

Age Definitions for BBNZ National Competitions

As you are aware, previous to 2020 Basketball New Zealand (BBNZ) had reviewed the rules and regulations around our National and Regional competitions. We recently advised you all on the tournament structure for the next three years and have now completed a series of additional recommendations for the BBNZ Board to consider at their October meeting.

This document relates to the age definitions used for tournaments and teams. From 2020 BBNZ adjusted its age definitions to fall in line with FIBA (and with almost all other sporting codes in New Zealand). This means that players in, for example, an under 13 team or event will be able to turn 13 in the year of the event – in effect under 13 will mean 13 and under. This will have the effect of moving all age limits up by one year – see below.

This change took effect for all activities from 2020.

Age Eligibility Criteria

1. For Under 13 competitions, players must be aged either 11, 12 or 13 years as at 31 December in the year in which the competition is held;
2. For Under 15 competitions, players must be aged either 13, 14 or 15 years as at 31 December in the year in which the competition is held;
3. For Under 17 competitions, players must be aged either 15, 16 or 17 years as at 31 December in the year in which the competition is held.
4. For Under 19 competitions, players must be aged at least 15 years on the first day that the competition commences, and must not be over 19 years as at 31 December in the year the competition is held. BBNZ, on application by an Affiliated Association, and in its sole discretion, may allow any player selected for a New Zealand national team who is under 15 years of age, to play in an Under 19 competition.
5. For Under 23 competitions, players must be aged at least 15 years on the first day that the competition commences and must not be over 23 years as at 31 December in the year the competition is held.
6. For the Men's and Women's National Basketball League, all players must be aged 15 years on the first day that the competition commences.

Below you will find a table that will assist with your age group planning for the coming year.

Age Groups 2021	U13	U15	U17	U19	U23
Players born in	2008, 2009	2006, 2007	2004, 2005	2002, 2003	1998 and later
Players may compete if born in	2010	2008	2006	2004	Must be 15 years old