

Medway Amateur Basketball Association

Travel Program Policy Disciplinary Action for Technical Fouls and/or Game Ejections

ADOPTED & EFFECTIVE: February 10, 2008

I. Introduction

In order to advance the principals of sportsmanship and fair play, and to promote mutual respect among players, coaches, referees and spectators, the Board of Directors (the Board) of the Medway Amateur Basketball Association (MABA) in 2005 established a Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct provides behavioral guidance and establishes clear expectations for all MABA Participants – Players, Coaches, Parents, Spectators and Volunteers.

As emphasized in the Code of Conduct, MABA supports and adheres to a “zero-tolerance” policy with respect to Game Officials. The questioning of an official call (or lack of a call) and/or any negative commentary, gesture, complaint directed to a Game Official by any MABA Participant is not allowed under any circumstances.

II. Purpose and Applicability

The Board has adopted and shall enforce the following Policy as part of its ongoing commitment to ensure proper conduct and sportsmanship by all MABA Participants.

This Policy applies to every technical foul and/or game ejection that is assessed by a Game Official against a MABA participant (*i.e.*, Player, Coach, Scorekeeper, Timekeeper, Spectator, and/or Other Volunteer) during any MABA-sponsored Travel Game including pre-season, regular, post-season, and special tournament play.

III. Types of Technical Fouls

For the purposes of implementing this Policy, assessed technical fouls will be considered to be either a “behavior-based” or “non-behavior based” technical foul, as follows:

- A “behavior-based” technical foul is one that is issued against any MABA Participant for conduct that, *at the sole discretion of the Game Official*, is deemed to be objectionable and results in the issuance of a technical foul and/or game ejection. Examples of behavior-based technical fouls include, but are not limited to, those which are assessed for: (i) unsportsmanlike, vulgar, threatening or demeaning language or gestures; and (ii) any commentary or gesture directed at a Game Official as an individual, or regarding the nature of the officiating in the game.
- A “non-behavior based” technical foul is one that is assessed “by rule” as a result of in-game Player infractions. An example of a non-behavior based technical foul is a technical foul which is assessed as a result of multiple delay-of-game warnings (*e.g.*, reaching over an end line, touching a ball after a made basket, etc.).

In general, non-behavior based technical fouls shall not result in any enforcement action by the Board. However, a “non-behavior based” technical foul may be elevated to “behavior-based” status if there is sufficient reason to believe that that the infraction which led to the technical foul was committed intentionally (*e.g.*, a Player intentionally holds that ball after a made basket to express anger that no foul was called or so as to intentionally delay the game).

The Board retains final and sole discretion as to what action(s) constitute a “behavior-based” or “non-behavior based” technical foul for the purposes of this Policy.

IV. Notification Requirements

As soon as possible *but not later than by the end of the day of the game in which the technical or game ejection was assessed*, the Head Coach shall report the issuance of a technical foul and/or game ejection to the Travel Director or, alternatively, the President of the Board. The Head Coach shall provide the name(s) of the individual(s) involved and the details of the circumstances under which technical foul and/or ejection was issued.

The notification requirement applies to both behavior- and non-behavior based technical fouls, and to every game ejection. Failure to promptly notify the Travel Director (or President) as required may result in administrative action against the Head Coach by the Board, up to and including suspension from future game(s) and/or removal as Head Coach.

V. Sanctions Against Adult MABA Participants Receiving a Behavior-Based Technical Foul and/or Game Ejection

Any adult MABA Participant who is assessed one or more behavior-based technical fouls and/or game ejections will be sanctioned as described below. In general, a Player's status shall not be affected by an individual-based sanction issued to his/her Parent provided that the Parent complies fully with the terms of the suspension.

A. Coach (Head and Assistants)¹

First Technical (season)	Suspension for one (1) game
Second Technical (season)	Suspension for two (2) games
Two Technicals / Ejection (single game)	Suspension for two (2) games
Third Technical or Second Ejection (season)	Suspension for remainder of season

B. Parents, Spectators, Scorekeepers and Timekeepers²

First Offense (technical or ejection)	Suspension for two (2) games
Second Offense (technical or ejection)	Suspension for remainder of season

C. Team-Based Sanctions for Technicals / Ejections Involving Adult Non-Coaches (in addition to B above)

First Offense (technical or ejection)	Mandatory Team Meeting With Board
Second & Subsequent Offense(s)	Potential forfeit of next game, at discretion of Board

VI. Sanctions Against Players or Other Minors Receiving a Behavior-Based Technical Foul and/or Game Ejection

Sanctions against Players or Other Minors (*e.g.*, a sibling spectator) who receive one or more behavioral-based technical fouls or game ejections will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Board of Directors in consultation with the Head Coach and/or the parents of the child.

VII. Additional Sanctions

The sanctions described above represent the *minimum* penalty actions to be taken by the Board, and are in addition to any other in-game or post-game sanction imposed by the Metrowest League or other League / Tournament governing body.

The Board reserves the right to impose more-stringent penalties on a case-by-case basis, as circumstances warrant.

¹ Head or Assistant Coaches receiving a suspension under this Policy will not be allowed to participate in or attend any Travel Program practices or games during the term of the suspension. Games subject to suspension include regular season and playoff games. In the event that a Head Coach is suspended, the Board shall appoint an interim Head Coach to manage the team during the term of the suspension.

² Parents, Spectators, Scorekeepers and Timekeepers receiving a suspension under this Policy will not be allowed to attend any Travel Program practices or games during the term of their suspension. Games subject to suspension include regular season and playoff games.