

Tamworth Basketball Association

AGENCY POLICY: CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES & DIRECTIVES

Form Number: REPPRO001

- Operate within the rules and spirit of basketball, promoting fair play over winning at any cost.
- Support opportunities for participation in all aspects of basketball.
- Encourage and support opportunities for people to learn appropriate behaviours and skills.
- Treat each person as an individual.
- Display control and courtesy to all involved in basketball.
- Respect the rights and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Respect the decisions of officials, coaches and administrators in the conduct of basketball.
- Wherever practical, avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance will exist) with people under the age of 18 years.
- Any physical contact with a person should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the person's skill development.
- Adopt appropriate and responsible behaviour in all interactions.
- Adopt responsible behaviour in relation to alcohol and other drugs.
- Act with integrity and objectivity, and accept responsibility for your decisions and actions.
- Ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a safe environment.
- Ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a harassment free environment.
- Do not tolerate harmful or abusive behaviours.
- I will be reasonable when scheduling games and practices, remembering that players have other interests and obligations.
- Place the safety and welfare of the players above all else.
- Help each person (athlete, official etc) reach their potential – respect the talent, development stage and goals of each person and compliment and encourage with positive and supportive feedback.
- Be honest and do not allow your qualifications to be misrepresented
- I will ensure that all players get equal instruction, support and playing time



- I will not ridicule or yell at my players for making mistakes or for performing poorly. I will remember that players play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves.
- I will make sure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the players' ages and abilities.
- I will remember that participants need a coach they can respect. I will be generous with praise and set a good example
- I will obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my coaching skills.
- I will work in cooperation with officials for the benefit of the game.
- I will not supply/ provide players with alcohol or drugs.

Tamworth Basketball Board Directive to all Coaches

Tamworth Basketball members and parents have a real appreciation of the benefit you bring to our Club and the children you come into contact with whilst coaching within your various spheres of interest be it playing, officiating, score bench or statistics. We thank you, sincerely.

As a new rep season takes shape, however, the Tamworth Basketball Association's Board of Management respectfully reminds all coaches of the need to retain a degree of professional separation in your dealings with the children you are coaching. And whilst this directive is to do with the children you coach, it should be the benchmark for all your dealings with all children at Tamworth Basketball.

Please take a few moments to read this communication (which is only an outline and not exhaustive) and bear it in mind during your duties. In doing so, you will be protecting yourself and our Club from issues that may arise from a misunderstanding.

The majority of the advice is common sense. Nevertheless, for the record:

- Any physical contact between yourself and children should be limited to that essentially required to the imparting of a specific skill -and always delivered within the main playing or coaching area.
- Whenever possible, you should explain to the parents of the children that, inherent with coaching basketball skills, (playing or officiating) there may be the need from time to time to make adjustments of posture or position of limbs and if parents have a problem with you doing that they should advise you immediately and you will accommodate their request.
- All discussions or briefings with your charges will be conducted in the public arena and not in a secluded or private area unless the child is accompanied by their parent.
- You are to limit the occasions when you make contact with children outside the immediate requirements of your coaching brief. Transport arrangements that result in you and a child being the sole occupants of a vehicle are to be at all times avoided.
- Likewise at post activity functions you should be mindful of your role as an adult coach and not put yourself in a situation where you are the sole adult with a child or children taking refreshments outside the venue.
- E-mail correspondence must be directed to the parent in the first instance. If the parent does not have an email address then correspondence should be addressed to the parent at the child's email address. In situations where there is no team manager



you should limit such correspondence to the transmission of information required to enable the child to attend the next activity and make every endeavour to ensure that e-mails are addressed to the parents. Do not use the rep email listings of members for any other purpose, including social or commercial purposes.

- Social networking sites and communication through them is to be avoided and if you have a personal site you should not allow minors to access your site. Be very mindful of what images and content appear on your site and you should not seek to contact your charges via their social networking sites.
- Telephone communication with children should be kept to a minimum; this includes text messages, and must be limited to game or practice logistics. It is recognized that in the fluid circumstances of games and training occasionally alterations to schedules arise, which can only be communicated in a timely manner by telephone or text messaging. Every effort should be made through competent organisation and foresight to keep these instances to an absolute minimum.

In summary do not put yourself in a position where your integrity and good intentions could be misconstrued. In protecting all parties, we have a mutual obligation to manage our child protection and privacy obligations. The Board has asked that we be rigorous in monitoring and managing these obligations and act quickly in reviewing the involvement in the program of anyone who transgresses this directive.

To conclude, we congratulate you on your interest in the game, in seeking to improving your sports qualifications and wishing to impart knowledge to junior participants.

As an Association we can only grow through input from volunteers, people such as yourselves, and this communication is intended to ensure that through the ordinary discharge of your tasks you do not unwittingly become involved in a potentially damaging situation.

