

Strathclyde League Basketball Association



Handbook 2024 / 25

Contents	Page
Executive Committee.....	3
Competition Regulations	
Constitution.....	4 – 5
Competition Regulations.....	6 – 10
Appendix 1 – Discipline & Appeals Procedure.....	11

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Contact Information

The information listed has been provided in good faith but the SLBA cannot be held responsible if the contact details listed are not accurate – they are provided by the member clubs.

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Constitution

1. Name

The Association shall be called “Strathclyde League Basketball Association” hereafter called the SLBA

2. Affiliation

The SLBA will consist of affiliated paid-up member Clubs by means of an annual fee. This will give each affiliated Club one vote at General Meetings. All members of affiliated Clubs must be registered with the governing body Basketball Scotland. The SLBA may be affiliated to FIBA, Basketball Scotland and the Scottish Sports Council.

3. Aims

The purpose of the SLBA is to encourage interest in the game in Strathclyde and to provide organised competition for affiliated Clubs in the form of a league and cup competitions. The SLBA aims to promote and develop the advancement of overall standards of basketball through coaching, playing, refereeing and table officiating. Courses and tournaments will be held with the provision of finances and the support of the member Clubs.

4. Annual General Meeting

Notice of the AGM (Normally mid-June) will be given to all member Clubs at least thirty days prior by the League Secretary. Any proposals of changes to the Constitution or Rules must be in writing to the League Secretary at least fourteen days prior to the AGM and be proposed and seconded by two registered Clubs. The League Secretary will circulate to all member Clubs any proposed changes at least seven days prior to the AGM. At the AGM, the current chairperson will conduct the election of officers and if he/she is not re-elected, he/she will then stand down and the new chairperson will take control of the meeting. The quorum needed for decisions at the AGM is seven-member Club votes excluding the Exec.

5. Executive Committee

The member Clubs present at the AGM will elect the Executive Committee. This will consist of -

- Honorary President
- Chairperon
- Vice-Chairperson
- League Secretary
- Treasurer
- Discipline Officer
- Conduct Officer
- Plus up to 6 other Committee Members

Any officer who has a dual post will only be entitled to one vote. Meetings will be held at the discretion of the League Secretary or if matters can be dealt with by e-mail to save time and inconvenience this again will be at the discretion of the League Secretary. Decisions will be taken by a minimum of three Executive Committee members. In the event of an equality of votes, the chairperson will have the casting vote. The Executive Committee will have the power to create a sub-Executive Committee for whatever purpose. Any Club with written proposals or questions, which require the reply of the league, shall receive a formal reply on the matter from the League Secretary within 28 days of receipt of any such request. The control of the affairs of the SLBA shall be vested by the Annual General Meetings on the Executive Committee, but the Annual General Meeting cannot repudiate obligations, which have been undertaken during the preceding year by the retiring Executive Committee.

6. Constitution and Rules

Once the Executive Committee has been elected any additions or amendments to the Constitution and Rules and Regulations can be voted on – provided these were received at least fourteen days prior to the AGM from two registered Clubs. All decisions at the AGM must be proposed, seconded and decision by a majority-vote. The League Secretary will supply all member Clubs with voting forms for voting at the General meetings. The deciding vote in the event of equality would be with the Chairperson. ** Only Clubs that have completed the current season and attend the AGM can vote on issues for the coming season. New Clubs have no voting powers until after the Fixture meeting.

7. Extraordinary General Meeting

An EGM can be called by a resolution of the Executive Committee or by at least seven-member Clubs in writing to the League Secretary. If he/she is not available - then in writing to the chairperson of the league. Notice of at least fourteen days must be given and the agenda published to all member Clubs prior to the EGM. The agenda is the only matter to be discussed at the EGM.

8. Finances

The funds of the SLBA will be lodged at a bank or Building Society. Cheques drawn on the SLBA account must be signed by two members of the Exec. The Treasurer will read a summary independent audit and report of the finances by the third party, to the AGM. The financial year-end will be 31 May

9. Procedure for Cessation

In the event of the SLBA ceasing to exist, any assets would be split equally amongst member Clubs who have been affiliated to the league for at least 3 years from the day that the league officially ceases to exist. Any Club with more than one team entered in the league will not be entitled to a larger share of any assets.

10. Accepted Constitution

The Constitution will be signed by the League Secretary and the Chairperson and held by the League Treasurer.

Competition Regulations

1. Playing Rules

1.1 These regulations shall apply to all competitions organised by the “Strathclyde League Basketball Association”, hereinafter referred to as the “Association”.

1.2 Each competition shall be controlled by the Executive Committee of the Association. They will consider and act on all matters in connection with the regulations and have the authority to make decisions on all matters not specifically covered by these regulations. No Executive member will sit in judgement on any matter relating to his or her club. Decisions may be taken, between Executive Committee meetings, by any two from the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Honorary Secretary.

2. Competition Entry

2.1 All clubs participating in any competition organised by the Association must be affiliated to the National Governing Body prior to taking part in any competition.

2.2 Each club must notify to the Association the name and contact details of the person who will act as Club Secretary. This person will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the club and will be recognised as having the full authority of the club. All communications between the Association and a club will be with the Secretary. The Club Secretary must have an email address, which will be used as the primary method of communications between the Association and the club.

2.3 Each club must provide an additional name and contact details of the person who will act as the secondary contact for the Club. This secondary club contact must have an email address, which will be used as the primary method of communications between the Association and the club.

2.4 Clubs with more than one team in the Leagues must provide a primary & secondary contact name for each individual team. These named people will be contacts for other teams within the same league.

2.5 All competition entry forms for the next season must be received by the League Secretary by the AGM.

2.6 All fees shall be set annually by the Executive Committee. The fees will be detailed on the official League Entry Form which will be circulated each season prior to the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

2.7 A team must compete in the League Competition to be eligible for entry to the relevant Cup Competition.

2.8 There is no separate entry fee for Cup Competitions.

2.9 Clubs with more than one team playing in the same SLBA age group will be allowed to enter each team in the relevant cup competition but this shall be limited to their team’s squad list and if a player transfers between teams then they are cup tied to the original team.

2.10 Any Club wishing to enter a new team or re-enter a team that withdrew during the previous season must lodge a separate surety fee for that team.

2.11 Failure of a current Club to send a representative to the AGM may render the Club liable to a fine of £25.00 and possible withdrawal from the league.

2.12 Non-attendance at the AGM of new Clubs will result in their application being rejected.

2.13 All outstanding fines for the season in question must be paid before the start of the AGM.

3. Registrations and Affiliations

3.1 All players, coaches, officials and team followers must be registered with National Governing Body prior to participation in any SLBA Competitions.

3.2 Failure of a Club to register a player with the National Governing Body will cause the Club to be fined £15.00 per player and/or loss of all league points at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Continued abuse of this rule would render the Club liable to ejection from SLBA Competitions and possible refusal for re-entry.

3.3 Any player wishing to transfer Clubs or teams must do so within Basketball Scotland deadline, by the end of first week in January.

4. Competition Format

4.1 The Executive Committee will decide league formats.

4.2 At the end of the season, the decision on promotion and relegation will be the responsibility of the Executive Committee (subject to applications being received for entry in the following season).

4.3 League Points will be awarded as follows: Win 3pts, Loss 1pt, Forfeited 0pts Plus Fine.

4.4 In the event of two or more teams having the same points, the head-to-head scores are used to determine the league position.

4.5 Competition Coordinators will be responsible for the day to day running of the leagues and should be a team's first point of contact for basic administration queries such as game rescheduling / forfeit / cancellations, player registration & floor official queries etc. League Coordinators have been given the authority from the Executive Committee to make contact with the first and second named contacts for each team within their respective leagues plus any other member of any team in their league as they see fit when carrying out their duty. Any queries that teams may have out with a League Coordinators remit should be made through the Club Secretary to the SLBA Secretary.

4.6 All League & Cup games should be played with a tip-off time agreed by both teams.

4.7 For League & Cup games on a Saturday or Sunday the tip-off time is by arrangement.

5. Competition Fixtures

5.1 For league competitions with no central venue (i.e. played on a home and away basis), a Fixtures Meeting may be called prior to the start of the season.

5.2 Attendance at the Fixtures Meeting (if called) is mandatory for each team (not club).

5.3 Failure of a team (not club) to attend the Fixtures meeting (if called) without a legitimate reason and prior notification at least seven days in advance to the Executive Committee will result in a fine of £50 and possible ejection from SLBA Competitions at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

5.4 In the Cup competitions, the Executive Committee will establish week-ending dates for ties and the Home (first named) club secretary will be responsible for offering a suitable date. Failure to fulfil the tie in the week stipulated may result in forfeiture of the game.

5.5 All Clubs must submit a completed list of their fixtures to the relevant League Coordinator by the 2nd Sunday in September.

5.6 Any team losing a game or games by forfeit or default may not win the competition.

5.7 All senior league games must be completed before the Cup Final date each year and youth league games by 31st March each year.

6. Game Equipment

6.1 Every Home Club must provide:

6.1.1 Official score sheet

6.1.2 Visual game clock (Not stop watch or mobile phone)

6.1.3 Personal foul markers / Team foul markers

6.1.4 Visible Score

6.1.5 Sound Device (Preferably not whistle)

6.1.6 Scorer and a Timekeeper

6.2 Failure to provide one or more of the above will result in a fine of £15 per missing item. Responsibility to report the failure is with the visiting team. They must inform the home team that they will be reporting the matter and then contact the League Co-ordinator ASAP and follow up in writing by email or letter with the game details and the items that were missing. Repeated infringements could lead to the offending team being suspended from the league.

7. Fines

7.1 All fines are at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

7.2 Any fines imposed must be paid within fourteen days. If a fine is not paid, after fourteen days, it is then doubled and if not paid after a further fourteen days - the team will be suspended until the double fine is paid.

8. Score Sheets & Results

8.1 The league copy of the score sheet (White copy) will be sent to the **League Coordinator** (with points per player completed for both teams) by the **WINNING** team within 10 days of the game being played. Failure to do so will render the Club liable to a fine of £10.00 and the possible loss of two league points.

8.2 The winning team shall be responsible for notifying the result of the match to the Relevant Division/Cup Co-ordinator immediately after the game.

8.3 All player registration numbers must be entered on the score sheet before the game commences. Failure to do so will result in a £10 per team fine.

9. Team Colours

9.1 Home teams will wear light coloured strips and the visiting team will wear coloured strips unless alternative arrangements are made with both Clubs in agreement. All teams must wear matching uniforms. Team numbers to be as outlined in current FIBA regulations.

9.2 Failure to adhere to this rule will be punishable by a fine of £10.00.

10. Playing Facilities

10.1 All courts must meet Health & Safety requirements and be regulation size as defined by the National Governing Body regulations.

10.2 If a fixture is reversed, the visiting Club takes over the responsibility of the administration of the game unless both Clubs have agreed to alternative arrangements.

11. Player Restrictions

11.1 Each club may enter more than one team in any league, however, such teams will require to be named differently (e.g. Ayr Storm 1 and Ayr Storm 2 are acceptable).

11.2 Players within a club can only play for one team within an age group.

11.3 Senior National League players may only play in Senior Men's or Women's Division 1 competition. Any senior player who appears on ANY National League game scoresheet will retain National League status until the end of the current season and as such can only play in the Men's or Women's 1st Division in the SLBA.

11.4 Prior to playing the first competitive match of the season (league or cup), each club must submit a copy of the Official Team registration list(s) from Basketball Scotland to the relevant League Co-ordinator. If a club has more than one team at the same age level then individual team lists must be submitted at the same time.

11.5 If no team list is submitted before a team plays its first official league or cup game then the game shall be forfeit 20 – 0 by the offending team and a fine of £50 will apply. The team will then have 7 days from date of their first game to submit the team list to the relevant Competition Coordinator. Failure to do so will result in another £50 fine plus suspension from the League & Cup competitions until the fine is paid. Clubs must also inform the relevant Competition Coordinator of every additional registered player throughout the season by sending through a copy of the official team registration list from Basketball Scotland. Failure to inform the Competition Coordinator of a new player(s) before said player(s) appears on an SLBA League or Cup scoresheet will incur a fine of £50 per player and forfeit of the game 20-0. There will be no additional fine for the game forfeit above the player fine. There will be no appeal on this administrative fine unless a dated email with the Basketball Scotland team list attached can be supplied to prove that the club did inform the Competition Coordinator of the addition before the game started.

11.6 There will be no movement of players from one team to another other than by official transfer. Only one transfer per player per season will be allowed and both teams must agree to the transfer or seek arbitration in writing from the SLBA. Transfers must be completed in line with basketball Scotland deadline, end of first week in January. New players can be registered at any point in the season provided they are not already registered to another team.

11.7 Senior aged players can only play for the Club they have been registered with at Basketball Scotland. In circumstances where the SLBA team does not have a National League team, a nominated player can play National League for an alternative Club and still play Division 1 for the nominating SLBA Club.

11.8 No player may play for more than one team in any one season in any SLBA Cup Competition.

11.9 No National League registered senior-aged players may play in the SLBA Robert Taft Cup.

11.10 A player who plays in the Final of a Cup Competition must have played in the quarter or semi-final of the same Cup Competition plus a minimum of three League games for the club.

12. Non-Arrival of teams

12.1 The FIBA ruling of allowing only 15mins after the T.O. time is accepted as the ruling. However, because of the nature of cross-city traffic etc. the decision to appeal to the league to claim the game in the event of late arrival shall be left to the discretion of the home Club. If it is felt that, any Club is abusing this flexibility the matter should be brought to the Executive Committee's attention and the offending Club will be warned of its conduct.

13. Disputes

13.1 Any team who agrees to start a game cannot later protest at something that was highlighted before the start of the game. If a Team agrees to play/not play a game under protest, the Captain will sign the score sheet followed by writing "under protest" on the score sheet. The team protesting will then send a report of the protest to the League Co-ordinator, as will the referee and the umpire, within three working days. The team protesting must send £100 with the protest letter. If upheld the money will be refunded.

14. Officials

14.1 All Games must be played with two qualified and Basketball Scotland Registered Floor Officials, minimum requirement:

U14 - 2 x Level 1

U16 - 2 x Level 1

U18 - 1 x Level 1, and 1 level2 or Experienced level 1

Senior - 1 x Level 1, 1 x Level 2

14.2 All Games must be played with two Basketball Scotland qualified Table Officials. If no registration numbers are entered on the scoresheet for the table officials then a fine of £10 will be levied.

14.3 The following match fees shall apply: -

	Senior Men	Senior Women	Junior	Cadet	U'14
Floor Officials	£30	£30	£20	£20	£16
Table Officials**	£10	£10	£10	£10	£10

(**Recommended minimum)

14.4 In addition to the above fees, travelling expenses between officials' homes and venue, and return, will be calculated as follows:

- 35p per mile travelling by car (subject to change).
- Second class return rail fare plus public transport to and from station.
- Bridge toll as appropriate.

14.5 All Officials' fees and expenses shall be paid by the Home Club at the Pre-game meeting.

14.6 Where an official is away from home for more than 5 hours and no suitable refreshments are provided, he/she is entitled to a subsistence allowance of £5 to be paid by the Home Club.

15. Game Postponements

15.1 If a game is postponed (without the agreement of both Clubs) within 5 days of the arranged fixture, (Except in extenuating circumstances) the cancelling team will be fined £100.

15.2 If the cancellation was on the day of the game with the referees attending and it was the away team that cancelled, the home team pays **expenses only** to the referees and claims the amount back from the away team.

15.3 The non-cancelling team must contact the League Co-ordinator immediately and inform them of the postponement.

15.4 If a game is cancelled, the date for the re-arranged game must be sent to the relevant league coordinator within 14 days of the original fixture. If the new date is not received within this time then the club that cancelled the game will be fined £30. The exception to this would be if the game is forfeit then the conditions in regulation 16 would apply.

16. Forfeited Games

16.1 The team that forfeits the game must send a fine of £100 to the League Treasurer within 14 days.

16.2 If a youth league game is not played by the 31st March or a senior league game by the Cup Final day each year and neither team has claimed the game, both teams shall pay a fine of £100. No league points are awarded to either team.

16.3 If a team forfeits one game then entry into the league the following season will require an extra £50 (youth teams) or £100 (senior teams) surety to be paid.

16.4 If any team forfeits two games then they will be immediately withdrawn from the league and entry into the leagues for the following season will be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

16.5 No League points are awarded for a forfeited game.

17. Discipline

17.1 If, following a referee's report, the Competition Co-ordinator deems it necessary, they will ask an Executive Committee member to chair a sub-Executive Committee with two other impartial league members to deal with the matter.

18. Disqualifications & Appeals

18.1 Any player or team official disqualified in a league or cup game shall receive an automatic one-match ban from their next game, league or cup, at the same level. The Referee and Umpire will provide a report to the Disciplinary Officer within 24 hours of the game. The matter will then be passed to the Disciplinary Officer and will be considered by a discipline committee as to whether any further action should be taken. A copy of the official's reports shall be forwarded to the relevant club secretary. The SLBA Disciplinary Committee will be guided by the Basketball Scotland National Competition Disciplinary Policy.

18.2 Any appeals against a decision made by the Discipline Committee, regarding protests and disputes must be put in writing. Any appeal shall be considered by individuals not concerned with the initial decision (see Appendix 1). There is a £100 administration fee that must accompany such appeals. Such appeals

must be submitted in writing to the League Secretary within 7 working days of being informed of the Discipline Committee's decision. If the appeal is upheld the administration fee shall be returned.

18.3 Any Club guilty of playing a disqualified player will be fined £100 and the loss of all league points or expulsion from a Cup Competition.

18.4 The SLBA Disciplinary Officer (or nominated member of the SLBA Executive) will issue to all Clubs notification of players under an automatic one game ban and the details of any further disciplinary action taken.

19. Trophies

19.1 A trophy will be awarded to teams winning League and Cup competitions. Individual mementoes will also be presented to all league winning and Cup and runner-up players.

19.2 Trophies will remain the property of the Association and must be returned on demand.

19.3 Should a trophy be lost or damaged whilst in the possession of a club they shall be responsible the cost of repair or replacement.

20. Code of Conduct

20.1 The "Code of Conduct" used by the National Governing Body will be enforced in all SLBA competitions.

20.2 Any reported infringements, or behaviour deemed to be in breach of the NGB Code of Conduct, shall be investigated by the SLBA Conduct Officer and sanctions issued according to the NGB Code of Conduct. If the Conduct Officer deems it necessary, they will ask an Executive Committee member to chair a sub-Executive Committee with two other impartial league members to deal with the matter.

21. Authority

21.1 The Executive Committee shall have the sole responsibility for the interpretation of these Regulations.

21.2 A request, in exceptional circumstances, for the relaxation of any of these regulations must be made in writing to the Association Secretary for consideration by the Executive Committee.

Appendix 1.

Discipline & Appeals Procedure

Any incidents of alleged discipline transgressions should be reported by the match officials to either the League Secretary or the League Discipline Officer. On receipt of the report the matter will be considered by a discipline committee of no less than 3 members of the SLBA Executive committee, but excluding the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary, as to whether any further action should be taken. If the issue is routine, as most of them are, the matter will be left with the Discipline Committee to determine sanction. The outcome will be communicated to the club concerned as per the outlined process.

It is extremely important that the matter is not further discussed until such time as any appeal is heard or the time frame for such an appeal to be made has expired.

Should any appeal be received an appeal sub-group of three members will be convened by the Chairperson. This group will consist of members who have no previous knowledge or information concerning the detail of the original discipline offence or the findings of the discipline sub-group. This group may also include persons from out with the SLBA Executive Committee.

Any member of the executive who does have knowledge of the original incident or following process and is asked to be involved in the appeal should disqualify themselves from this process immediately.

Appendix 2.

Under 14 Playing Regulations

The following rules & regulations will apply to all SLBA Under 14 games for the 2018 / 19 season. Normal FIBA rules will apply but allow for the exceptions listed below. Please note that this is the general rules outline and that these may be altered prior to the start of the season.

1. All U14 fixtures are to be scheduled at the weekend, i.e. Saturday or Sunday games. However, if both clubs agree then mid-week nights can be used. This is to prevent teams being forced to travel mid-week for late tip-off times and not arriving home until after 11pm on a school night. If a team cannot offer a weekend fixture, then they must offer to play both games away from home and must cover the referee and table official expenses for the second visit. The home team will still be responsible for securing the referees and table officials for the 2nd visit unless agreed otherwise with the visiting team.
2. Games will be 4 x 10-minute periods with 5 minutes overtime where required. If there is a time availability problem and both teams agree then this could be changed to 4 x 8-minute quarters and 3 minutes overtime, however, this must be agreed at the time of the initial fixture arrangement or if changed at least 7 days in advance of the fixture.
3. Ball Size – both U 14 boys and girls will use a size 6 ball.
4. Zone defences are NOT permitted at any time. If spotted the referee will give a verbal warning to players on court to play man to man defence. If there is no change then the game will be stopped, and the coach verbally warned about the zone defence. If there is still no change then the game will be stopped, and the coach charged with a technical foul. If there is still no change then the game will be stopped again, and the coach charged with another technical foul and asked to leave the hall. If there is no suitable adult to continue as coach, then the game will be awarded 20 – 0 to the opposing team. If there is a suitable adult to continue as coach the game will continue, however, if the team continues to play a zone defence then the referee will stop the game and default the game to the opposing team 20 – 0.
5. Teams must have a minimum of 8 players present and, on the scoresheet, all players on the scoresheet must take part in the game. If a team cannot field 8 players, then fewer can be used with prior agreement from the opponents. This prior agreement must be sought at least 7 days in advance of the fixture.
6. There are no restrictions on the amount of time any player can play, however, it is expected that coaches give reasonable court time to all competitors and respect the score and Basketball Scotland code of conduct. It should be seen that stronger players are rested when the game score reaches a 25-point difference.
7. Possession arrow follows standard FIBA rules, i.e. changes as per normal basketball rules regardless of the score.
8. A full court press is allowed unless a team is more than 10 points in front, then they must drop back to ½ court. Referee will give verbal warning to players on court to drop back to the half court. If, after two defensive phases by the team in front, there is no change in the full court press then the game will be stopped, and the coach verbally warned about the pressing defence. If there is still no change then the game will be stopped, and the coach charged with a technical foul. If there is still no change then the game will be stopped again, and the coach charged with another technical foul and asked to leave the hall. If there is no suitable adult to

continue as coach, then the game will be awarded 20 – 0 to the opposing team. If there is a suitable adult to continue as coach the game will continue, however, if the team continues to play a full court press then the referee will stop the game and default the game to the opposing team 20 – 0.

9. Referee and table official fees will be as laid out in Section 14 of the SLBA Handbook, i.e. £16 game fee plus travelling expenses for referees and a recommended minimum of £10 per table official.

Zone Defence Definition

The SLBA are following the guidelines that Basketball Scotland are setting out for this age group with regards to no Zone defence being allowed.

Zone defence is different from man-to-man defence in that, instead of guarding a particular player, each defender is responsible for guarding an area of the floor, or "zone", and any offensive player that comes into that area. Zone defenders move their position on the floor in relationship to where the ball moves not the players. Zone defence is often effective in stopping dribble penetration and one-on-one moves. Man-to-man defence has each defender assigned to defend a certain offensive player - his or her "man" - and the defender moves when their assigned player moves. If a defender doesn't follow their player when they move a significant distance (more than 10 feet) or 'sag' or 'drift' or 'hedge' away from their man and they are not part of a double team on another player, then they will be considered to be in a zone defence.

For example, if a defender is standing inside the key close to the basket – blocking the lane to the basket in other words - whilst their 'man' is out close to the 3-point line then this will be considered a zone defence. The presence of the defender under the basket will stop outside players from driving to the basket. Defenders must be outside the key if their players are out at the 3-point line.

A 'sagging' man-to-man can quickly turn into a zone defence and this is not the point of the regulation. Likewise, this regulation is not intended to stop a double team or trapping defence but is aimed at stopping defenders 'waiting' or 'hanging' around an area whilst their assigned man is on the other side of the court. The referees must use common sense and judgement when issuing a warning to players as they may not be fully aware of their defensive role, but repeated warnings should not be tolerated and the coach warned to get the defence sorted out.