|                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Club Registration Fee -<br/>Early Bird Period –<br/>(9:00am, 3 August to<br/>9:30pm, 10 August)</b>           | <b>\$295</b><br> | You must register within the Early Bird period to receive the discount.<br><br>Coach, Committee Member, AGC and Multiple Child discounts are available – see below                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Bentleigh Lakers<br/>Basketball Club<br/>Registration Fee -<br/>9:30pm 10 August to<br/>11:55pm 23 August</b> | <b>\$320</b>                                                                                        | Coach, Committee Member, AGC and Multiple Child discounts are available – see below                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Basketball Victoria<br/>Annual Participant<br/>License Fee</b>                                                | <b>\$34 (= &lt;17)<br/>\$48 (= &gt;18)</b>                                                          | This fee is charged by Basketball Victoria and covers a 12-month period. More information is available at <a href="https://www.basketballvictoria.com.au/play/registration-information">https://www.basketballvictoria.com.au/play/registration-information</a> If the player's current license expires during the Summer 2026/27 season, you'll be charged this fee. |
| <b>McKinnon Basketball<br/>Association Fee</b>                                                                   | <b>\$84 (Junior)<br/>\$42 (Senior)</b>                                                              | This fee is set by the McKinnon Basketball Association and covers the stadium entry for the player and unlimited spectators for the normal rounds (exc. finals). No fee will be charged at the stadium entrance.                                                                                                                                                      |

|                                                   |               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Basketball Australia Game Development Levy</b> | <b>\$5.50</b> | This is an annual fee to support the growth and development of basketball. More information is available at <a href="https://www.australia.basketball/news/3739877/game-development-levy">https://www.australia.basketball/news/3739877/game-development-levy</a> |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Early Bird Discount:** \$25 per player until 9:30pm, Monday 10 August.

**Multiple Child Discounts:** When registering, you'll receive a **10% discount** on the Club registration fee for each subsequent player registered under the same PlayHQ account. This will be applied automatically.

**Coach, Committee Member and AGC Discounts:** A voucher code will be sent to all compliant Coaches, Committee Members and AGCs to be used at registration time. Coach discounts are available and range from **25% to 100%** of the Club Registration Fee depending upon credentials and number of seasons coached. Note: Junior Coaches and non-playing adult Coaches will also receive an end-of-season payment.

### **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 cost of registration.

Currently, there is no active round open. If a round is announced and you've already paid your registration fee you can get a reimbursement by going to <https://www.getactive.vic.gov.au/vouchers/>

More information can be found at <https://www.getactive.vic.gov.au/vouchers/>

If required, please select **Basketball Victoria** (Provider 2951096) as the provider.

### **Final's Team Sheet Fee:**

Semi Final **\$84.80 per team**, Grand Final **\$90 per team**. The upfront player registration fee does not cover finals costs. Each team that reaches the final will be required to pay the Team Sheet fee at the stadium door or arrange to pay to the MBA prior to the final. Team Managers should arrange collection of this fee prior to the game.

### **Stadium Entry Fee:**

Stadium entry fees (excluding finals) are charged upfront by the McKinnon Basketball Association as part of the registration process (refer Association Fee mentioned above) and this will cover entrance for all players and spectators for all rounds except finals.

**For finals**, the stadium entrance fee will be **\$3 per player and per spectator over 18**.

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

### **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/refunds/>

## 5. New Player Session

A New Player Session will be held at Valkstone Primary School on **Wednesday 2 September**. At this session, our Age Group Coordinators will assess players' skills to ensure they're placed in the right team. More information about the New Player Session will be sent to all new players by email 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. This will be allocated by the Club after registration and advised by email. **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/](http://www.impactsports.com.au/club/bentleigh_lakers/)

Uniforms must be ordered by **Wednesday 2 September** if you would like it delivered to our Uniform Coordinator and you collect it from them once delivered. Please note that we will have samples to try on at the New Player Session on the same day for sizing, and uniforms must be ordered that evening.

If you order after **Thursday 3 September**, you will have to pay a postage fee to deliver to your home address. Uniforms ordered after this date will not arrive before the start of the season. The Club will try and organise a loan uniform but if one is not available, the player can wear plain navy/black t-shirt and shorts (no zippers, buckles, pockets) for the first 4 rounds without team penalty.

Sizing charts are also available in the online shop, or you can contact the Club at [uniformsbentleighlakers@gmail.com](mailto:uniformsbentleighlakers@gmail.com) and they will provide details of a time to try on samples.

**If you wish to use a 2<sup>nd</sup> hand uniform/hand-me-down or have any uniform questions, please get Club approval at [uniformsbentleighlakers@gmail.com](mailto:uniformsbentleighlakers@gmail.com) to ensure there'll be no number clash in your child's age group.**

## 7. Teams, Team Formation and Player Points System

After registrations close, the Age Group Coordinators will form teams based on their knowledge of the players, player development and the overall needs of each age group. Every effort is made to place players in teams where they can enjoy their basketball, continue developing their skills and contribute positively to their team's experience.

For teams that include VJBL representative players, team composition must comply with the McKinnon Basketball Association's Player Points System. Further information is available on the [MBA website](#).

Each team will have a Coach and a Team Manager. During the registration process, you'll have the opportunity to nominate if you'd like to volunteer for either of these roles. Bentleigh Lakers is a volunteer-run community Club, and we rely on the support of our families to make each season possible.

The Age Group Coordinator will advise team details by **Thursday 24 September**. This will include details about the Coach and the training day/time/venue.

## 8. Training

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

We have over 100 teams to schedule and therefore we cannot confirm training days, times or venues until teams are formed and Coaches appointed. During the registration process, you can advise which days and times are unsuitable 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 **Thursday 24 September**. Training will commence the week starting **Monday 5 October**. **Unfortunately there will be no training prior to the first round of this Season, as Round 1 falls on the last weekend of the school holidays.**

Please don't send your child to training 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.**
- The stadium is to be used **only during the allocated training time**. Players are not permitted to run, dribble, or play around the court perimeter while another session is in progress.
- We have access to the **basketball court, toilets, and designated entry/exit areas only**. All other areas, including other rooms within the stadium, school grounds, and playgrounds, are strictly off-limits.
- **No school equipment or furniture is to be used or moved.**
- **Siblings are to remain seated and supervised by parents at all times.**
- 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. Games are held on the following days:

- U8 mixed and U10 to U18 boys play on Saturdays.
- U23 Men play on Sundays.
- U8 to U19 girls and Senior Women play on Sundays. If there are not enough teams to form an U8 Girls competition, then the MBA may require teams to play in the U8 Saturday competition.

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, RSEA Park and Coatesville Primary School.

**The U8 Competition** will have modified rules:

- 4 x 4 competition i.e., only 4 players on court per team.
- 1 Coach per team is allowed on the court to guide players.
- 2 x 15-minute halves.
- 1 x 3-minute half time break - all players from both teams shoot a free throw for an opportunity to add to team score (if individual score limit has not been reached).
- No grading and no separate divisions (separate groups may apply depending on team numbers).
- Individual scores will not be published online (PlayHQ).
- Round 14 on February 27/28 will be a Round Robin format. These will be the last games for the U8s.
- U8s will not participate in the Semi finals (March 13/14) or Grand finals (March 20/21)

**Fixtures:** The MBA will release the season **fixture** in the week preceding the commencement of the season. You can access the fixtures by:



Downloading the [MyHoops App](#)

Or the link on [McKinnon Basketball Association's website](#)

Or the link on our [website](#)

Fixtures will be released week to week for the first 4 rounds of grading.

Fixtures are subject to change by the MBA.

Your Team Manager will advise you about the game details on a weekly basis.

**The Domestic Competition By-Laws** can be found at [McKinnon Basketball Association Domestic Competition By-Laws](#)

The season will have **14 rounds plus finals** as per the table below. The first 4 weeks are **grading rounds** for the U10s to U23s, and Seniors, and teams may move between divisions within an age group and game times/venues may change. These will be normal rounds for the U8s. We recommend that you check the fixture each Friday during the grading rounds.

|                                 |                                          |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Round 1 (grading for U10s-U23s) | 3/4 Oct                                  |
| Round 2 (grading for U10s-U23s) | 10/11 Oct                                |
| Round 3 (grading for U10s-U23s) | 17/18 Oct                                |
| Round 4 (grading for U10s-U23s) | 24/25 Oct                                |
| Melbourne Cup Weekend           | No games<br>31 Oct - 3 Nov               |
| Round 5                         | 7/8 Nov                                  |
| Round 6                         | 14/15 Nov                                |
| Round 7                         | 21/22 Nov                                |
| Election Weekend                | No games<br>28/29 Nov                    |
| Round 8                         | 5/6 Dec                                  |
| Round 9                         | 12/13 Dec                                |
| Summer School Holidays          | No games<br>17 Dec 2026 -<br>27 Jan 2027 |
| Round 10                        | 30/31 Jan                                |
| Round 11                        | 6/7 Feb                                  |
| Round 12                        | 13/14 Feb                                |
| Round 13                        | 20/21 Feb                                |
| Round 14                        | 27/28 Feb                                |
| Labour Day Long Weekend         | No games<br>6 - 8 Mar                    |
| Semi Finals (exc. U8s)          | 13/14 Mar                                |
| Grand Finals (exc. U8s)         | 20/21 Mar                                |

## 10. Parent Scoring Duty

All parents are expected to take turns at scoring during the season. The Team Manager will set up a roster.

There are 2 scoring mechanisms:

- The clock – which displays information on the court scoreboard. Usually the 'away' team does this (away team is the second named team on the fixture)
- The iPad – which records statistics which will be uploaded to PlayHQ by the referees after the game. Usually the 'home' team does this.

There will be instructions on the scoring bench.

Brief instructions about how to score using the iPad can be found at:

<https://support.playhq.com/hc/en-au/articles/900003258386-Basketball-Electronic-scoring-overview>

Key points to remember when scoring:

- Get there early so you have time to check the players and singlet numbers and familiarise yourself with the scoring instructions of the score table.
- Compare scores on the clock vs iPad regularly during the game to ensure they're the same. If there is a discrepancy, this must be resolved at that time. The referee can be called over to resolve a dispute. If the discrepancy isn't resolved, then the iPad takes precedence.
- Sometimes statistics are lost when being uploaded after the match, so it's always a good idea to take a photo of the iPad screen.
- Fill in players must have all their details entered correctly.
- Players must not play under another player's name.

## 11. Code of Conduct

By registering to play with the Bentleigh Lakers Basketball Club, players, parents and guardians acknowledge that they are expected to comply with the applicable Codes of Conduct and policies of the Club, the McKinnon Basketball Association (MBA) and Basketball Victoria.

To ensure a safe, inclusive and enjoyable environment for everyone, the MBA's Codes of Conduct and Zero Tolerance Policy apply to all players, Coaches, Team Managers, parents, spectators and volunteers. These can be viewed here: <https://www.mckinnonbasketball.org/policies>

Bentleigh Lakers Basketball Club also has a range of Club policies, including our Child Safe Policy. Information about our commitment to child safety can be found here: <https://bentleighlakers.com.au/child-safety/>

If you have any questions, please visit our website [www.bentleighlakers.com.au](http://www.bentleighlakers.com.au) or contact us at [registerforlakers@gmail.com](mailto:registerforlakers@gmail.com).

We look forward to welcoming you to another great season with the Bentleigh Lakers!