



SCORING RULE SET TO REMAIN FOR CURRENT SEASON

WBA are pleased to see additional easing of COVID-19 restrictions as announced a couple of weeks ago by the [Victorian Government and the Department of Health](#).

WBA's density limits have increased and the Waverley Stadium can now cater for a maximum capacity of 864 people, allowing more spectators to enjoy watching their family and friends play community sport. [Covid-Safe plans](#) and QR Code electronic record keeping must still be used, and BioSafety Officers will still be present to check compliance and clean high touch surfaces as they have been since basketballs return.

The [WBA Scoring Policy](#) was introduced in 2020 when WBA were modelling what the season ahead would look like. By entering into WBA competitions, teams agreed to the T's & C's which included this new policy. WBA understands with the easing of restrictions, this is one process a number of teams find difficult to adhere to when a scorer or spectator is unavailable to attend a game, especially in the senior competitions. However, for the reasons outlines below the scoring policy will remain until the end of the senior season and be reviewed again in June.

- It's simpler for an organisation to keep something in place that was advertised prior to commencement, as opposed to switching in and out of policies throughout a season. If it's relaxed now, and in a month or two required to be implemented again, not only would it be difficult to reinstate, but if a team had lots of 'away' games schedule while the rule is off, then it's back on and they find they have many more 'home' games coming up, this would be unfair to these teams and WBA doesn't have the resources to be manually redoing all schedules again each time the policy changes.
- Unfortunately, not only is the pandemic ongoing, but international arrivals will return shortly and winter is approaching. Therefore, WBA are being more cautious than necessary and are ready with contingency plans also advertised prior to the season commencing in case winter brings with it any further restrictions.

- Previously WBA received scoring disputes on a regular basis, and most of these occurred when senior players switched scoring positions. With the introduction of technology and TV scoreboards in 2008, the previous rule *‘every team must provide a competent scorer for every game’* was relaxed and not strictly enforced. This new policy results in a team being responsible for only 50% of season fixtures, and teams are reminded there are only 11 – 12 rounds remaining of this season, resulting in approximately half a dozen scoring turns left.
- Game Officials (who are often teenagers) will continue to wipe equipment and basketballs between matches until further notice. However, it's unreasonable for WBA to expect them to wipe visibly noticeable perspiration from players on bench seats and from arms across the score bench so when the rule changes, teams will be encouraged to wipe benches and table tops themselves if they choose to prior to scoring.
- Hand Sanitizers and WBA basketballs being provided on every bench will continue to be a feature of WBA competitions moving forward.

WBA thank you for your understanding and cooperation during this tricky season.