



Manly Warringah Basketball Association

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To: All team managers, players, coaches and MWBA participants
From: Kirsten De Forest
Date: Thursday 18 July, 2019
Re: Enforcement and changes to MWBA Bylaws; Behaviour and Communication guidelines

To maintain the quality of the competitions, the MWBA will be enforcing the following Bylaws which already exist.

A full copy of the bylaws can be found on the Manly Warringah Basketball Website.

Eligibility to Play – Section 5

Changes (in red) made to the registration and identification of players.

*5.3 A registered player may enter his or her name on the printed scoresheet, **but may only take the court once their registration status has been checked by the venue supervisor.** Any team who plays a player under someone else's name will forfeit that game and the ineligible player could be suspended. **MWBA reserves the right for staff to check player's identification if it is believed that a player is not playing under the correct name**".*

Uniforms – Section 8

The Bylaws state that singlets must be of the same colour and correctly numbered, and that shorts have no pockets – teams have 3 weeks to get their uniforms to standard, after which time they will not be permitted to take the court. It also states that teams are encouraged to purchase reversible singlets (we can recommend some suppliers) and that bibs are available to Team B for colour clashes only. This will be enforced for all competitions.

Forfeits and Late Start – Section 10

This will be enforced

10.2 Each team must have a minimum of 4 players to start a game. Teams are required to be signed on and in correct uniform ready to play when the referees start the clock to commence the game.

For each minute that the team does not have the number of players required, or is not ready to start the game, 2 points will be awarded to the opposing team until 10 minutes have passed and the score will be 20-0 and the game may be declared a forfeit by default.

In addition to the enforcement of these Bylaws, please make yourself familiar with the following documents as there have been changes made to **Section 12 – Player Misconduct**.

Thank you, and good luck for your upcoming season.

KIRSTEN DE FOREST

Referee Program Manager

On behalf of the MWBA

12. Player Misconduct

12.1 In addition to the BNSW Zero Tolerance Policy listed in this document as part of the Player Code of Conduct, the following procedures and policies have been put into place in order to ensure a safe and enjoyable environment for all players, officials, participants and spectators.

12.2 Sin Bin

Where a person receives a behavioural technical foul during a game, s/he will be required to leave the court immediately for a period of 5 minutes playing time (not including time outs). If substitutes are available, the player may be replaced. If no substitutes are available, the team must play with less than 5 players.

The referee will take note of the time on the game clock when the technical foul was called, and the player may resume on court at the next substitution opportunity after 5 minutes has elapsed. All technical fouls will be recorded in the appropriate form for the purpose of tracking the number of technical fouls charged to individuals and teams.

12.3 Bench Player Behaviour

If a player is a substitute (on the bench) at the time they are assessed a technical foul, and there is no coach assigned to the team, the foul will be charged to the player. This foul shall count towards the player's personal foul count and towards game disqualification, however it will not count towards the team foul count for that period.

12.4 Game Disqualification

In accordance with changes to the FIBA Rules as of October 2017, specifically Article 36.3.3

A player will be disqualified for the remainder of the game when they are charged with 2 technical fouls, or 2 unsportsmanlike fouls, or with 1 unsportsmanlike and 1 technical foul.

If a player is disqualified from the game, they are required to leave the court immediately, be out of sight of the court for the remainder of the game and may not return.

12.5 Disqualification

Since a player can only be charged with 5 personal fouls, once a player has been "fouled out", if their behaviour results in a technical foul being called by the official, the foul called will be disqualifying and the player will be required to leave the court area immediately.

12.6 Repeated Misconduct (~~Seniors-Only~~)

If a player receives 3 behavioural technical fouls during the season (all grades/all teams), they will be suspended from playing, coaching, officiating or scoring in any BNSW competition for one rostered playing week.

Premier League: If a Premier League player receives 3 behavioural technical fouls in a season, they will be automatically suspended from playing, coaching, officiating or scoring in any BNSW competition for 2 rostered playing weeks

If a person receives a fourth behavioural technical foul during the season (all grades/all teams), they will be suspended for an additional 2 rostered playing weeks, and may be referred to an administrative tribunal.

A team that collectively receives 6 behavioural technical fouls in a season will have 3 competition points deducted. For every additional 2 behavioural technical fouls the team receives, a further 3 competition points will be deducted.

MWBA will endeavour to provide written warning to the team contact when they are nearing player suspension or the deduction of points, but is not required to do so.



Participant Behaviour and Communication

What we are focussing on:

- All participants – players/coaches/spectators – are to display acceptable behaviour
- Harsher penalties for non-compliance to reinforce this focus
- Emphasis on behavioural Technical Fouls (dissent)

What is changing?

- 5 minutes Sin Bin penalty for player who receive a Technical Foul during game
- Automatic suspensions for multiple Technical Fouls awarded during a season – added to MWBA Bylaws in July 2018

COMMUNICATION

Referee Communication – Players

- Referees will be instructed to answer any reasonable question from players to seek clarification
- Referees will answer the question, but will not get into an ongoing discussion
- Referees will not respond to statements such as “That’s a foul!”, “3 seconds!” or “Travel!”.
- Continued and ongoing questioning will not be tolerated. Referees will be instructed to warn players that this behaviour will no longer be tolerated.

Referee Communication – Coaches

Article 7.5 – The coach may communicate in a courteous manner with the officials during the game to obtain information only when the ball is dead and the game clock is stopped

- For local competitions it is intended that referees will be able to communicate with coaches when it would normally be expected that the game clock would stop e.g. after a foul call has been signalled to the score table
- This rule is intended for coaches to seek clarification from referees by asking a question
- It will not delay the playing of the game – continued questioning about the same scenario will not be tolerated

Assistant Coaches/Team Managers and Spectators

- **DO NOT** have the right to communicate with the referees in any way
- If you have a concern with anything that the referees are doing, raise it with your coach or address it directly with the referee/venue supervisor
- At no point should you approach the referees – this is not only when the game is in progress, but also at the conclusion of the game
- Referees have been instructed not to address Assistant Coaches/Team Managers or spectators

BEHAVIOURAL TECHNICAL FOULS

What is a behavioural Technical Foul?

A foul that is awarded when a player or coach:

- Shows some sort of dissent (by word or action) towards the referee or their calls/no calls
- Shows some form of disrespect (by word or action) towards match officials

Warnings can be issued for:

- Continuing to discuss calls after the referee has responded
- Holding arms in the air after a call for a prolonged period
- Attempting to demonstrate actions such as travelling, etc
- Repeatedly asking questions, making comments or gesturing in response to calls

Technical Fouls can be issued for the following:

- Wave offs, aggressive or excessive motioning of the arms
- Aggressive hand claps directed at an official or showing resentment for a call/no call
- Running towards, or aggressively approaching a referee
- Shouting a reaction to a call/no call using profanity
- Extended or prolonged complaining about a call/no call after being told to stop
- Not responding to a warning by repeating the action (or some other disrespectful action)

In the examples above, referees will attempt to issue a warning to the player or coach, although they are not required to do so. They may penalise action without a warning.

SPECTATORS

Spectator behaviour – what will not be tolerated

- Air punches, aggressive or excessive motioning of arms
- Aggressive hand claps directed towards the officials or showing resentment for calls/no calls
- Shouting a reaction to a call/no call using profanity
- Making disrespectful comments towards officials, players or scorers, including all comments that are audible by officials
- Not responding to a warning by repeating the action

Dealing with spectator behaviour

- If a spectator needs to be warned for inappropriate behaviour, the game will be stopped and the referee will seek out the referee/venue supervisor.
- The referee/venue supervisor will approach the coach for their assistance in dealing with their spectator's inappropriate behaviour.
- The referee/venue supervisor has the right to remove spectators from the vicinity of the game, or from the venue
- Spectators may be placed on report for serious examples of inappropriate behaviour.

“There is no Excuse for Abuse”

