 <b>MELTON</b> <b>BASKETBALL</b>	Melton Basketball Association Zero Tolerance Policy for Parents and Spectators	V190619
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## **Melton Basketball Zero Tolerance Policy for Parents and Spectators**

Melton Basketball relies heavily on the goodwill of our Coaches, Referees and Officials, most of whom are volunteers. An increase in incidents of inappropriate and abusive behaviour, is leading to a decline in those willing to fill these positions. In addition this inappropriate and abusive behaviour impacts on others' enjoyment, risks players and official's safety, and tarnishes the games reputation. Whatever the form, and wherever it takes place, inappropriate and abusive behaviour is not acceptable in our association.

To ensure a safe and enjoyable playing environment for all players and participants, Melton Basketball have in place a Zero Tolerance Policy for inappropriate behaviour from players, coaches, team manager, parents and spectators.

This policy will supplement the current policy applied to coaches and team officials. The Policy will ensure that:

1. There will be a zero-tolerance shown towards any inappropriate or abusive behaviour from players, coaches, team manager, parents and spectators.
2. Any parent/guardian and/or spectator who feels the necessity to:
  - **Persistently or wilfully question or challenge the rulings of the referees**
  - **Berate or abuse referees**
  - **Berate or abuse player's**
  - **Berate or abuse other parents or spectators**
  - **Display conduct which is inappropriate in a sporting environment**

Will be asked to leave the venue immediately. Failure to leave when requested will result in the Melton Basketball representative taking appropriate action to safeguard the safety of players, spectators, parents, team officials and game officials.

No warnings need be given in the event of the above action becoming necessary. A person who has been requested to leave a venue may be suspended directly or required to attend a tribunal hearing.


**NOTE:**

Any repeated inappropriate behaviour by a parent may have an impact on the playing future of their child.

All spectators and parents have to accept responsibility for their behaviour.

Any appeals against disqualification under this policy should immediately be directed to the Secretary of the MBA – [secretary@meltonbasketball.com.au](mailto:secretary@meltonbasketball.com.au).

This action has become necessary due to the reported instances of inappropriate and abusive behaviour at venues where competitions conducted by Melton Basketball Association and our desire to nurture a safe competitive environment for all participants.

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The Melton Basketball Association implores any parents or spectators who feel that they cannot refrain from the above behaviour not to attend.

Parents/spectators/organisations who would like to offer feedback or request clarification on officiating issues should direct their feedback through their coach or club.

The health of our game depends on the encouragement and development of game officials and younger players.

It is the aim of Melton Basketball Association to help Clubs increase this capacity.

This policy is not aimed at stifling or diminishing healthy supportive cheering or the ability of all spectators and parents to enjoy the spectacle of junior sport.

**NOTE:**

Any action taken under this new policy and procedure is entirely separate to any action that may be necessitated by law under the Child Protection Legislation or Basketball Victoria's Member Protection policy.