TEAM NAME POLICY

Purpose:
The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all team names within our organisation are respectful, inclusive, and free from derogatory or offensive content. This policy aims to uphold our values of integrity, safety, sportsmanship and respect for all members of our community.

Scope:
This policy applies to all teams, groups, or entities affiliated with Melbourne Central Basketball Association, including but not limited to sports teams, clubs, committees, and event organisers.

Prohibited Content:
Team names that are derogatory, discriminatory, offensive, or inappropriate are strictly prohibited. This includes but is not limited to names that target individuals or groups based on race, are offensive of nature, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or any other characteristic protected by law or recognised as a basis for discrimination.

Any team name found to violate this policy will be subject to immediate review and potential change.

Team Name Change Procedure:
If the Operations Manager determines that a team name is derogatory or offensive, the team in question will be required to change their name within a specified period of time or may not be granted the right to compete in the upcoming season without a change in name.

The team will be provided with assistance and support in selecting a new name that aligns with our organisation's values and guidelines. If the team in question has their name already printed on their uniform, Melbourne Central Basketball Association will offer an alternate uniform for the remainder of that season only.

Failure to comply with the name change requirement may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension or expulsion from the Competition.

Registration Application Review Process:

At the beginning of each season upon registration all team names will be assessed by the Operations Manager, any name deemed to be prohibited content will be advised of the requirement to change their name.

Complaints Process:

If any member of Melbourne Central Basketball Association believes that a team name may be derogatory, or offensive the following steps will occur:

Step 1: Any member of Melbourne Central Basketball Association who believes that a team name may be derogatory, or offensive may submit a complaint to the Operations Manager or Competitions Administrator in writing.

Step 2: Upon receiving a complaint, the Operations Manager will conduct a review with to assess the appropriateness of the team's name in question.

Step 3: The Operations Manager will consider the context, intent, and impact of the team's name before making a recommendation for action to the General Manager.

Appeals Process:
Teams have the right to appeal the decision. Appeals must be submitted in writing to the Operations Manager within 5 days of receiving notice of the decision.

The appeal will be reviewed by the MCBA Competitions Advisory Committee with a recommendation to the Melbourne Central Basketball Association Board of Directors, any decision made by the Melbourne Central Board of Directors will be final with no further option for appeal.

Implementation:
This policy shall be communicated to all members of the organisation upon adoption and included in relevant organisational documents, including but not limited competition by-laws and codes of conduct. All existing and new teams formed within the organisation shall be made aware of this policy and its requirements.

Enforcement:
Enforcement of this policy is the responsibility of the Basketball Development Manager. Any violations of this policy shall be addressed promptly and in accordance with established procedures for handling complaints and disciplinary action.

APPROVAL / VERSION CONTROL	
Original Policy Implementation Date	27 June 2024
Approved by:	MCBA Board
Updated:	24 September 2026
Next Review Date:	September 2028