



Amended and Approved by PC/EC 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**CHAPTER 1**
**DEFINITIONS:**

<b>Associations</b>	Associations and/or Organized Bodies who organize basketball outside the MBA framework.
<b>Clubs</b>	Constituted Bodies and teams not connected with any political Party and/or organization and properly affiliated with the MBA
<b>Administrators Officials</b>	The following are considered as club administrators and/or club officials: Club President – Deputy President - Vice President – Secretary – Treasurer – Club Delegate – Substitute Delegate - Committee member.
<b>Coaches Assistant Coaches</b>	Technical persons. Qualified or not.
<b>Team Followers Statisticians Scouts etc.</b>	All other persons authorized to sit on the bench during a game.
<b>Medical Para Medical</b>	Qualified Medical or Para Medical individuals.
<b>Players</b>	Male and female individuals who play the game of basketball as per the rules and regulations established by FIBA and the MBA.
<b>Transfer</b>	A specific agreement between two parties (in this case Basketball Clubs) who have agreed to move one person who is lawfully contracted to one party (the transferring



	party) to another party (the receiving party), i.e. in this case from one club to another. Such Transfer takes place following the payment of any form of consideration being in Monetary Value or goods (in this case a player from the receiving party is sent to the transferring party) provided however that if both parties do agree, there is no such payment.
<b>Free Release</b>	A particular player who at that moment was contracted by a particular club has his/her contract terminated. Following such termination said player is permitted to freely choose which club he/she wishes to transfer to.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

1. A player is eligible to take part in a basketball competitive match if he is registered with a club affiliated to the Malta Basketball Association (MBA) and in accordance with the current Registration and Licences Policy issued by the MBA.
2. A player can play in only two categories until he reaches the age of sixteen (16) years. Such a player is eligible to play in the category he qualifies by age and the next age category or he can play in accordance with article 58 of this policy document.
3. If the club has no team in the next higher age category, this does not give the right to the player to play in any other category.
4. Any Maltese player/s listed on the U23 and/or amateur and/or 1<sup>st</sup> Division team list may play in all divisions, if so eligible.
5. The foreign player/s who are listed on the team list for the under 23 and/or amateur league cannot play in first division.
6. The foreign player/s who are listed on the team list for the first division cannot play in the under 23 and/or amateur league.

**REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS**

7. A player registration form as duly issued and authorised by the MBA is to be deposited at the MBA offices, during office hours, within thirty (30) days from the date of signature of the player.
8. When a player registration form is submitted to the MBA it shall be received, signed and dated by a designated MBA official. This registration shall be automatically approved provided that the registration is accompanied by all the required supporting documents. However, if any of the supporting documents are missing or erroneously submitted, then the registration will be automatically null and void. Clubs are responsible to submit all the necessary information and supporting documents. On the presentation of a player registration a receipt (a photocopy of the first page of the registration form signed by an MBA Official), must be issued to the club concerned.
9. If a player is required to obtain an international clearance, this player will be allowed to play only if the international clearance is obtained and received by the MBA. However, if the 7-day deadline for a response (7 day period for FIBA would start from the day MBA sent the email) as per FIBA Regulations governing the International Transfer of Players (Art. 3-94) has expired, then the player will be allowed to play.

**PLAYERS ON LOAN**

10. A club transferring a player on loan is to submit the appropriate loan form (mba08) to the MBA. At the end of the loan period the player will return automatically to his former club. For the purposes of these rules a 'loan form' is to be considered as a 'registration form'.

**PLAYERS OF DISBANDED CLUBS**

11. Players registered with a disbanded club prior to the start of the season will be transferred to the MBA without compensation and will be allowed to sign with a new club when the appropriate transfer fee is paid to the MBA. This is applicable only if the disbanded club had any outstanding dues with the MBA and any other club, player and or coaches. In all other circumstances the player is to be considered as free released.



12. If a club disbands and/or withdraws a team forming part of the club whereby the player cannot play in any category with a team of this club, such player is to be considered as free released with no compensation.
13. If a club cannot provide a player with a playing possibility, this player is to be transferred to the MBA without compensation and will be allowed to sign with a new club when the appropriate transfer fee is paid to the MBA. This is applicable only if this club has any outstanding dues with the MBA and any other club, player and or coaches. In all other circumstances the player is to be considered as free released.
14. In any circumstance before a player is registered with a new club the regulations stipulated in the GENERAL RULES must be adhered to.

### **TRANSFER OF PLAYERS AFTER THE START OF COMPETITIONS**

15. After the start of the MBA competitions, a team may transfer a maximum of two (2) players in each category (male/female) to any other club during any one season. Such transfer must be made with the consent of the player concerned. All regulations on the registration of players must be adhered to.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS**

#### **Up to eight (8) years of age**

16. No registration is required in this age category.
17. A player is free to move from one club to another at the end of each season.
18. No compensation is to be paid when a player transfers from one club to another.

***A registration has to be properly filled and duly signed before any player will be allowed to play in any official MBA Competition.***

***There are two (2) types of Registrations; up to eighteen (18) years of age and over eighteen (18) years of age.***



**Up to eighteen (18) years of age:**

19. A registration up to eighteen (18) years of age is to be considered as a Youth Registration
20. Up to the age of fourteen (14) years, a club can register players all year round.
21. The registration Form (MBA01) is to be deposited at the MBA offices before the player's first game.
22. A registration must be accompanied by an ORIGINAL Public Registry birth certificate and two (1) passport size photograph.
23. A fourteen (14) year old player is free to move from one club to another at the end of each season.
24. Compensation is to be paid according to the age as established in this policy document.  
  
Provided however that such payment is not applicable up to and including the age of twelve (12).
25. Every player must pay an annual license fee as established in Chapter Six.
26. From fifteen (15) years of age up to eighteen (18) years of age, the registration windows are as follows:  
  
1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> July (both dates inclusive) of each current year;  
26<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October (both dates inclusive) of each current year;  
2<sup>nd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> January (both dates inclusive) of each current year

Players Registered in the Transfer Window of October 26<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> will all be eligible to play on the day following receipt of registration.

Players Registered in the Transfer Window of January 2<sup>nd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> will all be eligible to play on the day following receipt of registration.

27. The Registration Form (mba01) is to be deposited at the MBA's offices before the player's first game.
28. A registration must be accompanied by an ORIGINAL Public Registry birth certificate (and one (1) passport size photo (if not yet presented)).



Alternatively, either a copy of the I.D. Card or a copy of the passport is to be submitted."

29. The player must carry with him at all times his identity card or a certified copy thereof to be shown if and when requested prior to a match. Failure to do so will render the player ineligible.
30. The player can only be released by the club with whom he is registered.
31. Compensation is to be paid according to the age as established in this policy document.
32. Every player must pay an annual license fee as established in Chapter Six.

### **Over 18 years**

33. A registration over the age of eighteen years is to be considered as a 'Senior Registration'.
34. The registration windows are as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> July (both dates inclusive) of each current year;
  - 26<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October (both dates inclusive) of each current year;
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> January (both dates inclusive) of each current year
- 34a. The Registration windows for **FOREIGNERS** (1<sup>st</sup> Div only) are as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> July – 31<sup>st</sup> October (both dates inclusive) of each current year;
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> January (both dates inclusive) of each current year;
  - 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> March (both dates inclusive) of each current year but limited to change just one (1) foreigner per Team.

Players Registered in any Transfer Window will all be eligible to play on the day following receipt of the registration.

Non-Maltese passport holder's players must still have an International clearance before they are eligible to play.



35. The Registration Form (mba01) is to be deposited at the MBA's offices the player's first match.
36. A registration must be accompanied by either a photocopy of the Identity Card or a photocopy of the passport of the player"
37. A registration form, as supplied by MBA only is valid for not less than 3 years and is to be signed by the player binding him to a club.
38. Compensation is to be paid as per this policy document according to age as established in these regulations.
39. Every player must pay a yearly licence fee as established in Chapter Six of this policy document.

**Players over the age of 18 years holding a non-Maltese Passport**

40. A team can register not more than three (3) player from outside the European Union in each category. Exception to 1st Division both categories and Amateur League as per articles 41 and 42
41. A team can register any number of players from outside the European Union for both categories of 1<sup>st</sup> Division and Amateur League
42. A club can register any number of players who are citizens of the European Union.
43. Sections 33 to 39 (both inclusive) are applicable to this category of players.

**Players over the age of 18 years considered as Maltese**

44. A player holding more than one passport provided that one of them is Maltese is to be considered as a Maltese Player.
45. A player who has resided in Malta and registered with the Association for a period of three (3) years prior to reaching the age of 18 years, shall be considered as a Home-Grown player (Maltese Player)


**Players under the age of 18 years holding a non Maltese Passport**

46. Clubs can register not more than Five (5) players from outside the European Union and any number of players who are European Union citizens.

**Players under the age of 18 years considered as Maltese**

47. A player registered before he reaches the age of 14 years is to be considered as a “Maltese Player” so long as the period registered with the MBA is of two or more seasons.

48. A player, born abroad, whose father or mother or both are Maltese citizens is to be considered as a Maltese Player until he reaches the age of 18 years.

49. A player, who has resided in Malta for a period of three (3) years prior to reaching the age of 18 years, will be considered as a Home-Grown player (Maltese Player)

**CHAPTER THREE**
**Registration quota**

50. Up to 12 years	no limit
51. Under 14 category	30
52. Under 16 category	24
53. Under 19 category	15
54. Under 23 category	12
55. Senior category (1 <sup>st</sup> Div)	12
56. A second team	12
57. Amateur League	14





58. Players of the age of 15 years can participate additionally in senior competitions as long as both parents or his/her legal guardian signs a declaration of authentication and responsibility.

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **Release of players**

59. From the date of a player's first registration until the player attains his 14th birthday the player is entitled to change clubs on the payment of the relative compensation at the end of the season.

60. A player can be released by the club at any time.

61. A player can be released at the end of a registered period against compensation as established in this policy document or by an agreement reached with any other club.

62. The release form is to be deposited at the MBA registration office and it must be signed and dated by the registration officer. A receipt of the release form must be given to the player and the club concerned.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **Players' Contract**

63. A player who is over the age of 18 years can enter into an agreement/contract with a club, as long as said agreement/contract is valid for a period of three (3) consecutive years.

64. Only the Original official registration form with all parts duly filled and signed by all parties concerned and accompanied by all the relevant requested information as valid at the date of presentation of the documents will be recognized by the MBA.

65. A player having any issue related to his registration, unpaid dues (due to the player by the end of June of each Basketball Season) or any other matter of relevance shall have the right of recourse to the Players/Clubs Relations Board which can decide to grant a release to the player.



Provided that Clubs which do not honour their commitments to players shall be interdicted from performing any player movements until such dues are settled in full.

## **CHAPTER SIX**

### **Licence Fees**

66. Associations	€50
67. Clubs	€25
68. Coaches	
a. Senior	€50
b. Junior	€30
69. Assistant Coaches	€15
70. Team Followers/Statisticians/Scouts	€10
71. Medical/Para Medical	€0
72. Player (each player with no exception)	€1

All the above license fees are to be paid yearly prior to the commencement of National Leagues and Cup Competitions Any players list will be refused and not posted on the MBA's website ([www.mba.org.mt](http://www.mba.org.mt)) unless this is accompanied by the relevant fees.

The relative payment shall be effected on presentation of the players' list or when a new registration is affected.

## **CHAPTER SEVEN**

### **Compensation**

73. 13 years of age	€300
74. 14 years of age	€500
75. 15 years of age	€800



76. 16 years of age €900
77. 17 years of age €1,000
78. The previous Player Valuation method from the age of eighteen years (18) has now been replaced via a points system. Said system is illustrated in the documents marked ANNEX 1 to these regulations.
79. Points shall accumulate towards the value of the player till the age of 26.
80. Between the ages of 26 and 30 the player shall not accumulate any points and his value shall remain constant.
81. At the age of 30 a player's value will decrease by twenty per-cent (20%) and shall do so for every subsequent year until reaching the value of Zero (0) by the age of 35.
82. A Maximum capping of €6,000 for Men and €5,000 for Women has been set.
83. A Minimum base value of €1,200 (One Thousand two hundred Euros) has been set for all players. The final amount is then calculated on the basis of the points accumulated.
84. For each season playing in the Men's First Division: 30 points per season
85. For each season playing in the Men's Second Division: 10 points per season
86. For each season playing in the Women's First Division: 20 points per season
87. For each season playing in the Under 19 League: 2 Points per Season
88. For each season playing in the Under 23 League: 5 Points per Season
89. Provided that for Articles 84 to 88 a Season shall be understood as meaning a minimum of 10 games for that particular season of Competitive Competitions.
90. For each National Team Selection (i.e. forming part of the final squad) the amount of points assigned for each individual category are the following:
- a. Under 16 National Team (Men/Women): 20 points
  - b. Under 18 National Team (Men/Women): 30 Points
  - c. Under 20 National Team (Men/Women): 40 Points



- d. Seniors National Team (Men / Women): 50 Points
91. Value of non-participating players will decrease as follows;
- a. After the first season of non-participating in any MBA League/competition – Value will decrease by 10%
  - b. After the second season of non-participating in any MBA League/competition – Value will decrease by 50%
  - c. After the third season of non-participating in any MBA League/competition – the value will be 0 and the player will be automatically released from the club.
92. Players that had already been inactive for a period of three (3) years or more, up to season 2018-19, would start season 2019-20 at 50% of their compensation value. Should they remain inactive for a further season, their compensation value would then be nil.
93. For players studying abroad, both Articles 91 and 92 are not applicable.

**NOTE:**

Transfer fees are to be paid to the MBA.

In the event that a club has any outstanding dues with the MBA only the difference between the fee and the outstanding dues will be paid to the club. Should there be any unpaid balances between clubs the transfer fee will be retained by the MBA until such balances are cleared.

Any club having outstanding dues with the MBA or another club will be precluded from signing new players unless an agreement is reached to the contrary.

## **CHAPTER EIGHT**

### **LITIGATION**

94. Litigation in connection with the registration and transfer of player will be dealt with by the Players/Clubs Relations Board (PCRB).
95. Composition, rules, fees, regulations and procedures governing the PCRB are laid down in the MBA Statute and/or Bye Laws (General Rules).



## CHAPTER NINE

### Registration window

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| 96. Associations                         | All year           |
| 97. Clubs                                | 1st – 8th August   |
| 98. Administrators/Officials             | All year           |
| 99. Coaches/Assistant Coaches            | All year           |
| 100. Team Followers/Statisticians/Scouts | All year           |
| 101. Medical/Para Medical                | All year           |
| 102. Players:                            |                    |
| a. up to 14 years                        | All year           |
| b. 15 to 18 years (Junior)               | as per Article 26  |
| c. Over 18 years (Senior)                | as per Article 34  |
| d. Over 18 years (Foreigners)            | as per Article 34a |
103. A player, who was previously registered with a club and is not on the official list of players submitted by the club to the MBA by the 8<sup>th</sup> August of each year, can register with a club between the 20<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> August (both days included).
- Provided that players registered in this window will be eligible to play from the 29<sup>th</sup> of August onwards.
104. If a players list is not presented within the stipulated time frame, any newly registered player/s in that particular registration window will not be considered as rightfully registered.
105. A club must present to the MBA a new list of players within seven days from the closure of each and every transfer window. This will be necessary only if the club has registered or released any player during that particular transfer window.
106. In case of any conflict in the interpretation of this policy document the President's Council shall be the sole interpreter of this policy document and no party shall have any right of appeal.



## **CHAPTER 10**

### **Shared Athletes**

107. Athletes who are eligible to participate in an age-group Basketball competition organised by the MBA during a particular season may be given permission by their club to play for another club in the same season subject to the conditions below.
- a. Athletes that are given this permission shall be referred to as “Shared Athletes”. The club who is making the athlete available shall be referred to as the “Grantor” and the club that shall be making use of the athlete shall be referred to as the “Grantee”. The Grantor and the Grantee may be in any division.
  - b. The Shared Athlete must be registered either as a Senior Athlete or as a Junior Athlete with the Grantor. Athletes who are registered on Loan may not be shared.
  - c. Shared athletes may be of any nationality.
  - d. Two types of athlete sharing are allowed:
    - i. The Grantor gives permission to any of its age-group athletes to play for the first team of the Grantee. In this case the Shared Athlete is only eligible to play for the Grantor's age-group teams (as eligible by virtue of date of birth) and for the Grantee's first (senior) team. An athlete shall not be shared in a season if his name was included in any of his club's (Grantor) line-ups for a National Basketball Competition match (including the Preliminary Round) in the same season.
    - ii. The Grantor gives permission to any of its age-group athletes to play for the age-group teams of the Grantee. This is only permissible if the Grantor is not or will not be participating in an MBA age-group Basketball competition in which the athlete is eligible to participate by virtue of date of birth in the season. In this case the Shared Athlete is only eligible to play for the Grantor's first (senior) team and for the Grantee's age-group teams (as eligible by virtue of date of birth).



- e. Sharing of athletes must be made on an appropriate form supplied by the MBA. These forms are to reach the MBA Secretariat as per Art. 29 & 37 of MBA Registration and Licenses Policy.
- f. An athlete may not be shared with more than 1 club in the same season.
- g. A “sharing” will remain in effect till the end of the season in which it was made and shall not be terminated until the end of the season.
- h. Sharing is only allowed in the National Basketball Competitions.
- i. A club may give permission to any number of its athletes to be available as Shared Athletes.
- j. A club may be a Grantee to any number of athletes but shall not receive more than 3 athletes from the same Grantor.
- k. If a shared athlete is suspended from all MBA activities, then this suspension shall apply to both the Grantor and the Grantee. However, the period of suspension that is in force in the period between the imposition of a fine by the MBA on a shared athlete and its payment, shall apply only to the athlete's activity with the club that he was representing when the fine was imposed.

**Clarifications – addendum to the registration policy:**

- i. Wherever in a registration/contract there is the term free release it is now to mean released with compensation in accordance to the table of compensation.
- ii. It is hereby understood that the club must always inform the player whether he is a member of the 1st team or of the 2nd team.
- iii. Provided that in the case of those players who have reached the age of 18 or over and who have not yet signed a registration in their own name and with their own signature can be released against compensation as



per chapter 7 of the registrations and license policy, or re-sign with his current club for a minimum of three years.

- iv. For the purpose of the re-registration or release against compensation of 18 year olds this applies to those persons who have attained the age of 18 before the 1st August of that year.
- v. In the case where a player refuses to re-sign his/her registration, as long as this player is kept on the registered team list he is still property of the club and can be transferred to another club only against the stipulated compensation during a window or released by the club which the player is registered with. **Moreover, the player will not be allowed to play in any category before re-signing the said registration.** Once a player is no longer registered on a respective team list by category, then that player is considered to be unregistered, and is free to register with any club.
- vi. In the event that an issue which is not envisaged in these rules and is directly related to player registration arises, further clarifications may be carried out by making reference to the relevant FIBA Rules.
- vii. All registration forms that were received by the 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2015, shall be considered as valid. No protests shall be upheld in relation to registration forms received by the MBA before 8/10/2015. Protest shall be applicable for all forms and lists received by the MBA after such date. (PC/EC 2)