



# 2015 QBL CODES OF CONDUCT

### General

The purpose of this document is to provide a guideline as to the standards of conduct expected by the QBL and Basketball Queensland by the members in all aspects of the game.

The QBL is an elite development basketball competition in Australia and enjoy a privileged status and profile and with that go the responsibility of being the standard bearers by which the sport is judged. As such, players, coaches, and club administrators who share in the status and profile of the sport have a responsibility to conduct themselves both on and off the court and in a manner that will not lessen the high regard in which the sport, the QBL and Basketball Queensland is held by the public. To this end the following represent ethical codes which all QBL clubs should adhere to:

- Avoid unaccompanied and unobserved activities with persons under 18 years of age, wherever possible.
- Be a positive role model.
- Be aware of, and maintain an uncompromising adherence to, Basketball Queensland's standards, rules, regulations and policies.
- Be fair, considerate and honest in all dealing with others.
- Be professional in, and accept responsibility for, your actions.
- Demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility especially when dealing with persons under 18 years of age, as your words and actions are an example.
- Do not use your involvement with Basketball Queensland, a member association or an affiliated club to promote your own beliefs, behaviours or practices where these are inconsistent with those of Basketball Queensland, a member association or an affiliated club.
- Engaging in negative or destructive discussions or postings on social media about players, coaches, spectators, officials, administrators or other basketball participants, that may be viewed as abusive, harassing or offensive in nature is not condoned.
- Gambling on the outcome of league games by players, referees, and coaches can have dangerous implications for the sport and is prohibited.
- Operate within the rules of the sport including national and international guidelines which govern Basketball Queensland, the member associations and the affiliated clubs.
- Physical and verbal abuse or sledging of other participants or deliberately distracting or provoking other participants are not acceptable or permitted behaviours.
- Provide a safe environment for the conduct of the basketball activities.
- Public comment that is prejudicial to the best interests of the sport and the leagues is not condoned.
- Refrain from any behaviour that may bring the sport of basketball, QBL, Basketball Queensland, a member association or an affiliated club into disrepute.
- Refrain from any form of harassment of others.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others
- Show concern and caution towards others who may be sick or injured.
- Standards of public conduct both on and off the court should not be offensive to the general sensibility of the average Australian family.
- The use of illicit drugs or drugs to enhance performance is prohibited.
- Understand the repercussions if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of, this code of behaviour.
- Violence has no part in the sport of basketball and will always, at all times remain unacceptable.

### **Administrators**

The QBL is a competition that is conducted in a professional manner. In the best interests of all involved, it is most important that all our administrators adopt a professional approach and ensure that they have adequate back-up in case of emergencies. Part of that efficiency is the maintenance of good lines of communication.

- Give a code of behaviour sheet to spectators, officials, parents, coaches, players and the media, and encourage them to follow it.
- Help coaches and officials highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development, and help improve the standards of coaching and officiating.
- Make it clear that abusing people in any way is unacceptable and will result in disciplinary action or removal from the venue.
- Provide quality supervision and instruction for players.
- Refrain from engaging in negative or destructive discussion or postings on social media about players, coaches, spectators, officials, administrators or other basketball participants, that may be viewed as abusive, harassing or offensive in nature
- Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion

### **Spectators**

Spectators pay for the privilege of watching sports events and it is hoped they will enjoy the experience. Certainly they should cheer and support the team of their choice as enthusiastically as they can. They should not denigrate the other team or referees, or spoil the event for other spectators. If any spectator brings the game into disrepute or behaves in a manner outside the codes of conduct the Court Official is required to act to remedy the situation immediately even to the point of requiring the offending party to leave the stadium.

Spectators should ensure that their refuse is placed in a bin and not just left on the floor to be either a danger to someone else or an eyesore and a health hazard. Host members should ensure sufficient bins are available and that they encourage their use by the spectators.

- Applaud good performance and efforts from each team.
- Condemn the use of violence in any form be it by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
- Congratulate all participants upon their performance regardless of the games outcome.
- Do not use foul language or harass players, coaches or officials
- Encourage players to follow the rules and the officials decisions.
- Never ridicule or scold a person for making a mistake.
- Physical and verbal abuse or sledging of other participants or deliberately distracting or provoking other participants are not acceptable or permitted behaviours.
- Refrain from engaging in negative or destructive discussion or postings on social media about players, coaches, spectators, officials, administrators or other basketball participants, that may be viewed as abusive, harassing or offensive in nature
- Refrain from any form of harassment of others.
- Refrain from any behaviour that may bring the sport of basketball, QBL, Basketball Queensland, a member association or an affiliated club into disrepute.
- Respect officials' decisions.
- Violence has no part in the sport of basketball and will always, at all times remain unacceptable.

### Referees

The referees are a vital and integral part of the game and it is important that they be involved in all that is happening in the League. This is a two-way affair and not just a task for the referees.

Host officials should ensure that the referees are invited to the after game function and the referees should make the effort to attend. Communication between all game participants can be most beneficial to all concerned.

Just as the players strive to perform to their best and beyond, so too should the referees, their performance should demonstrate the highest standards of honesty, integrity and maturity under the pressure of the game and be neutral at all times. During the game the referees should not become involved with the spectators over any interpretations. Where and if a problem arises with any spectator it is a matter the referee should place in the hands of the Game Commissioner.

- Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.
- Be a good sport yourself. Actions speak louder than words.
- Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- Emphasise the spirit of the game rather than the errors.
- Encourage and promote rule changes which will make participation more enjoyable.
- Give all people a 'fair go' regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Keep up to date with the latest trends in officiating and the principles of growth and development of young people.
- Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- Refrain from engaging in negative or destructive discussion or postings on social media about players, coaches, spectators, officials, administrators or other basketball participants, that may be viewed as abusive, harassing or offensive in nature
- Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.

### Scorers

The members of the score table are an extension of the referee's involvement in the game. Scorers should be neutral in the performance of their assigned tasks and should be attentive so as to accurately time and record the results of the game.

- Be a good sport yourself. Actions speak louder than words.
- Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.
- Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- Keep up to date with the latest trends principles of the sport.
- Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- Refrain from engaging in negative or destructive discussion or postings on social media about players, coaches, spectators, officials, administrators or other basketball participants, that may be viewed as abusive, harassing or offensive in nature
- Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.

### **Statisticians**

Statisticians should be neutral in the performance of their assigned tasks and should be attentive so as to accurately time and record the results of the game.

- Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.
- Be a good sport yourself. Actions speak louder than words.
- Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- Keep up to date with the latest trends principles of the sport.
- Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- Refrain from engaging in negative or destructive discussion or postings on social media about players, coaches, spectators, officials, administrators or other basketball participants, that may be viewed as abusive, harassing or offensive in nature
- Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.

### **Executive Officers**

The elected officers of the League have offered their services for the promotion of the league and Australian Basketball. They have a job to do which often has its pleasurable rewards but sometimes these are tasks to be done which are quite onerous and may even be quite unpleasant for them and maybe some of our members. Co-operation and understanding on both sides on such occasions will resolve most problems for the betterment of all.

- Give a code of behaviour sheet to spectators, officials, parents, coaches, players and the media, and encourage them to follow it.
- Make it clear that abusing people in any way is unacceptable and will result in disciplinary action or removal from the venue.
- Provide quality supervision and instruction for players and spectators
- Refrain from engaging in negative or destructive discussion or postings on social media about players, coaches, spectators, officials, administrators or other basketball participants, that may be viewed as abusive, harassing or offensive in nature
- Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion

### **Media Representatives**

The League very much appreciates the efforts of journalists, reporters and other media representatives who portray the sport in an informative unbiased factual mode. Indeed, such responsible reporting is well worth everyone's attention.

Co-operation with media representatives can have a dramatic influence on the way our sport is seen in the eyes of the public. There is a responsibility on all members to provide information and facts from the appropriate source, just as there is a responsibility of good reporting to present the story in its correct context without selective omissions or partial quotes.

Consult your local media representatives/journalist in regard to their requirements/deadlines.

Media should refrain from engaging in negative or destructive discussions or postings on social media about players, coaches, spectators, officials, administrators or other basketball participants, that may be viewed as abusive, harassing or offensive in nature.

## Players

The Players through their playing ability and personality are the stars of the League and principally determine the Leagues supporter and revenue base. Their conduct on and off the court is of paramount importance to their team and the League as a whole, and should be a model for others to follow.

- Be a good sport.
- Competition in the true spirit of sportsmanship.
- Control your temper. Verbal or physical abuse of officials and sledging other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviours in any sport.
- Cooperate with your coach, team-mates and opponents.
- Loyalty to their team, coach, and management.
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the competition.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents, friends and coaches.
- Play by the rules
- Refrain from engaging in negative or destructive discussion or postings on social media about players, coaches, spectators, officials, administrators or other basketball participants, that may be viewed as abusive, harassing or offensive in nature
- Respect and consideration for the League, opponents, and referees.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Treat all participants in your sport as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor.
- Whilst representing the team Players should always be attired in a professional manner. (I.e. Team or walk out uniform)
- Willingness to participate in media and promotional activities.
- Work equally hard for yourself and/or your team. Your team's performance will benefit, so will you.
- Publicly criticizing the league and its officials
- Any other actions, which may bring the League into disrepute.

### **Prior to a game players are expected to:-**

- Comply with home Teams pre-game presentation requirements/procedures.
- Stand and show respect during the playing of the National Anthem.

### **During a game players should:-**

- Allow themselves to be represented by the coach and/or court captain on issues with referees.
- Refrain from otherwise disputing or frivolously questioning decisions.
- Refrain from gesturing with facial expressions, rude gestures, mimicking or indecent body language.
- Refrain from swearing, using foul language or derogatory remarks.
- Refrain from "baiting or intimidating" other players.
- At all times use a courteous, reasonable manner when dealing with referees or Scoretable officials.
- Expect to be penalised with a technical foul for violation of the above principles.

### **After the game:-**

- Players must attend the After Match Function unless prior notice to club is given at least 24 hours.

## Coaches

Coaches have a great responsibility with the League as the architects of play, and as mature and responsible participants and representatives of the league.

- A high standard of honesty and integrity, providing a model of fair play and sportsmanship.
- Any physical contact with a young person should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.
- Be a good sport.
- Be reasonable in your demands on players' time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Competition in the true spirit of sportsmanship.
- Control your temper. Verbal or physical abuse of officials and sledging other coaches & players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviours in any sport.
- Cooperate with your fellow coach, players, opponents and officials.
- Display control, respect and professionalism to all involved with the sport. This includes opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators. Encourage your players to do the same.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all players.
- Honouring a professional relationship with players, colleagues, official media, and the public, avoiding conflict of interest and exploitation of those relationships.
- Loyalty to their team, fellow coaches, and management.
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your captain, head coach approach the official during a break or after the competition.
- Never ridicule or yell at a young player for making a mistake or not coming first.
- Observe the letter and intent of the rules of the sport and insists that players and teams under their direction do the same.
- Obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of young people.
- Operate within the rules and spirit of your sport and teach your players to do the same.
- Play by the rules
- Publicly criticizing the league and its officials
- Any other actions, which may bring the League into disrepute.
- Refrain from engaging in negative or destructive discussion or postings on social media about players, coaches, spectators, officials, administrators or other basketball participants, that may be viewed as abusive, harassing or offensive in nature
- Respect and consideration for the League, opponents, and referees.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person.
- Show concern and caution toward sick and injured players. Follow the advice of a physician when determining whether an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.
- Treat all participants in your sport as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor.
- Whilst representing the team Coaches should always be attired in a professional manner. (I.e. Neat Casual attire).
- Willingness to participate in media and promotional activities.
- Work equally hard for yourself and/or your team. Your team's performance will benefit, so will you.

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### **Prior to a game coaches are expected to:-**

- Comply with home Teams pre-game presentation requirements/procedures.
- Stand and show respect during the playing of the National Anthem.

### **During a game coaches should:-**

- Take responsibility for the conduct of their team and assistants.
- At all times use a courteous, reasonable manner when dealing with referees or Scoretable officials.
- Refrain from frivolously disputing or questioning decisions.
- Refrain from gesturing with facial expressions, rude gestures, mimicking, or indecent body language.
- Refrain from swearing, using foul language or derogatory remarks, although it is realised that expletives will occur in the heat of the moment.
- Remain within their designated team bench area.
- Expect to be warned and/or penalised with a technical foul for violation of the above.

### **After the game:-**

- Coaches must attend the After Match Function unless prior notice to club is given at least 24 hours.

**Dress Code Standards** As a minimum coaching staff including managers are to adhere to the following dress code (as the League is a winter competition no downgrading is permitted for day time games) - All coaching staff including managers shall wear a team shirt, polo and in approved circumstances a dress shirt with tie. Team shirts and polo's should all be identical unless approval has been given by the league administrator. Male staff will wear long belted trousers with enclosed footwear, however, must not be joggers. Female staff are permitted a skirt. The team physio / doctor may wear the team tracksuit The wearing of denim jeans, shorts, joggers, thongs and non-team t-shirts are not permitted for any coaches or managers. At after game functions players should wear the appropriate Team polo or club shirt.



### **Court Announcers**

Announcers should provide information and create or encourage an atmosphere of enthusiasm and enjoyment for the game at hand. There should be no criticism emanating from the microphone. Further all commentary should be made from an unbiased view. Remember that the opposition or visiting team members are the guests of the home team and should always be treated as such; this is one of the cornerstones of the League's formation.

Any proven breach by the home teams court announcer will result in an automatic \$500.00 fine.

The announcer is seen by all spectators and participants as being representatives of the host body and therefore great care should be taken to ensure that a first class performance creates a good image which will have the spectators wanting to come back again. It is very easy for an announcer to spoil the show by criticizing the referees or players even by the tone of his or her voice.

The announcer has a very important role to play in the presentation of our League. An interested and informed audience should be the aim. The announcer should be courtside commentating and most definitely not participating in any way in the outcome of the game.

### **Objectives**

- To introduce teams/players to the spectators
- To play the National Anthem prior to each game.
- To provide information relative to the state of the game that may not be readily available to spectators.
- To promote sponsors at appropriate times.
- To recognise official guests to the audience.
- To provide a limited commentary on the game (as detailed below)

### **Guidelines**

- The court announcer is an official of the game and as such visiting teams should be treated in an equal way. Neutrality extends to how something is said, not necessarily what is said. It is reasonable for the announcer to use more enthusiasm in his tone in relaying positive information about the home team in comparison to similar information on the visiting team.
- There should be no commentary while a team (either team) has possession of the ball in play in their offensive half (front court), not after a player has had the ball placed at their disposal while shooting free throws.
- Comments that take longer to make, during the course of play, than the time it takes a team to progress to the halfway point of the court is too long!
- In game commentary should be limited to providing the following information at appropriate times.
  - i) Scoring – who scored. Three pointer, accumulative individual total. An occasional mention of assists may be appropriate.
  - ii) Foul – who fouled. Number of fouls – individual and team. Who is shooting free throws and how many (if required).
  - iii) NOTE: the referee's call should not be pre-empted in anyway. The announcer must wait for the referees decision and signal – don't guess. Incorrect information can create confusion and embarrassment to all.
  - iv) Violation – name the violation not the player violating.
  - v) Time Out – which team called it and how many they have had?
  - vi) Rebounds, Blocks and Steals can be mentioned if required and appropriate but who made turnovers is generally not appropriate for comment.

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- Time Remaining – At no time should there be any comment from the court announcer relative to the amount of time remaining on the game clock or in specific the shot clock.
- Music and/or sound effects maybe be played while the ball is in play provided they are not distracting to the teams and referees or derogatory. Music and/or sound effects may not be made while any player is attempting free throws.
- The court announcer is not a cheerleader, barracker, noise generator, or game critique. The principle duties are to pass information to the crowd not incite it. Modifiers, which imply critical analysis, should be avoided (e.g. nice try, great block, super shot etc) as an editorial description. Any comment reflecting on the performance of the referees, either positive or negative, is not allowed. Critical remarks of any type towards players or coaches are not acceptable (including pre taped comments played on the PA system).
- The Court Announcer has the duty of the pre-game introduction of teams and individual players from each side onto the floor, playing the National Anthem. The timing and program of these introductions may vary from venue to venue.
- Recognition of League sponsors and guests are a part of the court announcer’s duties. These announcements should be limited to pre game, time out and quarter/half time breaks. The court announcer will be obligated to acknowledge the League Naming Rights Sponsor (if any) according to the requirements of the respective leagues.
- Other Game Results.
- It would be informative and of interest to all spectators, that results from previous games on the current weekend be announced over the PA system at appropriate times during 1st game (e.g. half time). Results of Friday’s games can be announced at Saturday games. Results of Friday and Saturday games can be announced at Sunday games.

Court Announcers should refrain from engaging in negative or destructive discussions or postings on social media about players, coaches, spectators, officials, administrators or other basketball participants, that may be viewed as abusive, harassing or offensive in nature.