

**CODE OF CONDUCT – TEAM OFFICIALS**

*This document is to be used to clearly establish the expected levels of behaviour of all team officials, including coaches, team managers and all individuals involved in the operations of any Basketball Tasmania affiliated team and/or event.*

*Basketball Tasmania’s Codes of Conduct are reinforced by the following core beliefs and values.*

*- To act within the rules and spirit of our sport.*

*- To display respect and courtesy towards everyone involved in our sport and prevent discrimination and harassment.*

*- To prioritise the safety and well-being of all individuals involved in our sport.*

*- To encourage and support opportunities for participation in all aspects of our sport.*

**Our mission:**

* To be a leading, professional and accountable sport, recognised for our state-led and delivered community programs.
* To be a gender equal, all abilities, engaging sport with defined pathways for all.
* To develop competitive, high-quality state and national level players, coaches and officials.

**Our vision:**

* Basketball is the sport of choice for Tasmanians.

**Our culture:**

Basketball Tasmania recognises our people as our greatest asset and commits to a culture of:

**Unity | Integrity | Inclusion | Innovation**

**Unity**: We work together with a shared purpose and vision.

**Integrity**: We’re respectful and professional in our conduct.

**Inclusive**: Sport for everyone, we’re stronger for our diversity.

**Innovation**: We’re improving, learning and driving change.

1. **I will adhere to the Basketball Tasmania team officials dress code including:**
* Wearing team-based polo/t-shirt/hoodie or similar attire whilst coaching.
* Wearing black or team-coloured dress pants/track pants/shorts or skirts whilst coaching.
* Wearing dress shoes or sneakers whilst coaching (thongs or bare feet are prohibited).
* No hats, beanies or sunglasses are to be worn whilst coaching.
1. **I will adhere to the leadership guidelines including:**
* No drinking of coffee, soft drink etc whilst coaching.
* All communications with referees and score bench officials must be in a positive manner.
* Team officials are to thank referees, score bench officials, opposition coaches and players at the conclusion of the game.
* Unsportsmanlike conduct including, but not limited to trash talking and inappropriate gestures, is prohibited.
1. **I will maintain honest and reasonable levels of communication with Basketball Tasmania and all individuals involved within the team.**

Team officials are to ensure that all communications from Basketball Tasmania are responded to in a timely fashion and honest manner.

1. **I will maintain support for both team operations and Basketball Tasmania initiatives.**

Team officials are to show support and be cooperative towards all team operations including, but not limited to Basketball Tasmania policies and procedures. Behaviour which could be interpreted as detrimental to Basketball Tasmania’s performance and/or violates Basketball Tasmania’s beliefs and/or values is prohibited.

1. **I will maintain financial confidentiality**

Discussions regarding personal and/or team financial matters are prohibited on public platforms. This includes, but is not limited to conversations regarding budgets and team costs. These matters are to be handled exclusively by Basketball Tasmania and those individuals directly concerned.

1. **I will endeavour to maintain players enjoyment for basketball**

Ensure that activities are carefully planned, well-structured and varied to encourage both individual and team development. Make sure that all participants are made to feel welcome whenever they attend training, events and/or games.

1. **I will never ridicule athletes for making mistakes and/or losing a competition.**

Encourage players to view errors and mistakes as opportunities to learn. Use constructive criticism that is positive and designed to create interest, involvement and development.

1. **I will be reasonable in my demands.**

When formulating your teams training schedule, give reasonable consideration to demands on athlete’s time, energy and enthusiasm. Where necessary, provide allowances based on age, level of play and/or employment and educational commitments.

1. **I will encourage respect for opponents, including coaches.**

Encourage your athletes to treat their opponents with respect, courtesy and kindness, and to behave in a fashion which promotes good sportsmanship. This includes, but is not limited to shaking hands before and/or after the game, winning graciously and losing gracefully.

1. **I will encourage respect for the officials, including referees, score-table officials and statisticians.**

Athletes and team officials are to display respect and understanding towards officials. Athletes and team officials are to be encouraged to accept wrong calls, be tolerant of human error and supportive of their decisions. Abuse of referees is prohibited. Athletes and team officials who exhibit negative behaviour towards officials may be withdrawn from competition.

1. **I will provide guidance for my athletes when balancing their performance against social media, parental and spectator interactions and expectations.**

Players should be encouraged to prioritise their commitment to the team over interactions with parents and/or spectators. Team officials are to remain conscious of preventing parents and/or spectators from exhibiting too much involvement in team operations.

1. **I will be prepared for any outcome.**

Prepare your players to accept the result, regardless of the outcome. Encourage your players to view winning as a reward for their hard work and commitment, and to view losing as a lesson and a unique opportunity to improve. Be a fair winner and a good loser.

1. **I will satisfy my duty of care towards sick and/or injured athletes.**

Maintain a high level of care towards all athletes, particularly those who are exhibiting symptoms of illness and/or injury. Ensure all policies and procedures surrounding Injury and Medical Reporting are adhered to. Team officials are to follow the advice of medical staff when determining when an injured and/or ill player is ready to recommence play.

1. **I will impart knowledge and skills, as well as promoting desirable personal and social behaviours.**

Use your position as a Team Official to reinforce your influence as a role model/educator. Ensure that you provide positive guidance and a constructive attitude with a focus on providing a beneficial influence on the team.

1. **I will keep my basketball knowledge current.**

Team officials are encouraged to remain educated in elite sport, and to maintain an adequate and contemporary level of skill and knowledge.

1. **I will ensure that any physical contact with a player is appropriate as per Play By The Rules’ Child Safeguarding guidelines**

Physical contact is appropriate if it:

* Is used to assist in skill development
* Is required for the child’s safety
* Occurs with the player’s understanding and permission
* Is for the child’s benefit, not adult gratification
* Occurs in an open environment

Physical contact is inappropriate if it:

* Includes touching the groin, genital area, buttocks, breasts or any part of the body that may cause distress or embarrassment
* Frightens, distresses or embarrasses a child
* Destroys their trust
* Occurs in a private place
1. **I will endeavour to create an inclusive environment for participation and will manage risk.**

Whilst developing a friendship with an athlete can be extremely beneficial in helping to build trust and communication, team officials are encouraged to maintain appropriate boundaries with players. This includes:

* Avoiding intimate relationships with athletes and never with children.
* Being conscious of not allowing relationships with players to develop beyond what is considered “appropriate”.
* Avoid being alone with a child or young person (eg. in changerooms or private)
* Maintaining appropriate physical contact (eg. when demonstrating a skill)
* Avoid transporting players, particularly children and not without parental consent
* Make sure any electronic communication with players is about team matters
* Seek permission when taking images of players, particularly children
1. **I will respect the beliefs and values of everyone involved.**

Team officials are to treat all individuals with respect and equality regardless of gender, ability, culture, religion and/or any other factors. Team officials should be particularly conscious of using offensive and/or discriminatory language.

1. **I will always respect the use of facilities and equipment provided.**

Ensure that team officials and athletes show proper care and respect for all facilities and equipment provided. Athletes are to be discouraged from participating in any behaviour which is dangerous and/or destructive.