



RESPECT THE GAME

AND EVERYONE INVOLVED



Approved November 2019

Effective 1 January 2020





Participant Behaviour Policy: Parent-Spectator-Player-Coach-Official-Referee

1 Overview

The KBA in association with the VBRA Keilor Branch and Junior Domestic Clubs have developed a behaviour policy that clearly outlines participant's behaviour. This document will align with Basketball Victoria's code of conduct and has been developed to give precise and clear examples of appropriate and non-appropriate behaviour during basketball participation.

The KBA has identified on several occasions that more needs to be done to improve participant behaviour and culture. These measures are not made to replace or undermine the usual referee's and coach's practices of game / player management or impede on healthy competition and spectator participation. In most cases it will be sufficient to address the matter by simply pointing out that the specific behaviour is inappropriate.

Where warranted, the usual rules and process for reporting and bringing charges under BV/VBRA Tribunal will continue.

Basketball Victoria has recently released the 'Respect for Our Game' policy. KBA will adopt this for all its Domestic Competitions (<http://basketballvictoria.com.au/respect-for-our-game/>).

Everyone involved in Basketball are bound of Basketball Victoria's Code of Conduct Policy
(<http://basketballvictoria.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/CODES-OF-CONDUCT.pdf>)

KBA will adopt the Basketball Victoria policy of all technical fouls will result in a penalty of **2 shots plus possession**.

These instructions are given with the intention of getting the coaches to work closely with the referees, to provide a safe and harmonious environment for young people to enjoy their basketball.

The KBA Board, Director of Coaching, Referee Advisor and VBRA Keilor Branch fully support these measures.

We are all part of the same community (players, coaches, spectators, officials and administrators).

Promote acceptable behaviour and role models

- Good Sport Award
- On the spot verbal compliment (officials, door staff, board members, coaches to opposition etc.)
- Circulation of examples advised by reports (formal and verbal) to clubs etc.

Referee introduction prior to game start

- Referees to introduce themselves to coach prior to start of game.
- End on a positive note; 'good luck, coaches' or 'let's have a good, fun game' or similar

2 Junior and Senior Domestic Behaviour Policy

Tolerance of unacceptable behaviour: Zero

2.1 Spectators

The following are examples of inappropriate behaviour:

1. A person continually disputing or yelling at decisions made by the referee.
2. A person encouraging violence or threatening violence.
3. A person approaching the score bench about a score or time discrepancy.

NOTE: Loud barracking for a team does not constitute disruptive behaviour.

If a referee becomes aware of such instances the referee should:

1. Identify which team the person is connected to.
2. Stop the game. Referee will blow their whistle and point to the bench of the team and state "Warning Spectator Behaviour"
3. Approach the coach of the team and request the coach speak to the offending person/s and tell them to stop their inappropriate behaviour. Explain to the coach that if he/she fails to assist you and the behaviour continues a technical foul will be given.
The warning will apply to ALL spectators from that team

The following are examples of unacceptable behaviour and a warning will not be given

1. A person using offensive language towards a referee, a player from their own team, or to a player from the opposing team.
2. A person making racist or sexual offensive comments to a player or a referee.
3. A person entering the playing court without explicit permission from the referee.

In game Penalty

The next occurrence of inappropriate behaviour by the same team or any unacceptable behaviour

1. Bench Technical Foul against the team.
2. Coach will be required to ensure the offending parent/s or spectator/s leaves the venue within 30 seconds.
3. Should offending spectator/s or parent/s not leave the game will be forfeit and they will be reported. The result will be as per the KBAJ by laws.
4. Referee will be required to fill out an Online Incident Report form after the game stating why the person was asked to leave.

2.2 Players

Senior Domestic

Sin Bin Rule will be applied

Junior Domestic

It is recommended that players receiving a behavioural technical foul per FIBA rules should be benched immediately for a 1-minute cooling off period (unless the team would be forced to play with less than 4 players). This is inclusive of time outs and halftime. The purpose of this is for the player to cool down and refocus. Referees will be encouraged to be mindful that the player will be 'cooling down' and try to avoid being reactive and ejecting players.

2.3 Coaches

Coaches are to be responsible to the behaviour of players AND spectators/parents. From time to time whilst refereeing games of basketball, referees will become aware of certain spectators behaving in a manner outside the Spectators Code of Conduct. Coaches and referees are expected to work together to provide a safe environment for everyone. Whilst the coach is ultimately responsible the team manager may assist the coach in helping deal with the behaviour.

Some basic tips

- The coach or assistance coach can stand during the game, but not both.
- The bench is for players and assistant coaches, do not allow parents to sit on your bench. Players are not allowed to sit on the floor. Any person on your bench can be given a technical foul.
- Timeouts must occur at the bench per FIBA rules
- Players must be seated on the bench; they can stand up and cheer for the team but must then sit back down
- Meet the referees before the game and shake their hands after the game

How do I talk to a referee during the game?

The best opportunity to speak to the referees is during a timeout or dead ball situation

1. If this is at a timeout signal to the referees that you want to speak to them. Do not walk onto the court, the conversation shall take place close to the bench area.
2. The timeout is just as much an opportunity for the referees to have a discussion, so they may choose to speak to you at the end of the timeout.
3. The conversation should be short and last no more than 10-15 seconds
4. It is not a debate; you may have to agree to disagree about a call

Some tips for speaking to referees

- Do not yell across the court. This may lead to a penalty
- If the referee has given a response and you don't agree, move on.
- It is not a requirement for the referee to give a warning before a technical foul
- The majority of technical fouls come after a warning and the coach wants to have the last say
- Ask a question rather than make statements. Some examples

Example 1 - You want to know why a foul wasn't called on the last play

- Wrong Way - Referee that was a foul
- Reworded – I thought my player might have been fouled on the last play, what did you see.

If the referees' give a response, just give them a quick thank you it is all about building a rapport with the referees

Example 2 - You want to know why a foul was called

- Wrong Way - Referee that wasn't a foul
- Reworded – Can you explain to me why that was a foul so I can let my player know what they did wrong

Example 3 - You think the referees are missing a lot of contact

- Wrong Way – Refs you better call something
- Reworded – You are doing a great job, if you could just keep an eye on “the drive or the example you want called” that would be appreciated

2.4 Game Officials (Scorers & other officials)

The person taking the role of scorer is considered an official and is expected to act accordingly:

- Be diligent in fulfilling scoring duties
- Act in an unbiased manner (avoid cheering/encouraging players, calling violations ‘..that’s travel’ etc, speaking to coaches directly, not shaking their head at the referee if they disagree with a call)
- Pay attention to referees calls
- Have a reasonable understanding of timing rules and referee signals
- “Work together” – with coaches, referees and the other score

The referee has the power to remove scorers from the score bench if they are not fulfilling their duties correctly.

2.5 Referees

Referees are to behave as per expectations of all participants. Lack of respect, vindictiveness, abuse and offensive behaviour &/or language is not to be tolerated. As similar approach to dealing coaches/spectators behaviour is in place.

It is usually inadvisable to challenge the referee during the game. This can lead to penalty against the player/coach/spectator. Coaches should approach the referee at an appropriate time to discuss the issue.

Apprentice (Green Shirt) Referees are NEVER to be approached or spoken to directly before, during or after games

Zero Tolerance Policy

There is a Zero Tolerance approach to those referees that play or coach. Any inappropriate behaviour does not have to be warned and should be penalised accordingly. We expect that referees should understand that required behaviour on and off the court.

Penalties

- Any on court behaviour should be penalised per FIBA Rules
- Any person may make a complaint to Advisor, VBRA Keilor Branch or KBA Operations Manager for behaviour which they feel breaches this Zero Tolerance Policy
- Complaints or repeated breaches of the Policy may lead to the following

- Quiet word from the Referee Advisor, VBRA Keilor Branch Committee Member or KBA Operations Manager
- Formal meeting with Referee Advisor and/or VBRA Keilor Branch Committee Member or KBA Operations Manager
- Last resort will be removal of VBRA Keilor Branch Affiliation which means you will no longer be able to referee games in the Keilor Basketball Association
- Serious offences may also be directed to the VBRA/TOC Tribunal Process

Those referees who are suspended under the KBA Behaviour Policy will also be removed from the same number of referee appointments where practical

Examples:

- You are suspended for 1 game under the KBA Behaviour Policy, you only referee on Saturday. You will not be rostered to the next Saturday roster (whenever that may occur).
- You are suspended for 1 game under the KBA Behaviour Policy, you referee multiple session. The roster is already released for the next session. The KBA Operations Manager will have discretion on when the penalty will be served.
- You are suspended for 2 games under the KBA Behaviour Policy, you only referee on Saturday. You will not be rostered to the next 2 Saturday rosters (whenever that may occur).

Complaints Regarding Referees

If you are at a venue with a supervisor, referee coach or referee advisor it is best to try and address the issue on the day. Ask your team manager or assistant to seek out the referee supervisor. Supervisors are not there to interfere with the game and will generally not speak with players/coaches during the game. Depending on the situation the supervisor may talk to the referees or just watch the game. Please be aware supervisors are responsible for multiple courts so they cannot watch for the entire game.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome and want to put a formal complaint

- Senior Domestic Teams are to email the KBA Office of the complaint
- Junior Domestic – A complaint is to be sent to their club. The club will then review the complaint and if deemed necessary forward to the KBA Office

The KBA will view the complaint and may forward to the VBRA Keilor Branch if it warrants a response. The matter is reviewed by VBRA Keilor branch and outcome advised to reporting person/club.

General Referee Feedback

This is a 2-way street and we want to encourage people to give constructive feedback (both positive and negative)

An online form will be made available to give feedback. If the person would like a follow up during the week by the Advisor or Referee Coach this will also be made available

As always the Referee Advisor and VBRA Keilor Branch can be made available to speak to Clubs or Teams

2.6 KBA Board and Staff

Board members and Operations manager are expected to exhibit role model behaviour at all times. Internal corrective procedures will apply

Staff behaviour expectations are aligned to that detailed in this policy. The operations manager is responsible for ensuring staff behaviour is acceptable and to implement remedial action.

3 Junior and Senior Domestic Game Penalties

This has been adapted from the MUVBL Behaviour Policy. For the purpose of this policy all communication for Junior Domestic is to go through the Junior Domestic Club and for Senior Domestic teams this is the nominated team contact.

Refer to <http://basketballvictoria.com.au/behavioural-technical-foul-on-player-coach-or-bench/>

KBA will adopt the Basketball Victoria policy of all technical fouls will result in a penalty of **2 shots plus possession**.

3.1 Introduction

Coaches, spectators/parents, assistant coaches and players who accumulate 3 or more behavioural technical fouls on the register will have the following penalty applied.

- Three Tech Fouls: Automatic 1 Game Suspension
- Four Tech Fouls: Additional 2 Game Suspension
- Five Tech Fouls: Additional 4 Game Suspension
- Six Tech Fouls: Additional 6 Game Suspension
- More than 6 Tech Fouls: Suspended for 6 months from all competitions from the date of the last technical Foul. After the 6 months is served the technical foul count will start back at 0.

Technical Fouls will remain on the register for 1-year period. i.e. If you receive a technical foul on February 1st, 2020, that Technical Foul will remain until February 1st, 2021.

Notes:

- Technical fouls for flopping or delay of game will not be added to your quota.
- A straight disqualifying foul will count as 2 Technical Fouls. This does not apply when you receive 2 Unsportsmanlike Fouls or a combination of a Technical and Unsportsmanlike Foul
- If you receive a suspension, you are suspended until such time that you have served the suspension in the next available game
 - Example – If player A receives a 1 game suspension during the Monday night competition they play in, but player A also plays in the Wednesday night competition and the Saturday Junior Domestic Competition, the suspension will be served on the Wednesday night and they will be free to play Saturday
- A bye does not count towards serving a suspension
- A player will not receive finals qualification for any games served under suspension
- The suspension will only apply to KBA Domestic Competitions.
- The KBA Operations Manager may apply discretion on when the penalty is to be served if it would prevent a walkover

3.2 Warning Procedures

The KBA Behavioural Technical Foul register can be located at <http://www.keilorbasketball.com.au/forms/>. Both the Junior and Senior Domestic register will be updated on a weekly basis by KBA.

1st Behavioural Technical Foul:

The club/team can view the KBA Behavioural Technical Foul Register for specific details of the violation. It is the responsibility of the club/team to continuously check the register for club/team officials who have received a behavioural technical foul. This will count as a first violation for the coach/assistant coach/players/parent.

2nd Behavioural Technical Fouls:

The club/team can view the KBA Behavioural Technical Foul Register for specific details of the violation at. It is the responsibility of the club/team to continuously check the register for club/team officials who have received a behavioural technical foul. This will count as a second violation for the coach/assistant coach/players/parent, and any subsequent violation will result in an automatic suspension.

3 or More Behavioural Technical Fouls:

The KBA Office will notify the club/team directly (via the relevant club/team contact email address) that the coach/assistant coach/player/parent has been suspended from the KBA Competition and will provide the contact with their return to competition date.

More than 6 Behavioural Technical Fouls:

The KBA Office will notify the club/team directly (via the relevant club/team contact email address) that the coach/assistant coach/player/parent has been suspended from all KBA Competitions for 6 months and will provide the contact with their return to competition date. The coach/assistant coach/player/parent will be given the opportunity to appeal/explain to the KBA why they should not be suspended for 6 months. The appeal will be considered by KBA and a decision will be made. That decision is then final. The process for appealing is outlined in section 3.4.

3.3 Process for recording Technical Fouls

The VBRA Keilor Branch will have an online report that all referees must fill out for a behavioural technical foul. This will be sent directly to the KBA Office for review.

The Technical Foul Report Form will give the referee an opportunity to explain why the coach/assistant coach/player/parent received a technical foul and how many technical fouls they awarded.

3.4 Appealing Behavioural Technical Foul or Penalty

Coaches/assistant, parents/spectators, coaches/players who receive a behavioural technical foul have the right to appeal to the KBA Office for a review of their technical foul record by close of business on the next business day.

If a coach/assistant coach/player is suspended, the club/team may email KBA Office within 24 hours of receiving the penalty notification to appeal the suspension. The KBA Office will review the appeal and make a final decision.

4 Example Scenarios

Example 1: Team A spectators are loudly barracking for their team and encouraging good sportsmanship

Interpretation: This does not constitute as unacceptable behaviour or inappropriate behaviour and should be allowed to continue.

Example 2: Team A spectators yell out "That's a foul, Your kidding ref, Foul Ref!", for the first time

Interpretation: This can be a natural reaction to the play, referees should be mindful of this behaviour and if this continues from that team's spectators the penalty should be applied per the policy.

Example 3: Team A spectators are loudly barracking for their team and encouraging inappropriate behaviour. e.g "Hit him, Foul him hard etc", "

Interpretation: This constitutes as inappropriate behaviour and the penalty is to be applied per the policy.

Example 4: Team A spectators are making inappropriate comments towards the Team B players e.g "You better watch yourself Number 31"

Interpretation: This constitutes as inappropriate behaviour and the penalty is to be applied per the policy.

Example 5: Team A spectators are constantly yelling out "he is still in there ref, 3 seconds ref, foul or other basketball rule references"

Interpretation: This constitutes as inappropriate behaviour and the penalty is to be applied per the policy.

Example 6: Team A spectator approaches the bench during the game and makes an inappropriate comment to either scorer. "The scores wrong, You missed two points. STOP THE CLOCK!"

Interpretation This constitutes as inappropriate behaviour and the penalty is to be applied per the policy. No spectator is to approach the score bench. If there is a discrepancy with the score the spectator should approach their coach. The coach must approach the scorekeeper in an appropriate time and manner to address the scorer a discrepancy.

Example 7: Team A spectators yell out "That's a ***** foul", for the first time

Interpretation: This constitutes as unacceptable behaviour, as it is offensive language, a technical foul will be given, and the coach will be required to ask the spectator to leave.

Example 8: Team A spectators yells out to the referee "You are a terrible referee, you're a disgrace!",

Interpretation: This constitutes as unacceptable behaviour as it is a direct personal attack against the referee, a technical foul will be given, and the coach will be required to ask the spectator to leave

Example 9: Spectators are displaying inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour towards the referee. After talking to both coaches, it is found they are not connected to either team.

Interpretation: The spectators are to be removed immediately with both coaches assisting and an incident report should be completed by the coaches and referee.

Example 10: Team A spectators are sitting on Team B spectators side and are displaying inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour in an attempt to get the referee to give a warning to Team A.

Interpretation: This constitutes as unacceptable behaviour as it is effectively cheating, a technical foul should be given to Team B and Team B coach will be required to ask the spectators to leave the stadium

Example 11: Team A player is injured, and a spectator enters the court to attend the injured player. Whilst attending the injured player, the spectator makes an unacceptable comment to the referee; "That's your fault ref, call more fouls, etc."

Interpretation: This constitutes as unacceptable behaviour as no spectator is to enter the playing court without explicit permission from the referees. A technical foul should be given to Team B and Team B coach will be required to ask the spectators to leave the stadium

Example 12: Team A have 2 coaches and the referees are not sure who is coaching.

Interpretation: Per FIBA Rules teams are only allowed to have ONE (1) coach, the other is the assistant coach. This would be clearly listed on the scoresheet, responsible for their teams and spectators actions and behaviour's.

Example 13: Team B spectators has been given a warning for inappropriate behaviour however the coach of Team B does not speak to the offending person/s and tell them to stop their inappropriate behaviour.

Interpretation: By not addressing the inappropriate behaviour, it displays to the team, players, officials and other spectators the coach is not supporting this policy. The referee will be encouraged to put in an online incident report and the club to follow up.

It is also likely the inappropriate behaviour continues, and therefore likely to result in a technical foul per the policy. The coach will be forced to be involved and assist in the removal of the spectator.

Example 14: A Team B spectator has displayed unacceptable behaviour and therefore must leave the stadium as per the policy, but the coach fails to assist in the removal of the spectator.

Interpretation

- a) The spectator leaves within the 30 seconds.
- b) The spectator fails to leave within the 30 seconds.

a) the game should be allowed to continue and the referees should fill out an incident form on the coach for failing to assist them which will go to the club. It is the clubs responsibility to follow up and address this issue.

b), Team B will forfeit the game, and result will be as per the KBA by-laws.

Team B spectator will be reported per the BV Tribunal report and charged with as a minimum, Unsportsmanlike behaviour (6 weeks) , Gross breach of code (6 weeks), Bringing basketball in disrepute (19 weeks).

Example 15: My coach is Junior (Under 18) and I don't think they will be able to address the behaviour of spectators.

Interpretation: The coach has been put in charge of juniors by the parents and the club, therefore they should be able to handle any behaviour on the court. Appropriate training should be given to the coach to deal with these situations. It would be recommended that an assistant over the age of 18 is also appointed to the team.

Example 16: Coach A is yelling across the court to get the referee attention

Interpretation: A coach should not be yelling across the court and should address the referee at an appropriate time. A technical foul penalty may be applied

Example 17: Coach A is constantly questioning the referee calls

Interpretation: This is inappropriate behaviour and a technical foul penalty may be applied

For further information regarding technical fouls please refer to Article 36 in the FIBA Rules

5 Representative Basketball

5.1 Coaches

As MUVJBL are tracking all technical fouls, any team receiving a behavioural technical foul or disqualification foul (coach, assistant or player) must do the following. The coach must send an email to the KBA Office by Monday morning explaining why the technical foul or disqualification was received and what action is taken going forward to ensure this doesn't happen again. Any coach or assistant that is disqualified from a game may be automatically suspended for 1 week at the discretion of the KBA Operations Manager.