



## **Under 8/10/12**

### **JUNIOR MERCY RULE**

#### **JUNIOR BOYS AND GIRLS Under 8's, 10's and 12's**

Waverley Basketball Association has decided to adopt the Mercy Rule. This rule is used widely throughout basketball competitions and varies from one association to another. Waverley will implement this rule to our Under 8's, Under 10's and Under 12's Junior Competitions in the manner outlined below.

It is intended by the introduction of this rule to have more enjoyable games for all involved and uphold good sportsmanship to allow struggling teams to bring the ball down the court.

#### **The rule will be implemented as follows:**

- A team must retreat back to the Three Point Line of their defensive key when they reach a fifteen point lead.
- The Mercy Rule must be implemented at any time during the game when a team reaches this lead.
- If the leading team as described does not retreat to the three point area in the eyes of the referee, and the defensive team steal the ball, then the referees will call a violation and return the ball to the team that is not leading.
- Referees are the total arbitrators of this rule.
- If the lead is diminished under the fifteen points, the Mercy Rule will not apply at this point in the game and players and coaches can return to playing any style of defence they wish.
- It is important all coaches demonstrate a fair and sportsmanlike approach to the game.