

GLoucestershire BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT

This Code of Ethics and Conduct applies to all those involved in the sport of basketball under the jurisdiction of Basketball England. All such individuals have a responsibility to act according to the highest standards of integrity, and to ensure that the reputation of basketball is beyond reproach.

The Gloucestershire Basketball Association is committed to maintaining the highest possible standards of behaviour and conduct at basketball games. The following principles must be adhered to always so that basketball can be enjoyed by all and is divided into the following sections taken and adapted from Basketball England Standards and Ethics. The full document can be found on the Basketball England Web page:

1. Coaches

This Code of Ethics and Conduct is an integral part of the Basketball England Coach Education Programme within which all coaches must work.

All coaches should: -:

- Consider the safety and wellbeing of all individuals in their charge;
- Follow guidance on good practice when working with young people/vulnerable adults and report any concerns for their wellbeing to the relevant authority or body;
- Ensure that all training and playing demands are not detrimental to the wellbeing of the players and are reasonable dependent upon the age, maturity, experience and ability of the players;
- Ensure their competence and ability is sufficient so that the safety of players is not compromised;
- Encourage players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance;
- Be appropriately qualified and regularly seek opportunities for continued professional development;
- Respect the rights of players to choose to decline to participate within coaching or playing situations; never put a player on court if they are injured or unfit to do so
- Abide by all rules and policies of GBBA and where relevant Basketball England;
- Hold a clear Enhanced DBS check when in a position of regulated activity; (best practice but required coaching jnr players)
- Ensure they have undergone relevant safeguarding training before registering with Basketball England and sufficient evidence of a certificate has been submitted to safeguarding@basketballengland.co.uk (best practice but required if coaching jnr players)
- Not attempt to exert undue influences and pressures to obtain personal benefit or reward;
- Be a positive role model;
- Never use foul, sexist or racist language or act in a violent/abusive manner;
- Refrain from undue public criticism of other coaches or match officials.
- Refrain from posting negative or derogatory comments on social media about other clubs, coaches or officials.
- Refrain from posting any comments on social media which bring the reputation of the GBBA and Basketball England into disrepute.

Follow all Basketball England guidance on Social Media, Appropriate Communication and the Duty of Care policies.

2. Players

All affiliated players agree to:

- Treat everyone equally and sensitively regardless of age, disability, gender, race, ethnic origin, cultural background, sexual orientation, religious beliefs or political affiliation;
- Treat your team-mates and opponents, coaches, club officials and match officials with respect and consideration at all times - treat them as you would like to be treated;
- Not use foul, sexist, racist language or offensive gestures at any time;
- Know and abide by the rules and spirit of the game;

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- Avoid violence and rough play and help injured opponents;
- Accept the decisions of the match officials without question or complaint (let your captain or coach ask the necessary questions) and avoid words or actions which may mislead a Match Official;
- Abide by the instructions of the coach and club officials, provided they do not contradict the spirit of this Code of Ethics and Conduct or the rules of basketball;
- Give maximum effort and strive for the best possible performance through the whole game, even if it is considered already over;
- Concentrate on the game, do not react/respond to undue criticism from spectators, parents, opposition coaches or opposition club officials. Raise any concerns calmly and professionally to the match officials to respond, deal and report.
- Learn to accept victory and defeat with humility and dignity and without excessive emotional displays;
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team - your team's performance will benefit and so will your own.
- Be a good sport, applaud all good performance, whether by your team or by the opponent;
- At the end of play applaud and thank your opponents and the match officials.
- Abide by the GBBA and Basketball England Social Media policy.

3. Match Officials - (Referees & Table officials)

All match officials must:

- Treat everyone equally and sensitively, regardless of their disability, gender, ethnic origin, cultural background, sexual orientation, religion, age or political affiliation;
- Not tolerate foul, sexist or racist language;
- Be honest, consistent, objective, impartial and courteous when applying the rules of the game. Officials must resist any possible influence from protests on the part of participants or spectators of the game.
- Claim any affiliation, sponsorship or accreditation in a truthful and accurate manner;
- Show patience and understanding towards players who may be learning the game;
- Make every effort to prepare fully for a match, both physically and mentally. On a physical level, be able to keep up with the speed of the game, and be alert and close enough to make correct decisions;
- Ensure focus is maintained at all times, do not be distracted by mobile phones or personal devices unless identified prior to the game and are used to benefit the game.
- Have regard to protecting the players by enforcing the laws of the game.
- Show due respect when speaking with participants in the game, even in the event of infringements;
- In reports, set out the true facts;
- Refrain from publicly expressing any criticism of fellow officials;
- Assist with the development of those with less experience.
- Declare any history or instances where you were disciplined, dismissed, cautioned, warned or convicted of any offence relating to children/young people/vulnerable adults on a Self-Declaration form submitted to the BE Safeguarding and Compliance Manager

4. Club Officials

All club officials agree to:

- Treat everyone equally and sensitively regardless of age, disability, gender, race, ethnic origin, cultural background, sexual orientation, religious belief or political affiliation;
- Not use foul, sexist or racist language;
- Use your official position to take action against any club member or spectator who harasses, abuses or uses foul, sexist or racist language;
- Accept the responsibilities of the role that you have to set a good example of behaviour and conduct at all times and promote ethical principles;
- Ensure your club is aware of and follows best practice guidelines to safeguard young people and vulnerable adults;

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- Ensure that proper supervision is provided by coaches and officials who are capable of promoting good sporting behaviour and good technical skills;
- Ensure all equipment and facilities meet safety standards;
- Encourage all players and coaches to abide by the rules and spirit of the game and do not manipulate the rules in order to benefit yourself personally or your club;
- Show respect to match officials, coaches, players and others involved in the game;
- Do not endeavour to influence the result of a game by any actions that are not strictly within the rules;
- Remember sport is enjoyed for its own sake - play down the importance of awards;
- Always have regard to the best interests of basketball, including where publicly expressing an opinion of the game, others involved and any aspect of it;
- Avoid words or actions, which may mislead a Match Official and accept their decisions.

5. Spectators

All spectators of games under the jurisdiction of the GBBA

- Do not use offensive, discriminatory or obscene language or gestures. Do not harass or verbally abuse players, coaches, match officials or fellow spectators in any form;
- Treat everyone equally and sensitively regardless of age, disability, gender, race, ethnic origin, cultural background, sexual orientation, religious beliefs or political affiliation;
- Condemn the use of violence in all forms and refrain from any violent or aggressive behaviour;
- Show respect for opponents and match officials. Without them there would be no game;
- Acknowledge good performance and fair play by opponents as well as by your own team;
- Remember the players are taking part for their enjoyment not yours;
- Do not ridicule players who make mistakes;
- Do not over emphasise the importance of winning;
- On no account should you enter the court unless authorised otherwise;
- Do not shout abuse at officials, coaches, players or other spectators;

6. Young People

There are additional requirements for how young people should be treated by adults and how young people should treat their peers.

Adults to young people:

- Be aware of how your language and behaviour may have an effect and ensure you do not use foul language, humiliate or bully any young person;
- Make sure you are fully aware of and follow the latest guidance on working with young people;
- Treat everyone with respect and dignity, recognising the additional needs or disadvantages of those with disabilities or from minority backgrounds;
- Set a good example as young people will learn from you;
- Make sure disciplinary actions are non-violent/humiliating and use rewards, praise and acknowledgment to reinforce good behaviour;
- Listen and act if a young person tells you they're being bullied or abused.

Young people to each other should:

- Never bully, spread rumours or tell lies about other young people;
- Welcome and include new players whatever their background or ability;
- Control your emotions - verbal or physical abuse is not acceptable at any time;
- Don't show off or try to humiliate other players;
- Don't ridicule or blame team mates who make mistakes;
- Make sure you tell your coach/parents if another young person confides in you and you think they need help.

7. False Allegations

All allegations or concerns submitted to the GBBA must be 100% factual, true and correct at all times.

Where the GBBA finds sufficient evidence to suggest that any concern or allegation is not true or factual, it may take necessary disciplinary action under this Code of Ethics and Conduct.

Where the GBBA finds insufficient evidence or a basis to act against a complaint/concern, this does not mean that the initial concern or complaint is false, in these instances the GBBA has been unable to prove the concerns/complaint.

8 Possible Sanctions

In affiliating or licensing with Basketball England through the GBBA, everyone agrees to abide by this Code of Ethics and Conduct and all policies and procedures. The GBBA therefore has the right to investigate and take disciplinary action against any alleged or suspected breach of this Code of Ethics and Conduct and any breach which may bring the game of basketball into disrepute.

The following sanctions may be imposed at the discretion of the GBBA Committee or Disciplinary Sub Committee on any individual or club/team/coach/player. Sanctions may be used in combination where deemed appropriate and where there has been a repeat offense: A warning; a fine; forfeiture of game(s); temporary, permanent or indefinite suspension; ban from participating or attending any match under the jurisdiction of the GBBA.