



Team Sports Policy

Club Name: Blackwood Community Recreation Association Inc. –

Address: 1 Northcote Road

CITY: Eden Hills **Postcode:** 5050

Approved by BCRA Inc.: _____

Position held: _____

Signed: _____

Date of Approval: _____/_____/_____

Last Date of Review: _____/_____/_____

Next Date of Review: _____/_____/_____

PURPOSE

Blackwood Community Recreation Association Inc. (BCRAI) acknowledges that it has a duty of care to participants and is committed to the safety and well-being of all people who are involved in our activities and related events.

This Policy is to be read in conjunction with other BCRAI policies including: -

- *Alcohol*
- *Bullying & Harassment*
- *Child Safe Environments*
- *Communications & Social Media*
- *Conflict & Complaints Resolution*
- *Equipment*
- *Hot Weather*
- *Privacy*
- *Risk Management*
- *Work Health & Safety*

Codes of Behaviour

All sporting competitions at the Blackwood Community Recreation Centre are social competitions and are to be played in the spirit of fun and fairness. Respect for all, both on and off the playing arena underpins all of our competitions. Players, spectators and officials are expected to uphold a level of behaviour that reflects these values.

The following Codes of Behaviour have been adapted from the Play By The Rules guidelines.

Players

Players can help promote positive sporting environments by:

Being a good sport

- Play with respect, integrity and fairness
- Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat
- If you win, don't rub it in
- If you lose, don't make excuses
- Control your temper
- Don't use bad language or make derogatory remarks.

Respect your opponent

- Treat your opponent the way you would like to be treated
- Thank the opposition at the end of the game

Respect officials

- Accept and respect the official's decision
- Thank the official at the end of the game
- If you have an issue, raise it in a professional way with your team captain after the game.

Spectators

Aggressive, threatening or other inappropriate behaviour by members, their families, their friends, and other sporting personnel while attending a game or event will not be tolerated.

Examples of behaviour not to be tolerated are:-

- using bad language
- harassing or ridiculing players, coaches, officials or other spectators
- making racist, religious, sexist or other inappropriate comments to players, coaches, officials or other spectators
- any threatening behaviour or physical altercation between spectators and players, coaches, officials or other spectators
- putting undue pressure on children, berating them or putting down their performance
- drinking at a game or being drunk during an event.

Officials

Officials can help create a positive sporting environment and promote positive environments by being good role models. To do this:-

Encourage fair play

- Always be fair, impartial and consistent.
- Encourage and praise good sporting behaviour.

Communicate well

- Communicate honestly, generously and fairly.
- Express decisions clearly.
- Keep your emotions in check and maintain composure.

Uphold the Centre's Code of conduct

- Understand, uphold and support the code of conduct for officials.

Keep up to date and organised

- Know the rules and understand the spirit of the game.
- Be conscientious and punctual.

For officials of junior sport, it's also important to:

- Emphasise trying hard and having fun, not only winning.
- Place the safety and welfare of children above all else.

Team Names

- Team names are not to be offensive, suggestive, derogatory, rude, or anything that may cause concern or upset to other centre users.
- The Recreation Centre staff may reject any team name that does not meet the standards of the Centre's sporting competitions.

Jewelry & accessories

Players may not wear anything that could endanger themselves or other players, specifically:

- No adornment or jewellery (including piercings) may be worn
- Players with expansion plug piercings will need to remove plugs and tape the holes left by the removed plugs
- A medical alert bracelet may be worn provided it is covered with tape and labelled 'medical' in case of an emergency

All other forms of jewellery and accessories not clearly specified are subject to the Supervising Staff's discretion.

Officials have the authority to prevent any player from taking the court unless these rules are adhered to.

Players requiring glasses must wear contact lenses or prescribed sports goggles approved by officials while on court.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION STEPS

1. On court disputes
 - **Only a Team Captain or designated player** may approach an official to dispute a call or seek clarification of a decision.
 - If more than one player from either team approaches the official during or after a match, team sanctions may be applied, including forfeiting of the game.
2. If not resolved on court, players and/or officials are to refer to Centre Duty Supervisor to try and resolve the issue
3. If further complaint resolution is requested/needed. Player/s and umpires to fill out a Complaints form.
4. Complaints forms are directed to the Sports Coordinator
 - a. If necessary, the Sports Coordinator will contact Captain/s to organize mediation involving a team representative, the Sports Coordinator and Centre Manager/Assistant Manager.
5. Resolution Meeting between Centre Manager/Assistant Manager and Sports Coordinator
6. Written summary on resolution including any sanctions are to distributed to all parties involved.

Reports & Tribunals

A tribunal can be called by the BCRC if any of the penalties listed in the penalty index below have been reported. A tribunal will be called if the BCRC cannot reach a timely resolution with the above conflict resolution steps. Please note the Centre may prohibit players from playing until the tribunal process has been completed.

Any sanctions/suspensions given must be served immediately after the player has been notified. Individuals will not be permitted to play in any league/division at the Centre until the full suspension has been served.

Penalty Index:

This index serves as a guide for the Sports Coordinator and Management to make a final judgement.

| | | | | SANCTION |
|--|--------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Abusive Language: Derogatory, offensive, or abusive comments, excessive audible swearing, obscene remarks, Discriminatory slur | | | | 1-3 matches |
| Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Offensive gestures, deliberate provocation, throwing, hitting or kicking of articles or equipment | | | | 1-3 matches |
| Resisting: Refusal to obey any reasonable and legal instruction given by an official. | | | | 1-3+ matches |
| Unduly Rough Play (during play): Undue physical action used to gain advantage, pushing, tripping, elbowing, jumping into, barging | | | | 1-4+ matches |
| | CONDUCT | IMPACT | CONTACT | |
| PHYSICAL CONDUCT: STRIKING KICKING | INTENTIONAL | SEVERE | HIGH/GROIN | 4+ Matchers |
| | | | BODY | 3+ Matches |
| | | HIGH | HIGH/GROIN | 3 Matches |
| | | | BODY | 2 Matches |
| | | MEDIUM | HIGH/GROIN | 2 Matches |
| | | | BODY | 1 Match |
| | LOW/NONE | HIGH/GROIN | 1 Match | |
| | | BODY | 1 Match | |
| | CARELESS | SEVERE | HIGH/GROIN | 3+ Matches |
| | | | BODY | 2+ Matches |
| | | HIGH | HIGH/GROIN | 2 Matches |
| | | | BODY | 1 Match |
| | | MEDIUM | HIGH/GROIN | 1 Match |
| | | | BODY | 1 Match |
| LOW/NONE | | HIGH/GROIN | 1 Match | |
| | | BODY | WARNING | |

Finance

Registration Bond

- On joining a competition, each team will be required to pay a **Registration Bond** equal to the Team Match Fee.
- This Registration Bond must be paid in full within the first 3 games of the season.
- The Registration Bond will be held in credit and may be used to help cover a portion of the teams first forfeit fee incurred in the current season only.
- At the end of the season (ie the team's last game), if the Registration Bond has not been used towards a forfeit fee, teams may carry it over to the next season, however if a team is not returning for the following season the Registration Bond **MUST** be used to cover the team match fee for the last game.
- The Registration bond cannot be cashed out at the end of the season.
- If a team withdraws in the middle of a season the Registration Bond is kept by the Recreation Centre as an exit fee.

Weekly Team Match Fee (Excluding In-Line Hockey competitions)

- The **Team Match Fee** must be paid in full prior to the commencement of each match.
- For administration purposes, the Team Match Fee must be paid by one player only from each team.
- Once the Team Match Fee has been paid in full the team will receive a **team ticket** that is to be given to the official adjudicating the match, indicating that payment has been made in full.
- All matches will commence at the scheduled time and any team that has not submitted their **team ticket** must finalise payment with reception immediately.
- A team may take the court without the team ticket at the start of the match, however, in doing so must commence with one player short, until the team ticket has been given to the official, at which time the full team may resume play.
- If a team fails to submit a **team ticket**, they will receive an **In-Game Forfeit**, and forfeit penalties in terms of scores and premiership points will apply (see particulars in specific sport Bylaws). A "Strike" will also be recorded against the team (See below).

Match Forfeit

- If a team forfeits a match, a forfeit fee will be applied.
- All forfeit fees must be paid within 21 days of the forfeit occurring. If the forfeit fee is not paid within the time frame, the next match (whether played or not) will be classed as a forfeit loss and the team will be suspended from playing until the fee is paid.

Strikes

- Each team may receive 5 strikes per season – teams who receive 3 strikes may, at the discretion of centre management, be withdrawn from the competition and be unable to register for the following season.
- Teams will receive a strike for a:
 1. Match Forfeit
 2. Failing to produce a team ticket
 3. Any player incident sanctions

Green Shirt Program

The Blackwood Recreation Centre supports the Green Shirt Program.

Aim of the Green Shirt Program:-

- To make new officials identifiable so that they are easy to recognise and support.
- To promote the program to the sports community to raise awareness and increase the recognition and support of new officials
- To assist in reducing pressure and lessening abuse and conflict directed towards new officials
- To create a culture of support towards these new officials via the education of players, spectators, coaches and the media about Codes of Conduct, Play By The Rules, Sideline Rage and Sport Rage.

Officials wearing a green shirt are beginners so must be given an opportunity to develop their skills without harassment or abuse.

Alcohol

- The Recreation Centre is an alcohol-free venue.
- Any person entering the Centre who is intoxicated will be asked to leave.

*For the purposes of this policy, a person is defined as in a **state of intoxication** if his or her speech, balance, co-ordination or behaviour is noticeably affected and there are reasonable grounds for believing that this is the result of the consumption of alcohol.*

- Any person bringing alcohol into the Centre will be asked to leave.
- Under certain circumstances the Centre Manager may grant an exemption to this policy. Such exemptions will be subject to appropriate approvals and protocols being followed.

Smoking

- The Recreation Centre is built on school grounds and smoking is not permitted anywhere inside or outside the building.
- Smoking is only permitted outside the front gates of the Recreation Centre.

Approved by the Board of Management of the Blackwood Community Recreation Association Incorporated

October 2021