



The Green Shirt Program

Aim

The aim of the *Green Shirt Program* is to make beginner/inexperienced officials easily recognisable to all players, coaches and spectators with the objective that people will identify these officials are learning and will be tolerant of mistakes.

Basketball ACT has implemented a progressive training programme for our beginner officials. The referees after the completion of a basic officiating course will be taught a number of modules on fouls/violations/timing rules/game administration etc.

To allow the junior referees to learn their craft in a safe non aggressive environment they will stay in their green shirts until they are assessed as a G3. This means they have had at least 2 seasons of refereeing. Having 2 green shirts does not always mean games are controlled by complete beginners but it does mean they are not to be questioned/yelled at by the coaches or spectators.

A small minority of spectators are making it increasingly difficult for the 'yellow shirts' to train the referees because their time is spent monitoring and in some cases having to sit beside the offenders to ensure compliance with the BACT spectators code of conduct.

Background

Most sports have difficulty recruiting, training and retaining officials. Between 1997 and 2001, the number of officials in Australian sport dropped 26%. A recent survey conducted by the Australian Sports Commission identified that harassment; abuse and lack of respect for officials were major causes of the declining number of people officiating. What to do if there is a problem with your game? The first point of contact is the referee's coach, (yellow shirts) there are increased numbers of these

coaches at the stadiums-please get them to observe any problems and have an opportunity to educate the referee without undue pressure. We need to be able to train our juniors in an environment of safety-we want to increase their numbers in order to have elite officials of the future

Green Shirt Program – An initiative to help spectators and coaches recognise that referees wearing a coloured shirt are only learning!

“I’m wearing Green, so please don’t see Red”!

Would you like more information on becoming a referee? Or any questions concerning the programme?

Contact Karin 02 62533066

karin@act.basketball.net.au