



## season 2009 **MEDIA RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### ***All Stars Back to Shine***

After a two year absence, the Big V All Star match is set to shine.

Big V, in collaboration with the Victorian Junior Basketball League (VJBL), is pleased to announce two All Star games (a men's and a women's) will be played as part of the *McDonald's National Junior Classic\** on Sunday June 8, at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre (MSAC).

Big V Chairman Daryl Neal said he was excited to see the return of the All Star experience, which will see a North-West side compete against a South-West side (teams listed below).

"It will be a great spectacle to see the best players in State Championship take on one another," Neal said.

"And what better forum than in front of the up-and-coming star of the future."

The women's match will tip-off from 5pm with the men's to follow at 7.30pm. Both matches will be played on MSAC's show-court.

VJBL Competitions Manager Rebekah Lacy said it was a great addition to the Classic.

"It is great to be able to combine the best juniors in the nation with the state's best elite players," Lacy said.

"And it is a great way for the up-and-coming youngsters to see what level they could one day play at."

In addition to the All Star games, a 10 minutes *McDonald's Mini-Series* game will be played in the half-time interval of each game, giving up to 20 youngsters from eight to 10 years of age to play basketball on the big stage.

Stay tuned to the Big V website ([www.bigv.com.au](http://www.bigv.com.au)) for updates on the All Star games.

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### North-West Men

**Coach** Steve Smith (Diamond Valley Eagles)  
*\*coach to select assistant*

**Team** Daryl Corletto (Melbourne Tigers)  
 Daniel Johnson (Melbourne Tigers)  
 Matt O'Hea (Melbourne Tigers)  
 Ivan Platenik (Waverley Falcons)  
 James Orr (Waverley Falcons)  
 Jermaine Maybank (Hume City Broncos)  
 Michael Petridis (Hume City Broncos)  
 Damon Lowery (Eltham Wildcats)  
 Luke Egan (Eltham Wildcats)  
 Carl Arts (*special selection* Southern Pen. Sharks)

### South- East Men

**Coach** Ken Harrington (Ringwood Hawks)  
*\*coach to select assistant*

**Team** Adrian Sturt (Melbourne Tigers)  
 Glen Barlow (Latrobe City Energy)  
 Sam Belt (Ringwood Hawks)  
 Vashon Weaver (Latrobe City Energy)  
 Luke McMillan (Ringwood Hawks)  
 Luke O'Hea (Ringwood Hawks)  
 Rhys Carter (Latrobe City Energy)  
 Matthew Snowball (Ringwood Hawks)  
 Jeff Reid (Latrobe City Energy)  
 Willie Weimer (Ringwood Hawks)

### North -West Women

**Coach** Warren Taylor (Hume City Broncos)  
*\*coach to select own assistant*

**Team** Sharin Milner (Hume City Broncos)  
 Katrina Hibbert (Hume City Broncos)  
 Tenille Cann (Hume City Broncos)  
 Lauren Bennett (Hume City Broncos)  
 Carmen Weaver (Diamond Valley Eagles)  
 Jayde Tyrrell (Diamond Valley Eagles)  
 Megan McIntyre (Diamond Valley Eagles)  
 Jess Kelly (Eltham Wildcats)  
 Hannah Pickford (Eltham Wildcats)  
 Danielle Fidge (Diamond Valley Eagles)

### South- East Women

**Coach** Sarah Nobbs (Melbourne Tigers)  
*\*coach to select own assistant*

**Team** Julie Brookhouse (Waverley Falcons)  
 Alex Lough (Waverley Falcons)  
 Candice Rogers (Bulleen Boomers)  
 Lisa Pardon (Bulleen Boomers)  
 Audrey Muse (Geelong Cats)  
 Brooke McKay (Waverley Falcons)  
 Maddy Taylor (Geelong Cats)  
 Hope Terdich (Melbourne Tigers)  
 Bec Campagli (Melbourne Tigers)  
 Meagan Green (Bulleen Boomers)

[more]



*\*The McDonald's National Junior Classic* is a three day invitational tournament held over the Queen's Birthday Weekend. It is regarded as the premier club tournament in Australia, attracting teams from all over the country. The annual tournament is entering its 33<sup>rd</sup> year and is managed by the Victorian Junior Basketball League (VJBL), supported by Basketball Victoria and endorsed by Basketball Australia.

Due to the size of the event, two venues are used. In 2009 the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre will host the junior tournament (U12's and U14's) and the Dandenong Basketball Stadium will house the seniors. (U16's and 18's)

This invitational event sees 128 teams contesting the covered 8 championships held across the following competitions:

- Under 12 Boys and Girls
- Under 14 Boys and Girls
- Under 16 Men and Women
- Under 18 Men and Women

In each of the eight sections, 16 teams compete for the title which see in excess of 1100 players participating. The sections are made up with eight teams representing metropolitan and country Victoria and the remaining spots reserved from teams from New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland, Australian Capital Territory and Tasmania.

Large crowds are attracted to witness the best junior basketballers in Australia compete. In 2008 estimates say in excess of 8,000 spectators were in attendance at both venues across the three days.

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*For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact:*

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