

Grassroots basketball is meant to be a positive environment. Kiwi kids learn a lot from playing our game, including teamwork, winning and losing with integrity, setting goals and putting in the hard work, being responsible for showing up for practice, listening, looking after our team-mates and, most importantly, having fun! It's also where community-minded people volunteer their time and give back including coaches, referees and game officials. Supporters and spectators are there to support. To be part of it, cheer, support, clap and celebrate. If you're a good supporter, you'll know that court-side egos and negativity are not welcome. You'll keep your actions positive, show your thanks to those who are giving their time to help provide kids with the opportunity to play - Be A Great Supporter! Let them Play!

The level of undesirable sideline behaviour at BBNZ tournaments has, regrettably, increased in recent times.

Examples of such behaviours include inappropriate comments, by spectators, directed at match officials, coaching staff, children, volunteers and tournament/stadium staff, swearing, yelling abuse, racism, athlete confrontation, overly loud and aggressive attitude etc.

We ask that you work with us to support efforts to minimise these behaviours.

We encourage you to support your team with gusto – but keep it positive. Remember, our sport is largely manned by volunteers and that officials are human. We all make mistakes, but let's model behaviours suitable for kids' sport. And nobody wants to sit next to an 'ugly' supporter!

Our message to everyone is 'Be a great supporter. Let them play'.

Everyone at a basketball game is a supporter at some stage, so the message is relevant for us all.

The messaging will be supported by a process for dealing with inappropriate behaviour. We would rather focus on the desired behaviours, with the process as a back-up when other options have been exhausted.

Associations and Schools are to take ownership of your spectators and must educate them on appropriate sideline behaviour and the process that will be adopted. Remember that your spectators are also representing you when attending a basketball event.

# BE A GREAT SUPPORTER

**Let them play**

These are **KIDS**

This is a **GAME**

Coaches are  
**VOLUNTEERS**

Refs are **HUMAN**

**THIS IS NOT  
THE NBA**

**Appendix A – BBNZ Code of Conduct****D. Parents' and Spectators'****1. Parents and Spectators shall:**

- a. remember that although the basketball at the event may, or may not, be at an elite level, it is still sport and often junior sport, to be enjoyed by all participants;
- b. respect all participating players and officials as you would respect your own children and friends, and applaud good performance by all participants;
- c. demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul or abusive language or actions, and by not harassing players, coaches, officials or other spectators as described above; and
- d. remember that destructive criticism has no place in basketball and especially in junior basketball. It is very hurtful to the recipient and, ultimately, reflects very poorly on the game.

Reference: BBNZ Internal Regulation Book 6 Appendices. (2018) *Appendix A – BBNZ Code of Conduct*.

**Sideline Behaviour Process**

What constitutes poor sideline behaviour?

- Prolonged, directive, disruptive and/or negative behaviour, eg:
  - inappropriate comments
  - swearing
  - racial slants
  - athlete confrontation
  - overly loud and aggressive attitude
- Verbal or physical attacks towards players, officials or management

**Upon Complaint**

1. Floor controller (FC) or nominated person (NP) observes behaviour either after complaint is made or in passing.
2. If the behaviour is deemed inappropriate, the FC or NP has a quiet word with the offender - either during or post-match.
3. If the behaviour continues or the offender responds poorly after the quiet word, the FC or NP gives offender a final chance to calm down.
4. If the behaviour persists, the offender is asked by the FC or NP to leave the premises for the day.
5. If the offender returns within the period of exclusion or continues bad behaviour after the being asked to leave the premises, they are to be removed by security or police and trespassed.
6. The team management of the offender will be notified of the incident and will be asked to speak with the offender. This could happen at any point through this process.
7. An incident report must be lodged by the FC or NP. The incident report must be send to the offenders Association/School and BBNZ for future reference. Where a written trespass notice is given, an incident report is not required.

*Please note that the process will be followed during the 2018 Schick Championships and the three U13 Regional Championships. Post the U13 Regional Championships, BBNZ will review the process.*

**Trespass notices**

You might want someone to leave your home or place of work for a number of reasons. They may be committing offences on your property, such as shoplifting, being disorderly or simply have no right to be there.

There is no legal requirement to give a trespass notice in writing. However, a written document reinforces the situation for the person given the trespass notice; they cannot say they did not know of the notice and requirement to leave and not return.

**Verbal trespass**

If you deliver a trespass notice verbally, it is advisable to record the date and time along with the reason for giving a trespass notice to that person. Also record the name or description of the person asked to leave.

**Written trespass**

If you undertake a written trespass, complete three copies of the Trespass Notice:

1. one copy to the person you are serving the trespass notice on
2. one copy for you to keep
3. one copy to give to the nearest police station or attending police officer, for entering into the Police records database

To serve a notice you simply hand it to the person. If they refuse to accept it and it drops on the ground, it is still considered served. Keep that copy and note down that the person refused to accept the notice.

You are required to give a reasonable time for the trespasser to leave. If the person stays or takes an unreasonable time to comply, call 111 and ask for Police.

If someone comes back after you have given them a trespass notice they will have committed an offence. Call 111 and ask for Police.

Use this [trespass notice form](#) [PDF, 455KB].

Visit the Legislation New Zealand website to read the [Trespass Act 1980](#)(link is external).

Reference: New Zealand Police. (2018) *Trespass Notices*. Retrieved from <http://www.police.govt.nz/advice/personal-community/trespass-notices>