



Instructions

DISCRIMINATORY OR INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR IN
A BASKETBALL GAME

BASKETBALL
FINLAND

Instructions for handling discriminatory or inappropriate behavior in a basketball game

INTRODUCTION

What is discriminatory or inappropriate behavior?

- Any comments related to an individual's appearance, nationality, or ethnic background
- Comments related to gender or sexual orientation

These instructions help referees, officials, and teams intervene if discriminatory or inappropriate behavior towards referees, players, coaches, or other game event officials occurs, and to ensure that the game is played in accordance with the Competition rules.

Note! These instructions do not give any official or participant of the game the right to suspend or cancel the game.

REPORTING

Reporting discriminatory or inappropriate behavior can and should be done by the game referee or any other person present at the event.

File a report (links below):

- [Report of an event, national series](#)
- [Report of an event, regional series](#)

PLAYERS AND TEAM MEMBERS

If discriminatory or inappropriate comments by players or team members are directed at players, referees, team members, or officials, take the following steps:

If the referee(s) has heard the comments and identified the person:

- a. In accordance with the game rules, the person is sentenced to either a technical foul (unsportsmanlike behavior) or a disqualifying foul. Discriminatory behavior is always blatantly unsportsmanlike.
- b. In the case of disqualifying, the referee informs both team's management separately about the person being removed from the game due to discriminatory or blatantly unsportsmanlike comments.
- c. The game continues after this.
- d. The referee files a report to the association after the game.



2. If the referee(s) has heard the comments but has not identified the person:
 - a. The team management of both teams will be notified that discriminatory or blatantly unsportsmanlike behavior has been detected, and it will be reported to the association after the game.
 - b. It is the duty of the head coach and team management to monitor and intervene in possible discriminatory or inappropriate behavior after the referee's announcement.
 - c. The game continues after this.
 - d. The referee will file a report to the association after the game.
3. If the referee(s) has not heard the comments, but a team/player reports such:
 - a. The team management of both teams will be notified that discriminatory behavior has occurred and will be reported to the association after the game.
 - b. If similar behavior is reported by the teams for the second time, both teams will be informed that any repeated similar behavior will be reported to and investigated by the association after the game.

AUDIENCE

If there are discriminatory comments from the audience directed at players, referees, team members, or officials, take the following steps:

1. If the referee(s) has heard the comments:
 - a. At the next break, the referee informs the head coaches of both teams and the officials' table about discriminatory comments from the audience. The officials or the event manager (if present) will instruct the security officers or the home team management to identify and remove the particular person from the game venue.
 - b. The referee informs the officials that the following must be announced to the audience: "Dear audience, there have been discriminatory comments from the audience. Discriminatory and inappropriate behavior is prohibited in basketball games. The person involved will be removed from the game venue. If inappropriate behavior continues, all the audience must exit the game venue."



- c. It is the responsibility of the home club/team to remove the person from the game venue. Once that person has been removed, the game continues.
 - d. If the person who made the discriminatory comments cannot be identified, the referee announces that the game will continue, and a report will be made to the association.
 - e. If the incident occurs again, the referee informs both teams that the game will only resume after the game venue has been emptied of all audience. The home club/team is responsible for emptying the game venue.
 - f. Announcement instruction: "Dear audience, discriminatory behavior in the audience has continued. For this reason, the game venue will be emptied of all audience, and the game will only continue after the game venue has been completely emptied."
2. If the referee(s) has not heard the comments, but one of the members of either team has:
 - a. The team informs the referee about the matter at the next break. The referee writes down who reported the issue and what was heard. Next, the referee informs both teams about the incident. From there on, the above instructions should be followed.

Note! In all cases mentioned above, the referee reports the matter to the association!

