



INFORMATION SHEET FOR COACHES AND TEAM MANAGERS

Expectations of Coaches

Firstly, a big thank you for coaching and creating an environment for our players that is healthy, energetic but most of all FUN. All Stars recognises the valuable contribution provided by our coaches, without whom the club would not operate.

Great coaching is something that All Stars wants to be known for. As a coach you are the face of the All Stars club and have a significant influence on the players. As part of this responsibility there are some (non-negotiable) items that must be followed:

1. Positive reinforcement rather than negative and direct accusations to the players
2. Equal court time for each player
3. Respect for players, parents and officials (swearing is not tolerated)
4. Coaches are there to nurture and develop skills and to encourage players to enjoy Basketball as a sport regardless of their capabilities

Allstars and Knox Basketball adopt the Basketball Victoria code of conduct which can be accessed on our website www.knoxallstars.org.au/codes-of-conduct.

When and how do I communicate with my team?

Communication is very important to build trust and to ensure all team members are up to date with information.

Speak to the parents and players about your expectations for the season and encourage them to let you know if there are any medical or social issues you need to be aware of (eg; allergies, asthma).

We would like to stress the importance of positive reinforcement of the kids...we want them to be supported and developed in a positive, encouraging manner, remembering they are just kids.

We recommend asking for a volunteer to be team manager to help you organise these things. Although people can check KBI website for game times, we recommend that the team manager confirm game times each week, particularly if there is a change in time or venue. They can do this via text/email/phone call. The team manager may also want to give a team contact list in case parents need to organise a lift /swap scoring duties.

Court time

At All Stars we have a policy of equal court time - this is non-negotiable. It is advisable to plan your subs and keep a record particularly where the team may have 8 or more players as this can get confusing to manage.

Do I need to organise a scoring roster?

This is up to you and your team manager, however we recommend that you create a roster to avoid the same people doing it each week. New parents that don't know how to score can be buddied with someone who can score. Reiterate to parents that it is their responsibility to swap if they can't score on their rostered week.

What do I do if I need a fill in?

If you require a fill in, contact the coach of any teams in lower gradings to yours. For example, if your team plays B grade, you can get a fill in from BR grade teams and below. You cannot get a fill in from a higher grade. Please try and get a fill in from your age group first and then if unable to find someone, contact coaches from lower age groups (this can be from the same or lower grades). Make sure you check the number of the fill-ins top so you don't double up and check with that the player has not filled in twice before. If you get stuck, contact your age group coordinator.

There may be circumstances where you need to forfeit a game – this should only be done with consultation with your age group coordinator.

What if I need alternate tops?

All Stars will contact you if you require alternate tops and organise for them to be dropped off or collected.

Do I need a first aid kit / what if a player is injured during a game?

It is advisable to carry a simple first aid kit - something simple like a few bandaids, nail clippers and an ice pack.

If a player is injured during a game ensure the referee records the injury on the system. If the injury remains (and if players are injured outside of basketball for an extended period) please ensure the player gets a medical certificate for games missed and this is sent to the All Stars secretary (important for finals eligibility).

What if I am away and can't coach?

Hopefully you have an assistant coach to take over! If not, contact your age group coordinator. We ask that you check with them first before asking a parent to step in as we must ensure all people dealing with the kids have working with children checks.

What if I have an issue with a player or parent conduct?

Please treat with sensitivity and try and resolve it calmly with the person, preferably with a third party present. Your age group coordinator can help if you are unsure on how to approach or if the issue is unresolved. For any issues that cannot be resolved we have an independent issues resolution group that can assist with the process (see our website www.knoxallstars.org.au/incident-report-form for further details)

If a player is reported, contact the All Stars secretary immediately to advise of the situation.

Referees

The issue of the refs often comes up. We don't accept coaches / parents / players being openly critical of the referees as it reflects poorly on our club and is bad sportsmanship. We want our kids to focus on their basketball, not the refs...just as we want our coaches to focus on their team. If you feel there is a significant issue that must be addressed, these are the steps to take:

- Call a time out or wait until half time
- Approach the refs in front of the scoring bench and explain your issue quietly and calmly
- If issue is not resolved to your satisfaction, you may ask a parent to find the referee supervisor (there is one at every venue) and express your concerns to them
- After the game, if you still feel like issue is unresolved, put your complaint in writing with team name, time of game and venue (and refs name if possible) and send it to the All Stars secretary
- The secretary will forward your complaint onto the Referees Association.

At the end of the day, it's a game. If you are likely to lose your temper, check yourself and remember that players look up to you and model your behavior.

Fixtures

All fixtures are done by the Knox Basketball Association. All Stars have no input or control over these. Fixtures cannot be changed to suit us unfortunately, so we ask that you be as flexible as possible.

Game day

Might be common sense but a few things to remember:

- Tick off player on score system and check numbers of all players
- Make sure your subs are clear
- 2 timeouts per half
- Ensure your players shake hands with the opposition at the end, as should you with the opposing coach and refs

How does grading work

The grading process is run by volunteers made up from each of the different clubs who do their best to create a competition where all teams are competitive. The grading process is outlined below:

- Teams are placed in grades based on club recommendations and the grade secretaries discretion (teams are not always placed where the club recommends them to be placed)
- The grading process goes for 7 games at which time teams are assessed on their performance in the grade by grade secretaries who attend games and by the team results
- Early regrades may occur after round 3 at the grade secretaries discretion where a team is significantly uncompetitive (ie winning or losing by a large margin)
- At the end of grading there is a grading meeting where each of the teams grading is reviewed. This is attended by all clubs and by the grade secretaries. Robust discussion is often had at these meetings around the team's performance and where they should be graded.