



Player Behaviour Policy

Context:

This policy was formed to support Mt Martha Basketball Club (MMBC) coaches and managers in navigating player behaviour and to set an expectation for player and families within our club. We strive to be inclusive of all people, and believe that all players, coaches and managers have the right to feel safe and supported. Behaviour that adversely affects others will not be tolerated.

Consultation:

The policy has been written in consultation with committee members and is in keeping with the code of conduct written by Basketball Victoria.

Values statement:

It is expected that all players will strive to be fair and considerate of their teammates, opponents and their officials (coaches, team managers and referees). They will be inclusive and embrace difference.

Committee Response:

Where a player uses physical, verbal or emotional abuse towards another we suggest that the player have immediate consequences. Tantrums are also not acceptable and should be acted upon immediately. Where poor behaviour is reoccurring Coaches and Team Managers may request support from their MMBC Age Group Coordinator.

Fair Responses to poor behaviour:

At training:

- Make sure that you acknowledge the behaviour. Where appropriate, also let the parent/carer know as soon as possible.
- Listen first. Find out what happened. Start with a validating statement, "You look (sound/seem) angry".
- Let them know it is normal to feel angry but it is never alright to hurt someone.
- Have an angry player sit out and take a moment to calm down.

At a game:

- Where poor behaviour occurs at a game the best response is to remove the player from the court and keep them on the bench for the rest of the half or the game. A coach should never send an angry player onto the court.

Note:

Sport is a great place to learn social norms, so please remember to model respectful and positive behaviour that reinforces expectations of such behaviour within teams. If poor behaviour is left unchecked, it can become the norm. MMBC players need to be respectful to their team mates, opponents and officials at all times, on and off the court.

Conclusion:

Mt Martha Basketball Club (MMBC) supports coaches and managers to guide player behaviour and to set an expectation of respect and fair play for player and families within our club. All players, coaches and managers have the right to feel safe and supported. Behaviour that adversely affects others will not be tolerated.