



**BBL/ WBBL**  
**LICENSING REGULATIONS**  
**V1**  
**SEPTEMBER 2021**



## CONTENTS

	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>PAGE NO.</b>
	Definitions	1
	Regulations	2
	Investigation	5
	Fees & Processing	6 & 7
	Payment & VISA Information	8
	Check List – Players Processing	9
	Administrative Fines	10
	Player Transfer	11



## DEFINITIONS

1. "FIBA" shall mean the International Basketball Federation, who are the sole competent authority for basketball throughout the world and is recognised as such by the IOC. Unless specified herein, any reference to FIBA, shall include FIBA's European Region.
2. The British Basketball Federation (BBF) who are the National Governing Body of the sport in Great Britain, recognised as such by FIBA, UK Sport and the IOC since October 2016.
3. **Leagues:** Refers to **any league licensed** to operate by the British Basketball Federation, as per and subject to the FIBA General Statutes, Regulations and Policies in operation and any amendments thereto.
  - (a) League Club or Club means any club registered as a member of a Home Country Association and therefore affiliated to the BFF, to comply with FIBA Regulations, participating in a BBF Licensed League and its related competitions.
  - (b) The current FEDERATION **NATIONAL Championship Leagues** are
    - 1- The British Basketball League (BBL)
    - 2- The Women's British Basketball League (WBBL)
- 4 **Home Country Association (HCA)** : Refers to the members as defined within the articles of the British Basketball Federation. Currently this is Basketball England, Basketball Scotland and Basketball Wales. As members of the BBF, they are subject to all FIBA General Statutes, Regulations and Policies
4. Basketball Participant – as defined within the FIBA Regulations Book 1, (and any amendment thereof) as it applies to the British Basketball Federation, its members and clubs;
  - Any Person playing a direct or indirect role in basketball, including without limitation the following;
  - players and their agents or representatives;
  - player support personnel (e.g. coaches, assistant coaches, doctors; physiotherapists, etc.);
  - any other person included on a team delegation roster;
  - game officials (e.g. referees, Technical Delegates, Commissioners, Table Officials;
  - Statisticians etc.);
  - followers with special responsibilities (e.g. managers, physio, trainer, mascots, etc.);
  - Persons employed by, or engaged in activities on behalf of (whether paid or unpaid);
  - or having a direct or indirect affiliation to BBF, an HCA, a League or a Local Organising Committee; and
  - any other person accredited for or in attendance at an Official Game.



## REGULATIONS

1. As a participant in the British Basketball Federation (BBF) licensed British Basketball League (BBL) or Women's British Basketball League (WBBL) competitions and in consideration of the acceptance on behalf of the **Club**, as named on the individual licence application, its participation therein and benefits therefrom, the **Club, as well as, but not limited to, its players, coaches, support staff and volunteers** agree to comply with all the provisions of UK Govt Visa Legislation, the BBL or WBBL Policies, as applicable, BBL/WBBL Operational Regulations, BBF Policies and Regulations, where applicable. FIBA General Statutes, Internal Regulations, Policies and other FIBA rules and regulations in force at the time of all Competitions of the said BBL & WBBL, (jointly "Regulations") or published under the [www.fiba.basketball/regulations](http://www.fiba.basketball/regulations), including but not limited to, all Regulations on International Licensing and Transfers, Betting & Corruption, Sanctions, Anti-Doping, Duty of Care, use of personal data for the objectives sought by the Regulations etc and with any decisions issued thereupon by FIBA, BBF, BBL or WBBL and any FIBA bodies and divisions (jointly "FIBA").
  - A- The **Club, must be a member of its respective Home National Governing Body and by doing so, it is then affiliated to the BBF, in compliance with FIBA Regulations.** In registering any individual for a BBF Licence, the **CLUB** agrees, that those individuals and in addition, any other Basketball Participants, as defined within the FIBA Internal Regulations Book 1, linked to the **Club**, are notified and a record kept of delivery of this notification, as to the **requirements and sanctions, as a minimum, relating to the FIBA Code of Conduct – Chapter 5 and Chapter 6 of the said Book 1 and FIBA Anti-Doping Regulations, Book 4.** Integrity and Anti-Doping information, as well as access to online training and awareness, can be found via <http://gb.basketball/integrity-information/>
  - B- Duty of Care - The Club must ensure that a minimum of one member of its licensed Coaches or Licensed Team followers, holds the UK Coaching, Duty to Care, Digital Badge. This is a free course available via <https://www.ukcoaching.org/duty-to-care>. This will be required to be in place by 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2022.
  - C- A member of the licensed staff as detailed above, will require to hold this Digital Badge, issued within the previous 12 months, when licensing players and staff to participate in the BBL/WBBL from season 2022-2023.
2. The BBF and FIBA will collect and use personal data in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and all relevant UK & Swiss Legislation. Our legal basis for holding and processing your data is our legitimate interest. Data may be processed by other organisations that act as Data Processors on our behalf. They will only use your data for the specific purpose for which they act as our data processors. They are not allowed to pass this on to any other organisation. The personal data is not passed on or sold by us to third parties whether or not connected with BBF or FIBA. Full information about our data use policies can be found published under our Privacy Notice <http://gb.basketball/privacy-notice/>
3. The **Club** acknowledges and agrees that any individual that a BBF licence is issued to, participates in the competitions of the BBL or the WBBL, or other BBF competition, is at the individual's own risk. The individual being a person registered by the said **Club** and that the **Club** will take all reasonable measures to protect these individuals from the risk of participation in compliance with



the relevant BBL, WBBL Operating Procedures and or Policies. The **Club** acknowledges and irrevocably releases on behalf of the individuals and the club, the BBF and FIBA (and their respective members, directors, officers, employees, officials, volunteers, contractors or agents) from any liability (to the extent permitted by law) for any loss, injury or damage that any person licensed to participate may suffer in relations to their participation in the relevant BBF licensed, BBL, WBBL HCA leagues or competitions.

4. The **CLUB** are wholly liable, at all times for the actions of those Basketball Participants, licensed to or representing the **CLUB** and this includes any failures by those individuals to meet Financial Sanctions imposed on any such Basketball Participant via a FIBA or a BBF Disciplinary process.
5. The **Club** agrees that any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of, in connection with or on the occasion of this Licensing process and/or generally the regulations, which cannot be settled amicably and which remains unsettled once the remedies established by the BBF Policies, BBL or WBBL Regulations or Operating Procedures and if applicable FIBA Regulations, have been exhausted, shall be submitted exclusively to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) for final and binding arbitration in accordance with Swiss Law (excluding conflict of law provisions) and the Code of Sport-related Arbitration. The arbitration shall be governed by Chapter 12 of the Swiss Act on Private International Law ("PILA") to the exclusion of rules for Swiss domestic arbitration, shall be conducted in English and its seat shall be in Lausanne, Switzerland. The CAS shall have the exclusive power to order provisional and conservatory measures.

The **Club** hereby waives the right of any person deemed to be a Basketball Participant, in compliance with this Regulation, by the **Club**, to institute any claim, arbitration or litigation, or see any other form of relief, without first following the remedies detailed in the previous paragraph in any other court or tribunal, other than the Court of Arbitration for Sport as detailed in the preceding paragraph in accordance with the PILA 5.

### Investigation

6. By completing the BBF license registration process, the Club acknowledges and understands that the FIBA Internal Regulations' Book 1, **Code of Conduct Chapter 5** and the FIBA Internal Regulations Book 4 – **Anti-Doping**, including any updates or amendments thereof, shall apply to the **Club** and all **Basketball Participants**, linked in any way to the **Club**, as defined in the said **Chapter 5**, referred to above and prohibit certain conduct by those persons, including without limitation the obligation of making prompt and complete reports to FIBA or the BBF, in case of matter or facts coming to your attention and evidencing a violation of the aforementioned Chapter 5.

The Club and all Basketball Participants linked to the club, as per the above paragraph, further agrees to report any violation of **Integrity**, by using the platform available on FIBA's website at the following address <http://www.fiba.basketball/integrity> the **Club** understands that no participant of any Competition, personnel, employees or contractors (or any other person who is a "Basketball Participant" as per the said Chapter 5, may pass on or post on social media, blog or discuss any inside information (defined in Chapter 5) until such time that it may have been released officially.

The **Club** understands and accepts that the BBF and/or FIBA may conduct investigations into the activities of the Club or any Basketball Participant, if FIBA or the BBF have reasonable suspicions that such Club or a Basketball Participant has committed a breach of FIBA Internal Regulations, including but not exclusively, relating to FIBA Internal Regulations Book 1 Chapter 5 or FIBA



Internal Regulation 4 – Anti-Doping. Such investigations may be conducted in conjunction with relevant authorities (including criminal, administrative, professional and/or judicial authorities) and all Participant must co-operate in full with such investigations and a failure to co-operate with any such investigation may itself be sanctioned under the said FIBA Regulations.

A range of sanctions that can be applied to any breach of the said FIBA Regulations or BBF Policies or Regulations, are detailed with FIBA Internal Regulations Book 1 and are replicated in the BBF Internal Regulations – Sanctions, as sanctions relevant to any internal discipline proceedings that can be applied for a breach of a BBF Policy or Regulation or FIBA Regulations that the BBF has authority to manage as the National Federation. FIBA have the authority to impose its own sanctions over and above any sanction imposed by the BBF, where applicable.

#### LICENSE FEES

License Type	Fee	
Head Coach	£50	<b>BBL/WBBL Leagues Only</b>
Assistant Coach	£35	<b>BBL/WBBL Leagues Only</b>
Team Follower	£10	Any person on bench not Coach or Player.
Player – Over 18	£35	<b>U18 Exemption</b> as below. As Per FIBA Regulations <b>Playing License is for any League within the National Boundaries of the BBF.</b>
Player Under 18	Free	Registered via Home Country Association
BBF Letter of Clearance	£10	Internal Transfers, not involving BBL to BBL or WBBL to WBBL clubs, within Great Britain
<b>FIBA</b>		
Head Coach – UK National	£50	Includes membership of WABC. Paid to BBF for payment to FIBA
FIBA Letter of Clearance	250CH	Paid by Club direct to FIBA
FIBA A License – Male	£250	Paid to BBF – for payment to FIBA
FIBA A License - Female	£125	Paid to BBF – for payment to FIBA

#### Licensing – As per the BBL / WBBL Regulations – In Summary

Players may be licensed at any time prior to **midday** on the **last day of February**. Thereafter, licence applications can only be considered in respect of coaches and team followers and in such cases only bona fide applications will be processed, after approval from the BBL or WBBL, as appropriate.

To be eligible for consideration, an application for a **players licence**, accompanied by any specified documents and fees, must be received by the BBF and BBL or WBBL, prior to the deadlines set out above. It is acknowledged that paperwork from third parties (ie Certificate of Sponsorship or FIBA International Clearance) may arrive post the deadlines set out above, however all other paperwork and fees must be received prior to the deadlines. The player will only be licensed once all paperwork is received.



## PROCESSING

### NOTE:

1. Clubs as per the respective BBL / WBBL regulations and this document, here in, must be members of their respective Home Country Association.

The club is then affiliated, as per FIBA Regulations to the BBF.

Transfers – All internal player transfers between BBL or WBBL Clubs must follow the procedures, as detailed within the said BBL / WBBL regulations and transfers involving Non BBL or Non WBBL Clubs **to or from** BBL or WBBL clubs must follow the **BBF Transfer Clearance Process**.

2. A number of automatic Administrative Fines are applicable and detailed at the end of this document.
3. Under 18 Players **MUST** be registered with their Home Country Associations, any **FIBA Letter of Clearance requirements** or **FIBA A License Requirement**, (required for ALL NON UK Nationals) are as **normal via the BBF Online Form**. **The FIBA LOC process must be completed prior to obtaining an HCA registration**. Upload a copy of their HCA Registration on the BBF License Application Form. **The BBF License is free**.

#### 4 Coach & Assistant Coach –

- a. Coaches (including Assistant Coaches) should be appropriately qualified and meet the qualification requirements for this level of competition, as detailed by the BBL or WBBL, the Club and their respective HCA and evidence of that qualification can be requested.
- b. UK Nationals who are Head Coaches**, will require to be registered by BBF with FIBA, on the FIBA Coaching License register – FIBA Regulation requirement on BBF to record Top Level Coaches. **This will be done automatically by the BBF during the license process.**
- c. **NON UK National Head Coaches** should hold a FIBA Coaching License issued via their National Federation with FIBA. **Evidence of this being issued by FIBA, will be required within FOUR weeks of issue of the BBF License or at time of application if one is held.**

#### Licensing – Deadline

Players may be licensed at any time prior to **midday** on the **last day of February**. Thereafter, licence applications can only be considered in respect of coaches and team followers and in such cases only bona fide applications will be processed, after approval from the BBL or WBBL, as appropriate.

To be eligible for consideration, an application for **a players licence**, accompanied by any specified documents and fees, must be received by the BBF and BBL or WBBL, prior to the deadlines set out above. It is acknowledged that paperwork from third parties (ie Certificate of Sponsorship or FIBA International Clearance) may arrive post the deadlines set out above, however all other paperwork and fees must be received prior to the deadlines. The player will



only be licensed once all paperwork is received.

An extract of the relevant sections of the FIBA Internal Regulations, Book 3, relating to Transfer and Licensing Regulations, is available on the BBF Website.

The online BBF License Application and online FIBA Transfer Forms, are available via <http://gb.basketball/gb-league-registration-forms/>

**Please note the FIBA Player Letter of Clearance, has a FIBA processing timescale of up to seven (working ) days, after payment is made by the club. This is invoiced to the club contact by FIBA, as shown on the application form.**

Once the FIBA Player Clearance is confirmed and approved **by FIBA**, then the **FIBA A Licence** – if required, is then applied for automatically by the BBF. Processing by FIBA of the A Licence can be three to seven (working) days, to be processed, depending on demand. **Only then will a BBF Playing Licence will be issued.**

Players who do not require any FIBA processing, their BBF license will be issued within three working days of receipt of the relevant payment.

The club are provided with a live link to their list of registrations and as this list is updated automatically as the BBF add entries to it. A link to this list is supplied to the BBL/WBBL.

**NOTE - The FIBA Player Letter of Clearance & FIBA A Licence, can be applied for before the BBF Licensing application is submitted, to expedite this process, due to the FIBA timescales involved. Clubs should ensure they submit all the required information and documentation to negate unnecessary delay.**

Any issues with the process or with the online forms should be reported to [license@gb.basketball](mailto:license@gb.basketball)

## **PAYMENTS**

**All Fees are exempt from VAT and are non refundable.**

### **Two Methods of Payment Available.**

#### **1\_ On line credit/bank card payment at time of application**

**An Invoice will be sent for club records.**

#### **2. Invoice can be sent payable via Bank Transfer**

**Choice of Payment Type is selected within the respective forms.**

**IF INVOICES ARE ISSUED FOR PAYMENT, THEY MUST BE SETTLED WITHIN SEVEN DAYS OF ISSUE**

**[FIBA LOC and BBF Licensing Forms – Click Here](#)**





## VISAS

Information on Governing Body Endorsement & Visa requirements, available via [Basketball England](#) and the [UK Govt](#) web sites.

**The issue of a FIBA / BBF License, IS NOT EVIDENCE of A RIGHT TO WORK in the UK, this is a license to play, to meet FIBA Regulatory requirements.** All persons subject to UK Border Agency VISA regulations, require to be in possession of a valid UK Work Visa or a EU Residency Status e.g. Settled Status. Details and a copy of the valid Visa / EU Status is required to be provided in the license application process. **The club or the company employing the player/coach/staff member, being licensed by the Home Office to sponsor workers, have a legal obligation on meeting the required Home Office criteria on employment of those persons subject to Visa status.** Where the BBF finds that the information provided does not meet the legal requirements for a person to work and therefore PLAY in the BBL/WBBL, then the playing license is automatically invalid and the club will subject as a minimum, to the penalties under the Administration Offences, as detailed below, at Point 1 and further Disciplinary action by the BBF. The BBF will also inform the Home Office of the situation.

### Prior to the start of each season :

1. The BBF will require the details of the Clubs Home Office Sponsorship License, via the online form. As Circulated
  2. The BBF will require details of each clubs Safeguarding Officer, via the on line form. As circulated.
- Checklist (Players/ Coaches) -

National (returning player)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>BBL /WBBL – IF Applicable</b> - Transfer process if moving from an other BBL / WBBL club</li> <li>- BBF License Registration</li> </ul>
National (new player)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FIBA LOC (if last played overseas)</li> <li>- <b>BBL/WBBL</b> - Transfer process <b>-if applicable</b> if moving from another BBL/WBBL Club</li> <li>- <b>BBF Transfer process if moving from a non BBL / WBBL club</b></li> <li>- BBF License Registration</li> </ul>
Non National (returning player)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>BBL/WBBL – If Applicable</b> -Transfer process if moving from another BBL/WBBL club</li> <li>- <b>BBF Transfer process if from a non BBL/WBBL club</b></li> <li>- FIBA ‘A’ Licence</li> <li>- BBF License Registration</li> </ul>
Non National (new player)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FIBA LOC / FIBA Self Declaration – if Required - <b>(NB -Note the requirements of the FIBA SD Form)</b></li> <li>- FIBA ‘A’ Licence</li> <li>- BBF License Registration</li> </ul>
U18 Non & UK Nationals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>FIBA LOC -Only if they were registered outside of GB in season 20-21</b></li> <li>- <b>FIBA Regulation Book 3 – Chapter 2 Pages 16-19 Apply</b></li> </ul>



U18 Non National	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>FIBA A License -Automatically processed as part of above</b></li> <li>- or</li> <li>- <b>FIBA A License - ONLY if a valid FIBA LOC to play in GB has been issued and they have not been registered outside of GB since it was issued.</b></li> <li>- <b>All via BBF On Line Forms</b></li> <li>-</li> </ul>
U18 UK & Non National	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Register with Home Nation Governing Body (HNGB)</li> <li>- BBF License Registration (Free – upload copy of HCA Licence)</li> <li>- Club to ensure conformity with the HCA Safeguarding and Medical requirements on the playing of young players in a Senior environment.</li> </ul>

### Administrative Offences

The following automatic fines will be imposed for failures to follow the requirements within this Regulation. This does not negate any Disciplinary Process that may be required under any of the Regulations identified within this document or FIBA Regulations and Policies.

1. Playing Unlicensed Player is subject to BBL/WBBL Operating Rules
2. Unlicensed Coach - **Fine - £200**
3. Unlicensed Team Support Staff – **Fine - £100**
4. Failing to respond to a request for information required in this Regulation within 7 days – **Fine - £100**
5. Failure to pay an invoice within SEVEN DAYS - **Fine - Suspension of ALL Licenses UNTIL invoice is paid.**
6. Failure to disclose previous registration with another Federation in the Player Self Declaration process – **Fine £50.**
7. Failure to provide details of Safeguarding Officer – **Fine £100**
8. Failure to provide details of Clubs Home Office VISA Sponsorship Licence – **Fine £100**
9. Failure to have a member of Staff to hold the UK Coaching - Duty to Care Digital Badge **Fine £100**
10. **Second and further repetitive offences, the fines will be automatically doubled in value, from the last fine imposed.**



## PLAYER TRANSFER

1. In compliance with FIBA Regulations the BBF requires to have in place a transfer process managing player movement within its boundaries and licensed Leagues.
2. The BBF adopts the FIBA Transfer Regulations (Book 3) as part of its Governance Procedures and will interpret them to manage Transfers within the Federation boundaries of the BBF.
3. **ALL Under 18 Internal Transfers** will be subject to the requirements of the FIBA Transfer Regulations for Young Players, as detailed in Book 3 of the said regulations, Chapter 2, as it applies to movements of Young Players within the Boundaries of the Federation.
4. **The U18 Transfer process will be managed by the BBF in conjunction with the respective HCA's involved.**
5. All Over 18, internal transfer between clubs in the same licensed league will be subject of that leagues transfer process, e.g. BBL to BBL or WBBL to WBBL.
6. All Over 18 transfers between Clubs from different licensed leagues will be subject to the BBF process. i.e. Player moves from Club in Wales to Scotland.
7. If a club **WAS NOT** a member of the BBL or WBBL in the previous season, then this process applies.
8. All Players who were registered with a Non BBL or Non WBBL club will require to have clearance issued by the BBF, before any BBF License is issued.
9. Applications for Transfer will be via the online form.
10. A fee of £10 is payable at time of application for Over 18 Internal Transfers.
11. All Under 18 transfers processing, No Fee will be charged by the BBF.
12. Clubs should make themselves fully conversant with the Transfer of Under 18 Players as detailed in the FIBA Internal Regulation, Book 2, Chapter 3.
13. In any dispute, the FIBA General Statutes and Internal Regulations or Polices take precedence.