



2022 Representative Season Summary

What a roller coaster with the COVID lockdowns and restrictions that had resulted in 2 years of a disrupted Representative season and several competition programs being canceled. After 2 frustrating years, the green light was finally given for community sport to resume full throttle. The Junior Tigers came out roaring and bounced back onto the courts to secure a position in a Representative team.

A total of 99 juniors trialed for the 2022 Representative season. This produced a total of 8 teams that were selected to nominate across 3 tournaments for the 2022 season. There were 7 teams entered for the Barrengarry Conference, 6 teams for the Southern Junior League and 7 teams for the John Martin Country Tournament.

The coaching selection criteria and interviews revealed that SBA has quality coaches, and this also identified an opportunity for mentoring under the guidance of Director of Coaching- Tom Pottenger and BNSW Regional Development Officer- Ben Bagoly. Coach preparation and session plans were underway, training commenced, uniforms ordered, and accommodations being booked sparked the enthusiasm of fun weekends away with teammates and friends.... And of course, some basketball games! Barrengarry kicked off with a ripper start and the SJL bounced around quickly with family fun weekends away.

SBA hosted and delivered a range of clinics and skill development sessions with BNSW during the 2022 Representative Season to keep our players growing on and off court. It was fantastic to see so many Tigers participating.

And of course, thank you to the amazing volunteers who are dedicated to the growth and development of junior players and our representative program. This includes the Coaches, Managers, Junior Committee members, referee supervisors, referees, coach development team, photographer, media liaison, Barrengarry Conference and BNSW teams, and many other people who help in so many ways. Not to mention, the families who feed, transport and support our players by doing bench duty. We couldn't do it without you all!

Yours in Basketball, Karlie Royston (2022 SBA Junior Rep Delegate)

A COACH'S PHILOSOPHY...

A coach is more than a clipboard and a whistle, and to coach any sport effectively is to teach each player to compete always, no matter the sport and with the highest integrity for the game. To be effective - be a good listener, learn from your mistakes, teach on a team and individual level to motivate each player positively by strengthening weaknesses, which brings about courage to never quit on oneself or your team. Success in youth sports often is judged by a win loss record and whilst that may in part be one way to evaluate it is not always the best way.

How a coach carries themselves on and off the court matters! Your coaching style and words you use will be remembered more than your win loss record to a child and if you can get beyond ego, you become a good coach teaching those valuable life lessons through a sport that should be enjoyed by players and their parents.

Mark Alfano, U16 Boys Head Coach 2022



REPRESENTATIVE PLAYER SELECTIONS BEYOND SBA

Tigers players experienced success in representative programs beyond Shoalhaven this year and last. Congratulations to the following players on their selection to Basketball NSW (BNSW) and Illawarra Academy of Sport (IAS) programs. We encourage all Shoalhaven representative players to trial for these opportunities – you'll build skills and make new friends from all over NSW!

IAS – 2021: Brayden Daley – IAS Honor award, Toby Royston, Billy Piggott

IAS – 2022: Brayden Daley, Oliver Driscoll, Billy Piggott, Layla Volpatti, Harry Frew

<https://ias.org.au/>

BNSW TAP 2021: Ezra Baldwin

BNSW U14 D: League 2021: Ezra Baldwin

<https://www.bnsw.com.au/players/high-performance/>

South Coast PSSA 2022: Scarlett Waldmann

UNDER 12 GIRLS

Proudly sponsored by the Phone Surgery Nowra

Competed in John Martin Country Tournament & Barrengarry Conference

Head Coach: Zoe Roulston | **Assistant Coach:** Christine Campbell | **Manager:** Bree Martin

Players: Iris Zarella, Eve Subonji, Kenzie Marshall, Isobel Campbell, Georgia Hayburn, Isabella Yusuf, Georgie Blakeney-Etuale, Arabella Sharkis, Grace Seller, Larissa Guy

TEAM GOAL

To build the girls' skills and develop them into representative players. We believe that letting our girls have fun while playing and working together as a team will make them stronger for the coming years.

The 2022 U12 girls Shoalhaven Tigers have had an incredible season filled with lots of learning, fun and teamwork! The girls started off with little experience in the game of basketball, with all but one player a rookie in the representative program. However, they didn't let this stop them! Despite being younger and smaller than some of the teams they encountered throughout the Barrengarry competition, these little Tigers kept working hard at each training session, focusing on the fundamental skills of layups, ball handling, passing, court awareness, communication, the rules of the game and teamwork!

Initially, Barrengarry was a difficult experience for the team, but with each round the girls managed to get closer and closer to a win. Regardless of this tough competition, the girls went into the John Martin Country Tournament with their heads held high, hoping to achieve their first win of the season. Over the long weekend the girls managed to do exactly that, winning their first two games ever and placing second overall in the development division! This was an outstanding result for the team and demonstrated their significant improvement over the course of the season, a merit to all their amazing efforts! Each of them is to be commended for their contributions to the team that were highlighted at the end of year team dinner and for helping each other become better basketball players.

Congratulations girls, your teammates, coaches, parents, and the entire association have loved watching you improve this year, and we can't wait to see where your basketball journey takes each of you!

- Barrengarry Conference: No ladder
- John Martin Country Tournament Ladder: Runners Up



UNDER 14 GIRLS

Competed in Southern Junior League (Div.2), John Martin Country Tournament & Barrengarry Conference

Coach: Clinton Holloway | **Assistant Coach** | Michele Coleman | **Manager:** Loretta Timmins

Players: Chloe Holloway, Scarlett Waldmann, Jaide Sutherland, Grace Armstrong, Bridget Coleman, Sidney Fordham, Lexy McRae-Brumfield, Alissa Timmins, Tessa Volpatti

TEAM GOAL

For everyone to work on their individual goals and show excellent sportsmanship. The Tigers of the Future.

For many of the girls on the Under 14s Representative team there were a lot of firsts and new elements to grasp quickly. New teammates, new challenges, new skills to develop and a new (yet old) bossy coach who brought a raft of new expectations. The team gradually came to grips with a slippery hill to climb and the signs of potential gradually became a reality as the season progressed. We faced teams with bigger players, more depth, larger squads and better court organisation which only encouraged us to push harder in training to reach our goals.

We proved to be a match for any team in the Barrengarry Competition by the end of the season, with our goal of beating the strongest team, Moss Vale, seeming a stretch after losing by around 20 points in our first encounter. But after a nail biter in our last matchup the girls put together a remarkable game to win by a single point in the final round at home giving us the last laugh. This reflected the progression of the Under 14s Girls Tigers. Ascending from underdogs to serious contenders.

In the Southern Junior League, we began the season getting absolutely stomped. And after loses in many games, including heart breaking overtime matches, we finally tasted glory against Tumut on one fateful afternoon and the team celebrated to create everlasting memories. Not memories of being the best, not memories of reaching the finals, but memories of hard work and chemistry building that resulted in a hard-earned win making all the training, travel and putting up with a pea-brained coach worthwhile. Losing teams that work diligently to achieve wins are what make future champions, and as mentioned at the beginning of this report, the Under 14s Girls are going to be a force to be reckoned with: The Tigers of the Future.

- SJL Div.2 tournament Ladder: 6th position
- John Martin Country Tournament Ladder: 4th position (Pool A)



UNDER 14 BOYS

Proudly sponsored by Mortgage Choice Nowra

Competed in Southern Junior League (Div.2), John Martin Country Tournament & Barrengarry Conference

Coach: Steve Foster | **Assistant Coach:** Craig Exton | **Manager:** Vanessa Field

Players: Lincoln Witting, Harry Frew, Cameron Donaldson, Darcy O'Sullivan, Lachlan Field, Brandon Exton, Xavier Exton, Reuben Foster, Stephen Alfano, Tyla Burton, Lyall Swindlehurst

TEAM GOAL

Teamwork - work and play together, encourage each other to be our best on and off the court. Sportsmanship - always show respect to your coaches, teammates, opponents, and referees. Work Hard - listen and learn at training sessions, play fairly and give it your all during games. Have Fun & enjoy spending time with your teammates and playing the game you all love!

Consisting of mostly bottom aged players and often outsized by their opponents, the 14s boys learnt to play tough and fought hard against every team they faced. They were rarely a full squad with their captain Tyla Burton missing most of the rep season due to injury and other key players out for some of the bigger games of the year. Winless at SJL but were in a few close games including a controversial overtime loss to Wagga Wagga. The team was competitive in the Barrengarry rounds and arguably good enough to win it all but unfortunately were without the scoring punch of Harry Frew for the Gala Day competition. At the John Martin Country Championships, the team drew a tough pool and narrowly missed a place in the quarter finals. There was great improvement from all players through the rep season, improvement that even caught some of their tougher competitors off guard when they came up against the boys a second time in the season.

A pleasure to coach, a lot of laughs and some real rising talent we hopefully see representing Shoalhaven Basketball for a lot more years to come.

- SJL Div.2 tournament Ladder: 7th position
John Martin Country Tournament Ladder: 4th (Pool B)



UNDER 16 BOYS (Div. 1)

Proudly sponsored by BaiMed Physiotherapy

Competed in Southern Junior League (Div.1) & John Martin Country Tournament

Coach: Mark Alfano | **Assistant Coach:** Jaden Hodder | **Assistant Coach:** Damian Rees | **Manager:** Karlie Royston

Players: James Speer, Toby Royston, Alex Field, Mitchell Parrott, Jalen Rees, Tighe Fordham, Oliver Higham, Ryan Alfano, Oliver Driscoll, Luke Butler

TEAM GOAL

I feel I would have done my job as a coach if a player learned a lot, most importantly had fun with his/her teammates on their journey and that each child wants to come back and sign up for another season. Life lessons are learned through sport.

The U16 Boys Division 1 Team had a very impressive season with the Team finishing the Div. 1 standings in 3rd place before finals. This was also the boys first season in Division 1 play proving that they can compete at one of the highest levels against players in their age group. Another impressive achievement is that 5 top age players ranked in the top 20 in SJL Division 1 scoring. Our season was competitive right from the start. The players played with confidence, aggressiveness in man-to-man defense with a solid press throughout all comps. We did have some unfortunate challenges at the most inopportune time when our team was hit with Covid, injuries and the flu right at SJL finals in Canberra where we wound up not being at full strength losing to the team that went on to win the Championship. The John Martin Country tournament was once again very competitive however once again illness and injuries plagued us, and we could only field 8 players that gave it their best despite not being 100%. We finished that tournament with a respectable 3 wins and 3 close losses. There were so many wonderful moments from last second shots to great transition baskets that just make you realize our boys never quit. Our players will take this momentum into next season and are looking forward to more basketball representing our Shoalhaven Tigers in the years ahead.

Lastly, I would like to give a special thanks to our Assistant Coach Jaden Hodder and our Manager Karlie Royston who provided great leadership and Karlie outstanding communication to our players and families. A special thanks also goes out to Damian Rees who assisted the team with wisdom and encouragement stepping in at times as Assistant Coach.

It has been an honor coaching such a fine young group of men and having the support system of Shoalhaven Basketball coupled with wonderful team parents who supported every player from start to finish. Thank you all!

- SJL Div.1 tournament Ladder: 4th position
- John Martin Country Tournament Ladder: 3rd position (Pool B)



UNDER 16 BOYS (Div. 2)

Spot On Civil proudly supported Tahj Webb as an Individual Player Sponsor

Competed in Southern Junior League (Div.2), John Martin Country Tournament & Barrengarry Conference

Coach: Leighvi Dennison | **Assistant Coach:** Ben Daly; Damian Rees, Brad Mills | **Manager:** Jane Hird/Mel Bell

Players: Max Vaughan, Sonny Jamieson, Braydan Daly, Jimmy Brown, Bow Mills, Mitchell Exton, Nate Rees, Marcus Francis, Alexander Hird, Charlie Fay, Ethan Dennison, Billy Piggott, Mitchum Wales, Tahj Webb

TEAM GOAL

To improve with every game, put in 100 percent effort and have fun as a team

The 2022 season was a tough one for the U16 Div. 2 boys' team. Despite their best efforts and some nail-biting basketball, they were unable to secure a win in the Southern Junior League rounds. But there were many other life lessons this season. The boys demonstrated great resilience, commitment, and camaraderie. And many strong friendships were formed.

The boys had a great time away at the John Martin Country Championships. Wherever we stayed as a team, there was always a great team meal and many laughs shared. This team photo was taken after a great win against the Maitland Mustangs.

Congratulations to all the boys - your coaching team, and parents are very proud.

- SJL Div.2 tournament Ladder: 5th position
- John Martin Country Tournament Ladder: 6th position (Pool A)
- Barrengarry Division 1 Ladder: Black team 2nd position
- Barrengarry Division 2 Ladder: Gold team 1st position



UNDER 16 GIRLS

Competed in Southern Junior League (Div.2), John Martin Country Tournament & Barrengarry Conference

Coach: Ben Morris | **Assistant Coach:** Kelly Doll | **Manager:** Emily

Players: Madeleine Coleman, Jorja Frew, Chelsea Holloway, Zali Morris, Lara Timmins, Katherine Seller, Kate Speer, Jessica Gibbon, Kate Leung, Evie Svenson, Bridie Petre, Layla Volpatti

TEAM GOAL

Team means family and friends for life!

'It has been such a pleasure to coach the under 16s women for 2022.

At the beginning of the year, we focused on building team rapport and introducing the girls to structured plays. The girls were split into two teams Barrengarry and SJL/Country, and they would come together as a unit each week to train. It was great to see all the girls progressing on their individual skills level and team plays. The girls must be commended on their commitment to the game, and this was shown in taking out the top spot at Barrengarry and coming in second at finals for SJL and one win away from the final at Country.

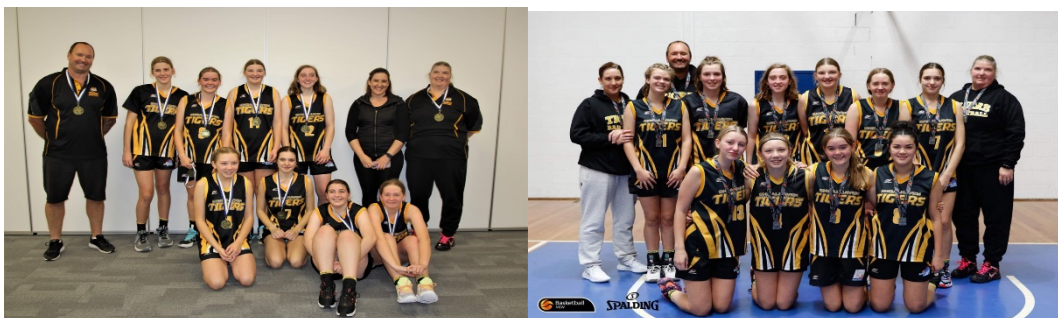
I'd like to say a big thanks to Kelly who was the assistant coach for the girls this year. Kelly is a wonderful coach and shows great understanding of the game. It made my job as a coach easy to know that we worked together and made decisions together, on all aspects of each game. Thanks Emily, our amazing manager. It's been a hoot! Emily has not only kept us organised, but she is also a great motivator on the bench. The girls showed respect towards her and valued her contribution, as did I.

I'd like to say a big thanks to the families for supporting the girls, physically, mentally, and emotionally. We always had a great squad of support in the stands, and it really shows that our team is not just about the game, it's about community and family.

Lastly a big thanks to the girls, Lara, Layla, Jorja, Kate L, Katie S, Kate S, Maddie, Chelsea, Jess, Evie, Bridie and Zali. It has been such a great year with you, and I have seen such growth in all of you across the year. I have coached many teams before, and I have never laughed so much with a team ever. It would only take a funny remark during a motivational speech that would set me off in laughter. You were such a positive group and brought so much energy and conversation to training. I may have an extra couple of grey hairs, then I had at the start of the year, but I wouldn't have it any other way.

You should be very proud of yourselves. I wish you all the best for your future in basketball.

- SJL Div.2 tournament Ladder: Runners Up
- John Martin Country Tournament Ladder: Runners Up (Pool A)
- Barrengarry Ladder: 1st position



Under 18 Boys SJL Tigers Basketball Season Report

Proudly sponsored by Ablock Builders

Competed in Southern Junior League (Div.2), John Martin Country Tournament & Barrengarry Conference

Coach: Luke Royston | **Assistant Coach:** Dom Petre | **Manager:** Fay Gowers

Players: Bailey Davids, Cooper Hoyer, Lachlan Callaghan, Joshua Gowers, Orson Grose-Jones, Finn Lochrin, Azriel McMillan, Harry Petre, Ashley Roulston, Benjamin Royston, Ashton Morris

TEAM GOAL

Yearlong commitment to establishing an attacking defensive mindset and to continually develop our defensive offensive transition concepts. Efforts to both every game. Enjoy & have fun.

The 2022 Tigers U18M Black side came together for training in January of 2022 and set to work in preparation to the Barrengarry, Southern Junior League and Country Championship competitions.

Positional selections for the season had identified Bailey Davids & Cooper Hoyer at the 1 position, Lochie Callaghan & Ben Royston at the 2's, Finn Lochrin & Azriel Mcmillan at the 3, Orson Grosse-Jones, Josh Gowers & Ashton Morris at the 4, with Ashley Roulstone & Harry Petre at the 5's. Other members of the team would consist of the ever organized Fay Gowers in the hinge managerial position, with Dom Petre and Luke Royston tailing out in the Coaching roles.

Immediate impressions post selection trials and initial trainings, were of a team committed to develop a skill set of unselfish and team first play, that would set the season's foundations.

New offensive and defensive systems were discussed and introduced. Input from Coaches, Management, Parents, and each of the players combined to form team and individual goals for the year. It is without doubt that all involved with the team delivered on these goals, resulting in a fantastic season both on and off the court, in the development of these young men as representatives of SBA.

Initial trial games provided a focus for training and the team pushed hard to develop skill sets in every session. The positive attitude and commitment were evident throughout, as each player improved weekly. As a team, game elements were trialled, changed, improved, removed and changed again, until an attacking defensive and offensive combination was found. This ability to change and adapt throughout would prove a highlight of the season and is a notable credit to each of the players.

The Barrengarry competition saw the team succeed in reaching the final after injury and Covid fraught rounds, with a narrow loss a testimony to the talent and commitment within the side.

The SJL competition again highlighted the ingrained resilience, with a trip to the finals resulting in one of the wins of the season in a classic quarter final, and the narrowest of losses in the semi.

The Country championships provided a dramatic finale to the season, with wins in the initial phases of the weekend against strong sides. In an unexpected turn however, a contaminated water supply managed to take out many of the teams, who all enjoyed their early trips home across the highways & byways of NSW. A disappointing but unique end to the season for our team too, and one that only a season at SBA could throw up...

The overall development of every player across these competitions was undoubted. Consistently against bigger and established sides, the team rose to every challenge with a willingness to compete that they can only be praised for.

Whether its bodies on the deck or extra efforts down the floor when exhausted, this team gave everything at ever chance with textbook levels of commitment.

On behalf of Dom, Fay and myself, can I thank all of our players for a most memorable and enjoyable season. Having the opportunity to spend time with these players and their committed families was a timely reminder as to why we need to value the opportunities team sport can provide. Fay and Dom have provided and maintained a true team environment where each of these men has had the opportunity to continue their development as respectful and quality human beings. Both SBA and their families should be proud of what they have achieved.

It has been a pleasure to coach and learn from them, and I look forward to seeing each of the 21/22 U18Mens Black Tigers, continue to become what society needs.

Thanks to SBA for the opportunity to have been part of something really good..... Luke.

- SJL Div.2 tournament Ladder: 3rd position
- John Martin Country Tournament Ladder: 6th position (Pool A)
- Barrengarry Ladder: 2nd position



UNDER 18 BOYS (Barrengarry)
Competed in Barrengarry Conference

Coach: Josh Styles | **Assistant Coach:** Matt Feehan | **Manager:** Sam Feehan

Players: Liam Da Silva Hicks, Gaveen De Silva, Keegan Feehan, Ashton Morris, Thevan Thanappa Hettige, William Xi, Jalen Rees, Oliver Higham, Ryan Alfano, Oliver Driscoll

TEAM GOAL

To improve on all the little things and fundamentals which we translate into our game. And a goal was to get all the boys on a level to make it very hard for next year's team selection and have as many of them make the top team as possible and to be as competitive as we can.

We started the year unsure of how it would play out with a team of six players. This made it very difficult to create a game plan and to train effectively to make this team competitive. Thankfully after a few short conversations, the idea of getting some of the under 16 players to play up, was perfect. After the approval by the board, we had a full team.

This was the best decision, as the boys that came up added a different atmosphere and brought a competitive fire within the team. Our main goals for the year were to develop and improve every player in every aspect of their game and I personally think that we achieved that. The boys improved tremendously throughout the year and were very understanding with their circumstances, all while showing their ability to take instructions on the court.

We started off the year playing Barrengarry, and we were all a bit shook as no one had played in the under 18's competition, due to the whole team being either bottom age or double bottom age for the age group. It didn't take long for the boys to adjust and after sinking a few baskets, the competitive fire begun, and we were off winning 2/3 for the first round. After adjusting to the under 18's speed and physicality we upped the ante at training to prepare for the next round.

Throughout the year we continued to adjust to the play styles and different obstacles we faced from all the different teams. It was safe to say it was an amazing year for improvement and we couldn't be prouder of how far they had come throughout the year. Due to covid we had our fair share of players missing per round, but we still managed to be super competitive every round regardless of how many players we were missing.

Due to covid I unfortunately missed the final round which I was gutted about after hearing that we were pushing the Illawarra team to sweating point and had them stressing about losing to us for practically the entire game. This is always a great achievement for Shoalhaven teams but due to them going on and winning the comp it takes the moment of the year for me.

I'd also like to thank all the boys for their dedication turning up to training and always putting in 100% every training session. I would also like to thank Matt and Sam Feehan for all their help through the year, with the coaching and managing. I'd also like to thank Mark Alfano for letting his team's players play up and for all of his help when he was called upon, it was greatly appreciated as well.

I think this year was a fantastic year for the Shoalhaven Under 18 Men Gold and I wish all the players best of luck for the upcoming year of basketball. Keep up the hard work boys!

REFEREES

Referees are critical to our representative program as every team is required to nominate a referee when entering for SJL, John Martin Country Tournament, and Barrengarry Conference. As an incentive, referees are given a travel stipend for SJL and Country Tournament plus parent referees are exempt from doing bench duty. Still it is a struggle to meet our referee obligations each year so we are extremely grateful to our refs.

A huge thank you to the following referees who supported our players by sharing their time, energy and skills:

Alex Field	Greg Davids	Leighvi Dennison
Amanda Volpatti	Jacinta Donaldson	Nellie Roberts
Chelsea Holloway	James Speer	Ryan Alfano
Darcy Martin	Katie Seller	Tony Armstrong
Erin Gibbon	Lara Timmins	
Grace Armstrong	Layla Volpatti	

Our referee supervisors John Martin and Steve Joy coordinated a variety of referee education sessions during the season. These catered for all levels of expertise and pathways and are open to all SBA members.

Representative players are required to attend a referee course upon accepting a position with a team. This year 80% of players attended referee training to learn more about the game, develop an appreciation for the complexities of refereeing, and build leadership skills. Like all sports, basketball is suffering from a referee shortage so we strongly encouraged these rep players to referee domestic games and contribute to the quality of our weekly competition. Pay is commensurate with experience levels.

Visit our website to learn more about the referee program and upcoming referee courses.

<https://shoalhavenbasketball.com.au/get-involved/referee/>



SPONSORS

It was fantastic to have four junior team sponsors and one individual player sponsor on board this year. Their investment in junior basketball assists us to grow the players of the future.

Opportunities to sponsor a team or player in 2023 will be available soon. Get involved!

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U18 Boys



U16 Boys



U14 Boys



U12 Girls



Individual Sponsor | Tahj Webb



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