



# MARLBOROUGH BASKETBALL ASSN

PO Box 276, Blenheim  
577 8300 ext 3  
info@marlboroughbasketball.org.nz

## Code of Conduct and Fair Play Policy

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### 1 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this Code is to set the standards of behaviour that Marlborough Basketball Association (MBA) considers necessary and are in the best interests of the game of basketball.

1.2 Failure to comply with the standards outlined below is an offence and is subject to disciplinary procedures as outlined in Marlborough Basketball Association Complaints, Appeals and Disciplinary Procedure Policy

1.3 It is not the intention of this Code to prevent courteous and proper player and coach exchanges with the referees, or to discourage preventive officiating such as a 'quiet word on the run'. However, in instances when acceptable behaviour has clearly ceased, penalties will be invoked.

1.4 This policy is in addition to MBA Zero Tolerance Referee Policy

### 2 Persons to whom the code applies

2.1 This Code applies to:

- (a) all persons who are within the jurisdiction of the Constitution, Internal Regulations, Policies of MBA;
- (b) employees and contractors of MBA, in accordance with the Employment Relations Act;
- (c) teams, coaches, officials, administrators, and any other person involved with basketball as governed by MBA; and
- (d) associations, clubs, and other bodies directly or indirectly affiliated with MBA and participate in MBA Competitions

### 3 Code of conduct and fair play for players

3.1 Players shall conduct themselves in a manner which brings credit to themselves and the game and shall:

- (a) Play according to the letter and intent of the rules and regulations of basketball and of the particular game, tournament, or league in which they are participating.
- (b) Play in a spirit of competitive sportsmanship accepting the official's decisions without dissent.
- (c) Control their behaviour on and off the court and refrain from any violent or abusive actions and language.
- (d) Co-operate fully with their coach and team mates, remembering that they are participating in a team sport.
- (e) Respect their opponents and not participate in any baiting, verbal abuse, or intimidating activities.
- (f) Be humble in victory and gracious in defeat.

3.2 Players shall accept refereeing with good grace:

- (a) Approaches to referees shall be by the (court) captain and/or head coach only and in accordance with the provisions of FIBA Official Basketball Rules.
- (b) Court captains (and coaches) are to approach referees in a courteous and reasonable manner.



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### 3.3 Players shall refrain from:

- (a) continually following officials to question decisions.
- (b) dissenting from decisions, either with words or body language.
- (c) making gestures with waves of arms, indecent body language, facial expressions, and other similar actions of dissent.
- (d) "mouthing off" when officials turn their backs or the player turns away from the official.
- (e) using rude, offensive and/or threatening language.

### 4 Code of conduct and fair play for coaches

4.1 Coaches shall conduct themselves in a manner that reinforces their place as leaders and role models, and encourage positive communication between themselves and players, referees, administrators and the general public. They shall:

- (a) perform their coaching duties on the basis of careful preparation.
- (b) ensure that their instruction is current, accurate and appropriate, and that it is based on practices for which they are qualified with acquired knowledge and skills.
- (c) have a primary concern for the health, safety and personal welfare of their players and, accordingly, should take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse.
- (d) treat all persons with dignity and respect thereby providing a model of fair play and sportsmanship.
- (e) observe the letter and intent of the rules and regulations of basketball, and of the particular game, tournaments or league in which they are participating, and insist that players and teams under their direction do likewise.
- (f) remember that they have undertaken the responsibility of assisting their players to acquire the necessary knowledge and skills of basketball to achieve their potential, as well as promoting desirable personal traits in them.

4.2 Coaches shall accept refereeing decisions with good grace:

- (a) on-court approaches to referees shall be by the court captain only and in accordance with the provisions of the FIBA Official Basketball Rules.
- (b) coaches are to approach referees in a courteous and reasonable manner.

4.3 Coaches should refrain from:

- (a) continually questioning decisions;
- (b) dissenting from decisions, whether by words or body language;
- (c) making gestures by waving arms, indecent body language, facial expressions, and other similar actions; and
- (d) using rude, offensive, and/or threatening language.

4.4 Head coaches shall not encroach onto the playing floor during the course of a game (other than as authorised by the FIBA Official Basketball Rules) or move out of the coach's box while the game is in progress.

C4.5 Given that assistant coaches must normally remain seated on the team bench, assistant coaches shall not assume actions or positions reserved for head coaches,



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## **5 Code of conduct and fair play for technical officials**

5.1 Referees and other technical officials (including score bench personnel) have an important role in ensuring that acceptable behaviour is displayed by all participants on the court at all times. They shall:

- (a) be mentally and physically prepared for the entire game or event;
- (b) maintain complete neutrality at all times;
- (c) accept their role as a communicator and role model for fair play;
- (d) accept their role as a member of the "officials' team," embrace team work, co-operate with and assist fellow officials, scorebench personnel and others associated with the game or event;
- (e) ensure that all players have a fair and reasonable opportunity to perform to the best of their ability, within the rules and regulations of basketball and the particular game or event;
- (f) conduct themselves in a professional manner both on and off the court;
- (g) attend organised functions as a representative of referees and officials; and
- (h) remain open to constructive criticism and suggestions from the Technical Committee, or delegated authority, showing respect and consideration to those offering assistance.

## **6 Code of conduct and fair play for parents and spectators**

6.1 Parents and Spectators should:

- (a) remember that although the basketball at the event may, or may not, be at an elite level, it is still sport and often junior sport, to be enjoyed by all participants;
- (b) respect all participating players and officials as you would respect your own children and friends, and applaud good performances by all participants;
- (c) demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul or abusive language or actions, and by not harassing players, coaches, officials or other spectators; and
- (d) remember that destructive criticism has no place in basketball and especially in junior basketball. It is very hurtful to the recipient and, ultimately, reflects very poorly on the game