

# Coaches Code of Conduct\*

- Remember that basketball is for enjoyment. Children choose to play for pleasure and fun, and winning is only part of their motivation. Always make the participants feel welcome whenever they attend training or a match.
- Ensure that activities are well planned, well structured and varied to provide opportunity for individual and team development.
- Be reasonable in your demands on player's time, energy and enthusiasm, taking into account their age, level of play and other commitments such as school and employment.
- Teach understanding and respect for the rules. Do not encourage players to ignore or deliberately break the rules.
- Give all players a reasonable amount of court time. Players cannot improve without the opportunity of a reasonable amount of match practice. Having little or no court time can cause players to suffer from morale problems and they can lose interest in the sport.
- Develop team respect for the ability of opponents including their coaches.
- Instill in your players respect for officials and an acceptance of their judgement. They are there to enforce the rules of the game, but they cannot always be right. Players who consistently dispute decisions or do not accept bad decisions should be singled out for counselling and guidance.
- Guide your players in their interactions with parents and spectators. When there is a distraction or the presence of friends, teach them to maintain concentration.
- Group players according to age, height, skill and physical maturity wherever possible. Uneven competition can lead to loss of enthusiasm.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of the players. Always respect the use of facilities and equipment provided. Facilities will only function properly if kept in good order.
- Be prepared to lose sometimes. Be a fair winner and a good loser. Recognise that in defeat, the loser has achieved something just by playing.
- Act responsibly when players are ill or injured.
- Keep your knowledge current.
- Ensure that any physical contact with a player is appropriate. Avoid personal relationships with players.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person. Avoid remarks that could be construed as offensive or discriminatory.

\* This Code of Conduct has been mirrored on the one developed by Basketball Victoria