



MEMORANDUM

To: Constituent Association Members (CAMs)
Cc: BTAS Board and Staff, NBL1 Clubs.
From: Chris McCoy, CEO
Date: Wednesday 9 October 2019
Page(s): 10
Subject: BTAS Structure for 2020

The Basketball Tasmania (BTAS) Board met on Saturday 21 September to discuss the future structural opportunities for our sport. Our current structure throughout the state is a vast improvement from before the governance review (2013) and Constitution Change (2014) however there are still improvements to be made and we are committed to 'best practice'.

We are also mindful that our structure should support changed requirements for participation in National competitions (NBL1) and this review and change has certainly been expedited by these requirements.

Our current structure is still not servicing the sport to the optimum levels due to the following reasons:

- CAMs are too small – only 2.5 employees through 17 CAMs.
- Catchment areas are not big enough to conduct local domestic rosters.
- CAMs are not interested in amalgamations.
- The sport does not have the capacity for growth (see above points).
- Generally, the current CAMS do not provide the full association services that the sport requires.

- Most current CAMs are (in fact) excellent 'Clubs' – they provide excellent services to organise teams in competitions and all the administration that goes with this.
- The CAMs voted at the BTAS AGM in 2018 that they did not want to increase the services provided at the CAM level. The CAMs are mostly operating as very good 'clubs'.

The BTAS Board has decided to 'work towards' a '3-association model' over the next 12 months.

Links to the Basketball in Tasmania Strategic Plan 2019-23

- Our Mission: "To be a leading, professional and accountable sport, recognised for our state led and delivered community programs. To be gender equal, all abilities, engaging sport with defined pathways for all. To develop competitive, high quality state and national level players, coaches and officials."
- Our Vision: "Basketball is the sport of choice for Tasmanians".
- Our Culture – Innovation – "We're improving, learning and driving change".
- Participation and Growth: "Basketball in Tasmania participation is inclusive and reaches 20% of Tasmanians annually with a retained membership of 20,000 registered members."
- Competitions: "Breadth of basketball programs and competitions at all levels available state-wide".
- Athlete Development and Pathways: "Increase quality of local basketball development programs".
- Governance: "State-wide unified culture embedded.

- Governance: “Increase professionalism of basketball administration at all levels”.
- Service delivery: “Basketball organisations are continuously improving and proactively working together.”

Very quick summary of what that means for each region:

- **South** - BTAS will continue to run the competitions and activities in the south over 2020 with a view of building the single association in preparation for 2021. Hobart Chargers to return for NBL1 in 2020 in Men and Women.
- **North** – further support for the Launceston Basketball Association as the Launceston Tornados are embraced into the association as the ‘flagship program’. Northern teams in Tri-Series will play as Tornados (as will occur with Chargers and Thunder in other regions).
- **North West** – NWBU to turn into the North West Basketball Association with the NW Thunder being embraced into the association as the ‘flagship program. Full time staff appointed.

What does the ‘3-association model’ mean for the current CAMs?

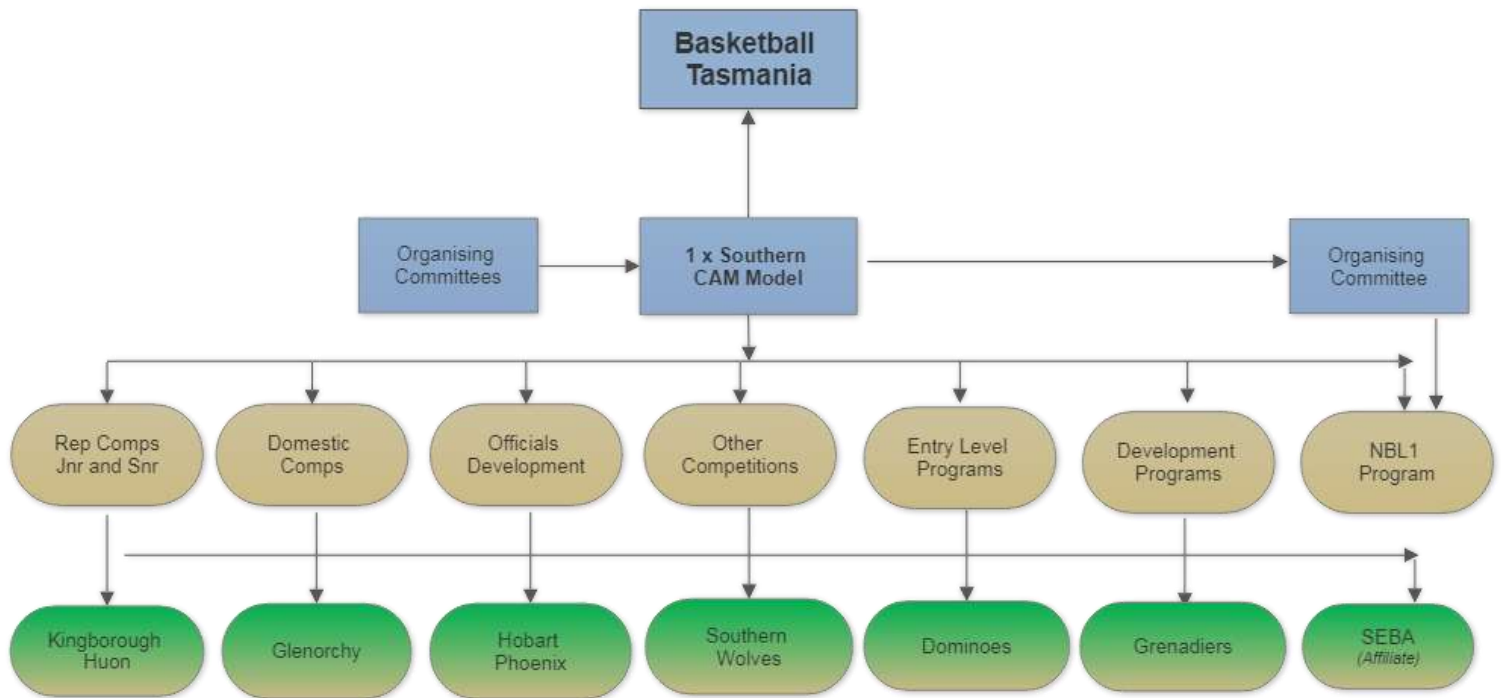
The current CAMs will continue to complete the same work as they do now. They are still encouraged to run their local rosters and complete local activities as they do now.

The current CAMs will retain voting status and the state will be better balanced with voting distribution.

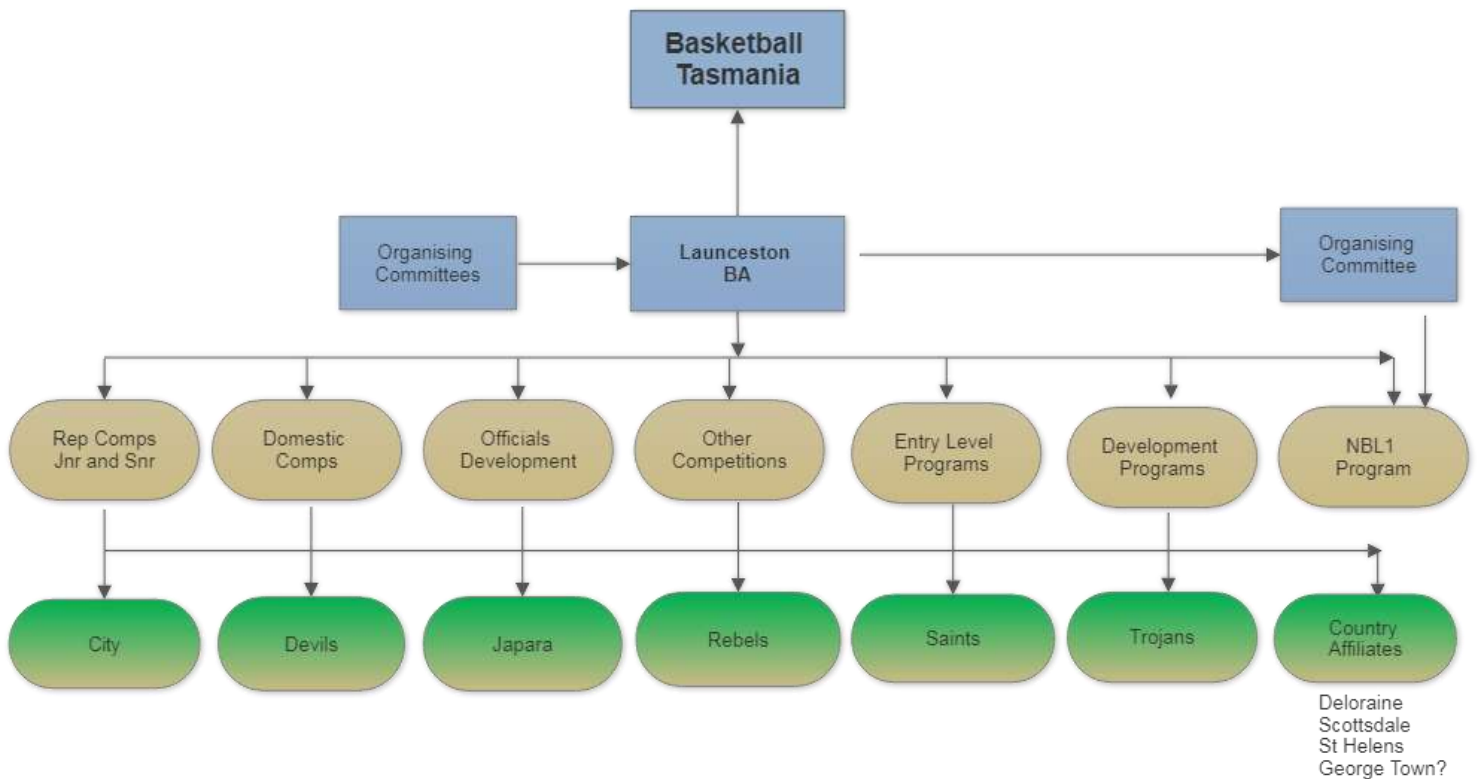
What are the benefits of adding the '3-association model'?

1. We can resource the 3 x CAMs state-wide to provide the full services of basketball associations with large catchment areas (over 3000 members each).
2. We can incorporate the NBL1 clubs into the new association structure – ensuring their viability long term and meeting the league requirements for them to be part of our association structure.
3. The opportunity to run better representative competitions. From a state perspective, BTAS would continue to run all state competitions whilst the 3-associations would conduct all regional based competitions and CAMs continue to conduct local activities. Regionally, we would have better representative competitions that are consistent with the rest of the state.
4. The priority will be to increase domestic basketball activity and provide this service 12 months per year at all levels. Domestic basketball can either be 'club based' or 'school based' competitions. Domestic basketball is during week nights throughout Tasmania.
5. Voting would be better balanced throughout the state with current CAMs still voting – either remain with 'one club one vote' or progress to a 'weighted voting' system.
6. This model provides much better state calendar coordination.
7. Clubs can do what they do best – grass roots player development, roster delivery and the organisation of teams in competitions.
8. Better for education of referees, coaches, scoretable and administrators.
9. The model will build professional capacity with a minimum of a General Manager and Development Officer or Administration Officer employed by each region. NBL1 imports can also conduct substantial development work as part of their contracts.
- 10.** This will drive participation rates with more activity offered and capacity for growth.

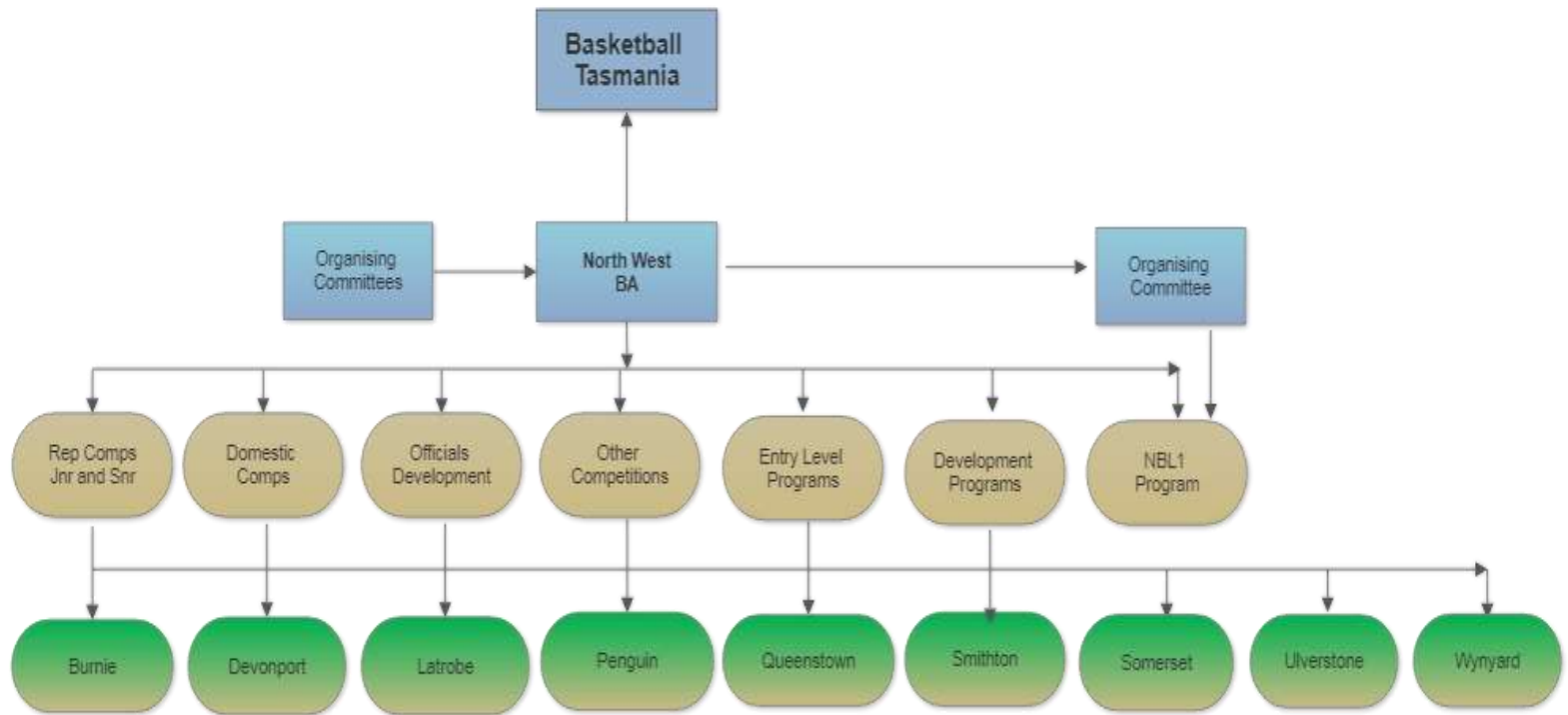
3-Association Model - South



3-Association Model - North

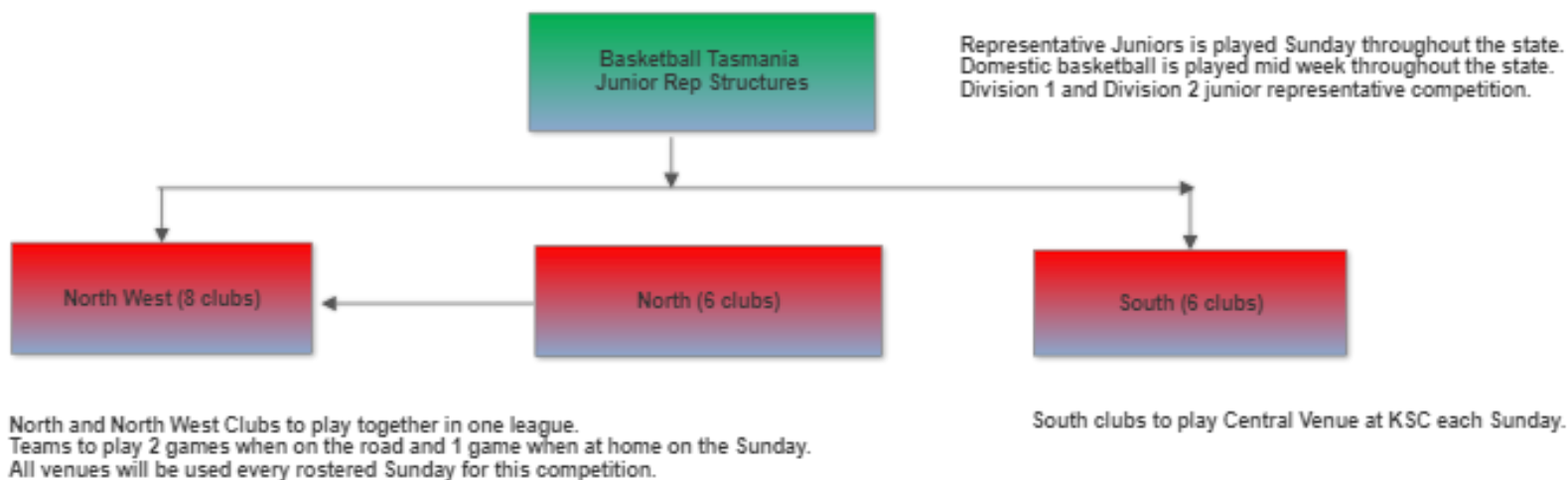


3-Association Model – North West



Representative Junior Competition for 2020

- Rep Juniors will be played on Sundays throughout the state.
- Rep Juniors will be consistent with when it starts and when it stops in the calendar.
- Rep Juniors will have Division 1 and Division 2.
- We will attempt to schedule times for grades to avoid football and other major sports. Boys and girls can still play multiple sports at the rep level or they can be a rep in another sport and play domestic basketball.
- Pre-season grading for both Northern and Southern competitions.
- Ideally, Division 1 competitions will have 6 teams in total with the remainder in Division 2.
- Associations / clubs can enter multiple teams in each division if they wish (and if they qualify through the pre-season grading).
- Fully timed games in Under 14 Division 1 games and above throughout the state.
- All teams to compete in State Championships in their respective Divisions at the end of their season.
- Associations will be required to supply referees and the referees will be rostered. There will be no 'duty' referees at Division 1 or Division 2 level. The onus will be on CAMs to develop their referees.
- Coaches will be required to meet minimum dress requirements and complete minimum coaching qualifications (in time).
- Rules will be strictly adhered to with a consistent set of rules state wide.
- No permits or clearances will be allowed after the pre-season grading commences.
- An independent Competition Committee will be established to oversee any appeals.



Southern Rep Juniors Competition for 2020

- Division 1 competition will all be played at Kingborough Sports Centre.
- Division 2 competition will be played at Kingborough Sports Centre and other venues (depending on numbers).
- Core teams will be: Kingborough-Huon, Hobart Phoenix, Southern Wolves, Glenorchy Spartans, Grenadiers and Dominoes.
- Clarence will be disbanded.
- SEBA will also be invited to compete.

North West / North Rep Juniors Competition for 2020

- Division 1 and Division 2 competition will be played 'home and away' across the north of the state.
- Competition is conducted by the NWBA and includes Launceston clubs for the first time (providing rep competition for all the state).
- Core teams will be: Smithton, Wynyard, Somerset, Burnie, Penguin, Ulverstone, Devonport, Latrobe, City, Devils, Trojans, Japara and Saints.
- Deloraine will also be invited to compete.

- The extremities will not be required to travel to the other extremities. For example, Launceston will not be required to travel to Smithton or Wynyard and vice versa. Games can be scheduled in a central venue format to cover those games.
- We understand that this is a different model from the past and, from time to time, families will be split from venue to venue however this is how basketball is played across the country and it is a small price to pay for the large benefits the new format will provide.

Further Competition Improvements in the South:

- General improvement of the expectation of behaviour in representative and domestic competitions.
- Education about mutual respect for Coaches and Referees.
- Education for Match Managers and provide position descriptions.
- Update on the competition rules / position descriptions / policies and ensure they are all linked to the BTAS website.
- Ensure the spectators Code of Conduct is stated and adhered to.
- Domestic competitions will be conducted 12 months of the year (with small breaks between rosters).

Further Competition Improvements in the North West / North:

- Referees scheduled in rosters (rather than 'duty referees') which will benefit the competition but also aid referee education. Associations will need to supply referees for the teams that they enter. A Referee Manager will be appointed and there will not be a Referees Association.
- Update on the competition rules / position descriptions / policies and ensure they are all linked to the BTAS website.

What are the senior competition changes?

There are no proposed changes to the current senior representative competitions.

Does all this require Constitution Change?

- Constitution change will not be required in the initial period however we may need to amend some wording after this has been implemented.
- BTAS can introduce the Regional Association Members under Clause 5.8 and 5.2 of the Constitution. The obligations in clauses 5.4 and 5.5 also apply as relevant to Regional Members.
- The current CAMs will remain the voting members of BTAS.

Conclusion:

- The BTAS Board has carefully considered 'what is best for basketball in Tasmania'.
- The decisions in this announcement will propel the sport to new levels.
- As always, BTAS will review the changes after 12 months in collaboration with the Constituent Association Members to determine the pathway forward.
- BTAS Staff will commence implementation of these directions over the coming months.