

REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM - COACH CODE OF CONDUCT

Basketball Victoria By-Laws are binding on all members of BV and other persons who or organisations which submit themselves to the jurisdiction of BV. BV has delegated the power of hearing and determining such charges to the BV Tribunal ("Tribunal") in accordance with the provisions of these By-laws.

The Tribunal shall have power to suspend, disqualify, reprimand, fine, bond, ban or otherwise deal with any person involved with basketball (including, but not limited to players, coaches, teams, clubs, officials other than referees, umpires and accredited score table officials, or spectators) in accordance with these By-laws, regarding any incident arising from an activity conducted by the organising bodies. The incident may have occurred before, during or after the conduct of the activity, within the confines of the stadium, activity venue or its immediate surrounds or elsewhere if directly related to a basketball activity of any sort.

Reportable conduct also includes conduct relating to basketball which occurs by email, telephone, social media or computer and includes cyber bullying.

Legislative and Policy References

The Melbourne Tigers Coach Code of Conduct supports compliance with the Victorian Child Safe Standards, Basketball Victoria's Child Safeguarding Framework, the National Integrity Framework and relevant Working with Children legislation.

Melbourne Central Basketball Association (Melbourne Tigers) expects coaches of junior representative players to abide by the following codes of conduct:

Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of the players

- Always respect the use of facilities and equipment provided.
- Facilities and equipment cost money and will only function properly if kept in good order. Ensure that you and your players do not abuse anything provided for use.
- Discourage players from hanging off hoops. These practices are banned in most venues. Not only can equipment be damaged but serious injury can occur.

Act responsibly when players are ill or injured

- Show concern and take responsibility for players who are sick or injured whilst under your care.
- Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured or ill player is ready to recommence play.

Court time

- Court time will not be equal and will vary for each player within the VJBL season calendar. This is largely dependent upon the level of competition, player availability, attendance and performance/effort at training and skill level.
- Please refer to the Parent/Athlete Handbook for additional clarification and guidance regarding court time in the representative program.

Avoid personal relationships with your players

- Personal relationships with your players can often be misinterpreted as something inappropriate or sinister. Mentorship and mutual respect is essential to building trust between a coach and players. However, the power imbalance in a coaching situation can make it unwise for a relationship to develop beyond mentorship and mutual respect. Particular care must be taken when coaching children.
- Avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance exists) with people under the age of 18.
- Coaches are not permitted to drive players to training or games. A coach should not have a player in their car without a parent being present.
- Personal connection with your players via all social media is not allowed, this includes following and interacting with players via text messages, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok and any other social media platforms. Connecting with players without parent involvement when the player is under 18 is a breach of Basketball Victoria Child Safeguarding Policy.

Private Coaching

- Private coaching arrangements with players in the team you coach are not permitted. It is important that impartiality is maintained when coaching and/or selecting players.
- Players should not have any expectations that private coaching will improve their selection or their court time.
- Coaches need to ensure that private coaching must not lead to bias, and actual or perceived conflicts of interest throughout the Association, for example if you are a private coach for a player for an age group you are assisting at tryouts, you must not engage in discussions relating to that players selection.
- Private coaching arrangements with players from other Clubs or in age groups where you do not coach are permitted but not with players from the team you coach. All private coaching arrangements with the players of this Club must be properly disclosed to the Director of Coaching/Head of High Performance and Club Administration.
- Coaches should reference all Basketball Victoria and Club policies and in particular, the Guidelines for Interacting with Children and the Child Safeguarding Code of Conduct.

Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person. Do not verbally, electronically, or physically abuse or vilify any member of the basketball community including players, coaches, team managers, referees, other parents or spectators.
- Coaches are role models and ambassadors of our club. Our expectation is that coaches provide constructive feedback, promote effort as well as performance, maintain emotional controls and never humiliate, intimidate or publicly embarrass players.
- Posting images or videos of players on personal social media accounts is prohibited unless written consent from the club has been obtained.

Child Safety Reporting (Child Safe Standard 7)

- It is the responsibility of coaches to actively promote child safety, model respectful behaviour, intervene when concerns arise and foster an environment where every child feels safe, included and respected.
- Coaches must report any concerns relating to abuse, grooming, bullying, discrimination, harassment or breaches of child safety policies in accordance with the Association's reporting procedures to either the Head of High Performance, General Manager or Child Safety Officers

Please refer to Basketball Victoria's Coaches Code of Conduct in the following sections:

- Remember that basketballers play for enjoyment.
- Be reasonable in your demands
- Teach understanding and respect for the rules.
- Develop team respect for the ability of opponents including their coaches.
- Instill in your players respect for officials and an acceptance of their judgement.
- Guide your players in their interaction with the media, parents and spectators.
- Group players according to age, height, skills and physical maturity, whenever possible.
- Be prepared to lose sometimes.
- As well as imparting knowledge and skills, promote desirable personal and social behaviours.
- Keep your knowledge current.
- Ensure that any physical contact with a player is appropriate.

The Melbourne Central Basketball Association does not tolerate abuse of any form: physical, verbal, racial, cyber and/or gender.

Failure to comply with this Code of Conduct will result in a range of consequences which may include, but are not limited to, your termination or suspension from the Club and/or removal from a game or training if your behaviour is breaching the Code of Conduct.

Version Control	
Original Policy Implementation Date	September 2026
Approved by:	MCBA Board
Updated:	September 2028
Next Review Date	

Coaches Conduct Form

I, _____ [Name], as a coach of the Melbourne Tigers at Melbourne Central Basketball Association (MCBA), acknowledge and agree that I will:

1. Comply with all Basketball Victoria policies, by-laws and regulations applicable to my role, including:
 - Basketball Victoria Codes of Conduct;
 - Basketball Victoria Member Protection By-Laws;
 - Drugs in Basketball By-Laws; and
 - U12 and U14 No Zone Policy.
2. Comply with all Melbourne Central Basketball Association policies, procedures and codes of conduct, including the Representative Coach Code of Conduct.
3. Comply with all VJBL coaching requirements, including the VJBL Coaches Conduct - Coaches Agreement.
4. Comply with the rules, regulations and conditions of entry for any tournament, competition or event in which a Melbourne Tigers team participates.
5. Obtain approval from the Head of High Performance before entering any non-compulsory tournament on behalf of a Melbourne Tigers team.
6. Obtain prior approval from the Association before inviting, selecting or using players from outside the Melbourne Tigers program in any capacity, including tournaments, training sessions, representative games or events.
7. Not approach, recruit, encourage, induce or otherwise engage in discussions with a player who is registered with another association or club for the purpose of influencing that player to transfer to Melbourne Central Basketball Association or a Melbourne Tigers team, unless authorised in writing by the player's current association. This requirement applies at all times, including Basketball Victoria events, programs, tournaments and competitions.
8. Hold and maintain a current Victorian Working with Children Check or Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) registration and provide evidence of this to the Association upon request.
9. Complete Sport Integrity Australia's *Safeguarding Children and Young People in Sport Induction* course and provide evidence of completion to the Association.
10. Recognise that failure to comply with these requirements may result in disciplinary action by Melbourne Central Basketball Association.

VJBL Year and Team:

Signed:

Date: