

# Greater Shepparton Basketball Association

## Annual General Meeting (AGM)

### Operations Report 2024

Prepared by: Tony Long, Operations Manager

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## 1. Introduction

2024 was a year of dynamic growth and new opportunities for the Greater Shepparton Basketball Association (GSBA). Alongside our continued expansion in domestic and representative competitions, we launched the Victorian Junior Basketball League (VJBL) program and initiated plans for USA basketball tours, marking significant milestones in our development pathway. This report details our achievements, challenges, and strategies for sustained success.

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## 2. Participation and Membership

### 2.1 Domestic Competitions

- **Participants:** 1,638 players registered across **211 teams**, demonstrating robust participation.
- **Season Highlights:** Registration processes streamlined, with a projected gross income of **\$310,000**.
- **Gender Breakdown:** A total of **1,035 males** and **421 females** participated, reflecting a male-to-female ratio of 2.46:1.

### 2.2 Junior Programs

- **Aussie Hoops:** Term 2 had **9 participants** (22% girls), growing to **17 participants** in Term 3.
- **Youngest Teams:** The Demons U8 Mixed team recorded the youngest average age of 5.57 years.

### 2.3 Representative Teams

- Gators Junior teams competed in multiple tournaments, including entries in Echuca, Swan Hill, and Geelong not to mention our own tournaments and will compete at Bendigo Wodonga and others in 2025.
- Strong engagement in trials, with 250 **juniors** participating in representative team tryouts.

### 2.4 VJBL Program

- **Program Commencement:** The inaugural Junior VJBL teams have been established, offering local athletes exposure to elite competition at a state level.
- **Growth:** Initial trials drew significant interest, with participation exceeding expectations. The program is set to expand in 2025 with additional teams.

## 2.5 USA Basketball Tours

- **Launch:** GSBA has initiated plans for USA basketball tours, creating pathways for elite players to gain international experience.
  - **Progress:** Preliminary schedules are being finalized, with interest already growing among players and parents. This initiative will provide a valuable cultural and competitive learning experience for our athletes.
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## 3. Facilities and Operations

### 3.1 Facility Challenges

- **Court Overcrowding:** Increased participation has highlighted the urgent need for additional court space.
- **Multi-Venue Operations:** Reliance on external venues has created logistical challenges.

### 3.2 Operational Efficiency

- **Grading Improvements:** Enhanced grading processes ensured balanced domestic competitions.
  - **Payment Systems:** Transition to upfront payments was well-received, reducing forfeits and simplifying cash flow management.
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## 4. Events and Community Engagement

### 4.1 Tournaments and Clinics

- Hosted two successful tournaments in Shepparton, with over **200 teams** participating.
- Delivered a governance workshop for club presidents, which was highly appreciated and will be repeated.

### 4.2 USA Tours Promotion

- Initial parent and player information sessions generated strong interest, positioning GSBA as a leader in international basketball opportunities.
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## 5. Financial Overview

- **Revenue Growth:** Seasonal gross income projected at **\$310,000**, bolstered by increased registrations.
  - **Sponsorships:** Local sponsor contributions remained strong, supporting key programs like the VJBL and representative teams.
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## 6. Key Challenges

**6.1 Volunteer Shortages:** Recruitment and retention of volunteers remain ongoing challenges.

**6.2 Facility Limitations:** A lack of available courts continues to limit growth in domestic, representative, and training programs.

**6.3 Database Issues:** PLAYHQ system limitations hindered efficient reporting and registration

**6.4 Smoothing of internal** processes with open and transparent communications to be further fostered and enhanced commanding more productive operational decision making and completion of tasks.

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## 7. Future Goals

- **Expand Facilities:** Secure funding for new courts and improve existing infrastructure.
  - **Grow VJBL Program:** Add more teams and ensure robust support systems for players and coaches.
  - **USA Tours:** Finalize tour logistics, establish sponsorship support, and build a sustainable model for future tours.
  - **Inclusivity:** Enhance participation in programs like Aussie Hoops and increase female registrations by 10%.
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## 8. Conclusion

2024 has been a transformative year for GSBA, marked by the launch of the VJBL program and USA tours, alongside continued growth in domestic and representative basketball. Despite challenges, our association remains committed to providing opportunities for all participants to thrive.

**Prepared by:**

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Greater Shepparton Basketball Association