



MARGARET RIVER BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

ABN 52 766 463 871

Zero Tolerance Policy

In accordance with BWA guidelines, Margaret River Basketball Association (MRBA) adopts a zero-tolerance approach regarding unsportsmanlike behaviour from players, coaches and spectators for all its competitions and tournaments. All patrons entering our basketball venues are not only representing their team and club, but also the basketball community.

Any unsportsmanlike conduct will be dealt with swiftly:

Coaches and Players

The following will be assessed as unsportsmanlike conduct:

- a) Openly disputes or argues about any decision by a match or scoring official.
- b) Uses obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
- c) Visually displays any sign of dissatisfaction with an Official's decision, in a manner that openly embarrasses the Official and/or challenges their judgment. This includes approaching with the intent of inciting the officials and opposition match personnel.

In all domestic grades, coaches are only permitted to ask referees questions in time outs or between periods. Warnings will not be given at these levels for breaches of the above, and technical fouls can be issued immediately by the referees. MRBA Committee members and Court Managers may be present to monitor coaches and players behaviours and intervene with junior referees where needed if a coach or player is acting in an unsportsmanlike manner.

Spectators

Officials will stop the game if parents/spectators are displaying inappropriate and disruptive behaviour, interfering with other spectators or participants of the game. This includes undermining the role of the volunteer coach – game instructions to players should only come from the team coach.

The officials will identify and refer violators to the Court Manager or MRBA Committee Member for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the spectators viewing and game area. Once removed, play will resume. Lost time will not be replaced.

This inappropriate and disruptive behaviour shall include:

- a) Using obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.



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- b) Taunting players, coaches, officials or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threatening physical violence, or physical violence.
- c) Throwing any object on court or physically interfering with on court proceedings.
- d) Believed to be intoxicated or consuming alcohol.

The MRBA Court Manager, MRBA Committee and/or Venue Duty Manager will have the authority to eject violators of this policy.

Any violators will be escorted from the facility and not allowed to return until the next day. Players or coaching staff under 18 will be escorted from the playing area into the reception area if their parent or guardian is not present - their parent or guardian will be notified at the earliest practical opportunity.

Officials

Officials must apply these guidelines in a realistic manner and must be careful not to get overly technical in their enforcement. This policy is designed to eliminate direct confrontations with Officials while still allowing players and coaches an avenue to communicate in a calm and reasonable fashion.

Officials are required to conduct themselves in a professional, sportsmanlike, and non-provocative manner at all times. They must be firm, polite and direct. Actions such as "baiting" or inciting players or coaches are prohibited.

Basketball WA and MRBA urges all players, coaches and spectators to participate competitively and in good spirit, but to remember that the nature of competitive basketball is not an excuse to throw away the respect that the game and its participants deserve.

Margaret River Basketball Association

July 2026

This policy has been written in line with BWA's Zero Tolerance policy.