BASKETBALL QUEENSLAND

FACILITY DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

JUNE 2025

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Basketball Queensland respectfully acknowledges the Yuggera people, Traditional Custodians of the land where our head office is located, as well as the Traditional Custodians of the many lands on which we gather, meet, operate, and play on throughout Queensland.

We pay our respects to their Elders past, present, and future leaders and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

Basketball Queensland recognises the outstanding contribution that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples make to society and sport in Australia, and celebrate the power of sport to promote reconciliation and reduce inequality.

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INTRODUCTION

It is with great pride that we introduce the Basketball Queensland Facility Guidelines, a resource designed to support the future growth and success of our sport across the state.

Basketball in Queensland continues to experience exceptional growth, reflecting broader national trends and an increasing appetite for inclusive, accessible, and high-quality sporting opportunities. As participation expands, so too must our network of facilities – from small community venues to large regional hubs. This document has been created to assist associations, clubs, local governments, and project partners in navigating the journey of planning and delivering new or upgraded basketball facilities.

We recognise that facility development is a complex and resource-intensive undertaking. It requires vision, planning, and collaboration between many stakeholders. These guidelines outline our preferred approach to project planning – including design principles, feasibility work, and strategic advocacy – and are intended to empower the basketball community to pursue infrastructure projects with confidence and purpose.

INTRODUCTION

Purpose

The Basketball Queensland Facility Guidelines are a planning and advocacy tool for associations, clubs, and delivery partners. They outline recommended principles, processes, and technical considerations to support the development of new venues and the upgrade of existing ones.

The purpose of this document is to:

- Promote best practice in facility planning, design, and project delivery
- Provide a consistent framework for progressing facility projects from concept to construction
- Help ensure that new and upgraded facilities meet the needs of players, officials, spectators, and communities

Target Audiences

This resource is designed for use by a wide range of basketball stakeholders, including:

- Basketball associations and clubs
- Local governments and regional councils
- Planning consultants and facility designers
- Project partners and funding bodies
- School sport administrators and education providers
- State and federal sport departments

Measures of Success

The guidelines aim to achieve the following outcomes:

- Delivery of more inclusive, modern, and multi-purpose basketball facilities across Queensland
- Improved project readiness and investment alignment with state and local priorities
- Greater capacity among clubs and associations to lead and manage facility projects
- Stronger partnerships between the basketball community, government, and industry
- Long-term sustainability of venues that support participation growth and community wellbeing

BASKETBALL IN QUEENSLAND

41
ASSOCIATIONS

150
CLUBS

155
VENUES

322
COURTS

74,189
REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS

1.4%
STATE-WIDE PARTICIPATION RATE

56,170
MALE PARTICIPANTS

17,915
FEMALE PARTICIPANTS

78%

OF PARTICIPANTS ARE IN SOUTH QUEENSLAND

12%

OF PARTICIPANTS ARE IN CENTRAL QUEENSLAND

10%

OF PARTICIPANTS ARE IN NORTH QUEENSLAND

ABOUT THE GUIDELINES AND HOW TO USE THEM

These guidelines have been developed to assist basketball associations and clubs across Queensland in planning, advocating for, and delivering new or improved basketball infrastructure. Whether you're initiating a new facility project or enhancing an existing venue, the guidelines provide a structured pathway from early concept through to construction.

They are designed to support locally driven ideas and ensure projects are viable, compliant, and aligned with Basketball Queensland's broader strategic objectives. By working through each step, users will gain clarity on their project's vision, feasibility, and community impact. The document outlines the technical, operational, and planning elements required at each stage, allowing project teams to build a compelling case for investment and support. It also highlights the types of professional expertise needed to progress complex projects.

Each section in the framework represents a distinct planning milestone, such as preparing a general design brief, conducting a feasibility study, or engaging in advocacy. The level of detail and the order of steps may vary depending on your project's scale and maturity. While smaller upgrades may only require selected components, major facility redevelopments will likely benefit from a journey through the entire framework.

Stakeholders are encouraged to treat this document as both a planning tool and a reference guide. It can support internal discussions, inform engagement with stakeholders, and help align project ideas with available funding pathways. By completing the recommended steps in advance, users can ensure their proposals are considered, robust, and ready for partnership with Basketball Queensland or other funding bodies.

FACILITY PLANNING FRAMEWORK

This facility planning framework is intended to guide basketball associations and clubs through the essential early stages of facility development. By following this structured process, clubs and associations will be better equipped to develop clear, strategic, and evidence-based proposals that support the growth of basketball in their communities.

The framework outlines a step-by-step approach to project planning – from defining the initial vision and concept design through to feasibility analysis, advocacy, and construction. Each component identifies specific actions, stakeholders, outputs, and key considerations to help ensure that all relevant information is collected, assessed, and documented prior to submitting a project proposal to Basketball Queensland.

Each stage includes tasks that may be led by the association/club, with support from consultants, local government, or other partners. Use this guide to understand what is typically completed in-house versus where specialist expertise is recommended.

FACILITY PLANNING FRAMEWORK

1. General Design Brief

Define the vision, needs, and core requirements of the proposed facility to guide all subsequent planning and design stages.

2. High-Level Concept Development, Design and Indicative Costings

Translate the design brief into visual layouts and preliminary costs to explore spatial arrangements and inform feasibility.

3. Preliminary Advocacy

Build early support by aligning the project with planning regulations, demonstrating demand and feasibility, and forming the basis of a business case.

4. Site Options, Analysis and Master Plan

Identify and evaluate potential sites to ensure the project is developed in the most strategic, sustainable, and accessible location.

5. Business Model and Operations Forecasts

Define how the facility will be governed and operated, including financial performance and community access.

6. Detailed Feasibility Study and Business Case

Consolidate planning and analysis to confirm viability, value, and investment-readiness for government or private funders.

7. Detailed Reference Design and QS Costings

Produce technical design documentation and cost plans required for approvals, tendering, and funding submissions.

8. Planning Applications

Secure statutory approvals by demonstrating compliance with zoning, planning overlays, and community expectations.

9. Secondary Advocacy (Full Project Proposal)

Promote the project through high-quality materials to attract funding, partnerships, and broader stakeholder support.

10. Construction

Deliver the physical facility as designed – on time, on budget, and to the required standards – ensuring a smooth transition to operation.

SPECIFIC EXPERITSE AND ADVICE REQUIRED

Delivering a successful basketball facility project requires input from a range of experts at different stages. This table outlines the key professional roles that may be needed, what they contribute, and when to engage them. Understanding these roles early will help ensure informed planning, smoother approvals, and stronger funding outcomes.

EXPERTISE	WHAT THEY DO?	RELEVANT FACILITY PLANNING STAGES
Planning and Management Specialist	Leads and coordinates planning processes, stakeholder engagement, governance development, forecasting, feasibility testing, and overall project delivery.	General Design Brief; Preliminary Advocacy (Feasibility Study); Site Options; Business Model; Feasibility & Business Case; Construction.
Community Engagement Consultant	Engages stakeholders and communities to identify local needs, values, and project priorities through inclusive and transparent consultation processes. These consultants would also develop advocacy materials and visual communications tailored to government, community, and private sector stakeholders.	General Design Brief; Secondary Advocacy (Full Project Proposal).
Architect/Urban Designer	Designs functional, accessible, and integrated sporting spaces that align with sport-specific guidelines and local planning and environmental conditions.	High-Level Concept Design; Detailed Reference Design.
Construction Contractor/Supervisor	Oversees physical construction, site coordination, compliance with specifications, and handover of the completed facility.	Construction.
Additional Subject-Specific Consultants, including: Quantity Surveyor, Town Planner, Traditional Owner/Cultural Advisor, Economic/Financial Analyst, Land Use/Environmental Consultant, and Engineer/Technical Specialist.	Brings targeted technical expertise across a range of planning, regulatory, and design domains. These consultants provide essential support and documentation.	Various stages depending on project context, which could include: High-Level Concept Design; Preliminary Advocacy; Site Options, Analysis and Master Plan; Feasibility and Business Case; Detailed Design and QS Costings; Planning Applications; Construction.

GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS AND ADVOCACY

Stakeholder Relationships

- Advocacy with government, and engagement with local representatives should focus on increasing profile of your basketball community.
- Government representatives look for constructive ways to represent the interests of the community more broadly.
- Promote your organisation's role in supporting diverse community activity, inclusion and partnerships that deliver benefits beyond the sport.
- Identify and secure opportunities for 'third party' community organisations and businesses to champion your cause. Obtain letters of support where possible.
- Gather support and involve key government stakeholders. Communication is key. Direct communication is most effective. Methods of engagement include:
  - Regular email updates
  - Facilitating regular (e.g. quarterly) meetings with local government MPs and Councillors
  - Invitations to events/occasions. These could include high-profile, marquee games, season openings, guest speaker opportunities (e.g. committee AGMs).
  - Include them in opportunities for promotion and publicity.
  - Understand your stakeholder interests in sport and/or basketball.

GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS AND ADVOCACY

BASKETBALL QUEENSLAND

Local Government

- Local governments across Australia play a significant role in supporting community sport and facility development.
- The majority of the sport's indoor centre and assets are owned (and sometimes operated by local government)
- The primary role of Local Government Councillors is to participate in high-level decision-making and representing the community.
- The Mayor has influence in the decision-making of Council, while also actively promoting and developing opportunities for the municipality.
- The CEO and staff run the day-to-day operations of Council and implement its direction and related actions and activities.
- Local government has four-year fixed terms, as well as an annual financial year budget cycle.
- Organisations are able to provide submissions to their relevant local government authorities annual budget process.

State Government

- In Queensland, sport is managed by the Department of Sport, Racing, Olympic & Paralympic Games.
- State & Territory governments develop and implement policies and programs with a focus on community sport.
- They can provide funding for the construction of infrastructure, programming, as well as sponsoring local events.
- State Government has fixed four-year election terms. As well as an annual financial year budget cycle.

Federal Government

- The Federal Government supports sport in Australia from grassroots to elite, including Olympic representation.
- Federal Governments have historically supported grants funding programs to support community sport and infrastructure development.
- The Federal Government has three-year election cycles, established infrastructure grant programs (i.e. Thriving Suburbs, Growing Regions, Play Our Way) and an annual financial year budget cycle.

GENERAL DESIGN BRIEF

Lead: Association/Club.

Support: Planning and Management Specialist; Community Engagement Consultant.

A general design brief clearly articulates the vision and requirements for a proposed basketball facility. It forms the blueprint for all future planning stages and must be future-focused, practical, and tailored to the specific needs of the local basketball community and broader stakeholders.

This involves consulting with clubs and community members to understand current and projected needs, identifying critical facility components such as court numbers, a show court, changerooms, spectator seating, administrative areas, and other amenities. Consideration must be given to accessibility standards and inclusivity, ensuring the facility serves all users.

It is important that the design brief not only outlines infrastructure but also captures the aspirations and identity of the basketball community it serves. This document is key to shaping the tone of the project and ensuring that future planning, design, and operational decisions reflect the vision of stakeholders.

The design brief could involve:

- Number of courts required (e.g., training courts, competition/show court).
- Amenities such as changerooms, showers, accessible toilets, first-aid rooms, storage, and administration space.
- Spectator requirements including seating, circulation areas, and viewing platforms.
- Supporting features such as cafés, social spaces, meeting rooms, and shared-use areas.
- Consideration for all-abilities access and gender inclusive changerooms.
- Any existing site limitations, i.e. topography, car parking.
- Sustainability features, such as solar, water capture.

HIGH-LEVEL CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT, DESIGN AND INDICATIVE COSTINGS

Lead: Architect/Urban Designer.

Support: Planning and Management Specialist; Additional Subject-Specific Consultants (e.g. Quantity Surveyor).

This phase translates the initial design brief into visual and spatial concepts that reflect the proposed scope of the project. Draft site layouts and building configurations begin to take shape, considering how various elements interact and function.

The development of concept designs helps stakeholders to visualise the layout and scale of the facility and allows the team to explore different options for flow, flexibility, and integration with surrounding spaces. As the concept evolves, feedback from key stakeholders, including users and technical experts, should be incorporated to refine priorities. These designs are not final but should be robust enough to provide confidence in the scale and cost implications of the project.

The various steps for this process could include:

- Revisit the completed design brief to ensure a clear understanding of the facility's intended function, user needs, and design priorities.
- Appoint a suitably qualified architect or facility designer with experience in community or sporting infrastructure to lead the concept design process.
- Prepare preliminary site layout options showing the spatial arrangement of key elements such as courts, amenities, access routes, and parking.
- Create early building layout concepts indicating the size and configuration of indoor courts, change rooms, storage, administration, and support areas.
- Integrate Basketball Queensland guidelines, universal design principles, and any local planning overlays.
- Present draft concepts to user groups, Council, or Basketball Queensland (as appropriate) to gather feedback and refine plans.
- Appoint a cost consultant or Quantity Surveyor to prepare indicative capital cost estimates based on the concept design and preliminary floor areas.
- Explore delivery in stages (e.g. build one court first, then expand) to suit budget constraints or funding opportunities.

PRELIMINARY ADVOCACY (PLANNING, FEASIBILITY AND BUSINESS CASE)

Lead: Association/Club.

Support: Planning and Management Specialist; Community Engagement Consultant; Additional Subject-Specific Consultants (e.g. Cultural Advisor, Town Planner).

In the early stages of a basketball facility project, preliminary advocacy involves scoping, testing, and positioning the idea for future development. This phase begins with internal alignment and early engagement with stakeholders such as planning specialists, Traditional Owners, and council officers. The goal is to clarify what is possible on a site, understand the planning context, and begin assembling the rationale for investment.

Advice on zoning, overlays, cultural heritage, and environmental constraints should be sought as early as possible to avoid project delays or misalignment. At this stage, a high-level demand case will be developed, often using sport participation data, local demographics, and a review of existing facilities to lay the foundation for more technical work and understand the project context.

Typically, the preliminary advocacy section could:

- Clarify the strategic need for the facility by identifying participation trends, growth pressures, or gaps in provision within your region.
- Review relevant state, regional, and local planning documents to identify how your project aligns with broader infrastructure or sport strategies.
- Engage with local council representatives to introduce the project concept, understand planning expectations, and explore potential support.
- Initiate contact with Traditional Owners and First Nations representatives to understand cultural obligations and ensure respectful inclusion.
- Gather evidence of demand through participation data, waitlists, usage patterns, and input from local clubs or schools.
- Start building a stakeholder map that identifies key partners, decision-makers, influencers, and community groups relevant to your project.
- Explore potential advocacy pathways, such as letters of support, council motions, or sport infrastructure plans, to build early momentum.
- Develop a high-level project overview to begin shaping your narrative for future funding or feasibility support.

SITE OPTIONS, ANALYSIS AND MASTER PLAN (IF REQUIRED)

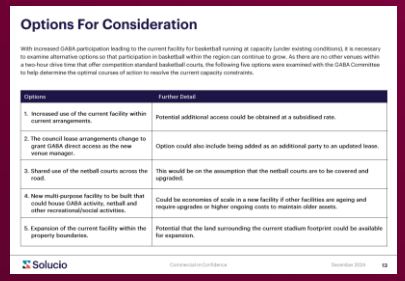
Lead: Planning and Management Specialist.

Support: Architect/Urban Designer; Additional Subject-Specific Consultants (e.g. Land Use/Environmental Consultant).

In this phase, possible development sites are identified and assessed. The aim is to ensure the preferred site supports the vision of the project and has the necessary features and flexibility to accommodate the proposed facility.

Sites are reviewed based on criteria such as access, infrastructure servicing, zoning, and potential for long-term growth. Where appropriate, a master plan may be developed to visualise a staged delivery or a broader precinct vision.

Engaging stakeholders in the site evaluation process can help identify unexpected opportunities or challenges and provide a stronger foundation for community and political support during later phases.


Options For Consideration

With increased GABA participation leading to the current facility for basketball running at capacity (under existing conditions), it is necessary to examine alternative options so that participation in basketball within the region can continue to grow. As there are no other venues within a two-hour drive time that offer competition standard basketball courts, the following five options were examined with the GABA Committee to help determine the optimal courses of action to resolve the current capacity constraints.

Options	Further Detail
1. Increased use of the current facility within current arrangements.	Potential additional access could be obtained at a subsidised rate.
2. The council lease arrangements change to grant GABA direct access as the new venue manager.	Option could also include being added as an additional party to an updated lease.
3. Shared use of the netball courts across the road.	This would be on the assumption that the netball courts are to be covered and upgraded.
4. New multi-purpose facility to be built that could house GABA activity, netball and other recreational/social activities.	Could be economies of scale in a new facility if other facilities are ageing and require upgrades or higher ongoing costs to maintain older assets.
5. Expansion of the current facility within the property boundaries.	Potential that the land surrounding the current stadium footprint could be available for expansion.

Solucio

The following steps outline a typical process for selecting and refining a preferred site:

- Identify a short list of possible development sites based on initial investigations, council input, and strategic land availability identified.
- Develop a set of site selection criteria, informed by earlier planning work.
- Visit each potential site and document baseline information such as ownership, existing use, topography, and environmental constraints.
- Engage with Council officers, landholders, or other stakeholders to understand tenure options, planning triggers, or known issues for each site.
- Use a structured assessment tool (e.g. weighted matrix or Plus, Minus, Interesting (PMI) framework) to evaluate each option.
- Identify preferred and alternate sites based on how well each location supports the facility's intended use, growth potential, and community accessibility.
- If appropriate, prepare a simple concept-level master plan that visually shows how the facility could fit within the site.
- Consult with internal stakeholders, Council, or Basketball Queensland to review findings and confirm the preferred site before progressing further.

BUSINESS MODEL AND OPERATIONS FORECASTS

Lead: Planning and Management Specialist.

Support: Association/Club.

A clear and well-considered business model is vital to ensure the facility is managed sustainably once constructed. This includes defining the future governance and management structure, estimating operational costs, and planning revenue streams.

Operational forecasts provide insights into staffing requirements, potential partnerships, expected community use, and maintenance responsibilities. Modelling scenarios such as peak demand and low-use periods can help predict financial performance and support decisions about service levels and pricing structures.

Creating a flexible operations plan early ensures the facility can respond to changes in usage, policy, or funding. It also helps mitigate risk and supports long-term viability and community trust.

The steps below outline a typical process for developing a business model and forecasting operations:

- Define the intended management structure, i.e. Council-operated, association-managed, or outsourced to a facility operator.
- Estimate operational costs including staffing, utilities, maintenance, cleaning, and asset renewal over a multi-year horizon.
- Identify potential revenue streams such as court hire, event hosting, memberships, kiosk or café income, sponsorships, and grants.
- Consult with similar facilities or benchmark operational data to validate assumptions around staffing levels, costs, and income.
- Assess the need for partnerships or shared-use agreements (e.g. schools, community groups) to support utilisation and financial performance.
- Prepare a multi-year operations forecast that combines revenue and expense projections into an annual net operating position.
- Document key risks and assumptions in the model and outline strategies to ensure financial and operational sustainability.

FEASIBILITY AND BUSINESS CASE

Lead: Planning and Management Specialist.

Support: Additional Subject-Specific Consultants (e.g. Financial Analyst, Quantity Surveyor); Association/Club.

This stage of the planning process focuses on confirming the viability of the proposed facility and building a clear case for investment. It combines evidence-based analysis with strategic framing to demonstrate that the project is needed, achievable, and ready for delivery.

The feasibility study investigates whether the facility can meet demand, operate sustainably, and be delivered within a realistic budget and timeline. The business case then translates these findings into a compelling proposal, highlighting community benefits, funding strategies, and governance pathways.

Typical steps include:

- Assessing site suitability and identifying any development constraints.
- Benchmarking against similar facilities for design, usage, and cost comparisons.
- Testing management and governance models (e.g. council-managed, lease-based, or outsourced).
- Modelling operational performance including revenue potential, staffing, and maintenance.
- Testing multiple development options or staging scenarios.
- Estimating capital and lifecycle costs, informed by a Quantity Surveyor.
- Developing a funding and investment strategy with defined contributions.
- Preparing financial forecasts and benefit–cost or economic impact analyses.
- Articulating community, social, and strategic alignment in a funder-ready business case.
- Compiling the above into a well-structured, visual, and persuasive document

DETAILED REFERENCE DESIGN AND QS COSTINGS

Lead: Architect/Urban Designer; Quantity Surveyor.

Support: Planning and Management Specialist; Additional Subject-Specific Consultants.

The concept is now refined into detailed designs that meet planning, sport, and building code requirements. These drawings form the foundation for development approvals, grant applications, and procurement.

Alongside the drawings, a Quantity Surveyor will prepare a cost plan covering all aspects of delivery, including construction, consultant fees, contingencies, and escalation. This step ensures that decision-makers have a clear understanding of the total investment required.

This stage provides the technical certainty needed to proceed to market, submit for approvals, and engage confidently with funders. It's also a critical checkpoint to avoid design revisions later.

Typical steps would involve:

- Engage qualified architects to develop detailed design drawings.
- Confirm spatial layouts, materials, finishes, access paths, and building systems.
- Ensure universal design, accessibility, and sustainability features are embedded.
- Finalise site layout, staging plans, and integration with surrounding infrastructure.
- Prepare a full Quantity Surveyor cost plan including escalation, contingency, fees and external works.
- Review design against planning requirements and prepare documents for formal approval.
- Confirm that the reference design supports the endorsed business model and operational plan.
- Submit plans to Basketball Queensland for review, if required.
- Package final designs and costings to support grant applications or procurement.

PLANNING APPLICATION/S

Lead: Additional Subject-Specific Consultants (Town Planner).

Support: Planning and Management Specialist; Association/Club.

To proceed with construction, planning approval must be obtained from the relevant authority. This process requires formal submission of architectural plans and accompanying documentation such as traffic studies, heritage reports, and environmental assessments.

Depending on the site and planning overlays, public consultation and additional technical input may also be needed. Securing approval confirms the project's compliance with local planning frameworks and signals readiness to proceed.

Good planning documentation demonstrates both compliance and quality, reinforcing confidence in the project among stakeholders and the broader community.

This stage ensures that the project complies with all relevant statutory requirements.

- Confirm whether the proposed development requires a planning permit under the local planning scheme. If so, engage a town planner or planning consultant to manage the application process.
- Prepare and collate required documentation, including site plans, elevations, reports (e.g. traffic, heritage, environmental).
- Ensure alignment with overlays or planning constraints (e.g. flooding, vegetation, cultural heritage).
- Lodge the planning application with Council and respond to any further information requests.
- Undertake public notification if required and prepare for any community engagement processes.
- Secure the planning permit or written confirmation that no permit is required.
- Share approvals with all project partners.
- Ensure compliance conditions are addressed during detailed design and construction.

SECONDARY ADVOCACY (FULL PROJECT PROPOSAL)

Lead: Association/Club.

Support: Community Engagement Consultant; Planning and Management Specialist.

With the design and costs finalised and planning approvals in motion or secured, a project proposal can be prepared to support investment attraction. This document tells the story of the facility and its benefits to a range of potential funders and partners. It highlights need, readiness, design excellence, costings, and alignment with funding priorities. Visual materials, testimonials, and economic benefit summaries help strengthen the pitch and build confidence in the project's value.

An effective proposal is a strategic communications tool that should be customised for different audiences – from government departments to commercial sponsors.

Following design and approvals, advocacy should be elevated to attract funding, support, and delivery partners through the following steps:

- Develop a professionally presented project proposal outlining the project vision, readiness, and benefits. This should include visuals, site plans, timelines, costings, and financial modelling.
- Tailor messaging to different audiences (e.g. local Council, state Government, sponsors).
- Highlight alignment with sport, health, economic, and community policy goals.
- Present data from feasibility, business case, and operational forecasts to support investment logic.
- Collect letters of support and endorsements from stakeholders and partners.
- Identify and engage with potential funding programs or grant opportunities.
- Meet with decision-makers to present the project and confirm alignment.
- Document all advocacy efforts to inform funding applications.

CONSTRUCTION

Lead: Construction Contractor/Supervisor.

Support: Planning and Management Specialist; Architect/Urban Designer; Association/Club.

The construction phase turns planning into reality. Once a contractor is appointed through a competitive tender process, site preparation and building works commence under supervision of a project control group or project manager.

Throughout delivery, progress is monitored, and risks managed to ensure the project stays on track. Commissioning the facility involves inspections, staff onboarding, and preparing for a smooth transition to operational use.

During this phase, effective communication, clear reporting lines, and documented procedures ensure that construction runs efficiently and that stakeholders remain informed and engaged throughout.

With approvals and funding secured, the project transitions into physical delivery.

- Prepare tender documentation and appoint a qualified construction contractor.
- Establish a project control group to oversee construction and maintain governance. This could involve local Government, Basketball Queensland and any other relevant stakeholders.
- Set up site access, staging, and temporary facilities as required.
- Conduct regular site meetings to track progress, variations, and quality.
- Maintain open communication between contractor, consultants, and project stakeholders.
- Undertake inspections and milestone checks at key phases (e.g. slab, structure, services).
- Begin operational readiness planning including staff recruitment, fit out, and programming.
- Complete practical completion, final inspections, and commissioning.
- Celebrate opening with stakeholders and begin post-construction evaluation and reporting.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

At the centre of every basketball venue lies the field of play, which is the primary space where the game is brought to life for players, coaches, officials, and spectators alike.

The quality of the field of play and its supporting infrastructure significantly shapes the basketball experience. Court flooring, backstop units, and scoring systems are not just equipment, but the key elements that influence athlete safety, game fairness, and overall spectator engagement.

This section outlines the essential technical specifications and design considerations for key components of the basketball playing environment, including:

- Flooring
- Court Dimensions and Line Marking
- Backboards and Rings
- Scoreboards and Shot Clocks
- Safety Padding
- Scorers and Team Benches
- Lighting

Investing in quality, FIBA-aligned infrastructure supports the future sustainability and growth of basketball across Queensland, from local courts to regional centres of excellence.

Note: All technical standards referenced in this section are based on FIBA Guidelines. Relevant chapter references can be found on the following pages for those seeking further detail.

FLOORING

The playing surface is one of the most critical components of any basketball facility. As the primary field of play, it must be designed to provide optimal performance, safety, and durability for players of all ages and levels of competition.

In Queensland, where basketball is played year-round in a variety of climates and usage settings, selecting a high-quality flooring system is essential.

Surface Requirements

The basketball playing surface must be a sprung timber floor, designed specifically for indoor sports use. To ensure full compliance with international standards and enable a consistent playing experience, the flooring must:

- Extend to a minimum length of 32.1 metres and a minimum width of 19.1 metres, allowing appropriate run-off space around the court.
- Be an approved FIBA Level 1 or Level 2 Certified system with clearly defined and tested performance standards

For more information, refer to Chapter 2, 3, 5, 7, 8 and 11 in the FIBA Guide to Basketball Facilities.

Certification and Compliance

All flooring systems must be certified by FIBA. The supplier must provide a valid FIBA Certificate that verifies the flooring system meets the following minimum performance criteria:

- Shock absorption (Force Reduction): Minimum of 50% in accordance with EN 14808.
- Vertical deformation: Between 2.3 mm and 5.0 mm (EN 14809).
- Ball rebound behaviour: Minimum 90% in accordance with EN 12235.
- Slip resistance (Dry Conditions):Coefficient between 0.4 and 0.7 (EN 14903), or between 80 and 110 (EN 13036-4).

These technical requirements are vital to ensuring a safe, responsive, and uniform playing experience across all courts.

Note: Substituting flooring materials or sub-floor systems that do not have an approved FIBA certificate is not acceptable. Non-compliant surfaces may be ineligible for endorsement or usage under Basketball Queensland, Basketball Australia, or affiliated competition requirements.

COURT DIMENSIONS

To support consistency, safety, and alignment with national and international competition standards, all basketball courts in Queensland must be designed and marked in accordance with FIBA regulations.

Court Size and Run-Off

The basketball court must be a flat, hard, unobstructed surface with official dimensions of 28 metres in length and 15 metres in width.

These measurements are taken from the inside edge of the boundary lines. For safety, an unobstructed boundary clearance of at least 2 metres must be provided on all sides of the court. This ensures adequate run-off for players, officials, and equipment and is essential for both community and elite-level use.

Line Marking Standards

Court lines must be clearly visible, with a minimum width of 50mm, in accordance with the FIBA Official Basketball Rules. On multi-sport courts, distinct colours must be used to differentiate between sports.

Care should be taken to ensure that basketball markings remain clearly visible and legible at all times, particularly in venues that serve multiple user groups.

Centre Line and Circle

The centre line runs parallel to the end lines and extends 0.15m beyond each sideline, forming part of the backcourt. The centre circle has a radius of 1.80m, measured to the outer edge. If the centre circle is painted, it must match the colour of the restricted areas.

Throw-In Lines

Two throw-in lines, each 0.15m long, are marked on the sideline opposite the scorer's table. The outer edge of each line is positioned 8.325m from the inner edge of the nearest endline.

Three-Point Line

The three-point field goal area excludes the region near the opponent's basket and is defined by:

- Two parallel lines, each 0.90m from the inner edge of the sidelines, perpendicular to the endline.
- An arc with a radius of 6.75m from the centre of the opponent's basket, joined to the parallel lines.
- The three-point line itself is not included as part of the three-point area.

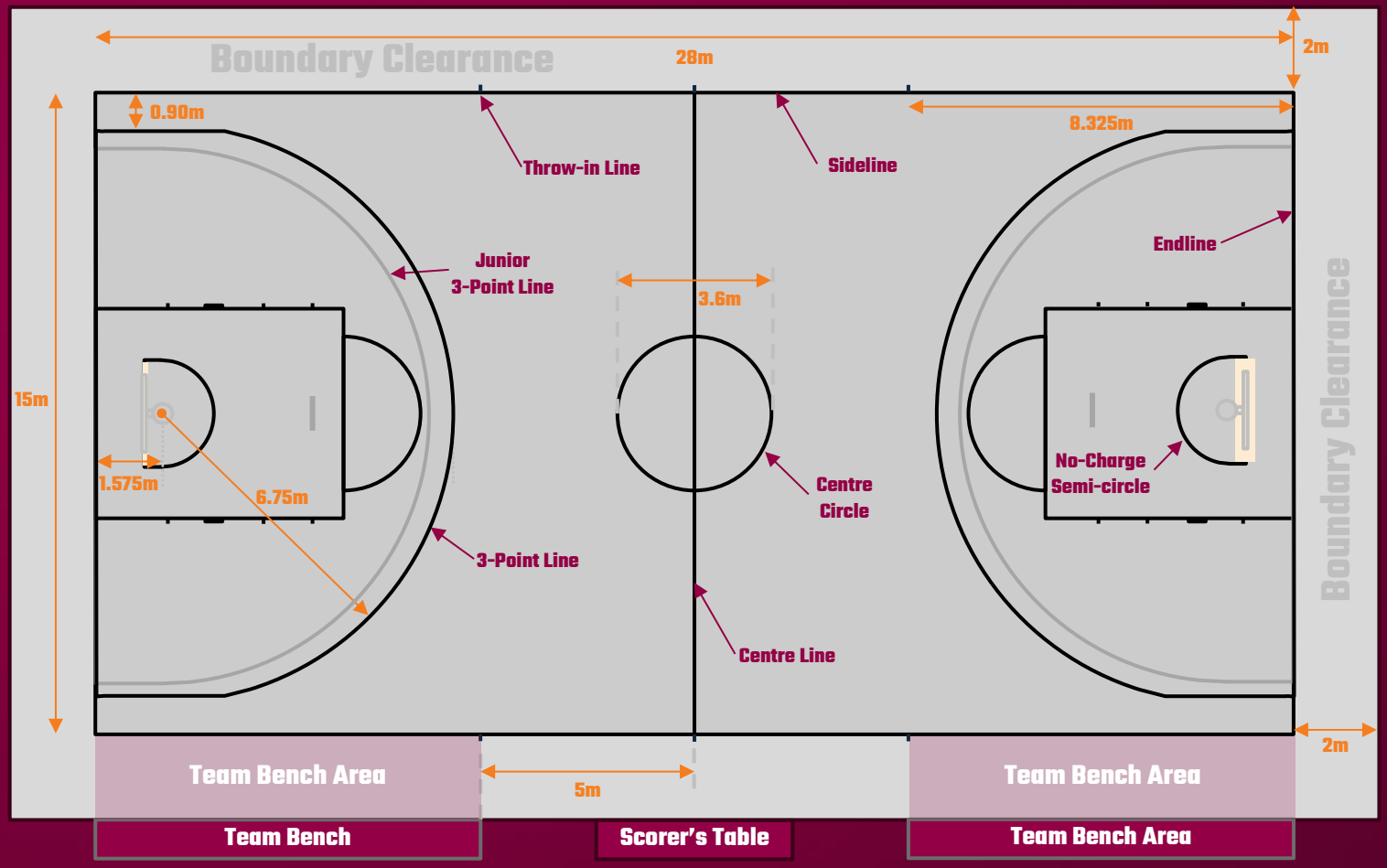
COURT DIMENSIONS

Free Throw Semi-Circles

Free throw semi-circles are positioned around the free throw line at both ends of the court. Each semi-circle has a radius of 1.80 metres, measured from the centre of the free throw line to the outer edge of the arc. These arcs provide spatial clarity during free throws and must be clearly marked.

Free Throw Lines

The free throw line is drawn parallel to the endline. Its furthest edge is 5.8 metres from the inner edge of the endline, which equates to 4.6 metres from the face of the backboard. The line must be 3.6 metres in length and centred on the playing court.



COURT DIMENSIONS

Restricted Areas (Key)

The restricted area (commonly referred to as the "key" or "paint") is a rectangular zone extending from the endline into the court, defined as follows:

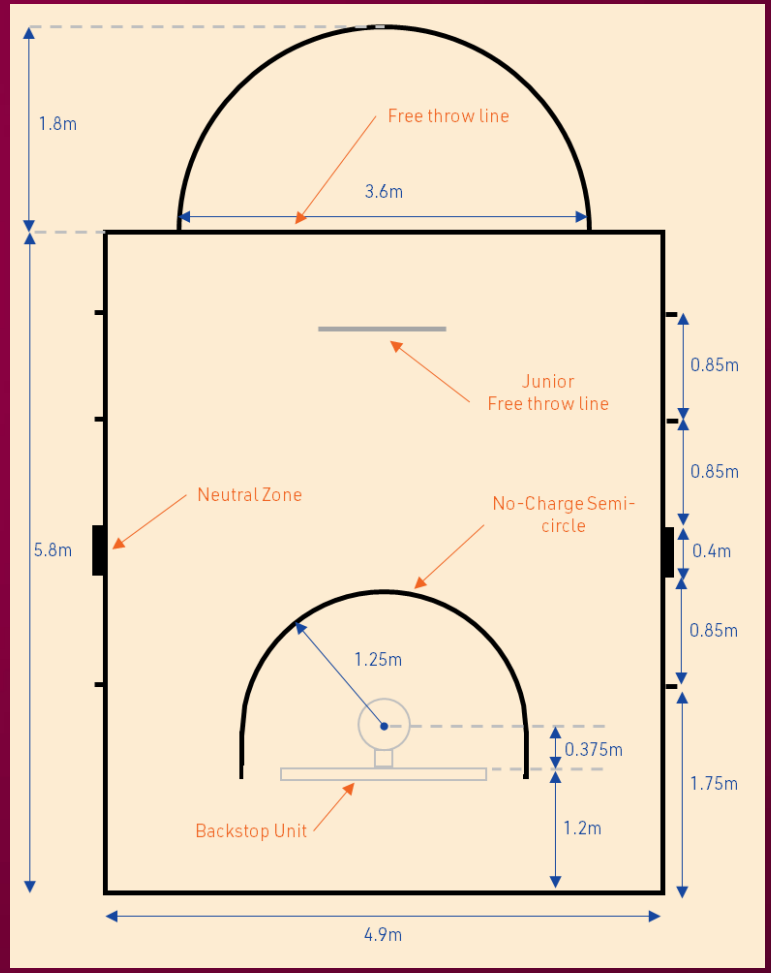
- Width: 4.9 metres (2.45m each side from the midpoint of the endline).
- Length: From the endline to the outer edge of the extended free throw line

The restricted area must be marked using solid lines (excluding the endline itself, which is separate) and painted in a single, consistent colour to visually distinguish it from the rest of the court. This area defines where certain violations (e.g. three-second violations) and rebounding positions apply during gameplay.

No-Charge Semi-Circle Areas

To ensure player safety under the basket, no-charge semi-circles are marked beneath each ring with a radius of 1.25 metres, measured from the point on the floor directly below the centre of the basket to the inner edge of the arc. The arc connects to two perpendicular lines, each 0.375 metres in length, ending 1.20 metres from the endline. This area restricts defensive fouls when offensive players are in the air and aiming for the basket, reducing contact-related injuries.

For more information, refer to Chapter 3 in the FIBA Guide to Basketball Facilities.



BACKBOARDS AND RINGS

High-quality, FIBA-compliant backboards and rings are essential to delivering a safe, consistent, and professional basketball experience. It is critical that all equipment meets international standards to support the game at all levels.

Backboards

All basketball facilities must install flat-surfaced, non-reflective backboards constructed from a suitable transparent material, such as tempered glass or acrylic. Backboards must comply with the following specifications:

- Dimensions:
  - Width: 1800mm (minimum) - 1830mm (maximum)
  - Height: 1050mm (minimum) - 1070mm (maximum)
- Positioning and Mounting: Backboards must be mounted at a right angle to the court floor and must be aligned parallel to the endline.
- Support structures must be padded to reduce injury risk, and must be of a solid, consistent colour across both ends of the court.

To enhance inclusivity, it is recommended that at least one court includes wooden backboards to aid visually impaired players.

Rings and Nets

Each backboard must be fitted with a height-adjustable, spring-back ring made of solid steel, compliant with the following technical standards:

- Ring Dimensions:
  - Internal diameter: 450mm to 459mm
  - Metal thickness: 16mm to 20mm
- Ring colour: Orange, consistent with FIBA's approved colour spectrum

Basket Net

- Length: 400mm to 450mm
- Must have 12 loops to attach securely to the ring
- Spring-back mechanisms reduce strain on both the equipment and the players during dunks or contact and are required for competition-level use.

For more information, refer to Chapter 3 in the FIBA Guide to Basketball Facilities.

SCORE AND TEAM BENCHES

Well-designed scorer and team bench areas are critical to the professional and safe operation of basketball games. These spaces support the smooth delivery of match-day activities and must meet FIBA standards to ensure consistency across venues in Queensland.

Scorer's Bench

A designated scorer's area should run along one side of each basketball court and serve as the central hub for officials during games. The key specifications include:

- Minimum width: 10 metres
- Scorer's table placement: Aligned with the centre line of the court
- Minimum table length: 6 metres
- Elevation: The table must be placed on a platform at least 200mm (20cm) above floor level to ensure clear visibility over the court

The scorer's bench area should be clearly delineated from spectator or player areas and positioned to allow officials unobstructed views of the playing surface.

For more information, refer to Chapters 2 and 11 in the FIBA Guide to Basketball Facilities.

Team Benches

The team bench area is located on the same side as the scorer's bench but must remain outside the 2-metre run-off zone to ensure player and staff safety. Requirements for team benches include:

Seating for a minimum of 14 people, including:

- Coaches
- Assistant coaches
- Substitutes
- Excluded players
- Team followers

Other personnel (e.g. medical staff, media) must be positioned at least 2 metres behind the team bench. All seating must be at least 2 metres from advertising boards or any physical obstructions. All team bench layouts must strictly comply with FIBA regulations to support fair play, safety, and game management at all levels of competition.

SHOT CLOCKS AND SCOREBOARDS

Accurate, durable, and well-positioned scoring and timing systems are essential components of any basketball facility. These systems ensure a smooth game-day experience for officials, players, and spectators and must comply with FIBA regulations to support competitions across all levels in Queensland.

Shot Clocks

Each basketball court must be equipped with two shot clocks, mounted directly on top of each backboard. These devices are crucial for regulating possession time and must be clearly visible from all areas of the court.

Scoreboards

Every court must have two visible scoreboards, positioned so that players, team benches, officials, and spectators can view them from multiple angles. Where a central scoreboard cube is used (e.g. for show courts or larger venues), it must be fully synchronised with the two primary end-court scoreboards, which are still required for compliance.

The minimum display requirements are a game clock (digital countdown timer), team scores, game period, and team fouls. For higher-level competitions (e.g. FIBA Level 1 and 2), scoreboards should also accommodate the player names and numbers and the individual player fouls.

The main game clock must emit an automatic audible signal when it reaches 00:00 to signal the end of a period or game.

All scoreboards and shot clocks must be:

- Securely mounted with no sharp edges
- Protected against impact, without obstructing visibility
- Durable enough to withstand repeated contact with the ball
- Electromagnetically compatible, meeting all relevant national regulatory standards

Scoreboard Splitting

Facilities hosting FIBA 3x3 competitions or simultaneous small-sided games must have scoreboard splitting capability. This feature enables a single full-sized court to display separate scores for two games, enhancing flexibility and allowing venues to increase usage and programming opportunities.

For more information, refer to Chapter 3 in the FIBA Guide to Basketball Facilities.

HOW CAN BASKETBALL QUEENSLAND ASSIST?

Basketball Queensland is here to assist associations, clubs, and stakeholders at all stages of the facility planning journey. Once your project has progressed through the initial framework, we can provide:

Strategic Guidance
Advice on aligning your project with Basketball Queensland's strategic priorities and facility development objectives.

Review and Feedback
Review of draft concept plans, design briefs, and funding applications to support project refinement.

Data and Evidence
Access to participation data, growth trends, and benchmarking insights to strengthen your business case or advocacy.

Partnership Support
Assistance connecting with local government, funding bodies, and key stakeholders.

For support or to discuss your facility project, please contact:

General Manager – Basketball Operations
Email: gmbasketball@basketballqld.net.au
Website: www.queensland.basketball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