

THE PROWL



ManagementNEWS

Richard Irving

Dear Wildcats Family,

I hope everyone is well.

It is with great pleasure that we present to the Wildcats family our refreshed five-year Strategic Plan, which will guide the Eltham Wildcats from 2025 – 2030.

2019 – 2023 Strategy

Our last strategic plan provided oversight and guidance to deliver on several key items and to make improvements in the following areas:

1. Implementation of a Child Safety framework and policy
2. Build capacity across the Club to deliver against our plans
3. Construction of a new 3 court stadium at Montmorency - taking the total number of courts at Montmorency to 5
4. Participation in our domestic competition continues to steadily grow
5. Increase in the number of pathways, including:
 - Walking basketball
 - Neurodivergent basketball
 - Increased participation in Kinder kids and Cub's programs - with over 40% girls' participation
 - Introduction of the Wildcats Academy
 - Continued strong participation in our representative program
6. Strong and viable financial position – bolstered by continued success of the Eltham Dandenong Junior Basketball Tournament.

2025 – 2030 Strategy

Purpose

We have evolved and refined our purpose slightly to reflect the next stage of the Wildcats evolution. The intent behind our purpose, however, is consistent.

“Our purpose is to provide an inclusive and safe environment, providing pathways and opportunities for the Wildcats community to thrive”.

Vision

We have removed having a vision, as our 'purpose' encompasses plenty of opportunity for the Wildcats to continually improve and prosper.

Strategic Pillars

The focus of the Wildcats over the next 5 years are outlined in the following 'strategic pillars':

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop opportunities for 'all', which are not defined by performance or results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operate the Wildcats in a transparent and sustainable way, which is in the 'best interests' of all members	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Further enhance pathways for all aspects of the Wildcats, which encourages, facilitates and recognises contributions and achievements at all levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Build a member experience, which is the envy of other clubs and exceeds the expectations of our members	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Run the Wildcats in an effective way that balances investment into infrastructure, people and new initiatives to enable a good member experience
Participation and Inclusion 	Good Governance 	Clear Pathways Supporting Development 	Excellent Member Experience 	Operational & Infrastructure Excellence 

Business Plan

The next stage, which has already commenced is to operationalise our strategic plan into a business plan with clear actions and outcomes.

Feedback

As always, we would welcome feedback on any part of the strategic plan or strategic pillars.

Please do not hesitate to e-mail ceo@elthamwildcats.net.au with any feedback, questions or queries.

[Link to Strategic Plan Here](#)

senior PROGRAMS

Senior Program – NBL1

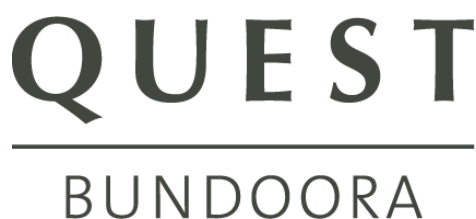
We're a third of the way through the NBL1 season, and we want to give a huge thank you to everyone who's come out to support us at our home games! Your energy has been electric, and the players are feeding off the passion you bring each and every time. Let's keep the momentum going — we can't wait to see (and hear!) you at our remaining games.

Our Quest Bundoora NBL1 Women are currently sitting at 2-5, but that record doesn't tell the full story. The team has been highly competitive, battling through early season adversity with resilience and grit. Their two wins, a strong road victory against Mt Gambier and an intense overtime thriller against the Nunawading Spectres, showcased their determination and toughness. Last week, we welcomed our new Polish import, Julia Drop, who is already beginning to integrate into the squad. We're excited about the impact she'll bring and can't wait to see how the team continues to build momentum in the weeks ahead!

Our Air Fusion NBL1 Men are hitting their stride, now sitting at 4-3 after winning their last three games! After a slow start while the new-look starting lineup found its rhythm, the team is beginning to click and the results are showing. Import Xavier Bledson has been a standout performer, stuffing the stat sheet with averages of 17.5 points, 4.2 rebounds, and 3.7 assists per game. Recent wins over Ballarat, Diamond Valley, and Melbourne have built great momentum, and the team is fired up to extend their winning streak this weekend against Kilsyth.

Both our teams have 8 of their last 11 games at home, so we will be calling on all Wildcats fans to get down to Montmorency Secondary and make some NOISE!

Their next home game is Saturday May 24th vs Geelong United where we will be celebrating Pride Round, followed by our big rivalry double header vs Diamond Valley on Saturday May 31st.







senior PROGRAMS

Senior Program – Big V

Our Big V Youth teams are quickly approaching the halfway point of the season with both our Women's and Men's team firmly in the hunt for finals.

Our Big V Youth Women are off to a strong start, sitting at 5-3 after their first eight games — including three wins from their last four outings. This young and hungry group continues to grow with each game, and that development is showing on the scoreboard. Impressively, they rank second in the league in bench points, a testament to the depth and versatility of the squad. With contributions coming from across the roster, the future is looking bright for our Youth Women!

Our L&L Orthodontics Youth League Men have started the season 5-5 and are on a 2 game winning streak after two big wins over Keilor and Dandenong. Leading the way for the Youth Men has been Mitch Blackburn who has had a great start of the year after missing the majority of last season. He is averaging 17ppg along with 10 rpg and 4apg.

Our Youth teams have a home double header this Saturday night at Eltham High vs Coburg (W) & Melbourne (M), get down from 6pm to catch all the action.



ORTHODONTICS

CELEBRATING
25 years

EST. 2000

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GAME DAY STAFF - Big V / NBL1

The Eltham Wildcats are calling on dedicated, energetic individuals to join our Game Day Crew and help deliver an unforgettable experience at every home game. Whether you're looking to gain hands-on event experience or just want to be part of the Wildcats community, we've got a role for you.

Games take place on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the season.

Positions available:

Game Day Staff (16+)

Get involved behind the scenes with a variety of roles including venue set up and pack down, door entry, car park coordination, membership and merchandise tables, the lolly stand, and general cleaning. Reliability and team spirit are a must.

Floor Sweepers (12+)

Play a crucial role in player safety by keeping the court clean and dry during the action.

Camera Operators (15+)

Capture every play from courtside. You'll be filming games for league compliance, statistics, and team scouting.

If you're ready to be part of the game-day energy and gain valuable experience, we want to hear from you.

Interested or have questions? Contact Geordie at gameday@elthamwildcats.net.au.

[Register your Interest Here](#)

ROLES **open** ROLES **open** ROLES

COURT ANNOUNCER - Big V

The Eltham Wildcats are searching for enthusiastic individuals to join our Senior program as a Court Announcer. If you've got a strong voice, a love for basketball, and a flair for engaging a crowd, this is your chance to be part of the game-day action.

This exciting weekend role involves working during Saturday and Sunday games, with the opportunity to shadow our experienced announcer before taking the mic yourself. It's the perfect way to gain experience in a unique and energetic environment.

Applicants must be 16 years or older and either experienced or eager to learn this dynamic position.

Interested or have questions?

Contact Geordie at gameday@elthamwildcats.net.au.



[Register your Interest Here](#)

EDJBA WINTER DOMESTIC - COACHES

Do you have a passion for basketball and a desire to lead the next generation of athletes? The Eltham Wildcats are looking for committed and enthusiastic coaches to join our team for the upcoming EDJBA Winter Season.

We're currently seeking coaches for our Under 13 Boys teams. Whether you're an experienced mentor or eager to take your first steps into coaching, this is your opportunity to make a meaningful impact on and off the court.

Register your interest by emailing juniordomestic@elthamwildcats.net.au

Help shape the future of the game—join the Wildcats coaching family.

Safety & Wellbeing NEWS

Hi Wildcats,

Today I wish to keep it short, this last month the club has experienced an indescribable loss. Jason Maywald was truly the heart and soul of what our club is about. He will live on with all of us and in the spirit of our community. Whether you knew Jase well or not at all, this loss would have touched you in some way and there is no right way in how this might affect you.

Grief cannot be summarised and is not the same for anyone. It will come in waves and hit us at different times. Support is always available for yourself and those around you whenever you may need. If that support is a confidential chat with yourself or your team, a referral for external support/s or anything else at all, the club is here to support you through this time and beyond.

I am sending my love and support to our Wildcats family and urge you to get in touch with us or an external support if you need anything.

Sophie Foote – Wellbeing Officer - wellbeing@elthamwildcats.net.au

Rachel Morgan – Welfare Committee Chair – welfare@elthamwildcats.net.au

National supports:

Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

- Lifeline: 13 11 14
- Beyond Blue: 1300 224 636
- Kids Helpline: 1800 551 800 / Online chat: <https://kidshelpline.com.au>
- 1800RESPECT: 1800 737 732 - National assault and violence support

Warmest regards,

Sophie Foote – (She/Her)
Eltham Wildcats Basketball Club
Wellbeing Officer

YouthCOMMITTEE

Calling all passionate Wildcats!

Our Eltham Wildcats Youth Committee is looking for more members to join this incredible team!

If you're between 14-25 and eager to make a real difference, we want YOU to be part of shaping the future of our club.

Want to have your say and help us grow? Stay tuned for more details, and register your interest.

[Register your Interest Here](#)

HOME GAMES

2025

RD 1 Saturday March 29th 6.00pm (W) and 8.15pm (M)



RD 4 Saturday April 26th 6.00pm (W) and 8.00pm (M)



RD 5 Sunday May 4th 12.30pm (W) and 2.30pm (M)



RD 8 Saturday May 24th 6.00pm (W) and 8.00pm (M)



RD 9 Saturday May 31st 6.00pm (W) and 8.00pm (M)



RD 10 Saturday Jun 14th 6.00pm (W) and 8.00pm (M)



RD 11 Saturday June 21st 6.00pm (W) and 8.00pm (M)



RD 12 Saturday Jun 28th 6.00pm (W) and 8.00pm (M)



RD 13 Saturday Jul 5th 6.00pm (W) and 8.00pm (M)



RD 14 Sunday Jul 13th 12.30pm (W) and 2.30pm (M)



RD 15 Friday Jul 18th 6.30pm (W) and 8.30pm (M)



Wildcats



Number: (03) 9439 2749

Address: 1/38 Bridge St,
Eltham VIC 3095

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Dates **COMING**

EDJBA Upcoming Dates:

- Winter Season – April 26th – 23rd August
- Winter Finals – August 30th – 13th September

Senior Domestic Upcoming Dates:

- Autumn Season Finals - 16th June - 3rd July
- Spring Seasons Starts - 7th July

NBL1 Upcoming Home Game Dates:

- Pride Round vs Geelong United – May 24th
- Heritage Round vs Diamond Valley – May 31st
- First Nations Round vs Waverly Falcons – July 5th
- Mental Health Round vs Sandringham – July 18th

Big V Upcoming Home Game Dates:

Youth Women

- Round 8 – 10/05/25 vs Coburg Giants
- Round 9 – 18/05/25 vs Ballarat Miners
- Round 12 – 15/06/25 vs Knox Rapiers

Youth Men

- Round 8 – 10/05/25 vs Melbourne Tigers
- Round 11 – 01/06/25 vs Waverly Falcons
- Round 13 – 22/06/25 vs Wyndham

Eltham Wildcats 60th Anniversary

- July 13th 2025

expression of INTEREST

Hi Wildcats,

We're excited to begin planning for our 60th Anniversary Celebration and are seeking expressions of interest to help us get an idea of attendance.

Here's the current plan:

We encourage you to arrive early to support the Youth Women's game at 10:30am.

From 12:00pm - Activities will kick off on Courts 4 & 5 and in the surrounding corridors of courts 1-3. Expect a fun, family-friendly atmosphere with partner stalls, potential basketball card photos, fairy floss, face painting, and more, all running alongside our NBL1 games.

Extra food options will be available outside throughout the day.

Following the Men's NBL1 game, we'll host a presentation and awards ceremony, complete with desserts on Courts 4 & 5 from 4.00pm to 4.30pm / 5.00pm

If you're interested in attending, please fill out the Expression of Interest (EOI) form so we can better plan for numbers and make the day as special as possible.

[Expression of Interest](#)

lifemember CONTACTS

Calling All Wildcats: Help Us Connect with Our Life Members

As we prepare to celebrate 60 years of the Eltham Wildcats, we're looking to reconnect with some of the club's most significant contributors—our Life Members and key figures from years past.


If you are a Life Member, or you know someone who is, we'd love to hear from you. We're especially seeking current contact details—preferably email addresses—to ensure they receive a special invitation to this milestone celebration.

David has specifically requested contact details for the below:

Marlene Wilson, Kathy Ley, Colin Powell, John Byron, Lee Mayoh, Dawn Martin, David McCarthy, Pam/John McKean, Brooke Boutakis, Begg Family, Galea Family, Lance Clarke, Hogg Family, Hardstaff Family.

Help us honour the people who helped shape the legacy of the Wildcats.

Please reach out with any information to Nicola at business@elthamwildcats.net.au



EST.1965

sixty years

SAVE THE DATE.

13 / 07 / 2025

Eltham Wildcats 60th Anniversary Event

27 Simms Rd Montmorency VIC 3094

More details to come.



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If you are considering selling, contact Jellis Craig and chat to a North East property expert today.

Source: REIV | Jan 01, 2024 - Dec 31, 2024, Briar Hill, Diamond Creek, Eltham, Eltham North, Greensborough, Lower Plenty, Montmorency, North Warrandyte, Research & North Warrandyte.

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