

Gippsland United VJBL Team Athlete Eligibility Criteria



Principles:

- The boundaries need to take into account Melbourne's urban growth, but also the competitive needs of Gippsland United VJBL representative team's and supporting local talent.
- The Gippsland United Board have implemented a municipalities-based approach to eligibility to represent our Club at VJBL Level and this is centric to the Under 12 to 18 age group in both male and female.
- No model is perfect, and we simply cannot avoid, in almost any model, the problem of two players on opposite sides of the street representing different clubs --- we just need a clear way of determining whether the athlete is eligible to represent Gippsland United.

Purpose:

- The purpose of this athlete eligibility criteria is to ensure that Gippsland United continue to provide a pathway for local athletes to participate at the elite level and not have to travel far distances to seek alternative options.
- It also supports attendance at Team Trainings and Home Games whereby GRISS is the Club Facility as the geographical footprint of the municipalities is reasonably distanced.

The underlying principle of this policy is **DOMOCILE**.

Criteria:

- An athlete will be deemed eligible to represent Gippsland United from Under 12 to 18 age group in both male and female based on their domicile. If they are domiciled in a municipality as gazetted in the below Gippsland Regional Map which covers Bass Coast, Baw Baw, Cardinia, East Gippsland, Latrobe, South Gippsland and Wellington then they are eligible for selection.
- Athletes with a domicile of Cardinia Shire **MUST** play junior representative basketball for Warragul & District Amateur Basketball Association.
- The athletes must play at representative level with a Country Basketball Association to gain selection in a Gippsland United VJBL.

Domicile is defined as:

What the normal residential address of the athlete is, based on the following facts;

- The primary address for the athlete, which address would they provide if applying for a driver's license, registering to vote, registered for Medicare and the like?
- What they consider to be their normal family home?
- In the case of divorced or separated parents, who the courts accept as the custodial parent (regular custody)?
- An over-riding principle will be that any athlete, living away from home for school, will have their home address as their domicile, not their residential address for school purposes.
- If any doubt arises the Gippsland United Board will resolve the domicile of an athlete.
- Family Holiday homes do not meet this criteria.



Exception to the rule:

- Each Gippsland United team from Under 12 to 18 age group in both male and female teams may consider having one (only) athlete who is eligible for selection outside of the gazette municipalities criteria and this athlete is deemed an Import. Such selection of the deemed import MUST be approved by both VJBL Board Portfolio Directors and the applicable Coaching Director.
- No such appeal in any age group will be considered by the Gippsland United Board to have greater than one athlete gain selection in any one given team.

The policy has;

- This eligibility criteria policy will be implemented from 1 September 2023 and be effective for the 2023/24 VJBL Season, as there is no like policy in place at present.

Map 2: *Gippsland region*

