



Disciplinary Guideline Document

Underlying Principles

Basketball is a fast sport played at professional, semi-professional and amateur level by athletic players. In such a sport situations will naturally arise that will require debate and disciplinary decisions, and BE's disciplinary system is there to support and protect all participants without sanitising the sport.

Each case must be judged on its merits and decisions reached by applying judgement and discretion.

Disciplinary guidelines

Regulation 49.7 of the Basketball England regulations states that a system of cumulative "penalty points" will apply, and a one game suspension automatically comes into force whenever a person's total penalty points reaches (or exceeds) each of the following totals: 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 etc.

The tables on pages 4 to 6 are to be used as guidelines only in respect of the type of disciplinary action that will be taken against all participants for improper conduct as detailed. They are not in any way definitive and the Disciplinary Officer/Panel will make their judgement as appropriate after taking into account all the evidence made available to them.

The after disqualification points column refers to actions of a participant after they have been disqualified, e.g. a player is disqualified for violent conduct, which will give them at least a one game ban, they then direct a stream of abuse at a participant or kick an advertising board, they will then get additional points on top of the points normally received for the 'act' of disqualification.

The Disciplinary Guidelines will also apply to Spectators and Team Followers of their respective clubs.

Appeals

49.5 Any Club or individual may appeal against a decision of the Disciplinary Officer, Officer of Basketball England or Competitions Review Panel by submitting an appeal with Basketball England as follows:

49.5.1 The grounds for the appeal must be submitted by the appellant in writing to Basketball England within seven (7) days (unless otherwise specified) of (i) the appellant being notified of the relevant decision or (ii) the date of any incident incurring automatic disciplinary points.

49.5.2 The appeal must be accompanied by a deposit of £500 for senior competitions and £250 for age group competitions.

49.5.3 An appeals panel appointed by Basketball England will review the appeal submission and will elect in its sole discretion to determine the validity of the appeal either (i) based solely on the written submission, or (ii) on the basis of the written submission and by hearing oral evidence given by the appellant together with any other party or parties who, in the appeal panel's opinion may be affected by the decision. For the avoidance of doubt, a personal hearing shall be convened solely at the discretion of the appeal panel, and is not an automatic right of the appellant.



- 49.5.4 Any decision of the appeals panel shall be final and binding on the parties.
- 49.5.5 The appeals panel shall determine whether the deposit is returned to the appellant in full, in part, or not at all.
- 49.5.6 The Appeals Panel may award costs and expenses against the appellant as it deems appropriate.

Timeline

The timeline shows a guide of the disciplinary process. This is not in any way definite and may be adjusted accordingly.

Saturday	Incident
Sunday	Incident
Monday	Reports Received. Must be received by Tuesday 12:00pm
Tuesday	Notification of Disciplinary Process and officials reports sent to club
Wednesday	
Thursday	Deadline for teams to submit reports
Friday	Consideration by Disciplinary Officer
Saturday	
Sunday	
Monday	
Tuesday	Disciplinary outcome sent to club (deadline for clubs to submit appeal 48 hours following notification)
Wednesday-	
Thursday-	Suspension Letters issued
Friday-	
Saturday-	Suspension in force
Sunday-	Suspension in force

(Time frames for midweek games will be adjusted accordingly.)



Disciplinary procedures

Outstanding suspensions

Any suspension or part thereof which remains outstanding at the end of a season resulting from these disciplinary procedures must be served at the commencement of the next season, within the terms of these disciplinary procedures. Before a participant is eligible to serve a suspension in a following season they must be licensed and registered to compete with their respective team. No suspension can be served unless the participant's registration is fully complete. Once registered a suspension letter will be issued by Basketball England to highlight the fixtures/dates during that current season for which the carried over suspension should be served.

Re-arranged matches

The Disciplinary Officer shall have discretionary power to rule that a match shall not count towards the completion of a suspension if it is satisfied that the game has been arranged by the club with a view to enabling a player to complete his suspension and thus qualify him to play in a specific match.

Dismissals

Where a player, coach or official is disqualified by the referees, he/she must leave the venue and take no further part in the game (including not in a spectating capacity or via electronic devices such as mobile phones etc).

BE shall not tolerate violent conduct of any kind. Where a person registered with BE is found to have committed an assault on another player, coach, official, referee and/or spectator, the person concerned shall be suspended in accordance with disciplinary sanctions herein. Where required, BE shall also supply names of officials and/or witnesses to relevant authorities should legal proceeding be instigated.

Grading & Description of offences

There are five possible grades for each offence. Grade 1 is the lowest level of offence and Grade 5 the most serious.

The most common offences are listed in the sentencing guidelines below with a description to assist all those concerned in referring to incidents in a standardised manner. It is accepted that there will be incidents not covered by the guideline descriptions and each sub section of the laws includes other Offences which can also be graded from 1 to 5.



PLAYERS

	Incident	Disqualification Points	After Disqualification Points	Not Disqualified Points	Fine
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violent Conduct 3 (Continuous violent behaviour/physical violence) 	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Up to £10,000
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violent Conduct 2 (Pre-meditated physical violence). Verbal Abuse 3 (Continuous & aggressive abuse) 	8-21 added		15+	Up to £1000
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violent Conduct 1 (Physical retaliation). General Improper conduct. 	5-10 added		9-15	Up to £500
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbal Abuse 2 (Excessive Obscene/Foul Language) 	3-8 added		4-12	Up to £200
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unsportsmanlike Conduct Verbal Abuse 1 (Obscene/Foul Language). 	0-3 added		5-10	N/A



Coaches

	Incident	Disqualification points	After Disqualification points	Not Disqualified points	Fine
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violent Conduct 3 (Continuous violent behaviour/physical violence). 	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Up to £10,000
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violent conduct 2 (Premeditated violent behaviour). Violent Conduct 1 (including towards own Team Members). 	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Up to £1000
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbal Abuse 3 (Continuous & aggressive abuse). 	3-12 added		15+	Up to £500
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbal Abuse 2 (Excessive Obscene/Foul Language). 	6-12+ added		10+	Up to £200
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Improper Conduct. Verbal Abuse 1 (Obscene/Foul Language). 	0-8 Added		4-15	N/A

In addition, fines may be imposed when deemed necessary for incidents whether the participant was disqualified or not.



Match officials

	Incident	Action taken	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gross Misconduct- • Violent/aggressive behaviour (physical/verbal) • Theft or fraudulent behavior • Racial abuse/comments • Substance abuse • Sexual abuse • Drunken and disorderly conduct 	Lifetime ban from all Basketball England sanctioned games/events.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misconduct • Verbal Abuse. • Obscene/Foul Language. • Threatening words or actions. • Use of aggressive language and/or body language. 	Fixed period suspension from all BE licensed activities	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breach of Match officials Code of conduct 	4 th Offence – Fixed period suspension from all BE licensed activities & £150 Fine	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to submit a disciplinary report within the regulated time 	3 rd Offence - Final Warning. No officiating appointments for 4 weeks & £75 Fine	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to submit disciplinary report on official report form • Allowing players, coaches, team followers to participate in a match when they do not have a valid license card or do not produce a valid email received from the national leagues department 	2 nd Offence - Written Warning. No officiating appointments for 2 weeks & £50 Fine
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to check a score sheet which subsequently has mistakes affecting the result of the game • Arriving less than 20 minutes prior to the scheduled tip off time or failing to fulfil a nomination without a valid reason. • Failure to ensure that disqualified players/coaches are ejected from the venue