



Policy Name:	Coach Responsibility Policy
Approved BY:	General Committee
Responsible:	Director of Coaching
Effective Date;	May 2021
Review Cycle:	2 Years

Purpose

To align the coaching partnership to increase the chances for team 'success' and support the development pipeline of coaches. Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches have key identifiable roles and responsibilities that when executed contribute to a more organised, smoother and enjoyable season. Coaches should be identified, selected and appointed on the basis that they can adequately undertake the responsibilities outlined in this policy.

Scope

This Policy applies to all Coaches within the Club's Junior Programs.

Implementation

Coaches over the age of 17 are required to hold a valid Working with Children Check and any other relevant documentation required by the competition in which the coach is involved

No coach should be obliged to accept an Assistant, unless for some reason the Assistant has been appointed earlier and the coach understands before acceptance that the Assistant is part of the terms of appointment.

Coaches must abide by the Basketball Victoria Coaches Code of Conduct.

As a member of the bench Coaches are bound to display sportsmanship.

Coaches should remember only one member of the bench may be standing (the coach) during play.

In addition, Coaches must not criticize other coaches to any parent or player associated with the team or concur with any criticism from those sources.

Assistant Coaches should also recognize and support the coaches' philosophy, if this is not possible, after due discussion, the Assistant Coach should resign.

The only situation in which Assistant Coaches should formally contest the coach's actions is if they believe the coaches' conduct is in breach of the Basketball Victoria

code of conduct or endangers the health/safety of players or the property/reputation of the Club. Complaints should be made to the Welfare Committee, Director of Coaching or relevant Committee.

Complaints concerning technical matters of coaching should be addressed directly to the coach in the first instance and if still unresolved the coach is to raise with the Director of Coaching.

Role of a Head Coach

It is recognized that each Head Coach operates differently. Performed tasks will vary due to skills, experience and necessity. Tasks of a Head Coach may include:

1. Leading all communication within and throughout the team (parents, players, coaches, team managers)
2. Lead, direct and support team manager in their delegated role
3. Development of team rules, expectations, season plans and objectives
4. Develop and execute written plans for training sessions
5. Ensure all players are introduced and taught a variety of skills and concepts and developed across varying playing positions
6. Ensure players are athletically developed through warm-ups and stretching practices
7. Lead the development of assistant coaches and ensure they have an empowered delegated role
8. Keep some statistics for further team and individual development and feedback
9. Scouting of opposition teams before and during games
10. Provide suggestions and feedback to players and assistant coaches
11. Provide clear and proactive communication/s both during and after a game where player/s have demonstrated frustrations.
12. Review games with the assistant coach
13. Provide any specialized knowledge/teaching when expertise is appropriate. (Don't need this).

The Coach should seek to make the season a fun learning experience for the whole team. The whole team includes players, parents, coaches and team managers.

Role of an Assistant Coach

It is recognized that various coach - assistant coach partnerships will have different distributions of tasks. Tasks of an Assistant Coach may include:

1. Controlling warm up and stretching
2. Keep some statistics
3. Scout opposition teams before and during games
4. Provide suggestions and feedback to coaches

5. Reiterate coach's points to players arriving and departing from the bench
6. Provide positive communication on the bench with players
7. Review games with the coach
8. Reinforce coaches' messages during training
9. Run drills where appropriate
10. Keep records of some training performances
11. Substitute for the coach in the absence of the coach
12. Provide any specialized knowledge/teaching when expertise is appropriate.

Making the Partnership Work

Coaches are in a very influential and impressionable position; it is imperative they have an aligned partnership. At the time of selection, Coaches should discuss and outline their expectations of the Assistant Coach before the appointment is finalized. The Assistant Coach must indicate any reservations as early as possible.

Communication needs to be regular, with opportunity for this to be two-way.

Positive reinforcement is beneficial to coaches as well as players. Both the Coach and Assistant Coach are encouraged to discuss all team related ideas, and to openly acknowledge each other with positive feedback for all input.

The Assistant Coach should commence with the expectation that only some of the suggestions made during a game will be accepted.

This document should be referenced in coach orientation and assistant coach appointment at relevant times and sessions.

Encouragements

Wherever possible the Assistant Coach should receive awards made to the team and coach.

All coaches should be invited to Coaches' meetings and functions.

All coaches shall be recognized as a 'helper' category for family discounts on subscriptions if not reimbursed otherwise.

Coaching Directors and other experienced coaches should recognize Assistant Coaches as possible coaches of the future and therefore invest time in their encouragement and education.