



**BOARD OPERATIONS AND
PROCEDURES MANUAL**

FAIR PLAY POLICY

Adopted 2005

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY?

This Policy outlines the standards of behaviour that BBNZ and The Southland Basketball Association considers are in the best interests of the game of basketball and should be adhered to by all participants of basketball who come under the jurisdiction of BBNZ and The Southland Basketball Association.

Failure to comply with the standards outlined below is an offence and is subject to Judicial Committee proceedings.

PLAYERS

1. Players shall conduct themselves in a manner which brings credit to themselves and the game:
 - a) Play according to the letter and intent of the rules and regulations of basketball and of the particular game, tournament or league in which you are participating.
 - b) Play in a spirit of competitive sportsmanship accepting the official's decisions without dissent.
 - c) Control your behaviour on and off the court and refrain from any violent or abusive actions and language.
 - d) Co-operate fully with your coach and team mates, remembering that you are participating in a team sport.
 - e) Respect your opponents and do not participate in any baiting, verbal abuse or intimidating activities.
 - f) Be humble in victory and gracious in defeat.

2. Players shall accept refereeing decisions with good grace:
 - a) Questioning referees shall only be by the captain and in accordance with the provisions of FIBA Rules or Rules pertaining to local competitions.
 - b) Court captains (or coaches) are to ask questions in a courteous and reasonable manner.
 - c) Action contrary to this is will be penalised immediately, initially with a warning.

3. Players should refrain from:
 - a) Continually following officials to question decisions.
 - b) Dissenting with decisions, either with words or body language.
 - c) Gesturing with waves of arms, indecent body language, facial expressions, etc.
 - d) “Mouthing off” when officials turn their backs or the player turns away from the official.
 - e) Using rude, offensive and threatening language.

It is not the intention of these instructions to prevent courteous and proper player and coach exchanges with the referees, or to discourage preventative officiating such as a ‘quiet word on the run’. However, in instances when the acceptable behaviour has clearly ceased, penalties will be invoked.

COACHES

1. Coaches shall conduct themselves in a manner that reinforces their place as leaders and role models, and encourages positive communication between themselves and players, referees, administrators and the general public:
 - a) Perform your coaching duties on the basis of careful preparation.
 - b) Ensure that your instruction is current, accurate and appropriate, and that it is based on practices for which you are qualified with acquired knowledge and skills.
 - c) Remember you have a primary concern for the health, safety and personal welfare of your players and so should take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse.
 - d) Treat all persons with dignity and respect so providing a model of fair play and sportsmanship.
 - e) Observe the letter and intent of the rules and regulations of basketball, and of the particular game, tournaments or league in which you are participating, and insist that players and teams under your direction do likewise.
 - f) Remember that you have undertaken the responsibility of assisting your players to acquire the necessary knowledge and skills of basketball to achieve their potential, as well as promoting desirable personal traits in them.
2. Coaches shall accept refereeing decisions with good grace:
 - a) Questioning referees shall only be by the captain and in accordance with the provisions of FIBA Rules or Rules pertaining to local competitions.
 - b) Coaches [or court captains] are to ask questions in a courteous and reasonable manner.
 - c) Action contrary to this is will be penalised immediately, initially with a warning.

3. Coaches should refrain from:
 - a) Continually questioning decisions.
 - b) Dissenting with decisions, whether by words or body language.
 - c) Gesturing with waves of arms, indecent body language, facial expressions, etc.
 - d) Using rude, offensive and threatening language.
4. Head coaches shall refrain from encroaching onto the playing floor or moving out of the coach's box too often.
5. Assistant coaches shall refrain from attempting to assume actions reserved for head coaches, given that assistant coaches must normally remain seated on the team bench.

It is not the intention of these instructions to prevent courteous and proper player and coach exchanges with the referees or to discourage preventative officiating such as a 'quiet word on the run'. However, in instances when the acceptable behaviour has clearly ceased, penalties will be invoked.

REFEREES AND OFFICIALS

1. Referees and officials (including score bench personnel) have an important role in ensuring that acceptable behaviour is displayed, by all participants, on the court at all times:
 - a) Be mentally and physically prepared for the entire game or event;
 - b) Maintain complete neutrality at all times
 - c) Accept your role as a communicator and role model for fair play.
 - d) Accept your role as a member of the "officials team," embrace team work, co-operate with and assist fellow officials, scorebench personnel and others associated with the game or event.
 - e) Ensure that all players have a fair and reasonable opportunity to perform to the best of their ability, within the rules and regulations of basketball and the particular game or event.
 - f) Conduct yourself in a professional manner both on and off the court.
 - g) Attend organised functions as a representative of referees and officials.
 - h) Remain open to constructive criticism and suggestions from the Technical Committee, or delegated authority, showing respect and consideration to those offering assistance.

PARENTS AND SPECTATORS

1. Remember that although the basketball at the event may, or may not, be at an elite level, it is still sport and often junior sport, to be enjoyed by all participants.
2. Respect all participating players and officials as you would respect your own children and friends, and applaud good performances by all participants.
3. Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul or abusive language or actions, and by not harassing players, coaches, officials or other spectators.
4. Remember that destructive criticism has no place in basketball and especially in junior basketball. It is very hurtful to the recipient and, ultimately, reflects very poorly on basketball.