



Zero Tolerance Policy

Albany Basketball Association Inc. (ABA) has a zero-tolerance approach regarding unsportsmanlike behaviour from players, coaches and spectators for all its competitions and tournaments. All patrons attending our basketball competition are not only representing their team and club, but also the basketball community. Any unsportsmanlike conduct will be dealt with swiftly.

Coaches and Players

The following will be assessed as unsportsmanlike conduct:

- Openly disputes or argues about any decision by a match or scoring official.
- Uses obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to any person at any time.
- Visually displays any sign of dissatisfaction with an Official's decision, in a manner that openly embarrasses the Official and/or challenges their judgement. This includes approaching with the intent of inciting the officials and opposition match personnel.

In all grades from under 14s level and below, coaches are only permitted to ask referees questions in time outs or between quarters/halves. Warnings will not be given at these levels for breaches of the above, technical fouls will be issued immediately by the referees. ABA Committee Members will be present to monitor coaches and players behaviours at all grades from under 14s level and intervene with junior referees where needed if a coach or player is acting in an unsportsmanlike manner.

Spectators

Officials will stop the game when parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behaviour, interfere with other spectators or participants of the game. The officials will identify violators to ABA Committee Member/s for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the spectators viewing and game area. Once removed, play will resume. Lost time will not be replaced. The inappropriate and disruptive behaviour shall include and is not limited to:

- Using obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to any person at any time.
- Taunting players, coaches, officials or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threatening physical violence or physical violence.
- Throwing any object onto playing court or vicinity of playing court, or physically interfering with on court proceedings.

Any violators will be escorted from the facility and not allowed to return until the next day. Players or coaching staff under that age of 18 will be escorted from the playing area into the reception area if a parent or guardian not present.



Officials

Officials must apply these guidelines in a realistic manner and must be careful not to get overly technical in their enforcement. This policy is designed to eliminate direct confrontations with Officials while still allowing players and coaches an avenue to communicate in a calm, respectful and reasonable manner.

Officials are required to conduct themselves in a professional, sportsmanlike and non vindictive manner at all times. The actions of an Official must be above reproach. Actions such as “baiting” or inciting players or coaches are strictly prohibited.

ABA urges all players, coaches and spectators to participate competitively and in high spirit, but to remember that the competitive nature of basketball is not an excuse to throw away the respect that the game and its participants deserve.

Albany Basketball Association Inc.
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