



ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

ABUSE OF REFEREES, MINOR OFFICIALS & BWT OFFICIALS / SITE SUPERVISORS

The most important aspect of Basketball World Toronto is fair play, not competition. BWT is looking to promote sportsmanship through courtesy between players, coaches, referees, parents and fans. Wins and losses are secondary outcomes. It is important that participants not lose sight of this in the heat of the games. We have many well-conceived and elegantly written policies, all readily available in the BWT Rules and Regulations Manual. These policies instruct all parties to show mutual respect and cheer for players from both teams. However, some people seem to forget these expectations once the game begins and a referee makes an unfavorable call (in some people's opinion).

As a result of this, BWT implemented a Zero Tolerance Policy in 2006 and updated every year onwards or as required, regulating the conduct of players, coaches, parents, spectators and fans toward game officials. Players, coaches or spectators are not allowed to disrespect an official's decision, nor are they allowed to make abusive comments. This includes comments and complaints from the stands.

1. During registration, every player or parent/legal guardian has completed and acknowledged the Zero Tolerance Policy on challenging the decisions of game officials or making abusive comments. Players / Coaches are reminded that they may ask for clarification on rules at stoppages in play, but under no circumstances are they to yell, call out, or question officials during the game. Players/Coaches are to be courteous when making requests for clarification, while sarcasm or angry tones are not acceptable. Players/Coaches are also required to remind spectators supporting them of the team's responsibility to adhering to the rules of Basketball World Toronto and not to disrespect or criticize officials, for any reason.

Note: If a player or coach receives two (2) direct technical fouls (contrary to the Zero Tolerance Policy) during a game, the penalties are as follows:

- Under 18 - They are ejected from the game and duration of the Basketball World Toronto sanctioned event.
- Adult Player/Coach - They are ejected from the current game and one (1) more game.

2. When a player or coach disrespects an official's decision, a direct technical foul will be called.

- The site convenor will be asked by game officials to eject a player or coach whose actions warrant this penalty. If a team is assessed a third direct technical foul for abuse the game will played to its conclusion but the team that has been assessed the three direct technical fouls will forfeit the game.

Note: The aforementioned does not limit the official's right to forfeit the game during playing time if the conditions warrant it.

- Indirect technical fouls that are called but do not involve the abuse of an official (ex: too many players on the court, uniform violation, score-sheet infraction) will not count toward the Zero Tolerance Policy and the official's decision to call the game.

3. If a spectator disrespects or harasses an official, a technical foul may be called on the team that they support.

- The site convenor will be asked by game officials to eject a spectator whose actions warrant this penalty. If the offending spectator refuses to leave, the site convenor will advise the captain or coach of the team of which the spectator is supporting that his/her/their team will forfeit the game if the spectator does not leave. Coaches are asked to remind parents that any further outbursts from that team's spectators may result in the team forfeiting the game.

4. Officials shall write-up an incident report of any forfeited game.

- The Basketball World Toronto Disciplinary Committee will review this report and may decide on any additional action that might be required.

5. If a spectator, coach or player harasses an BWT Official / Site Supervisor, the incident will be reported to the BWT Executive Director and BWT Fair Play Committee.

- If the harassment occurs before, during or after a game, the BWT Official / Site Supervisor has the discretion to immediately eject the spectator, player or coach. If the person delays or refuses to leave, the BWT Official / Site Supervisor will advise the coach that his or her team will forfeit if they cannot get the person to leave. Coaches are asked to remind parents and spectators that any further outbursts will result in their team forfeiting the game.

Note. Please visit the BWT website for all [Policies and Procedures](#); including the Harassment Policy.