

2012

HUNTERS
HANDBOOK

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WELCOME TO 2012

The 2012 Newcastle Hunters program is shaping to be an exciting one for everyone involved in basketball in this region. Our playing and coaching talent is looking to improve on the great progress and success of 2011, and as a Club we are continuing to strive for greatness.

The newly created BNSW Country Premier League will see many of our juniors taking on associations from all over NSW and should prove a challenging and exciting step for all. It is a great opportunity for the Hunters to show everyone in NSW that we are a true force in basketball.

The reformed Waratah Junior Eastern League (formally Central Junior League) will also prove challenging for our young players and a good competition to prepare for the future.

Both competitions will provide a great test for our coaching ranks with the new Hunters Coaching Structure taking place in 2012. Congratulations to all the Division Head Coaches selected, I know you will provide great guidance to your team of Assistant Coaches throughout the year in your Divisions. A courageous move by all within our program, I am sure you will all support the decision to undertake this structure as we continue to strive to increase the success of the Newcastle Hunters in our playing and coaching ranks.

It is also an exciting time for the senior program in 2012, with excellent numbers presenting at trials, we are confident that not only will we field all six senior sides, they will all be extremely competitive. It has been some time since we held high a Championship banner, but this year I am sure success is upon us.

Most importantly, I thank you for being part of the Hunters Club, as without your commitment the Hunters would not be what it is today. Good luck in 2012.... and go the MIGHTY HUNTERS!!

Regards



Ivan Spyrdz
General Manager
Newcastle Basketball

HUNTERS CLUB CULTURE

The Newcastle Hunters is a representative program, and whilst we all strive for success, I would like to remind everyone within the program, Newcastle Basketball advocates and supports the development a positive and enjoyable club culture and aspires to provide athletes with the best opportunities to reach their potential not only as basketball players, but members of the Hunters basketball community.

The Hunters Club Culture is about:

1. Being proud to be a Newcastle Hunter.
2. Striving for the attainment of Newcastle Basketball's core values of Integrity, Pride, Passion, Commitment and Accountability.
3. Ensuring that the Club is a positive basketball and social experience.
4. Creating a supportive and inclusive environment.
5. Ensuring the success of the Club as a whole, by all within it being aware of their role in the club.
6. Developing a 'helper' mentality.
7. Developing a strong work ethic.
8. Seeking continual improvement.
9. Celebrate our own traditions and begin making our own history.

The Club is a reflection of everyone within it, so it's up to all of us to protect our Club Culture.

GENERAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION

All players **MUST BE** registered with the Basketball Association of Newcastle Limited and Basketball New South Wales before they take the court for any game of the representative season.

All team officials must also be registered as 'Other' - this includes Coaches, Managers and other Team Officials involved with the Hunters. Therefore, if you are a 'Team Manager' you must register with the Newcastle Basketball Office and Basketball New South Wales.

2012 Newcastle Basketball Registration Fees (including Basketball NSW registration)

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|
| Seniors | \$92.00 | Juniors (12-17 years) | \$80.00 |
| Miniball (8-11years) | \$66.00 | Others | \$20.00 |

Please see the Newcastle Basketball office for all registration forms and details.

2012 DOMESTIC COMPETITION

For 2012 all junior Hunters representative players must play within the Junior Club Competition. All senior Hunter representative players must play within a BANL senior competition. Competitions commence in March and conclude in September 2012.

BANL representative players wishing to be exempt from playing the BANL Club competition are required to apply in writing to the General Manager.

If you are yet to register with a Club, please contact Newcastle Basketball for a list of Club contacts.

2012 HUNTERS LEVY

Please find below the 2012 Hunters Levy and inclusions.

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Under 12's - Under 14's | \$400.00 per player |
| Under 16's - Under 18's | \$410.00 per player |
| Waratah Youth League - Waratah State League | \$650.00 per player |

Your levy this year will cover the following inclusions:

- All CPL/WJEL Competition, Nomination and Association Fees
- All CPL/WJEL Finals and State Finals Game Fees
- Weekly Team Training Court Hire Costs
- Stats & Scoretable Costs & Training Fund
- BANL Administration Fee
- Hunters Drink Bottle & Reversible Training Singlet
- All CPL/WJEL Game Fees
- Referee's Fees
- Uniform & Equipment Levy
- Trophies & Coaches Honorariums
- Hunters Season Pass

Additional costs may be involved for extra training sessions, camps, preseason games, junior country tournament, etc, and will be coordinated through respective team coaches or managers.

The Senior Players levy may also be reduced if squad numbers exceed 10 players.

Please contact General Manager, Ivan Spyrdz, if you wish discuss the 2012 Hunters Levy.



PAYMENT OF LEVY

Upon selection, all players will be issued one (1) invoice for the full amount with two (2) payment options:

1. Payment in full.
 - Due by Friday 20 January 2012.
- or
2. In two (2) payments of equal amounts:
 - First payment due by Friday 20 January 2012.
 - Second payment due by Friday 17 February 2012.

The methods of how you can pay your Hunters Levy will be outlined on your invoice.

Making a payment will be considered an acceptance of your offer of a position within the 2012 Hunters program.

NON-PAYMENT OF LEVY

Players who have an outstanding levy from previous seasons will not be permitted to represent the Hunters in 2012.

Players who have not made a payment by Friday 20 January 2012, or have not made alternative payment arrangements with the Newcastle Basketball General Manager, may, at the discretion of the Newcastle Basketball General Manager, have their offer of a position with the 2012 Hunters program withdrawn effective immediately and that position re offered to another person.

Senior players and parents of junior players withdrawn from the 2012 Hunters program due to non-payment of their levy will be notified in writing by Newcastle Basketball Association.

REFUNDS

Once a player has been selected and offered a position within the 2012 Hunters program, an invoice will be generated and that player will be deemed a 2012 Hunters player.

If a 2012 Hunters player withdraws from a team due to long term injury or illness, application must be made in writing with relevant medical documentation to Newcastle Basketball for a full or partial refund of fees.

If a 2012 Hunters player withdraws from a team for reasons other than injury, once a payment has been made, there will be no refund.

No refunds are available for games missed due to injury.

You are asked to give serious consideration to this privileged honour of representing the Newcastle Hunters, and if you have any doubt in being able to fully commit to the program, please see the Division Head Coach to discuss or do not accept the offer.

HARDSHIP

Any player who is unable to pay their Hunters levy is asked to see the General Manager to discuss possible payment solutions. If an agreeable solution is not reached, the player will be required to make a claim under the Hardship Policy by completing an Association Assistance Application Form.

All dealings in relation to Hardship cases will be treated with strict confidentiality.

UNIFORM PURCHASES

All 2012 Hunters players must wear the official Hunters Representative uniform kit which comprises of Hunters playing shorts, Hunters warm up top and Hunters polo (polo's are for seniors only).

Players returning from the 2011 Hunters Representative Season are able to continue using their current shorts and warm-up top.

New players are required to purchase a full uniform kit. All Players are able to purchase additional or new uniform items if they wish. The 2012 price list will be:

\$ 40 - Hunters Track Suit Top
\$ 40 - Hunters Playing Shorts
\$ 45 - Hunters Polo

\$ 40 - Hunters Track Suit Pants
\$ 45 - Hunters Warm Up Top
\$ 30 - Hunters Reversible Training Singlet

To ensure accurate sizing, players are able to complete an individual order form. These order forms will be distributed by your team manager early in the new year.

Newcastle Basketball will continue developing team clothing options which players will be able to purchase during 2012.

TRAINING COURSES

Newcastle Basketball will be running a number of training courses during the season for Coaches, Team Managers, parents and players alike.

If you, or anyone you know, have an interest in undertaking a course, such as Senior First Aid, please contact Newcastle Basketball and we may be able to arrange something for you at a discounted rate.

Other courses that may be offered include score table, statistician, refereeing and coaching.

HUNTERS CLUB COACH

We are very fortunate to have Graham Baker the Hunters Club Coach for 2012.

The Hunters Club Coach's primary role will be to assist in the development of representative Coaches. Graham will oversee a number of coaching development initiatives, including:

- Coaches Committee - the Coaches Committee will again be reformed for the 2012 season and we encourage any Coaches interested in participating in this Committee to contact Graham or Newcastle Basketball.
- Guest/Mentor Coaches - Newcastle is blessed with a large number of highly experienced coaches who will be working directly with Hunters coaches at various times throughout the season.
- Coaches Huddles - held monthly, each Coaches Huddle will target a feature topic linked to the development of Coaches and their players alike. All interested Coaches are welcome and encouraged to attend.

We wish Graham all the best for the 2012 season, and are very thankful for his support of the Hunters Program.



PLAYER SAFETY

INJURY PROCEDURES

If a player is injured during the Hunters representative season activity (ie a Hunters game or team training) the Team Manager is responsible to ensure the Injury Report Form is filled out and a copy of the score sheet from the game your player was injured in is obtained.

Please see your Team Manager to obtain the SPORTS INJURY CLAIMS FORM which explains the steps to follow. If you have any questions, please contact Newcastle Basketball.

PLAYER AND PARENT BEHAVIOUR

In keeping with the development of the Hunters Club Culture, all players and their parents are required to sign and abide by the 2012 Hunters Representative Program Players and Parents' Agreement.

This agreement ensures that players and their parents are aware of their responsibilities with regards to their ongoing involvement in the Hunters representative program.

Newcastle Basketball would like to make a special mention of player and parent behaviour in regards to social network and new technology tools such as facebook, twitter, etc. Hunters Club Members are increasingly using these online social platforms to communicate with one another. Newcastle Basketball would like to remind everyone that these forums are public domains and inappropriate comments or conversations on these domains may be in breach of the 2012 Hunters Representative Program Players and Parents' Agreement.

PLAYER PROTECTION POLICY

A Player Protection Officer is in place at the Basketball Association of Newcastle Limited. The Player Protection Officer is responsible for reporting any allegations of player abuse that occur in the Newcastle Basketball Stadium to the local branch of the Department of Community Services (DOCS) and/or the New South Wales Police Service.

The current Player Protection Officer is General Manager, Ivan Spyrzdz.

COMPLAINTS

If a player or parent has a complaint concerning the Hunters program, they should:

1. Initially discuss the problem with the Team Manager.
2. Then discuss the problem with the Team Coach.
3. A written letter setting out the problem should be sent to the Newcastle Basketball Operations Manager.
4. The Hunters Complaints Sub Committee will meet as needs be to handle any complaints received. They will endeavour to respond quickly.
5. If these avenues have been pursued and the player feels a satisfactory outcome has not been achieved, the player should then contact the Newcastle Basketball General Manager.

BUILDING YOUR CLUB

FUND RAISING

Teams are encouraged to fund raise to offset costs of participation in the Hunters program.

Please keep in mind that fund raising may be for a number of areas of costs and not just for reducing Players Levy's. These costs may include team travel expenses, accommodation, end of season parties, etc. Team Managers are responsible for reporting and/or forwarding these monies and/or expenditure to Newcastle Basketball so they may be accounted for and allocated to the appropriate team.

A standardised budget sheet, both electronic and hardcopy, will be forwarded to all Team Managers to assist in reporting your teams fund raising income and allocation.

Team Managers may allocate funds from fund raising activities against Player Levy's within their team, however, if a player from within that team has already paid their Player Levy in full, that players allocation will go into the combined Hunters Club account and considered general fund raising. No Hunters player will be able to accumulate a credit with Newcastle Basketball.

There will also be general Hunters Club fund raising events held during the year to help raise funds for the Club as a whole. Players are encouraged to support all Hunters Club fund raising events and assist in building a strong Club for now and into the future.

HUNTERS MATCH DAY FUND RAISING

Newcastle Basketball Will again be offering the Hunters Game Night's as fund raising opportunities for all teams. A great way for your team to come along, support our Championship teams and raise some funds.

Team are required to man the Front Door and collect entry fee's for the night, provide floor wipers for the games and prepare the post match suppers for the teams.

In return, all fund raising done on the night via raffles, etc, remain with the team undertaking the fund raising.

If your team is interested in nominating for a Hunters Game Night, please contact Rohan Stevenson.

SPONSORSHIP

All players are asked to focus on securing a 'Player Sponsorships' when speaking with local businesses. This is the best and most cost effective way for sponsors to be part of the Hunters program and a great way for you to cover your Players Levy whilst fund raising for your Club.

If you have any sponsors looking to invest with the Hunters on a larger scale please contact Ivan Spyrdz at Newcastle Basketball. Offers to potential sponsors of team, division, Club or any other non 'Player Sponsorship' package must be approved by the Newcastle Basketball General Manager . All non Player Sponsorship package revenue goes directly in to the Hunters Club account.

The 'Are You Hunting A Unique Opportunity' sponsorship package flyer is on the last page of this handbook so information can be passed on to potential sponsors. If you require any flyers or would like an electronic (emailed) version, please contact Newcastle Basketball.

Tailored sponsorship packages are available for businesses of all sizes, so if you have any potential sponsors looking to join the Hunters this season, please contact Ivan Spyrdz on 4961 3185.



PLAYER SPONSORSHIP TEAM REBATE

The Player Sponsorship Team Rebate opportunity can help you reduce your Players Levy and increase the Hunters fund raising income.

This season, if your team is able to secure eight (8) Player Sponsorships, your team will get a Team Rebate to put towards your Hunters participation costs, or whatever you like!

How it works:

- For every one (1) Player Sponsorship a Hunters player attracts, \$ 100 from the sponsorship will go into the Hunters Club account as part of fund raising for the Hunters Club.
- When your team signs up eight (8) Players Sponsorships, your team will get \$ 250.
- When your team signs up nine (9) Players Sponsorships, your team will get \$ 750.
- When your team signs up ten (10) Players Sponsorships, your team will get \$ 1,250!

That money is for your team to do whatever it likes!

You can cover travel costs. You can all go out to dinner. You can have a party.

You can just split the money amongst yourselves!

So if you already have a Player Sponsor for yourself, it pays for you to help others within your team to find them a Player Sponsor!

SUPPORTERS GEAR

There is a range of Newcastle Hunters Supporters Gear available for sale, so make sure you and your family have Hunters Gear on next time you are court side.

Merchandise includes, T-shirts, caps, track suit tops and pants. All area available at the Newcastle Basketball Stadium front office.

HUNTERS WEBSITE

Important information regarding the 2012 Hunters program will be posted on the Newcastle Basketball website (www.newcastlebasketball.com.au). The Newcastle Hunters section of the web page will contain all the latest Hunters news, information, team lists, coaches, fixtures and results.

If you would like to forward pictures and stories regarding your teams results or news, please feel free to email chris@newcastlebasketball.com.au .We will do our best to get it up on the website for you.

Newcastle Basketball also has a Facebook account so make sure you 'friend' us to ensure you get the latest news and information.

So make sure you check out www.newcastlebasketball.com.au for the latest Hunters information.

NB: For players without internet access, important information can be sourced directly from your Coach or Team Manager.



2012 HUNTERS COACHES

Congratulations and good luck to all of the 2012 Hunters Division Head Coaches .

| <u>Division</u> | <u>Coach</u> | <u>Division</u> | <u>Coach</u> |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Championship Women | Paul Lyth | Championship Men | Darren Nichols |
| State Women | | State Men | David Richards |
| Youth Women | Eric Harvey | Youth Men | Matt Paton |
| 18 Women | Kim Hartley | 18 Men | Josh Cohen |
| 16 Women | Catherine Turner | 16 Men | Peter Astley |
| 14 Women | Martin McLean | 14 Men | Chris Brown |
| 12 Women | Daniel Palmer | 12 Men | Trevor Gallacher |

All Assistant Coaches and Team Management positions for teams within the Hunters program will be announced shortly. If you or someone you know is interested in assisting with the program, please contact the Division Head Coach or Newcastle Basketball.

2012 HUNTERS TRAINING

Hunters Junior Representative teams will have 1 session per week:

- 2 hour Division practice session on Saturday mornings
(ie all 20 Division players on court together)

Other training sessions and opportunities may be available for teams and divisions on Saturday mornings and also midweek morning sessions. Once the Newcastle Basketball competition calendar becomes clearer, Coaches will be able to liaise with Newcastle Basketball about additional training.

2012 PRESEASON GAMES

All teams will have a number of preseason games at various venues. The dates of these will be included in the 2012 Hunters Calendar available on the Hunters Website.

Preseason games are not included in your Hunters Levy, and will usually incur a small cost to cover court hire, referees, nominations etc. Please liaise directly with your Team Manager regarding preseason games.



COUNTRY PREMIER LEAGUE

The BNSW Country Premier League (CPL) is played in a central venue format at the venues listed below with teams usually playing 3-4 games on each weekend.

| | | |
|---------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Round 1 | 24 - 25 March | Newcastle/ Maitland |
| Round 2 | 21 - 22 April | Canberra (no 18's) |
| Round 3 | 19 - 20 May | Illawarra |
| Round 4 | 23 - 24 June | Gosford/Central Coast |
| Finals | 21 & 22 July | Gosford |

Please note: Participation in the CPL is covered in your Hunters Levy, however teams are responsible for their own transport and accommodation (if required) costs. This will be coordinated by your Team Manager.

The Hunters have been accepted and will participate in all divisions for 2012.

JUNIOR EASTERN LEAGUE

DIVISION 1

DIVISION 2

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Round 1 | 11 March | Round 1 | 18 March |
| Round 2 | 1 April | Round 2 | 22 April |
| Round 3 | 6 May | Round 3 | 13 May |
| Round 4 | 20 May | Round 4 | 3 June |
| Round 5 | 27 May | Round 5 | 17 June |
| Round 6 | 24 June | Round 6 | 15 July |
| Semi Finals | 22 July (Newcastle) | Semi Finals | 22 July (Maitland) |
| Grand Finals | 29 July (Maitland) | Grand Finals | 29 July (Maitland) |
| State Championships | 3-4 August | State Cup | 18-19 August |

Newcastle Hunters will be nominating in Division 1 for all age groups, however acceptance into either Division will not be determined by BNSW until early 2012.

For State Championships & State Cup qualification process, please refer to BNSW Junior Competitions document or see Rohan Stevenson at Newcastle Basketball.

COUNTRY JNR TOURNAMENT

The 2012 Country Junior Tournament is held during the long weekend in June (9-11 June 2012).

The venues for the 2012 Championships are:

| | | | |
|------|--------------|------|-------------|
| 12 W | Shoalhaven | 12 M | Beaton Park |
| 14 W | Newcastle | 14 M | Berkeley |
| 16 W | Maitland | 16 M | Bathurst |
| 18 W | Niagara Park | 18 M | Terrigal |

Please note: This tournament is not covered in your Hunters Players Levy, so if your team wishes to participate they will need to pay the team nomination fee to Newcastle Basketball by Friday 6 April 2012.

Teams are also responsible for their own transport and accommodation (if required). This will be coordinated by the team manager.

ARE YOU HUNTING A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY?

Hunters Player Sponsorships are a great cost effective way for your business to engage directly with your local community and highlight your business's community spirit.

With a range of levels available for girls or boys from the Under 12's to our women or men in the Waratah Championship, a Hunters Player Sponsorship is the most affordable way for your business to support grassroots sport in Newcastle and take your brand into the homes of local families.

PLAYER SPONSORSHIPS SPONSOR BENEFITS

- *1/4 page full colour advert in Hunters Game Day program
- *Sponsor branding/acknowledgment on Hunters website
- *Sponsor branding/acknowledgment in Hunter Season Yearbook
- *2012 Hunters Season Passes (2)
- *2 Complimentary drink vouchers on Hunters Game Day
- *Invitation to all Hunters events
- *Exclusive Newcastle Basketball promotional opportunities

INVESTMENT

| | Per Player |
|----------------------|------------|
| Championship | \$ 955.00 |
| State & Youth League | \$ 795.00 |
| Under 12's-18's | \$ 545.00 |

(NB: All investment quotes in GST)

For all enquiries regarding Hunters Sponsorship Packages, please contact Ivan Spyrdz on 4961 3185 or email ivan@newcastlebasketball.com.au.

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HUNTERS
IN 2012

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