

EARLY YEARS



Brian Kerle was a late starter to the sport of basketball. At the age of 20, he started playing club basketball for the Woolloongabba Police Boys. He quickly progressed from C to A grade with Lang Park and was recruited by St. Kilda in 1967 where he played his professional career out.

With his team, he won several Victorian and Australian Club championships. Kerle represented Australia with the Boomers national team for two world championships (1970 and 1974) as well as the Olympic team in 1972 at the 1988 Seoul Olympics as assistant coach when the team played the USA for bronze medal.

COACHING



Kerle coached 456 NBL games over 13 seasons. He has won Coach of the Year twice, two successive NBL titles with St Kilda (1979 and 1980) and fifth place at the World Club Championships in Brazil (1981). In 1984, 1986 and 1990, he coached the Bullets to the NBL Grand Finals and two championships (1985 and 1987). Played in 2 world championships 1970 Yugoslavia and 1974 Puerto Rico. This is a record few coaches can match in NBL history. As one of the most successful coaches in the history of Australian basketball, Kerle was the Assistant Coach for the Australian Men's Teams at World Championships and an Olympic

Games. His contribution to the game at all levels has been profound, demonstrated by his induction into the Victorian Basketball Hall of fame in 1991, the NBL Hall of Fame in 2006, and the Queensland Basketball Hall of Fame in 2018. Since leaving the competitive basketball scene, he has continued coaching in schools, clubs and community clinics throughout Queensland. Kerle has worked at Sport and Recreation Queensland where he ran various sports programs including 'Thanks Ref' and 'Deadly Sports' Coaching Kerle now combines the skills he learnt as a player, coach and business manager to develop excellence on and off the court through Brian Kerle Basketball Academy and the Young Indigenous Basketball Academy (YIBA). YIBA works with the indigenous community to educate and expand the opportunities of local youth.

COMMUNITY WORK



Brian's greatest passion and achievement is the work that he continues to complete in the community with a wide range of multicultural and demographic backgrounds. He loves to see people of all ages and walks of life, become involved in the sport that he loves the most. He knows the benefits of physical fitness, mental well-being, socialising and career pathways that basketball can bring. Of particular focus, is his support of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth, both urban and remote, providing opportunities for positive growth, skills development and employment opportunities that are currently not available to them. He does so through the provision of tailored, sustainable

and practical programs in key locations. Kerle also works with female orientated initiatives such as the Get Out Get Active government program and runs a free multicultural ladies clinic every Friday.

COACHING PHILOSOPHY



Brian Kerle is a passionate and involved coach who understands what it takes to build self belief and a winning team culture. His style of coaching focuses on a strong foundation of basketball skills, which includes mastering the fundamentals required for each component of the game, as well as an understanding that each individual and their abilities are unique - bringing the best out of their relative skill-set. Through the BK Academy, Kerle has mentored students to become their best selves - this has included those who have gone onto nursing, coaching, teaching and opening their own gyms. Amongst Kerle's mentees are youth justice and foster children, those that have low self esteem and

bullied kids. Through Ball 4 Change, Kerle has visited Samoa twice to coach basketball and support the Local Orphanage and Special School. Basketball is a rewarding game that has so much to offer. It brings together communities, different ages groups, demographics and creates a safe space for everybody to develop. Kerle is committed to educating, up-skilling, motivating and supporting all his players so that they can reach their potential on and off the court as well as enjoy the great game of basketball. Kerle is a strong advocate for respect and encouraging young people to continue their studies at school.