



How do I register?

Registrations for Williamstown Cannons Basketball Club are done using an online registration process with a registration link on the club website. If you are interested in playing basketball with Williamstown Cannons, you must register online to let us know that you are interested in playing. We will then have all of your child's relevant details and your contact details. However, do **NOT** pay the registration fees until you have been confirmed into a team (just choose WAITLIST PRODUCT and the PAY LATER option when registering).

Unfortunately, there are occasions when it is simply not possible to place a new player into a team immediately as the season has already commenced or is almost concluded or the team lists for that particular age group and/or division are already full. In these circumstances, players will be placed on a waitlist for a position in a team in the next season. Players from the waitlist are then placed into suitable teams as vacancies become available or when there are sufficient children on the waitlist to form a new team.

The link to register is on our home page on www.williamstowncannons.sportingpulse.net

Once you have registered, an Age Group Coordinator will email you and confirm that your child has been registered with the club and will provide you with an indication of when the team selections for the next season will take place.

What are the costs to play basketball?

The Williamstown Cannons Basketball Club enters teams into two domestic Association competitions; the Altona Basketball Association and the Westgate Basketball Association.

Registration Fees

Registration fees which cover competition fees and training fees are around \$270 per season (with a discount for Early Registration which ends on 29 August 2019).

These registration fees are payable to the club at the commencement of the season however only when the player is confirmed in a team. Registration fees cover the team entry fee into the Association competition, training venue hire and player insurance. Coaches and club administration personnel are all volunteers and are not paid.

Please note: *Weekly stadium entry fees for both players and spectators apply at the Westgate Basketball Competition. This stadium entry fee is charged by the Victoria University stadium management rather than the Westgate Basketball Association. Weekly entry at the Altona Basketball Association competition is free.*

Uniform

Our uniform has changed effective for the Summer/ Spring 2019-2020 season. All players will be required to purchase the new uniform which consists of a reversible singlet and shorts at a cost of approximately **\$75** for the set (first time orders only) – all existing players must place these orders by 18 August 2019 with our uniform supplier.

Our uniform orders are managed by First Ever Sports and there is a lead time of up to 6 weeks, so it is important to place orders as soon as possible – the club does not have a large amount of stock on hand to accommodate late registrations. Contact our uniforms coordinator at **email: uniforms@williamstowncannons.org.au** for any queries.



When are the Season dates?

Both the Altona Basketball Competitions and Westgate Basketball Competitions run two seasons each year – Summer and Winter.

For both competitions:

- the **summer season** generally commences in Term 4 and at the end of Term 1 the following year (no games over the long summer holidays); and
- the **winter season** commences in Term 2 and concludes at the end of Term 3 each year.

Fixtures for the season are posted online the week prior to the commencement of the season.

Are games played on the school holidays or public holiday long weekends?

In both the Altona and Westgate Basketball Association competitions, there are no games played during school holidays (although for the Altona competition, there are generally games scheduled during the first weekend of the school holidays, but no games scheduled during the middle and third weekend of the school holidays).

Games are also not scheduled on public holiday weekends such as Queen's Birthday and Easter Weekends.

When do the teams train and where?

The training time is dependent on both the coach and the venue availability.

The times vary between 4pm (earliest) to 7:30pm latest starting times and can run for 45 minutes to 1 hour.

Training is shared by two teams so only half courts are utilized per team. The training time for your child's team cannot be confirmed until your child is placed in a team and the coach and venue training time is confirmed.

Training times may also vary from season to season if the coach's availability changes or your child is moved to a team which better matches their skill level.

Current Training Venues are:

Williamstown High School Junior Campus gym – Bayview Street (Beach end), Williamstown.

Williamstown High School Senior Campus gym – Corner Pasco St & Melbourne Road, Williamstown.

Williamstown North Primary School gym – Corner Melbourne Road & Station Road, Williamstown.

Altona North Primary School – Cresser Street, Altona North

Newport Gardens Primary School – Maddox Road (corner of Woods Street), Newport. This is a 3/4 court that can only accommodate 1 team training at a time. This is only used occasionally when no other available times are available, or when Williamstown High School is using the gyms for exams/tests.



When do the teams play and where?

Please note that this is subject to Change at the relevant Associations' discretion!

Games at the **Altona Basketball Competition** are played at a number of venues:

- **Altona Sports Centre**, Queens Street, Altona Meadows
- **Emmanuel College Point Cook**, Foxwood Drive, Point Cook

Under 8 Mixed – **Friday** from 5:10pm **30 minute games only**

Girls

Under 10 girls (all divisions) – **Saturday** 8am, 8:50am and 9:40am

Under 12 girls (all divisions) – **Saturday** 8:50am, 9:40am, 10:30am and 11:20am

Under 14 girls (all divisions) – **Saturday** 9:40am, 10:30am and 11:20am

Under 16 girls (all divisions) – **Saturday** 10:30am and 11:20am (some games may be 6:05pm)

Under 18 Girls (all divisions) – **Wednesday** 5:45pm

Boys

Under 10 Boys (all divisions) – **Friday** 6:00pm, 6:50pm, 7:40pm

Under 12 Boys (divisions 1) – **Saturday** 8am, 8:50am

Under 12 Boys (divisions 2) – **Friday** evenings 7:40pm, occasional **Saturday** evenings 6:10pm

Under 12 Boys (divisions 3) – **Saturday** evenings 6:10pm game

Under 14 Boys (all divisions) – **Saturday** 6:10pm, 7:00pm

Under 16 Boys (divisions 1 & 2 only) – **Saturday** 7:50pm and 8:40pm

Under 16 Boys (division 3) – **Friday** 6:50pm, 7:40pm, 8:30pm

Under 18 Boys (all divisions) – **Monday** 6:00pm, 6:50pm, 8:30pm, 9:15pm *plus an occasional*
Wednesday 5:45pm

Games at the **Westgate Basketball Competition** are played at a number of venues:

- **Victoria University Community Sports Stadium**, 417 Barkly Street, West Footscray (rear part of the Whitten Oval complex)
- **Recwest Braybrook**, 36 Lily Street, Braybrook
- **Victoria University Footscray Park**, Building L Level 1, 70 Ballarat Road, Footscray

Girls

Under 10 girls (all divisions) – **Saturday** 8:30am

Under 12 girls (all divisions) – **Saturday** 9:20am, 10:10am

Under 14 girls (all divisions) – **Saturday** 11:00am

Under 17 girls (all divisions) – **Saturday** 11:50am and 12:40pm

(there is no Under 16 or 18 Competition at Westgate for the girls)

Boys

Under 10 boys (all divisions) – **Saturday** 8:30am, 9:20am, 10:10am

Under 12 boys (all divisions) – **Saturday** 10:10am, 11:00am, 11:50am, 12:40pm, 1:30pm

Under 14 boys (Div 1) – **Saturday** 3:10pm

Under 14 boys (Div 2, 3, 4) – **Saturday** 1:30pm, 2:20pm

Under 16 boys (all divisions) – **Saturday** 2:20pm, 3:10pm, 4:00pm, 4:50, 5:40pm

Under 18 boys (all divisions) – **Saturday** 2:20pm, 3:10pm, 4:00pm, 4:50, 5:40pm



What is the team selection process?

The team selection process involves confirming that all current players are returning for the next season, determining whether there will be any movement of players between teams and then finally establishing whether there are any vacancies within teams. Those vacancies in teams will be filled by interested players from the waitlist. If there are sufficient players on the waitlist who are all in the same age group and are of similar skill level (ie all beginners), the club may consider forming a new team from players on the waitlist.

How many players are in a team?

As a club, it is desirable to have teams of eight to enable the club to cater for as many players as possible yet still allow for enough court time on game day.

When will I find out whether my child will have a place in a team?

The team selection process for Williamstown Cannons begins just after Round 10 of each season with the aim of finalising teams for the next season by either the last week of the season (generally Round 15 for both the Altona and Westgate competitions) or the following week which is the first week of the finals.

Are there any 'Come and Try' sessions?

The Williamstown Cannons does not currently run formal 'Come and Try' sessions for children on the waitlist. However, from time to time, players on the waitlist may be invited to attend a regular training session of a team in order for the interested players and their parents to see what typically happens at basketball training, and a chance for the waitlist player to experience basketball and determine whether they are genuinely interested in playing and committing to a team. Attendance at these sessions is by invitation only where a coach is happy to accommodate a new player at training and is a once only invitation. Waitlist players are not covered by player insurance in the event of an injury and attend at their own risk.

Can my children play together in the same team?

Families may occasionally request that siblings be placed in the same team in order to accommodate family logistics and transport arrangements. In the Under 8 this is certainly a high priority when formulating team lists. From Under 10 onwards, accommodating family requests becomes more difficult as there are numerous other factors to consider including the size and skill level of the players. In all instances, the coach has the final say as to whether to accept a younger sibling into the team. The club and/or parent cannot pressure a coach to take on a younger sibling. Of paramount importance is the safety of younger players at trainings and in games when they play against bigger players in the age group.

Can my child play in the same team as their friends?

Placing friends together in teams is a very high priority in the mixed Under 8 competition and friendships will try to be accommodated as much as possible in Under 10 as well provided there is a vacancy in a team. From Under 12 onwards however, any new players to basketball should be accommodated into lower division teams to learn the rules and develop skills under less pressure, no matter who their friends are. From experience, this is a much more enjoyable and rewarding experience for the new player and new friendships are soon formed in their new team.



Why does my child have to go up from Under 8 to Under 10 when they are currently 6 and about to turn 7?

The Basketball Associations in which the Williamstown Cannons Basketball Club compete in, follow the Victorian Junior Basketball League age group rules. The age group of a player is determined by the year the child is born and it is a calendar year (January to December). E.g. for Summer 2019/2020 season, any children born in 2011 and 2012 will be required to play in Under 10s. Only those children born in 2013 and 2014 are eligible to play in Under 8s. So ironically, a number of children are 7 (and therefore Under 8) for the entire the Summer season and in some cases are also 7 for the Winter season too, however they are not eligible to play Under 8 given that the child was born in 2012.

The rule exists to simplify the organization of teams and divisions for the Associations (and the competing clubs) so that there is only one point in the year when children are changing age groups. All Basketball Associations across Victoria and nationally adopt the same age group criteria.

You may be a bit concerned and thinking...my child has only just turned 7 and you are expecting them to play in Under 10s!!! Potentially against other children who are almost 9?

The reality is, from Under 10s onwards, Associations try to run Divisions for each age group. In Under 10s for example, there can be three divisions. Division 1 is nominated for what is called "top age teams", that is those teams with mainly players born in 2011. Division 2 is normally a mixture of top age and bottom age teams – top age teams who are just very much still developing their skills and some bottom age teams who are already quite skillful and well drilled. Division 3 is nominated for "bottom age" teams who are very much beginner teams.

Moving to Under 10s will also mean that children will play in either an all-girls competition which is played on Saturday mornings or an all-boys competition which is played on Friday nights at the Altona Competition or Saturday mornings all boys competition for the Westgate Competition.