



AFFILIATION PROCESS FOR AREA ASSOCIATIONS AND LOCAL LEAGUES

Over several years, basketball across England has developed at the grassroots level through Area Associations and creation of various local leagues. It is important that these organisations are supported by Basketball England, through increased awareness of these organisations, the volunteers and individuals involved and supporting good governance across the country.

Through this time, the competition landscape within England has become more complex. The main providers of basketball competition currently in England are Area Associations (AA), Local Leagues (LL) and Clubs. It is vital that as part of increased support for AA's and LL's moving forward and greater understanding of grassroots competition opportunities.

Being affiliated to Basketball England has several benefits for your organisation including:

- Public Liability Insurance Cover
- Opportunities for funding support e.g Tackling Inequalities Funding
- Safeguarding support
- Disciplinary support

Current Situation

There is no formal process for Area Associations and Local Leagues to affiliate to Basketball England currently. It is actioned informally through direct contact with the membership team – very different to that of a club process for affiliation where this is conducted through the portal. The negative aspects to this process are:

1. Low knowledge of the committee members of the Area Association and Local League providers
2. Difficult to support these organisations due to lack of knowledge
3. Little knowledge around the governance within these organisations until issues arise e.g. disciplinaries
4. No requirements that are monitored/checked in order to be affiliated despite it being part of the informal affiliation process

5. No knowledge of the leagues and teams within them so unable to promote the grassroots level of the game easily

There are also various types of grassroots competition which over the next 12 months will be reviewed and explored, with emphasis on the support and requirements needed for them. Of the 3 main competition providers across England (Area Associations, Local Leagues, Clubs) there are various types of competition including:

- Leagues
- Cups
- One-off tournaments
- CVL's
- Inter-club leagues

With the above points being critical to Basketball England, we are creating a new affiliation process for Area Associations and Local Leagues providing basketball competition and development at a grassroots level. This affiliation process has been developed through the best practice within sport in England and the Sport England 'Code Of Governance' as well as research across other sports. The affiliation process will require a systematic check of governance documents for affiliated Area Associations and Local Leagues to ensure there is a minimum level of good governance. Through this process, the priority is to support organisations by advising and providing templates where possible, for organisations to use as part of their governing documents and processes. We want to ensure that organisations that are affiliated not only have good governance within them, but we also have knowledge of activity and competitions so that the grassroots level of the game can be supported and given the promotion and exposure that is needed for the sport. For the sport to grow and develop, it is important that we have a method of affiliation that creates information about the grassroots landscape.

In the coming seasons, there will be increased requirements as part of the affiliation in order to continue developing the sport across England. These will include submission of disciplinary procedures, league rules and other documentation. With this being the first year of formalising the affiliation process, we want to ensure that the very basics are in place and work with Area Associations and Leagues over time to develop areas of the sport where needed.

Process

In order to affiliate as an Area Association or Local League provider, you will need to complete the online form below. This form asks questions around two particular subjects:

1. Information about committee members and documentation for an AA/LL
2. Broad details of the competitions run and teams involved

Once you have submitted the information and this will be checked by Basketball England to ensure it meets the minimum requirements of audited accounts, constitution and committee details. Once the information has been checked, you will then be contacted for payment of affiliation:

- Area Associations (inclusive of their league) - £60

- Affiliated Leagues (external of AA's) - £60

Below is a list of questions that are part of the affiliation process so that you can ensure all the relevant information is gathered. The form is unable to be saved, so you will need to ensure you have the information at the time of submission.

If you require any support or have questions about the process, please email support@basketballengland.co.uk

Questions for Affiliation:

Area Association/Local League Information

1. Type of Organisation (AA, LL, Both)
2. Name of AA/LL
3. Legal Status of Organisation (Volunteer community group, Company Limited By Guarantee, Community Interest Company, Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Unsure, Other)
4. If 'Other' to the above question, please state status
5. Please list counties that are covered by the organisation? (In terms of development and/or competition)
6. Constitution
7. Last Audited Financial Accounts
8. Website link
9. Facebook link
10. Instagram link
11. Twitter link
12. Billing Address
13. Chair/Director of Organisation
14. Chair/Director Email Address
15. Chair/Director Contact Number
16. Secretary
17. Secretary Email
18. Treasurer
19. Treasurer Email
20. Welfare Officer
21. Welfare Officer Email
22. Other Committee Members
23. Other Committee Member Emails
24. What support would you like to receive from Basketball England in helping to develop grassroots competition and overall development?

Senior Competition Information

1. Name of League
2. When was the league established? (if known)
3. Gender of participants (Female/Male/Both)

4. Type of Competition (Home and Away Fixtures/Central Venue League/Cup Competition/Tournament/Other)
5. If 'Other', please specify below
6. If there are any other age groups/type of competition from the above, please state here
7. Number of Divisions Expected for Season

Junior Competition – Girls

1. Specific Age Groups for Girls Competition (U9,U10,U11,U12,U13,U14,U15,U16,U17,U18)
2. Type of Competition (Home and Away Fixtures/Central Venue League/Cup Competition/Tournament/Other)
3. If 'Other', please specify below
4. If there are any other age groups/type of competition from the above, please state here
5. Number of Divisions Expected (by age group)
6. Number of Teams Expected (by age group)

Junior Competition – Boys

1. Specific Age Groups for Girls Competition (U9,U10,U11,U12,U13,U14,U15,U16,U17,U18)
2. Type of Competition (Home and Away Fixtures/Central Venue League/Cup Competition/Tournament/Other)
3. If 'Other', please specify below
4. If there are any other age groups/type of competition from the above, please state here
5. Number of Divisions Expected (by age group)
6. Number of Teams Expected (by age group)

Junior Competition – Mixed

1. Specific Age Groups for Girls Competition (U9,U10,U11,U12,U13,U14,U15,U16,U17,U18)
2. Type of Competition (Home and Away Fixtures/Central Venue League/Cup Competition/Tournament/Other)
3. If 'Other', please specify below
4. If there are any other age groups/type of competition from the above, please state here
5. Number of Divisions Expected (by age group)
6. Number of Teams Expected (by age group)