



# Willetton Basketball Association: Zero Tolerance Policy

WBA aims for a zero tolerance approach regarding unsportsmanlike behaviour from players, coaches and spectators for all competitions and tournaments. All patrons entering our basketball venues are not only representing their team and club, but also the basketball community.

Under Work Health and Safety, creating a safe work environment is a legal requirement for WBA, which is obligated to keep volunteer officials (including referees) safe.

## 1. Coaches and players

The following is unsportsmanlike conduct:

- a. Open disputes about a decision by a match or scoring official.
- b. Obscene or vulgar language to anyone at any time.
- c. Visually display of dissatisfaction with an Official's decision, in a manner that openly embarrasses the Official and/or challenges their judgment. This includes approaching with the intent of inciting the officials and opposition match personnel.

Coaches are only permitted to ask referees questions in time outs or between periods. Warnings will not be given at these levels for breaches, and technical fouls may be issued immediately by the referees. Staff members may be present to monitor ALL coaches and players behaviours (especially at the 12s and 14s levels) and intervene with junior referees where needed if a coach or player is acting in an unsportsmanlike manner.

## 2. Spectators

Officials may stop the game if parents/spectators display inappropriate and disruptive behaviour, interfering with other spectators or participants of the game. Violators may be ejected from the venue. Once removed, play will resume. Lost time will not be replaced.

Examples of inappropriate and disruptive behaviour may include:

- a. Using obscene or vulgar language to anyone at any time.
- b. Taunting players, coaches, officials or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threatening physical violence, or physical violence.
- c. Throwing any object on court or physically interfering with on court proceedings.

The venue duty manager will have the sole authority to eject violators of this policy. Violators will be escorted from the facility and not allowed to return until the next day. Players or coaching staff under 18 will be escorted from the playing area into the reception area if their parent or guardian is not present and the venue duty manager will notify the parent or guardian at the earliest practical opportunity.

Do not undermine the role of the volunteer coach. Game instructions must only come from the team coach.

### **3. Officials**

Officials must apply these guidelines in a realistic manner and must be careful not to be overly zealous in their enforcement. This policy is designed to eliminate direct confrontations with Officials while still allowing players and coaches an avenue to communicate in a calm and reasonable manner.

Officials are required to conduct themselves in a professional, fair, sportsmanlike, and non-provocative manner at all times. They must be firm, polite and direct at all times.

Basketball WA & WBA urges all players, coaches and spectators to participate competitively and in good spirit, but with respect to all concerned at all times.

Endorsed by the Board of Willetton Basketball Association Inc