

Grassroots basketball is meant to be a positive environment. Kiwi kids learn a lot from playing our game, including teamwork, winning and losing with integrity, setting goals and putting in the hard work, being responsible for showing up for practice, listening, looking after our team-mates and, most importantly, having fun! It's also where community-minded people volunteer their time and give back including coaches, referees and game officials. Supporters and spectators are there to support. To be part of it, cheer, support, clap and celebrate. If you're a good supporter, you'll know that court-side egos and negativity are not welcome. You'll keep your actions positive, show your thanks to those who are giving their time to help provide kids with the opportunity to play - Be A Great Supporter! Let them Play!

The level of undesirable sideline behaviour at BBNZ tournaments has, regrettably, increased in recent times.

Examples of such behaviours include inappropriate comments, by spectators, directed at match officials, coaching staff, children, volunteers and tournament/stadium staff, swearing, yelling abuse, racism, athlete confrontation, overly loud and aggressive attitude etc.

We ask that you work with us to support efforts to minimise these behaviours.

We encourage you to support your team with gusto – but keep it positive. Remember, our sport is largely manned by volunteers and that officials are human. We all make mistakes, but let's model behaviours suitable for kids' sport. And nobody wants to sit next to an 'ugly' supporter!

Our message to everyone is 'Be a great supporter. Let them play'.

Everyone at a basketball game is a supporter at some stage, so the message is relevant for us all.

The messaging will be supported by a process for dealing with inappropriate behaviour. We would rather focus on the desired behaviours, with the process as a back-up when other options have been exhausted.

Associations and Schools are to take ownership of your spectators and must educate them on appropriate sideline behaviour and the process that will be adopted. Remember that your spectators are also representing you when attending a basketball event.

BE A GREAT SUPPORTER

Let them play

These are **KIDS**

This is a **GAME**

Coaches are
VOLUNTEERS

Refs are **HUMAN**

**THIS IS NOT
THE NBA**



#LetThemPlay @BasketballNZ www.NZ.basketball

Appendix A – BBNZ Code of Conduct (Page 19-21)**A. Players' Conduct**

1. Players shall conduct themselves in a manner that brings credit to themselves and the game and in particular shall:
 - a. Play according to the letter and intent of the rules and regulations of basketball and of the particular game, competition 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 teammates, 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.
2. Players shall accept refereeing in a game 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.
3. Players shall refrain in a game or competition 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.

B. Coaches' Conduct

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 preventing 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, competitions 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.
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.
3. Coaches shall 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. 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. Given that assistant coaches must normally remain seated on the team bench, assistant coaches shall not assume actions or positions reserved for head coaches.

D. Parents' and Spectators'

1. Parents and Spectators shall:
 - 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 performance 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 as described above; 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.