



Guernsey Basketball Association (GBA)

Youth Talent Exemption Policy

Date: 21 March 2024

Introduction: The GBA recognises the importance of fostering and developing young basketball talent within the community. In line with this commitment, the league has established the Youth Talent Exemption Policy to provide opportunities for exceptional young players to participate in age groups above their chronological age.

Objective: The primary objective of this policy is to identify and exempt exceptionally talented youth players from age-restricted categories, allowing them to compete at a level commensurate with their skill and ability. This initiative aims to challenge and nurture the development of these talented individuals within the league.

Eligibility Criteria: To be eligible for consideration under the Youth Talent Exemption Policy, players must meet the following criteria:

- a. Demonstrate exceptional basketball skills, sportsmanship, and understanding of the game.
- b. Exhibit a high level of commitment to training and development.
- c. Display maturity and responsible behaviour both on and off the court.

Application Process:

A request for exemption should be made to the GBA management committee by a coach or committee member on behalf of a player (with the permission of their parent/guardian)

The application should consider a summary of the player's basketball experience, achievements, impact on player welfare, an assessment of benefit vs risk and any recommendations from coaches or mentors.

A designated review committee within the league will assess each application based on the established criteria.

Review Committee: The review committee will consist of experienced coaches, league administrators, and impartial individuals with a background in youth development.



The committee will meet to evaluate any applications and make informed decisions.

Decision Criteria: The decision to grant a youth talent exemption will be based on a holistic assessment of the player's skill level, potential impact (player welfare) in the higher age group, and overall character.

The committee may request additional information or conduct interviews with the player, parents, or coaches as part of the evaluation process.

Notification: Players and their representatives will be notified of the decision.

Successful applicants will receive clear guidelines regarding their participation in the higher age group.

Monitoring and Evaluation: Players granted exemptions will be periodically reviewed to ensure ongoing compliance with the criteria outlined in this policy.

The league reserves the right to revoke exemptions in certain circumstances including, but not limited to the following;

- a. cases of misconduct in accordance with the GBA Code of Conduct policy
- b. if the player's performance no longer justifies participation in the higher age group
- c. if concerns are raised with regards the safety of the participation of the youth from either the perspective of other players in the league or from concerns raised with respect to the manner in which the youth is playing

Communication: The local basketball association will communicate this policy to all eligible players through official channels, including the association's website, social media channels and to coaches and captains.

Conclusion: The GBA is committed to providing a fair and supportive environment for the development of young basketball talent. The Youth Talent Exemption Policy reflects this commitment and aims to contribute to the growth and success of exceptional players within our league.