

Good Evening Calgary Club basketball programs,

I have the unfortunate task of contacting you to let you all know that in the past couple weeks that the CBOA has received reports from our members of a number of negative interactions (verbal abuse and physical confrontations) with team supporters in the various leagues and tournaments held recently in Calgary.

The officials understand that the fans, players, and coaches will not agree with every decision made throughout the course of a game. Nor do we, as a referee's organization, expect that. It is, however, fair to every participant of a game, coach, player, and official alike, that when a disagreement occurs that they are handled in a professional, respectful, sportsmanlike manner.

The mission of the Calgary Basketball Officials Association is to provide all teams a fun, safe, and competitive environment where the rules of the game are applied fairly for all. This goal cannot be accomplished when outside forces influence a hostile and potentially dangerous playing environment for your organizations.

While causation of this message affects the very slim minority of the club programs in Calgary I thought it would be prudent to reach out to you all with a request. Which is:

Please remind your site supervisors to be aware of and on the lookout for potential problems and aid in diffusing situations before they escalate to the point where more drastic steps are required to be taken. Team coaches can also be a great help in this area if/where they can.

Again, the vast majority of your programs have been helpful when issues arise. For that the CBOA thanks you and encourages you to continue your leadership in that area. The CBOA Vice President has or will be contacting the organizations where issues have come up to work with you to come to an amicable resolution for all involved parties.

All the best with your remaining games and enjoy your summer.

Yours in basketball,

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Ian Pollard
President



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