

Expectations of Sporting Behaviour and Behaviour Management

We would like to reiterate our commitment to maintaining a fun, social, and safe environment for all participants in our competition. We encourage sportsmanship and respect at every level to ensure that everyone can enjoy a positive and friendly competitive space.

Following recent observations from our umpires and supervisors we would like to remind **all** coaches, players, managers, parents, and spectators that any form of unsporting behaviour both on and off the court will not be tolerated.

As such, we will be introducing new rules regarding points deductions where instances of unsporting behaviour are observed.

2-Point Deduction

A 2-point deduction from a **team's season points**, not game score, will be issued by a court supervisor in consultation with umpires where serious instances of unsporting behaviour or misconduct are observed. This applies to **ALL** people associated with a team, including but not limited to; parents, spectators, friends, coaches, admins, managers and players.

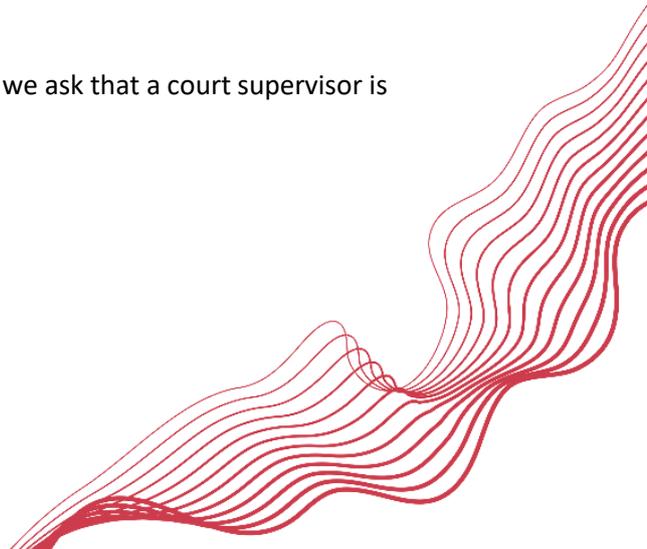
Key Points:

- Points deductions may influence ladder standings and therefore eligibility for finals.
- These measures are in place to preserve the integrity of the game and promote good sportsmanship and accountability among all individuals present within our competitions.

How You Can Contribute:

We believe that by working together, we can effectively address these issues and prevent points deductions.

- We kindly request assistance from all players, admins, coaches, parents and guardians to keep those involved with your team accountable to these standards.
 - If team captains, coaches or parents observe a player displaying signs of distress or potential unsporting behaviour, we ask that the coach or captain pre-emptively remove the player from the game the following quarter to address the situation as necessary.
- Where such issues are recognised amongst spectators, we ask that a court supervisor is notified immediately, to avoid escalation.



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Examples of behaviours that are not acceptable before, during, after, or between games in our competition

Examples of such behaviours from **players** may include:

- Aggressive contact/challenges/play
- Pinching, punching, kicking, pushing or any other unnecessary physical conduct that is beyond attempting to fairly play the ball in the expected manner of the game
- **Swearing or aggressive language**
- Retaliation (e.g. responding to being tackled by pushing the player that has tackled them)
- Arguing with the umpire's decision or not following umpire instructions
- Antagonising the opposition (e.g. yelling or celebrating in the face of the opposition)
- **Simulating/Diving to gain a penalty pass**
- **Mocking or goading opposition players or spectators to any degree before, during or after a game.**
- **Any other form of unsporting behaviour as determined by the umpire and/or supervisor**

Examples of such behaviours from **coaches/admins/spectators etc.** may include:

- Arguing with umpires or not following umpires' instructions
- Instructing or encouraging violent or aggressive play
- Yelling or arguing with any member of the opposing team, their coaches, or their spectators
- **Swearing**
- **Aggressive or intimidating language and behaviour**
- **Demanding or instructing umpires to make certain calls.**
- Entering the field of play for any reason without umpire permission

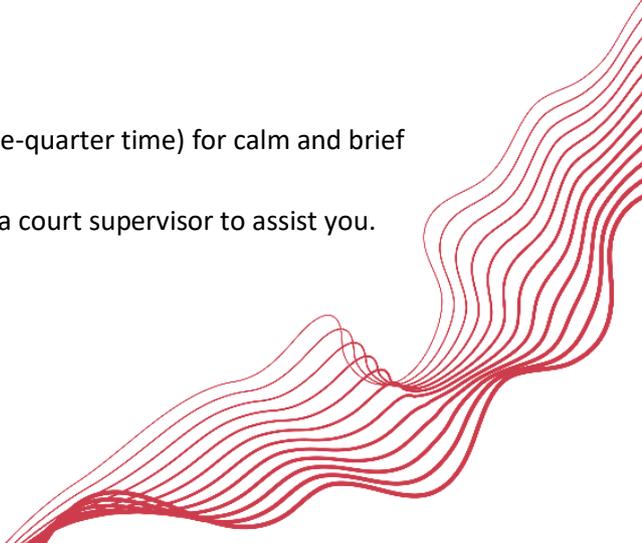
Umpires at all levels may miss calls or you make calls you disagree with, however, we have no tolerance of any form of abuse toward umpires, nor players or spectators.

We want to create a supportive and encouraging atmosphere **where the players feel motivated and excited to play.**

What to do if you are concerned:

- **Please seek the court supervisor** who will assist or discuss any immediate concerns you might have.

What to do if you wish to clarify a call made by an umpire:

- Do not approach the umpire during play
 - You must wait for a break in game (quarter, half or three-quarter time) for calm and brief conversation with the umpire about your concern.
 - If your concern remains after that process, please seek a court supervisor to assist you.
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Warnings, Cautions, Suspensions and Ordering Off

Our umpires do have the authority to issue **players, captains, admins, and spectators** with warnings, cautions, suspensions and ordering off at their discretion.

While on many occasions players/coaches may receive a caution then warning before a suspension is given, umpires are not required to follow the order indicated and may establish a higher level of game management.

Players:

Cautions/Warnings:

- Receiving a caution/warning may come from an accumulation of unnecessary play, from a single instance of overly physical or aggressive play, swearing, dissent or any other action deemed not in the spirit of the game by the umpire.

Suspensions:

- A suspension will result in the player being required to leave the court for 2 minutes of play.
- They cannot be replaced by a substitute during this period; the team will play with that position vacant, unless the Centre is suspended, then one player must move to play as Centre during the suspension
- The 2-minute suspension will begin at the commencement of play. After the suspension, the player may re-join in their original position during a break in play (after a goal, during a stoppage or interval, or during a sanction (If a player has moved to fill Centre, they will move back to their original position)

Ordering Off:

- A player who has been ordered off may not take any further part in the match and must leave immediately.
- No substitute is permitted. If the Centre is ordered off, then one player must move to play as Centre and their position must be left vacant.

Coaches/managers:

Cautions/Warnings:

- Can be given to any team official, player, or spectator surrounding the playing space.
- After a warning is given, the opposing team will receive a penalty pass at the current placement of the ball when play was stopped.
- Receiving a caution/warning may come from an accumulation of unnecessary behaviour, from a single instance of overly physical or aggressive behaviour, swearing, dissent or any other action deemed not in the spirit of the game by the umpire.

Ordering the person's removal from the playing enclosure (stadium):

- A person who has been ordered out may not take any further part in the match and must leave the stadium space immediately.
- They may not re-enter the space, including between match intervals

If you have any questions or concerns with any of the above information, please feel free to talk to one of our court supervisors before or after your games this Sunday.

