

## **Next Stars**

### Questions and Answers

#### **Q: What is Next Stars?**

Next Stars is a program developed by the Australian National Basketball League (NBL) to fast track the development of the next stars of the NBA. The program allows a player to join an Australian or New Zealand based NBL team as a Team Roster player with a view to specifically develop this player in a world class Men's professional league.

#### **Q: Are Australian players eligible?**

Yes. Australian players who are eligible for the NBA Draft remain eligible as an NBL Next Stars player.

#### **Q: How will players be allocated to teams?**

Players that are successful in gaining a position as an NBL Next Star and sign an NBL Special Development Player contract will fall into a modified draft where NBL clubs will have the ability to draft the player to play with that club.

#### **Q: What will players actually be paid?**

Player in their first season will be able to negotiate contracts up to a maximum of USD \$50,000 NET with travel and accommodation expenses being taken care of by the designated NBL club.

#### **Q: Who is paying?**

The NBL will contract the NBL Next Stars and will be responsible for their Wages and international travel expenses. Designated Clubs will take care of travel and accommodation expenses.

#### **Q: What are the major terms of the contract?**

Players will be expected to commit to games, training, promotional appearances and individual training session amongst other responsibilities. If a player enters the NBA Draft and is contracted by an NBA team, the NBA club, and in their absence the player themselves will be responsible for a contract buy out figure that will never ex-

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ceed the maximum excluded international player payment amount referred to in the NBA Collective Bargaining Agreement.

**Q: Is there guaranteed playing time?**

Like any other professional team, there is never any guarantee on playing time. Provided the player remains fit and healthy the NBL has mandated travel to all away games and as such provided the best opportunity.

**Q: What kind of development is available?**

Clubs have been asked to commit to weekly individual training sessions to complement those that are attended as part of the team. A panel of experts will select the coaches who will facilitate the additional training opportunities for the player.

**Q: What support is offered to the players whilst they are in Australia?**

The Australian Basketballers Association as well as the designated club coaching staff and experts selected and approved by NBL will act as the support network for the player whilst they are in the NBL. This is always supplemented by a clubs senior playing group and other team mates.

**Q: What are the living arrangements?**

Designated clubs must submit to the NBL proposed living arrangements for players that will be approved in accordance with the individual needs of the player. The accommodation will always include internet access, appropriate amenities and appliances.

**Q: Can parents visit their kids?**

Parents are always welcome to come and have extended stays or visits with their children. These will be at the cost of the family however may be negotiated as part of the conditions of the contract where appropriate. Depending on the living arrangements approved it may be possible for family to stay with the player but not always achievable.

**Q: Does it affect NCAA eligibility?**

Committing to an NBL Special Development Player contract to play as an NBL Next Star would make you ineligible for the NCAA.



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**Q: Does it affect NBA draft eligibility?**

By accepting an NBL Special Development Player contract you would be classified as having signed as a player for a “professional basketball team” as defined by Section 1 (d) of Article X of the 2017 NBA Collective Bargaining Agreement.