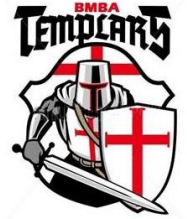




BMBA



BMBA COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Provide a proper balance between enjoyment and competitiveness.

The toughest balancing act for coaches is to achieve a balance between ensuring an enjoyment for the game is embraced as much as a desire for competitiveness. Winning is only part of their motivation. Always make sure that participants are made to feel welcome whenever they attend for training or a match.

Ensure that activities are carefully planned, well structured and varied to provide opportunities for individual and team development. Be willing to depart from the plan to take advantage of an unexpectedly high interest in a particular activity.

Never chastise players unnecessarily for making mistakes or losing a competition. See errors or losses as an opportunity to learn in a constructive way.

2. Be reasonable in your demands.

In scheduling training and playing times and days, be reasonable in your demands on players' time, energy and enthusiasm, taking into account their age, level of play and other commitments such as school and employment.

Young children are likely to have more time but short attention spans. They may have plenty of energy but are likely to need more guidance on how best to look after their bodies. The differences in physical and mental maturity can be quite marked in younger children of the same age group. All these factors need to be considered in coaching young children.

Older children have greater demands from their studies and many of them need to work to assist their schooling. They also have many social demands. Try to assist them in achieving a good balance between the

various demands on them.

Adults should in most cases be capable of making their own decisions on priority between basketball and other demands such as work, family and social engagements. Respect those decisions.

3. Teach understanding and respect for the rules.

Teach your players that understanding and playing by the rules is their own responsibility and that the rules exist for the safety, proper order and enjoyment of all people involved in basketball. The lessons to be learned in this respect in basketball are lessons that can and should be carried over into all aspects of their lives. Do not encourage players to ignore or deliberately break any rules.

4. Give all players a reasonable amount of court time.

All players need and deserve reasonable court time. Players cannot improve without the opportunity of a reasonable amount of match practice. Having no or little time in court can cause players to suffer from morale problems and they can lose interest in the sport altogether.

Where you may find players in this position, both the player and their parents need to be explained about this in full and provided with alternatives where possible. If they choose as their preference the option with less court time, at least they have been provided with the opportunity to make an informed choice.

5. Develop respect for all participants.

Part of participation in sport is respect for all participants in the game. Encourage your players to respect their opponents and match officials. This include, accepting winning and losing gracefully. Ensure all players shake hands with the opposition and match officials at the conclusion of every match.

6. Instil in your players respect for officials and an acceptance of their judgement.

Players should be taught to understand that officials have a very difficult task to perform and that without them games could not be played. They are there to enforce the rules of play but they cannot always be right.

Teach your players to accept bad calls graciously. Abuse of referees is unacceptable behaviour that should not be tolerated.

7. Guide your players in their interaction with their parents expectations.

Parents sometimes make demands on their children's time which interferes in their basketball activities. Respect this and try to structure your coaching and their training and playing times and obligations to take those demands into account..

8. Group players according to age, height, skills and physical maturity, whenever possible.

Coaches should always try and group players of reasonably equal ability. In coaching children it is important to remember the different maturity rates for children of the same age. A player in their early teenage years may be the tallest in their team and yet because they have matured early, be one of the shorter players in only a brief time. Coaches must be ever vigilant to ensure that all players are given opportunities to develop their skills in all areas and resist the temptation to pigeonhole players into certain roles too early.

9. Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of the players.

In our increasingly litigious and accountable society, all those involved in sport have a responsibility to take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety and well being of participants. Coaches are in a unique position to control many of the factors which can have an effect on this welfare. Coaches should be aware of the dangers factors such as heat and dehydration, wet floors and other potentially hazardous environmental situations can cause. A coach has a responsibility to avoid putting players into dangerous conditions.

10. Be prepared to lose sometimes.

Everyone wins and loses at some time. Be a fair winner and a good loser. Disappointment at losing is natural, but it should not be obvious to the

point of being unpleasant for others. Just as unpleasant can be the boastful winner. Recognise that even in defeat, the loser has achieved something, just by playing. Not everything in life can be a winning situation. Losing can be an important learning experience for your wider life goals. Guide your players to accept a loss in this spirit.

11. Act responsibly when players are ill or injured.

Show concern and take responsibility for players who are sick or injured whilst under your care. Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured or ill player is ready to recommence play. If a player is injured on court, make sure that there is no danger of further aggravation of the injury by prompt removal of the player if this is appropriate. Qualify yourself to administer first aid so that you can recognise the seriousness of an injury or illness and act accordingly.

12. As well as imparting knowledge and skills, promote desirable personal and social behaviours.

Be aware of the role of the coach as an educator and mentor. Particularly with young people, the way they perform in their lives is influenced by many factors.

An important influence is the person they see as a role model. Coaches often take on the part of role model for many young people. It is therefore important to ensure that the influence from coaches is seen in a positive light. What you say and how you act can be most important in modelling the behaviour of players.

13. Keep your knowledge current.

Seek to keep abreast of changes in sport. Ensure that the information used is up to date, appropriate to the needs of players and takes into account the principles of growth and development of children. Players cannot learn from you if your skills and knowledge are inadequate.

14. Ensure that any physical contact with a player is appropriate.

Physical contact between a coach and a player except that which would be considered usual social contact such as the shaking of a hand or a “high five” should be rare. Gestures which can be well meaning, or even

considered by some to be acceptable, may be unacceptable to others. Sometimes physical contact can be misinterpreted as sexual harassment or even molestation. Particular care needs to be taken in coaching children. Ensure that if there is physical contact with a player that it is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.

15. Avoid personal relationships with players.

Personal relationships with players can often be misinterpreted as something sinister. Friendship with players is essential to building trust between a coach and players. However, the power imbalance in a coaching situation can make it unwise for a relationship to develop beyond friendship. Particular care must be taken when coaching children.

16. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person.

Regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, religion or other Factor is irrelevant to the game, all persons connected with basketball are entitled to equal treatment and respect. Avoid any remarks that could be construed as offensive or discriminatory. Using discretion is imperative and it is better to err on the side of caution.

17. Always respect the use of facilities and equipment provided.

Facilities and equipment cost money and will only function properly if kept in good order. Ensure that you and your players do not abuse anything provided for use. Discourage players from hanging off hoops or "slam dunking". Quite properly, these practices are banned in most venues. Not only can equipment be damaged but serious injury can occur.

18. Ensure the BMBA basketball program is implemented in full.

The BMBA implements an extensive basketball program. Just as we expect our players to perform as a team, we expect the same from our coaches. Every coach will be given clear training plans and programs to adhere to along with development goals and offensive and defensive structures to implement. This ensures all BMBA participants and players are provided with and a planned and progressive development program designed to properly improve their basketball skills and knowledge.

In doing so as players and coaches change teams and move through the age groups their progress and development should be built upon in every step of their basketball journey.

19. Ensure the BMBA Templars Code is abided by and implemented in full.

At the BMBA mentoring young people is just as important as building better basketballers. In this respect we expect every coach to know and implement our BMBA Templar code. Our values and ethics in the way we behave both on and off the court is what will define us and our coaches play an important role in implementing this to our participants and players.