LEAGUE OVERVIEW

One club. Two squads. A national platform.

Top 10 League is a proposed South African national club circuit bringing ten clubs together across an U18 Academy division and a Premier Senior Men's division. Each founding club enters both squads. All ten clubs remain involved at every regular-season stop.

The offering

- 10 founding clubs; 20 squads across two separate divisions.
- Three proposed regular-season stops, followed by a separate Grand Finals.
- Full FIBA-style 5v5 basketball, planned around one suitable FIBA approved indoor court.
- Tournament OS GameStats: team and player information, per-game statistics, branded results and detailed coach resources.

Planning status

The 2027 programme is an expression-of-interest proposal, not an announced competition. Dates, venues, fees, governing-body engagement and club acceptance remain subject to confirmation. No club, commercial partner or governing body is represented as committed.

Independent identity

The club-development approach draws inspiration from international circuits such as EYBL. Top 10 League is not affiliated with Nike or EYBL. Separate champions are proposed for U18 and Senior Men.

CIRCUIT & COMPETITION

Proposed travel windows

- Opening stop: Johannesburg — April 2027.
- Coastal stop: Durban — July 2027.
- Cape stop: Cape Town — September 2027.
- Grand Finals: Johannesburg — December 2027.

All clubs at every stop

Each regular stop targets two games per squad: ten games in each division, twenty games overall. Across three regular stops that produces six regular-season games per squad. Opponent rotation must be validated before fixtures are approved; this is not a full nine-opponent round robin.

The single-court reality

Twenty games at a conservative two-hour allocation require forty court-hours. A four-day stop, with five games per day, is the practical planning baseline. The earlier Friday–Sunday concept cannot reliably provide full games, rest, warm-up and overrun protection on one court.

Finals to be settled

Finals qualification, seeding, tie-breaks and placement games will be agreed in the competition regulations. Finals are not another automatic twenty-game stop.

VALUE FOR CLUBS & PLAYERS

U18 Academy

A consistent club-development platform, age-verified registrations and responsible player visibility. Final age cut-offs, roster sizes and registration requirements will be published with approved regulations. Guardian consent and safeguarding remain mandatory.

Premier Senior Men

A national stage for club competition, continuity across stops and meaningful performance records. A prize purse is not promised; any awards or financial incentives depend on an approved budget.

Beyond the scoresheet

- Pre-populated branded scoresheets use verified team, roster and official information.
- Post-game summaries highlight game leaders and top performers from both teams.
- Detailed FIBA-standard game packages include the full box score and photographed signed scoresheet once verified.
- Coach contact details and player consent remain private; public profiles are only shown with appropriate approval.

Travel & costs

Clubs should assess travel and accommodation for both squads and staff. Group-travel support may be explored, but no travel provider or subsidy is confirmed. Participation fees and payment dates will be shared privately after quotations and consultation.

FOUNDING CLUB PROCESS

Selection and readiness

- Submit a non-binding EOI with the authorised club contact, location and squad readiness.
- Discuss competitiveness, U18 development, governance, safeguarding and ability to travel.
- Validate venues, regulations, calendar and zero-sponsorship operating budget.
- Issue final participation terms; accept clubs only after documented approval.

No implied acceptance

A submitted EOI does not reserve a place, create an invoice or guarantee admission. Candidate clubs will not be published as invited or confirmed without verified authorisation.

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Next decision

Use club responses to test the proposed four-day stops, dual-squad readiness and travel affordability before confirming the inaugural season.