



Delbrook Steve Nash Youth Basketball
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Delbrook Steve Nash Youth Basketball Guidebook for Referees

Introduction:

Thanks for your interest in becoming a referee.

It's not an easy job being a referee. There's lots of passion, emotion and energy at every game. Games have to run like clockwork. And there's always that tough call in a close game! But it is also a rewarding experience to be the expert in the game and have players, coaches and spectators look to you to make the call.

This manual provides information about the Delbrook Steve Nash Basketball program and the league. As a referee, it is important you know and understand this information.

If you have questions, we're here to help. Your contacts are:

- Referee Coordinator – TBD
- Richard Ostler, President – rostler@delbrookbasketball.com
- Payment Coordinator – referee.payment@delbrookbasketball.com

This document does not review the rules. To learn more about league rules, please visit:

- www.delbrookbasketball.com/referee
- www.delbrookbasketball.com/rules

About Delbrook Steve Nash Youth Basketball:

Delbrook Steve Nash Basketball is run by volunteers and teaches the fundamentals and skills of basketball in a fun and positive environment to hundreds of young boys and girls each year from grades 2 and up. Through our association with Basketball BC, we provide a sound, well researched, youth sports program with our goal to “make kids love basketball”.

Referees play a major part in the success of the league. Our goal is to help support you to continually grow and develop your skills through referee clinics, online training resources and ongoing coaching and feedback.

About the referee program:

The referee position is the only paid position with the league. To be considered for a referee position, you must be at least 13 years old and demonstrate:

- A good level of fitness and conditioning with an interest in the game of basketball
- Confidence to blow the whistle loudly, make calls with authority and clearly communicate calls (verbally and visually) to players, coaches and score keepers
- Professionalism to manage the dynamics, passion and energy of players, coaches and spectators
- Knowledge of game rules and willingness to continuously develop with ongoing training and referee clinics
- Commitment to be on time for scheduled games (games are usually Saturday afternoons and most of Sundays)

Referee expectations:

Coaches, players and volunteers depend on you each week so we expect the following:

- **Know the rules** – Read and understand the rules as outlined in the Steve Nash Official's Manual, General Rules and the FIBA Official Basketball Rules posted at delbrookbasketball.com. Practice hand signals (in front of a mirror is a good idea) and use them during games.
- **Be professional** – Come to every game with a professional attitude and wear proper attire (referee jersey, black pants or black shorts, proper indoor court footwear and a whistle on a lanyard. A referee jersey will be provided to you at the start of the season). You may also want to bring a water bottle and snack. Jeans and grey track pants, hats or ball caps are not acceptable.
- **Arrive on time** – Arrive five minutes before the scheduled start time when teams take possession of the court. If the posted game start time is 10:45am, arrive no later than 10:40am. If you are suddenly unable to referee due to illness or family matter, please contact the referee coordinator immediately so a replacement can be found.
- **Set up equipment** – If you are scheduled for the first game of the day, you are responsible for bringing out and setting up equipment such as the table, chairs, timer, score clocks and score sheets as well as setting up the players' benches and setting the adjustable hoops to the appropriate height. If you are the referee for the last game of the day, you are responsible for returning equipment to the locker.
- **Recruit scorekeepers** – Referees are required to ensure scorekeepers are in place. You can ask the coaches to assist you in finding parents to score keep. Ensure that the score keepers know how to use the score board, notify referees of player substitutions and direct the possession arrow.
- **Meet coaches** – Introduce yourself to the coaches during the first half of the season and build rapport to ease potential tension in the game or later in the season. Coaches appreciate the introduction and it shows great leadership. This is a good time to remind

coaches that player substitutions are allowed on whistles only and players must check in at the scorers' table to be substituted into the game. Players are not allowed to come into the game from the bench unless replacing an injured player.

- **Prepare players** – Before the game starts, ensure players remove jewellery (earrings, chains, rings or bracelets, barrettes or hair clips), tie up shoe laces, are matched up with a check and know which direction each team is playing. Referees should also remove jewellery.
- **Start on time** – Games are played back-to-back throughout the day so the referee must ensure games start on time. If there are two half-court games, they need to start at the same time. Provide coaches with a five-minute and two-minute whistle prior to game tip off. Check that the scorekeepers are ready to start the game.
- **During the game** – Face the scorekeepers' table when reporting fouls and ensure they have seen and understood your call. At half time, do not shoot hoops as the court is for the players. Please give players a one-minute warning before starting the second half.
- **Keep the game moving** – Games are non-stop time so ensure players and coaches are ready to play, substitutions are done quickly and time outs are 50 seconds so the players are back on the court ready to play within one minute.
- **At end of game** – Ensure the game ball is returned and kept at the scorekeepers' table until the next game. If the next game is for a different age group, adjust the hoops as required and return any equipment to the storage locker that is not required. If there are two games running, please stay until the other games end to avoid spectators or parents walking through the middle of the other game.
- **Develop your skills** – Referees are expected to attend the referee clinic planned for the first week in September. There may also be other opportunities to become a better referee such as additional clinics, online articles and periodic evaluations.
- **Have fun** – Relax, do your best and have fun. Making kids love basketball starts with a fun environment for everyone including the referees.

Player injury or emergency

If a player is injured, call over the injured player's coach and send the remaining players back to their bench until the injured player is removed from the court and then continue the game. In the event of a major emergency, request someone call 9-1-1.

Inappropriate conduct

There is no tolerance for unsportsmanlike behaviour including swearing, back-talking / arguing with the referee, unnecessary aggressive behaviour, kicking a ball off the court, deliberate violence or verbal abuse. A warning may be provided to a player or coach at the discretion of the referee. If a coach or player receives a technical foul, he or she will be removed from the

game and asked to leave the gym. The game may not continue until the individual has left the gym. This applies to coaches, parents and players. Fighting will result in immediate ejection from the game and possible further disciplinary action. Do not stop the time clock as games cannot go overtime.

Some strategies to manage conflict:

- Introduce yourself to the coaches before the game
- Ask the coach to wait and speak to you at half time or after the game
- Take the coach or player aside away from the larger group to discuss the situation
- Ask the referee coordinator or any of the coaches in the gym to assist if you are unable to resolve an issue with a coach

Referee tips:

- A common error for new referees is a fear of blowing the whistle. It's better to make a wrong call than not make a call at all and have the game get out of control.
- When making a call, blow the whistle in a short, loud burst (Note: If players continue to play after you blow the whistle, it's not loud enough). Make the call loudly with your voice while using hand signals. For each call, remember to announce the color, number, violation and consequence. For example, "Blue Seven, travelling, Red Ball".
- Be confident with your voice and body language. It demonstrates your authority and reduces the likelihood your call will be challenged.
- If you let a call slide, don't start calling lots of fouls towards the end of the game.
- If a game looks like it has the potential to get out of control, take steps to control game.
- Take time to explain calls to younger player such as three-in-the-key, travelling or double dribble. This will be important early in the season when players are new.
- Respect everyone. Coaches are volunteers and some have years of basketball experience while others are new to the sport.
- Be professional, work hard and continue to improve your refereeing skills.

Compensation

- For the 2015-2016 season, referees are paid \$14 per game for the first year, \$17 per game for the second year, \$20 per game for the third year, \$23 per game for the fourth year and \$26 per game for five or more years. Each game or session is up to 1.5 hours. For a two-hour game / session, you are compensated for 1.5 games.
- If you are required to referee by yourself, you will be compensated for 1.5 games
- Referee payments are paid twice a season in mid-December and mid-March.
- Keep track of games you referee and email the details at the end of each weekend to referee.payment@delbrookbasketball.com. Don't forget or you may not get paid.

About the divisions

Division	Format	Focus
Gr 2/3 Co-ed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 4-on-4 ▪ Co-ed division ▪ No score ▪ 8.5-ft hoop height ▪ 30-min practice ▪ Two 20-min halves ▪ Ball size: 27.5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Explain calls as players are new and this is likely their first introduction to basketball. Coaches may also be new and not familiar with league rules. ▪ Call out of bounds and obvious fouls. ▪ This division practices for 30 minutes followed by a game.
Gr 4/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 4-on-4 or 5-on-5 ▪ No scores ▪ 9-ft hoop (if possible) ▪ Two 25-min halves ▪ Track all fouls ▪ Ball size: 28.5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Explain calls as players are mostly new. ▪ Call out of bounds and obvious fouls. ▪ Player skills vary a lot so use discretion to keep the game controlled and well managed.
Gr 6/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 5-on-5 ▪ Keep score ▪ Two 25-min halves ▪ Full court (if avail.) ▪ 10-ft hoop height ▪ Ball size: 28.5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Players are generally familiar with the game, but explain the call if the players seems unclear. ▪ Games in this division are increasingly more competitive and can get out of control quickly. Call a tight game as required.
Gr 8/9+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 5-on-5 ▪ Keep score ▪ Two 30-min halves ▪ Full court ▪ 10-ft hoop height ▪ Ball size: 29.5 for boys and 28.5 for girls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Players know the game and are expecting the calls and coaches are more competitive in this division. ▪ Games in this division can get out of control quickly. ▪ Call games tight especially around the key. ▪ Be confident when making calls. ▪ Ensure scorekeepers know the importance of counting player fouls.

Notes:

- Game times for October to December are posted on the website in late September.
- Game times for January to March are posted on the website in December.
- Each game is no-stop time and has a 15-minute warm up and 5-minute half-time break.
- There should be two referees scheduled for every game.
- Rookie referees will be partnered with returning referees.
- Referees for the Grade 8 / 9 + age group should be in at least Grade 10.
- Girls and coed divisions play games on Saturdays. Boys divisions play games on Sundays.
- Games are played at McDougall, Memorial, Andre Piolat, Mountainside/Balmoral and Sutherland so check the schedule at www.delbrookbasketball.com/schedule.
- McDougall gym equipment is stored in the second locker from the right under the stage.

Last updated: July 13, 2015