# *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:** _____/_____/_____

## PREAMBLE

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. We are a non-licensed venue therefore alcohol shall not be brought onto the premises.

**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

## ALL JEWELLERY THAT CAN BE REMOVED MUST BE REMOVED!

**EXCEPTION*

Where jewellery cannot be removed due to medical, religious reasons or due to the nature of the jewellery, it must be properly secured by sports tape only (band-aids will not suffice). Sports tape must be supplied by the player and will not be supplied by the Blackwood Recreation Centre.

Additionally, players requiring glasses are to wear contact lenses or prescribed sports goggles approved by umpires while on court. DISCLAIMER: If players want to wear their glasses on court they may do so at their own risk.

**ABANDONED GAMES**

A game may be abandoned where, in the opinion of the Centre, the game cannot safely or reasonably continue due to circumstances including, but not limited to:

- Injury or illness;
- Unsafe playing conditions;
- Facility, court or equipment issues;
- Weather or other environmental conditions;
- Behaviour of players, spectators or officials; or
- Any other circumstance that prevents the game from continuing

**Game Results:**

- If a game is abandoned before 75% of the scheduled playing time has been completed, the game will be classified as a draw, regardless of the score at the time of abandonment.
- If a game is abandoned after 75% of the scheduled playing time has been completed, the score at the time of abandonment will stand and the result will be recorded accordingly.
- The time completed will be determined by the official game clock or, where this is unavailable, by the relevant umpire or Centre official.

## FINANCE

It is the team's responsibility to ensure it remains financial.

**Administrative Registration Fee:** Charged at the start of each new season, added to the teamaccount, and payable at the team's first game.

**Weekly Match Fee:** Must be paid in full prior to the commencement of each match by one player over the counter or via Teampay. Scoresheets will be stamped paid prior to court access. Teams taking the court without prior payment must start one player short until payment is finalised.

**Match Forfeits:** If a team forfeits, a forfeit fee applies and must be paid via Wellness Living. Unpaid forfeit fees prior to the next scheduled match will result in a forfeit loss for that subsequent match.

**Mid-Season Withdrawal:** Mid-season withdrawals incur a $40.00 exit fee. Notice provided less than 48 hours prior to game day will also incur the standard match forfeit fee.

## GENERAL POLICIES

## 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.

## HOT WEATHER POLICY

The Blackwood Recreation Centre acknowledges that we have a duty of care to participants is committed to the safety and well-being of all people who are involved in our activities. Therefore, our Hot Weather cutoffs are as follows:

**Junior Team sports:** cancellation at 36*C **Senior Team Sports:** cancellation at 38*C

**Pickleball:** Cancellation at 35*C

**See separate Hot Weather Policy for further details*

**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 are to email the sports coordinator directly, sports@blackwoodrec.com.au
4. Complaints 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.

## SANCTIONS & GOOD BEHAVIOUR BONDS

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.

A Good Behaviour Bond may be imposed on any player or team found to have breached this Policy or engaged in conduct considered inappropriate, unsafe, discriminatory, abusive, or contrary to the values of the Blackwood Recreation Centre. The bond will outline the expected behaviour, the duration of the bond, and any conditions required to remain in good standing. Failure to comply with the conditions of the Good Behaviour Bond, or any further breach of policy during the bond period, may result in additional disciplinary action, including suspension or exclusion from Recreation Centre activities

## CONCUSSION PROTOCOL (RECOMMENDATION)

The Australian Institute of Sport - Return to sport protocol for community and youth sport includes;

*Consideration of all symptom domains (physical, cognitive, emotional, fatigue, sleep) throughout the recovery process.*

- Introduction of light exercise after an initial 24-48 hours of relative rest.
- Gradual reintroduction of learning and work activities. As with physical activity, cognitive stimulation such as using screens, reading, undertaking learning activities should be gradually introduced after 48 hours.
- At least 14 days symptom free (at rest) before return to contact/collision training. The temporary exacerbation of mild symptoms with exercise is acceptable, as long as the symptoms quickly resolve at the completion of exercise, and as long as the exercise-related symptoms have completely resolved before resumption of contact training.
- A minimum period of 21 days until the resumption of competitive contact/collision sport.

https://www.concussioninsport.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/1133994/37382_Concussion-Guidelines-for-community-and-youth-FA-acc-v2.pdf

**Attachment Penalty Index**: This index serves as a guide for the Sports Coordinator and Management to make a final judgement.

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | **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 |
| **CONDUCT TOWARDS OFFICAIL (*greater penalties apply*)**<br>**Resisting:** Refusal to obey any reasonable and legal instruction given by an official<br>**Verbal Abuse/Berating:** Derogatory, offensive, or abusive comments, excessive audible swearing, obscene remarks, Discriminatory slur towards referee<br>**Physical Contact:** Any unsolicited physical contact made with referee | | | | 1-3+ matches<br>2-4+ matches<br><br>Incurs Rec Centre ban |
| **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:**<br>**STRIKING**<br>**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 |

Approved by the Board of Management of the Blackwood Community Recreation Association Incorporated
October 2026