

## **Basketball Victoria Country - Zero Tolerance Policy for Team Officials**

The following policy and procedure will be in effect at all games which form part of the Victoria Country Championships or any other sanctioned BVC event.

1. There will be a zero tolerance policy towards any inappropriate or abusive behavior from team officials towards game referees, players, score bench personnel or members of the public
2. Any team official (coach, assistant coach, manager or team staff member) who feels the necessity to:

Ø **Persistently or willfully question or challenge the rulings of the referees**

Ø **Berate or abuse referees**

Ø **Display conduct which is inappropriate in a junior sporting environment**

Should expect to be disqualified from the game in question and be required to leave the court area. This disqualification notification may be issued by the Court Supervisor, Referee Supervisor or any official representing Basketball Victoria Country. Any spectator observing instances of the above behavior should immediately report this behavior to the Court Supervisor or an official representing Basketball Victoria Country. Whether or not technical fouls have been called against any team official or not during the game will have no bearing on the decision to disqualify any team official under this policy

No warnings will be given in the event of the above action becoming necessary and failure to heed the disqualification will result in the team of the disqualified official forfeiting the game in question

In the event that a team official is disqualified during the course of any Championships, that official could be suspended for the remainder of the season. Any appeals against disqualification under this policy should immediately be directed to Basketball Victoria Country

This action has become necessary due to the reported instances of inappropriate and abusive behavior in sanctioned events thus far and our desire to nurture a safe competitive environment for all participants. I would implore any team official who feels that they cannot refrain from the above behavior not to participate in the Championships henceforth. Team officials who would like to offer feedback or request clarification on officiating issues should either speak to a Referee Supervisor at an appropriate time or direct their correspondence to Basketball Victoria Country

The health of our game depends on the nurture and development of game officials. The realistic barometer of the health of any Basketball Association is their capacity to provide well organized and officiated competitions for the communities they service. It is the aim of Basketball Victoria Country to help associations increase this capacity.

Please note that any action taken under this new policy and procedure is entirely separate to any action that may be necessitated by law under Child Protection Legislation or Basketball Victoria Member Protection policy