

Points of Emphasis

COMMUNICATION

Referees will go and introduce themselves before the game to both coaches, (walk over as a team, crew chief leads, shake hands or fist pump, say your name, crew chief to politely remind coaches when the best time to ask questions is, ask them to go through the scoretable for timeouts and for subs to use the sub seats next to the scoretable. wish them luck and move on).

Referees are expected to preventatively officiate the game with effective voice. Speaking clearly to players during the game to prevent illegal contact will assist flow and better quality and strengthens a referees whistle, make sure we are using our voice when we call a foul (eg. Whistle goes, voice who the foul is on, type of foul and penalty, then jog off to present to the scoretable).

Referees will be open to questions from coaches if they are asked correctly (during dead ball situations, time outs, not as the referee is running past them or actively refereeing the game). Referees will acknowledge when asked a question and come back to them if needed.

PLAYER / COACH BEHAVIOUR

Audible loud swearing will be an automatic technical foul, coaches showing dissent towards referees need to be pulled up early and then dealt with if they continue, coaches will not be allowed “to go fishing” if they got their answer from one ref, they cannot then go to another referee asking the same question.

Clubs have been advised that the following principles to communication between referees and the head coach and players:

a) Referees are expected to communicate respectfully with players/coaches during games upon the following basis:

1. Communication needs to be at an appropriate time, that is during a dead ball period – not during the play when an official’s concentration should be on the game.
2. Coaches should ask a question. Merely, calling “that’s a foul” is not a question. A question asked will be answered but it is not an opportunity for debate.
3. Questions and conversation with the referee should be in front/next to them not yelling across the court.
4. “Asked and Answered” – coaches cannot repeatedly ask the same question or ask each official the same question (hoping for a different answer)

b) Both referees & coaches must appreciate that the other has a different perspective, they are standing in a different position, & they are watching the game differently. Each may have seen something that the referee did not see.



Inappropriate and unacceptable behaviour by a player or coach will not be tolerated.

The assistant coach shall not address the officials.

Trash talking **WILL** be dealt with swiftly with a warning then a technical foul for second incident, if a player or coach comes to you about trash talking give both teams a warning then next incident will be a Technical Foul.

NOTE - Any off-court behaviour will to be first reported to the Referee Coach if one appointed on the game who will then advise SA Country staff who will then deal with the issue. Poor behaviour from spectators will not be tolerated.

CONTACT CRITERIA

- Reminder to watch the defender to ensure we have all the information.
- Be patient and allow ourselves time to process the play before making a decision.
- Is the contact **momentary** or **marginal, is it repeatable** and on template.
- If the contact caused by a player in any way restricts the players freedom of movement or forcibly moves an opponent, such contact is a foul.
- Significant (Heavy) contact must have a whistle – eg. a block/charge play where both players are knocked off balance.
- Remember to keep in mind the abilities of the players their attitude & conduct during the game.
- Consistency in the balance between game control and game flow, having a 'feeling' for what the participants are trying to do and calling what is right for the game.
- We want to avoid making a call on imminent shot attempts.
- We want to reward good defence; make sure you know if players are going A>A then contact occurs or if they are going A>B then contact occurs. A>A is what we call good vertical defence, A>B might be a foul.

SHOOTER PROTECTION

All illegal contact in the act of shooting is to be called a foul. Referees will ensure they are also protecting outside shooters and their landing space using the process of Hands – Body – Feet (BHF) on shooters before releasing vision to the basket or the rebound contest.