



### Rationale

The overall philosophy of Basketball Victoria is that the sport of basketball is intended to be a recreational activity for enjoyment and health.

The Bulleen Templestowe Basketball Club adheres closely to the Codes of Conduct as well as the Member Protection By Laws from Basketball Victoria that apply to all participants in the sport. These documents are available on the Basketball Victoria Web site at:

<http://www.basketballvictoria.com.au/index.php?id=87>

All participants involved in basketball at Bulleen must understand clearly that unacceptable behaviour of any kind will not be tolerated at any time within our stadiums and there are severe consequences for these behaviours.

The Club has developed a Policy in regard to Responsibility for Game Control that describes the actions to be taken by game and venue officials during the conduct of games. This document is a complementary policy that describes more broadly the expectations of behaviour for all participants.

### Definition

Behaviour means the conduct of an individual, both in verbal and physical presentation, at all times and in all stadiums within which the Club conducts or participates in competitions.

### Guidelines

1. All participants (players, coaches, officials, parents and spectators) are expected to behave in accordance with the Basketball Victoria Codes of Conduct as well as the Member Protection By Laws
2. In particular, the Club will not condone in any form
  - a. Verbal abuse using foul language
  - b. Threatening language or physical gestures
  - c. Verbal vilification or defamation
  - d. Any form of bullying or harassment
  - e. Any form of unwanted physical contact
3. These expectations for behaviour apply to all levels of competition within the Club, with no exceptions
4. While it is recognised that at times basketball can be an emotional game, all participants both on and off the court are expected to be able to control their behaviours so that all participants feel safe

5. On the court, any form of strong verbal abuse or physical contact between players outside of the normal course of the game will be subject to a referees report and will be dealt with by the Club Tribunal
6. Off the court, any form of strong verbal abuse or physical contact between any participants will be considered in direct breach of the Basketball Victoria Member Protection By Law and will be dealt with severely by the Club – penalties range from a temporary ban from Club stadiums through to permanent exclusion from the Club in extreme circumstances
7. Parents and spectators should understand that any time they are in a stadium or on Club premises, they may be subject to a complaint or report about their behaviour from any other participant at the venue, not just game referees
8. Players should understand that if they are excluded from a game by a referee due to unacceptable on court behaviour, there may be additional consequences imposed by the Club such as being suspended from their team for a period of time
9. Players should understand that unacceptable behaviour such as bullying, harassment or verbal abuse of any participant in the sport where that comes to the Club's attention (even if not within a stadium) may result in disciplinary action
10. Parents and players should clearly understand that in these days of electronic communication, unacceptable behaviour in terms of bullying and harassment can equally result from mobile phone text messaging or online messaging through MSN, Facebook or any other Internet based services
11. Parents should clearly understand that their behaviours may result in their children as well as themselves being excluded from the Club
12. Parents should also understand that behaviours such as extreme verbal abuse or physical assault will also result in them being reported to the Basketball Victoria Tribunal, which may in turn result in them being banned from all basketball stadiums in Australia
13. While parental behaviour resulting in a consequence for their child may seem unfair, the Club strongly believes that protection of all participants is paramount and parents need to be accountable for their own actions
14. While general behavioural issues may be dealt with under the Club's Complaints and Grievances policy using an appropriate process to assess evidence, in the case of extreme behaviour with immediate witnesses the Club Manager is authorised by the Committee of Management to take immediate action in the interests of protecting the Club's obligations under Basketball Victoria's policies and Member Protection by laws

## **Evaluation**

This policy will be evaluated every 3 years as part of the Club's policy review cycle.

## **Adoption**

Date approved by the Committee of Management (CoM): 19<sup>th</sup> August 2010