



Behaviour Management Framework

Policy Number:	008	Date Last Reviewed:	
Date Written:	13/04/2026	Reviewed By:	
Authorised By:	SACBA	Review Date:	

1. PURPOSE

The South Australian Church Basketball (SACBA) Behaviour Management Framework exists to ensure that all participants experience a **safe, respectful, and welcoming basketball environment**.

SACBA is a community-based competition grounded in Christian values, and this framework aims to:

- Promote **respect, sportsmanship, and positive behaviour**
- Support the **development and retention** of players, coaches, and referees
- Provide **clear processes** for managing behavioural incidents
- Encourage a culture where participants can **learn without fear of abuse or intimidation**

SACBA recognises that a positive environment is essential for participation and growth. There is **no place for abusive, intimidating, or disrespectful behaviour** within the competition.

This framework is an **interim model**, aligned in principle with Basketball South Australia (BSA), and will be updated when the official BSA system is fully implemented.

2. SCOPE

This framework applies to **all SACBA competitions and events**, including:

- Players
- Coaches
- Team managers
- Referees
- Spectators

It applies at all venues and covers **on-court and off-court behaviour**.

3. KEY PRINCIPLES

SACBA competitions are built on the following expectations:

- **Respect** for referees, opponents, teammates, and spectators

- **Positive encouragement**, not criticism or abuse
- **Acceptance of decisions** made by officials
- **Appropriate communication** at all times
- **Shared responsibility** for maintaining a safe environment

Everyone involved in SACBA has a role in upholding these standards.

4. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 SACBA (Competition Organiser)

SACBA will:

- Administer and enforce this framework
- Investigate reported incidents fairly and promptly
- Communicate outcomes to relevant teams/clubs
- Maintain records of behavioural incidents
- Support referees, particularly junior officials

4.2 Coaches & Team Managers

Coaches and team managers are responsible for:

- The behaviour of their **players and spectators**
- Addressing issues when directed by venue supervisors or referees
- Ensuring only authorised personnel are on the bench
- Modelling respectful behaviour at all times

Where behavioural issues arise, they are the **first point of contact**.

4.3 Players

Players must:

- Respect referees and accept decisions
- Refrain from dissent, abuse, or unsportsmanlike conduct
- Support teammates positively
- Follow directions from coaches and officials

4.4 Spectators

Spectators play a critical role in shaping the environment.

Expected behaviours include:

- Positive encouragement only
- Respect for referees and all participants
- No abusive, offensive, or discriminatory language
- No coaching from the sidelines
- No ridicule of players or officials

5. COMMUNICATION WITH OFFICIALS

Clear and respectful communication supports learning and development.

Guidelines:

- Only **coaches or team captains** may speak to referees
- Communication must be:
 - Brief
 - Respectful
 - At appropriate times (e.g. stoppages in play)

- Once a referee has responded:
 - The decision must be **accepted without further dispute**

Junior Referees

Extra care must be taken when interacting with younger referees.

They are developing and must be treated with **patience and respect**.

6. MANAGING UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

Unacceptable behaviour includes:

- Arguing with referees
- Abusive or aggressive language
- Harassment or intimidation
- Disrespectful gestures or actions

6.1 On-Court Behaviour (Players, Coaches, Bench)

Referees will manage behaviour using **standard basketball rules (technical fouls)**.

Where behaviour is clearly inappropriate:

- A **technical foul** may be issued
- Continued behaviour may result in **ejection from the game**

6.2 Spectator Behaviour (Step-Based Approach)

SACBA will use a **graduated response system**:

Step 1 – Verbal Warning

- Given by referee, supervisor, or via the team manager
- Behaviour must stop immediately

Step 2 – Formal Warning (via Team Manager/Coach)

- Team representative asked to address the spectator
- Clear instruction that further behaviour will result in removal

Step 3 – Removal from Venue

- Spectator directed to leave the venue for the remainder of the game
- Game may be stopped until the situation is resolved

If a spectator refuses to leave:

- The game will not continue
- Further action may be taken, including escalation if required

7. REPORTING & RECORDING INCIDENTS

Incidents may be reported through:

- Referee reports
- Supervisor/venue reports
- Team or club complaints

SACBA will:

- Record all significant incidents
- Track repeat behaviours across the season
- Communicate with clubs where patterns emerge

Serious matters may be escalated to formal disciplinary processes.

8. SANCTIONS

Sanctions are applied based on **severity and repetition**.

8.1 Spectators

- Removal from a game → **minimum 1-game suspension**
 - Repeated removals → increased suspension length
 - Ongoing issues → possible season ban
-

8.2 Players, Coaches, Team Managers

- Technical fouls recorded across the season
- Repeated offences may result in:
 - Warnings
 - Suspensions
 - Additional conditions (e.g. behaviour expectations)

Serious misconduct may result in immediate suspension or tribunal review.

9. APPEALS & REVIEW

Teams or individuals may request a review of a sanction by:

- Submitting a written request to SACBA within **48 hours**
- Providing relevant supporting information

SACBA will review:

- Referee reports
- Witness accounts
- Any submitted evidence

Decisions made following review will be **final**.

10. COMMITMENT TO CULTURE

SACBA is committed to building a competition where:

- Players enjoy the game
- Referees feel supported
- Coaches lead positively
- Spectators encourage respectfully

A strong basketball community depends on **everyone contributing to a positive environment**.

11. FUTURE ALIGNMENT

This framework is an **interim policy** and will be reviewed in line with the full implementation of the Basketball South Australia Behaviour Management Framework.