

MIDNIGHT BASKETBALL



A PERSPECTIVE FROM 2 TOURNAMENTS AT KWINANA RECQUATIC

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Introducing Midnight Basketball Australia



- A diversionary program for “at risk youth” using basketball as ways of engaging their interest.
- The program is open to males and females aged 12 to 18 years
- Through a combination of life skills workshops and basketball tournaments the program aims to offer an intervention that:
 - engages a diverse social mix of young people and in its programs,
 - contributes to community and individual capacity building, and
 - is sustainable over time.

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- Providing a healthy, attractive alternative for young people when they are:
 - most at risk of harm,
 - self harm,
 - anti-social behaviour,
 - other community services unavailable.
- The sustainability of the program is achieved by building a Community Committee of Key Stakeholders.

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Main Aims



- Providing young people with a safe positive environment,
- Combating drug, alcohol and physical abuse by young people,
- Supporting learning needs and encouraging participation,
- Providing role models,
- Diverting young people from anti social behaviour.

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Frame work



- **Forming your Committee** – varies dependent on community needs/capacity
- **Committee Chair** – Oversees committees activities and liaises with the Tournament Director
- **Volunteer Recruitment manager** – recruit all necessary volunteers e.g. scorers, team managers, workshop assistants etc
- **Finance Manager** – Budget and reconciliation of funds
- **Personnel Manager** – Recruits all paid position

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Frame Work cont...



- **Logistics manager** – Handles all bookings and supplier negotiations
- **Youth Worker**

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Final Tournament Preparation



- Secure community funding and in kind support
- Set tournament dates and program of events for workshops.
- Secure staff, volunteers, contractors etc
- Confirm all bookings
- Expression of Interest - MBA

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Tournament Timing- 6 teams



7pm	Volunteers Arrive
7.15pm	Volunteer briefing
7.30pm	Players Arrival and registration Dinners served
8pm	Life Skills Workshop (1 st group) Match 1 & 2
8.40pm	Life Skills Workshop (1 st group) Match 3 & 4
9.20pm	Life Skills Workshop (1 st group) Match 5 & 6
10pm	Friendly game
10.40pm	Match 8 / First bus departs
11.20pm	Match 9 / 2 nd bus departs
Midnight	Wrap up/ final bus departs

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Tournament 1

23rd February - 9th April 2008.

- WA pilot program
- 8 week program based on 6 teams
- Tournament Manager responsibilities
- Funding
- In – Kind donations
- Financial Literacy Workshops
- 92 Registrations



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Tournament 2

17th October - 5th December 2009

- 8 week program based on 6 teams
- Committee
- Less funding required due to more in-kind donations
- Workshops secured in kind from a variety of local organisations
- Workshops included Team Building, Skills, Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol, Sexual Health and Nutrition
- Increased sustainability
- Support - TOK and COR
- 102 registrations
- Currently in week 6



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Issues

- Committee
- Transportation
- Age
- Tournament Manager
- Structure of program on Tournament nights.
- Security
- Paid and Volunteer positions
- Spectators and Siblings.
- Building networks for volunteers as well as general resources
- Limiting residential areas for registrants.



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Significant Benefits and Outcomes

- Staff and Community Stake Holders
 - Rapport with local youth
- Changing community perception
 - Interacting with Youth in a friendly, safe, relaxed but structured environment
 - Positive stories about youth at risk
- Confidence Building for local youth
 - Being part of a team and branded program
 - Providing youth with life skills workshops
 - Preparation for workforce and future endeavours
- Benefits of committee
 - Shared workload
 - More resources
 - Increase sustainability



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Contact Details



Leeanne King
Kwinana Recquatic
Cnr Gilmore and Chisham Ave
KWINANA

Leeanne.King@kwinana.wa.gov.au

(08) 9439 0406

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