



(Approved at the VBRA November 2013 Board Meeting)

## CALLING OFF OF GAMES

It is essential that the game of basketball is played to the full time and in the proper environment, which is encouraging to all participants.

When situations involving individuals and/or teams misbehaving and causing disruptions to the game, it is vital that referees remain in control and assert authority.

Unfortunately some referees have selected the easy option of 'calling off' games over very minor misconduct. This is NOT acceptable and displays unprofessionalism from the referee, for not conducting themselves in a responsible manner. There are penalties in the rule book that should be administered for these infractions.

Referees should take the following precautionary measures;

- Identify court captains at the beginning of the game, advising them that sledging will not be tolerated and any questioning of decisions must be direct through the court captain (in the correct manner and at correct time). Failure to do so may result in technical fouls being administered
- Where players are having an altercation (either with referees and/or opposition members) and are disrupting the game, they should be immediately banished from the playing area. If the altercation involves physical violence, banish one team to a selected area and the other team to another designated area. Referees should not engage in lengthy discussions or arguments with players, coaches or spectators, administer the penalties accordingly and re-start the game. Players ejected from the game may result in reports being filed. It is advised that referees note activities briefly on the scoresheet before recommencing the game

Referees should only 'call off' games in the following situations;

- Lack of players to continue (less than two)
- A violent, uncontrollable 'melee' is in progress

If the later occurs and the games are 'called off' a report **MUST** be filed by the referees.