

The Ten Commandments of Calling Basketball in Victoria

The “10 Commandments” have been adopted by Basketball Victoria and endorsed by affiliated basketball associations in Victoria. The aim is to provide greater certainty to players, coaches and referees as to what will and will not be called in **domestic** basketball across the state.

The Ten Commandments were introduced at the commencement of the 2007 Premiership Season.

Basketball Victoria strongly recommends that every affiliated association and competition adopts and publicizes the following instructions to referees in virtually all their competitions. The aim is provide greater certainty to players, coaches and referees as to what will and will not be called in domestic basketball across the state. Most of the same instructions could apply to all levels of elite basketball as well.

1. Contact by a defensive player on a shooter **must always** be called a foul
2. Bumping or hand-checking of a dribbler by a defensive player **must always** be called a foul
3. Bumping a cutter by a defensive player **must always** be called a foul
4. Swearing by a player or coach **must always** be called a Technical foul
5. Any deliberate **rough** contact with an opponent **must always** be called an unsportsmanlike foul
6. If a player or coach disputes a referee’s decision it **must always** be called a Technical foul
7. Advantage/disadvantage is NOT to be applied (except maybe in some senior “A” grade competitions)
8. If you are unsure as to whether a foul is a shooting foul, **always** call it a shooting foul
9. If you are unsure as to whether or not points should be awarded (for example after a foul on a shooter), **always** count the points
10. When refereeing junior basketball, where appropriate, talk to the players about their actions and your calls.
11. Clear lane/pathway foul is an unsportsmanlike foul will results in 2 shots and side ball, but the player **will not be sin binned**.

Approved by the Board of Basketball Victoria and the Victorian Basketball Referee’s Association.(TOC)