

Basketball Victoria Country – Zero Tolerance Policy for Parents and Spectators

To ensure a safe and enjoyable playing environment for all players and participants, Basketball Victoria Country have in place a Zero Tolerance Policy for inappropriate behaviour for Parents and Spectators.

This policy will supplement the current policy applied to coaches and team officials. The Policy will ensure that:

1. There will be a zero tolerance shown towards any inappropriate or abusive behaviour from parents and spectators
2. Any parent/guardian and/or spectator who feels the necessity to:
 - ⌚ **Persistently or wilfully question or challenge the rulings of the referees**
 - ⌚ **Berate or abuse referees**
 - ⌚ **Berate or abuse players**
 - ⌚ **Berate or abuse other parents or spectators**
 - ⌚ **Display conduct which is inappropriate in a sporting environment**

Will be asked to leave the venue immediately. Failure to leave when requested will result in the BVC representative taking appropriate action to safeguard the safety of players, spectators and parents. No warnings need be given in the event of the above action becoming necessary. A parent/spectator who has been requested to leave an event may be suspended directly or required to attend a hearing. It should be noted that any repeated inappropriate behaviour by a parent may have an impact on the playing future of their child.

All spectators and parents have to accept responsibility for their behaviour.

Any appeals against disqualification under this policy should immediately be directed to Basketball Victoria Country - Attention: Events and Community Programs

This action has become necessary due to the reported instances of inappropriate and abusive behaviour at events conducted by or on behalf of Basketball Victoria Country and our desire to nurture a safe competitive environment for all participants. BVC implores any parents or spectators who feel that they cannot refrain from the above behaviour not to attend. Parents/spectators/organisations who would like to offer feedback or request clarification on officiating issues should direct their feedback through their coach/organisation.

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

This policy is not aimed at stifling or diminishing healthy supportive cheering or the ability of all spectators and parents to enjoy the spectacle of junior sport.

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 the Child Protection Legislation or Basketball Victoria's Member Protection policy.