



Coach Behaviour 2016

Detailed as follows, is an extract from the Basketball New Zealand Internal Regulations covering the Code of Conduct and Fair Play for Coaches. A number of recent behaviours throughout basketball nationally has prompted the need to remind coaches of the behaviour expected of them.

C4.2 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.

C4.3 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.

C4.4 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.

A National Championship is the pinnacle of junior basketball in New Zealand. With a large volume of spectators, it provides the image of the game for many New Zealanders. It is therefore essential that we are mindful of this with the actions and behaviour of players, coaches and team followers.

No referee can have an excellent game without a reasonable amount of co-operation from players and coaches. To have an excellent game the referee needs full focus on their job and constant complaining from a coach doesn't help that. Referees must understand the heart and soul of players and coaches and apply appropriate game management in order to gain their trust in return for their correct respectful behaviour. However, unfortunately sometimes situations of disrespectful behaviour occur. If so the coaches, players and team followers should not be allowed to become the centre of attention with their theatrical gestures and constant complaining. Such behaviour is not to be tolerated.

At this stage we would like to engage the support of the Associations with this move and propose the following:

Associations discuss this with their coaches and use the Basketball NZ Regulations to indicate what SHOULD be happening;

Coaches are advised that for the image of the game, Basketball NZ will be cleaning up the side-line behaviour of coaches. This will see a Technical Foul called for the following:

- To follow a referee in a questionable or aggressive manner.
- Constant questioning of a referee, in a manner that is not respectful or publicly demonstrating non-acceptance of the call
- Gestures to referees that show public disapproval of a call (e.g. waving of a referee in a dismissive manner)
- Stepping on to the court gesturing or showing dissent towards the referees. Dead ball situations, including time-outs, do not make walking on to the court by coaches or team bench personnel permissible.
- Staring at a referee in a threatening or aggressive manner.
- Aggressively demanding a referee come to a team bench to speak to the coach.

A reminder that the assistant coach is only permitted to stand during the game if the coach is seated. They may only address players and shall not address the officials.

Should you require any further information on this, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Referee Development Manager