

MMBRA HANDBOOK

Welcome to the 2025-2026 MMBRA Handbook. Here you will find details on our association, resources, and other helpful information. As the MMBRA Handbook can change, please make sure to visit the website for the most up to date information under the **“ask a ref”** section.

<https://www.mmbra.org/p/ask-referee.html>

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To find the entire MMBRA By-Laws please refer to the section **“ask a ref”**.



1. Leadership group:

The Leadership group for the 2025-2026 consists of the following positions:

Executive positions:

- President	Adam Bradshaw	adamsamuelbradshaw@gmail.com
- Vice-President	François Brouillette	brouillette.f10@gmail.com
- Past President	Geneviève Pilon	genpilon@hotmail.com
- Director	Paul Gallant	pauljg1@me.com
- Director	Anita Quintana	Neatzquintana@hotmail.com
- Director	Robert Shaul	robby_shaul@yahoo.ca
- Director	Brian Stewart	refstewart@gmail.com
-		

Appointed positions:

- Treasure	Al McInnis	hoops@videotron.ca
- Secretary	Linda Marentette	lindamarentette13@gmail.com
- Interpreter / Supervisor	open	
- Supervision Chair	Greg Southward	gregsouthward@hotmail.com
- Assigner – Night & Weekends	Jim de la Mothe	jimdelamothe@gmail.com
- Assigner – School GMAA D1	Jim de la Mothe	jimdelamothe@gmail.com
- Assigner – Montérégie	Reto Christen	reto@precican.com
- Assigner – Lac-St.Louis	Gavin Sealey	gavinsealy@yahoo.ca
- Assigner – Tournaments	Matt McCarney	mccarney@selwyn.ca
- Assigner – Summer	Matt McCarney	mccarney@selwyn.ca
- Equipment Manager	Paul Gallant	mmbraops@gmail.com

2. Committees:

MMBRA has various committees within the association. The heads of the committees are appointed by the Executives each off season and are part of the Executive Committee. For more information on each of these positions, please visit the By-Laws section.

- Executive Committee
- Nominating Committee
- Supervision Committee
- Rookie Evaluation Committee
- Disciplinary Committee

If you have interest or questions on these committees, please contact MMBRA's President for more details. The President will be able to point you in the right direction.



3. Calendar:

MMBRA schedules a minimum of two meetings per season. Members are expected to attend these meetings.

- Bull session, held in September.
- AGM, held in May.

The dates and times will be communicated via email to the membership. The Bull session has an attendance requirement. If you are unable to attend, you must contact MMBRA President via email.

4. General Expectations:

It is expected that all approved members of MMBRA shall uphold the following annual standards:

- Attend all scheduled meetings unless notifying MMBRA President 5 days prior to the scheduled meeting.
- Write the Canadian Basketball Officials Commission (CBOC) exam.
- Attend all assigned games in professional manner as described under Dress Code in section 9.
- Follow the FIBA rule book and use appropriate mechanics.
- Stay in good physical shape.
- Display a professional attitude and more importantly, have fun and enjoy the game!

5. Discipline:

MMBRA Discipline Committee chair is appointed by the executive committee. The committee chair will designate two members in good standing to form the committee.

To learn more about MMBRA discipline policy, please refer to the MMBRA bylaws.

6. Assignments:

Assignors are appointed by the Executive Committee each year. The assignors work with the various leagues to ensure that they are serviced accordingly. It is important that all officials work with the assignors to cover the games we commit to as an association.

MMBRA uses the web-based platform Arbiter (www.arbitersports.com) to manage game assignments. It is up to each official to manage their own availability. By updating your availability frequently, you are far less likely to incur any fines and receive more games.

Once an assignment is received via email or text, please login to accept your games by the date indicated on the notification. If a game is not accepted by this date, you will be fined according to the by-laws.

Assignors will be booking the games as early as possible. As tournament games are only confirmed 7 to 10 days before the start of the tournament, it is possible these games will be assigned late. This is one of the reasons it is important to keep your availability up to date.

If you receive an assignment 48 hours prior to the game, you may decline it at no penalty to you.

Most games have two officials assigned. In the case where only one official is assigned, the assignors will inform you.

Officials must not solicit nor accept games from any coach, league, or representative thereof unless games occur between May 1st and August 31st (inclusive).

7. Cancelled, Lateness and Partner No Show:

- Cancelled games:

For multiple reasons games can be cancelled prior to the start of the game. Assignors will do their best to provide you with best information at the earliest point. When a game is cancelled by an assignor, they will make the decision on compensation for the game. The assigner will communicate the decision to you.

Take note that cancelled games for issues with the climate will most likely not be compensated as if it is not safe for the teams to travel, it is not safe for the officials to travel.

In the same message, if you do not feel safe to travel to a game, it is your responsibility to contact the assignor to see if alternate arrangements can be made.

If you show up to a game you are scheduled to and it looks to be no game, contact the assigner immediately.

- Late to a game:

The Montreal Metropolitan area is oftentimes a work in progress. It will one day be completed, and we are sure Montreal will look great; but until then, we must plan for traffic and construction delays when getting to our assignments.

For all games, you must show up a minimum of 15 minutes on the floor prior to the game. This will help you prepare for the game and talk with your partner.

Situations do happen, it is part of life. If you are going to be late, you must call your partner. As often we are in a car driving to a game, do not text and drive, call your partner and explain the situation.

Once the game is over, contact the assignor and let them know what happened as it is the responsible action to take.

- Partner No Show:

If your partner appears to be a “no show,” first try to contact them by cell phone.

If you are unable to reach your partner, you should contact the assignor immediately – do not wait until tip-off time.

If you must begin (or complete) a game by yourself, you must report the game to the assignor.

Communication is key!

It's a good practice to bring your partner's contact information with you to every game for just these types of situations.

If you can access Arbiter on your cell phone, Arbiter lists contact information for all officials in our association under "Lists".

8. Game Locations:

Every official is personally responsible to know the location of each game site assigned. A complete list of game site addresses for every gym MMBRA services may be found on the Arbiter under lists and sites. The location will also appear with your assignment.

9. Dress code:

Every aspect of our work as basketball officials requires an attitude and appearance of professionalism. It is important to wear clean, well-kept attire to present a confident image and presence on the floor.

The standard Basketball Quebec uniform adopted by CABO consists of the following:

- Black peapless whistle such as Fox 40 Whistle
- CPA approved Basketball Quebec shirt
- Black slacks
- Black socks
- Black shoes
- Black CABO Jacket (optional)
- Uniforms need to be worn for all levels of games.

During Summer games, black shorts may be substituted for pants, if both partners are wearing the same.

- It is expected that officials will remove watches and other jewelry prior to refereeing a game, as we require participants to do so as well.

White Whistles:

To be worn by 1st year officials. The whistles are to help coaches understand that the official is new to officiating the game. At no time will targeting an official be tolerated because they are using a different color whistle.

Whistles for special causes:

It is possible that as an association we will sometimes use a special color whistle. A note will be sent from MMBRA authorizing the period and use of the whistles.

Basketball Quebec Referee Shirt:

The shirt may be obtained by contacting the association equipment manager. The cost of the jersey will be removed from your paycheck.

MMBRA apparel can be purchased through the MMBRA Equipment Manager

MMBRA store: <https://form.jotform.com/242295821088260>

Various uniform supplies may be purchased online from various online official suppliers.

10. Education, Supervision and Evaluation

- Bull session:

Before the season starts in early September, a mandatory meeting will be held to educate all officials on new rules and mechanics as well as kick off the season. Your attendance is required. If you are unable to attend with a valid reason, you must contact the MMBRA President 5 days prior to the scheduled meeting.

- New Officials clinics

MMBRA often holds clinics for new officials to join the organization. Anyone who wishes to pick up the whistle and join MMBRA should contact the director responsible for development, mentorship, and Recruitment or visit our website to sign-up.

- Summer camps

Each summer the CPA offers clinics to officials. These clinics go deeper into the game and help develop officials. During these clinics, some of the games top officials will coach other officials.

MMBRA does offer education grants to officials who wish to attend these clinics. If you wish to receive more information on how you may receive a grant, contact MMBRA's President, Vice President, or Head of Supervision.

- Conferences

Attending a conference can be just as helpful to an official. It gives you the chance to connect with other officials and people involved in the game.

- Supervision

Officials may be supervised by Referee Coaches at any time. These are opportunities for officials to learn from a coach and receive feedback on their performance. Officiate every game as you are being supervised.

- Evaluation



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When being evaluated you will be informed prior to arriving for the game. Make sure to arrive early and plan extra time following the game to discuss your evaluation with the Referee Coach.

You may request to be evaluated by contacting the head of the Supervision committee.

Rookies will be evaluated by the Rookie evaluation Committee.

11. Basketball Rules

MMBRA follows the FIBA rule book. The rule book as well as the interpretations book can be found here in both English and French:

<https://www.fiba.basketball/documents>

It is important that you make sure to use the most up to date copy at all times.

The CBOC exam is based on FIBA rules only.

For the various leagues we officiate, some of the rules are adjusted for the level of competition.

Ball Sizes: The ball should be made of leather. For Novice and Mini, a rubber ball maybe used.

BALL SIZE	WOMENS	MENS
Novice	Size 5 or 27.5	Size 5 or 27.5
Mini	Size 5 or 27.5	Size 5 or 27.5
Atom	Size 5 or 27.5	Size 5 or 27.5
Bantam	Size 6 or 28.5	Size 6 or 28.5
Midget	Size 6 or 28.5	Size 7 or 29.5
Juvenile and above	Size 6 or 28.5	Size 7 or 29.5

- Basketball Quebec specific rules:

Basketball Quebec requires that two rules are applied that are not in the FIBA rule book. For the specific rules, visit Basketball Quebec rules section here:

<https://www.basketball.qc.ca/fr/fichiers.html>

1. Participation – Please see the link above for the complete rule:

- Each team must have 8 players to start the game.



- Mostly played in leagues that have Bantam / U14 and younger.
- Each of the first three quarters will have two 4-minute blocks = 8 mins which is one quarter.
- After the first 4 min of each quarter, the team who has the ball will keep control of the ball as it is a substitution and will start from the closest point to when the clock sounded. This is a substitution, not a time-out.
- If no team has control, the possession of the ball will be awarded to the team that has control of the arrow, at the closest point where the clock sounded.
- The 4th quarter will be 8mins with free substitutions. Overtime if needed is 3mins with free substitutions.
- Example:

1 st quarter			2 nd quarter			Half-time	3 rd quarter			4 th quarter	Overtime
4 minutes	SUB	4 minutes	4 minutes	SUB	4 minutes	5 minutes	4 minutes	SUB	4 minutes	8 minutes	3 minutes

- Please note that some leagues do play Participation for all levels.

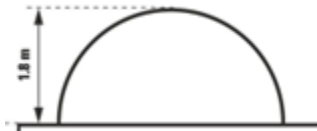
11. Basketball Rules(cont'd)

2. No Zone Rule

Basketball Quebec requires that certain levels do not play zone defence. To find a copy of the explanation of the rule, visit: <https://www.basketball.qc.ca/fr/fichiers.html>

The following are some key points to the no zone rule:

- The ball and the ball carrier must be inside the point area for the rule to be applied.
- The defensive team is allowed to double team (help defence) the ball carrier.
- Close guarding a player is allowed within 1 meter. For relation the top of the free-throw circle to the free-throw line is 1,3 meters



Special Rules per league:

Schools: Each of the different school leagues we service have rules the govern points spread. Please verify the rules for each of these leagues.

RSEQ Montérégie: <https://monteregie.rseq.ca/basketball/>

-No zone defense rules must be applied to all levels, except for Juvenile D3.

-The Participation rules is applied to all levels, except for Juvenile D3

-When the score reaches a 25-point difference at the end of the 3rd quarter, the losing team can ask that the 4th quarter is to be played with running time. Info found here [10.2 Écart de points](#)

-When the score reaches a 40-point difference either at the end of the 3rd quarter or in the 4th quarter, an official time out is taken. Referees explain the application of the rule to each coach. The coaches are given a chance to explain to the players that the game is now running time. The scores are removed from the scoreboard. Time starts when the ball is put back into play. The winning team must return to half court once a dead ball situation happens. Running time must remain running, even on free throws.

In the 4th quarter, the losing coach can ask the game to be terminated if more than 40 points in Division 4.1 and 4.2

Info found here: [10.2 Écart de points](#)

11. Basketball Rules (cont'd)

RSEQ Lac St-Louis: <https://www.arselsl.qc.ca/secondeaire/basketball/>

Rules can be found here: [RSEQ Lac St Louis](#)

-Rule 3.6: When there is a 25-point difference, the winning team must not press and return to their own 3-point area to play defence. For levels that play no-zone defence, regular rules do apply.

-Rule 3.7: When there is a 35-point difference, the losing team coach can ask the winning coach and officials to play running time.

-Rule 3.8: When a DIFFERENCE OF 70 POINTS separates the two teams at the end of the half, the score displayed on the clock will be that entered in the standings and the score will be erased from the scoreboard.

The game will continue according to regulation time, without counting points. Only the coach of the team that is behind can request that the game be stopped.

GMAA: <https://www.gmaa.ca/basketball>

-Rule 6.7: A school staff member must be present and at the bench at all GMAA games. The staff member must sign the game report, or else the penalty = Forfeiture of game.

- Rule 6.8: Participation rules must be played for all Bantam games and every Division 4.2, regardless of the level.

-Rule 6.10: All Bantam and Cadet leagues must play no-zone rules as explained in point 2 under the no-zone rule.

-Rule 6.13: Mercy Rule: A "mercy" rule will be in effect, should a team be leading by a score of 25 points or more, the team may no longer use a pressure defence. Pressure may not be applied to the ball anywhere on the floor outside the defensive 3-point line. (As soon as the opposition gains control of the ball, the team that is leading by 25 or more must go back inside their 3point area.) If a team continues to apply pressure outside the 3-point line, the team will receive an official verbal warning from the referee. If pressure continues the bench will be assessed a technical foul.

GMAA has no running time situations.

-Rule 10.1: Referees may, without warning, send a player off the field for fixed and definite period of time (COOLING-OFF PERIOD) if their conduct or type of play makes it necessary. This is NOT AN EJECTION and should be used only when the referee feels that it would prevent a more serious situation from developing. The player may be replaced on the field by another eligible player. The referee shall determine the length of any such COOLING-OFF PERIOD, i.e. 10 minutes, 15 minutes, the remainder of the half or the balance of the game.

11. Basketball Rules (cont'd)

Montreal Basketball League (MBL): <https://www.basketballmontreal.org/en/files.html>

-Rule 3.4: PLAYER LATE TO A GAME: A player who is late but who is registered and identified on the scoresheet must have arrived at the bench of his team and be ready to play before half-time to be able to take part in the game.

-Rule 9.1: Novice, Mini and Bantam: To start a game, a team must have a minimum of 8 players ready to play at the beginning of the game. A team that does not respect the minimum number of players will forfeit the game.

Rule 9.2: Midget and Juvenile: To start a game, a team must have a minimum of 6 players ready to play at the beginning of the game or else will forfeit.

Rule 11.1: Rim Height for all levels (Mini, Bantam, Cadet, Juvenile) except Novice are 10 feet high - Novice Rim Height is 8.5 Feet high.

Rule 16: 24-SECONDS/SHOT CLOCK The shot clock rule will be applied to bantam, midget and juvenile categories:

Note the exception for the MBL Bantam category.

CATEGORY	TIME PUT ON THE SHOT CLOCK
NOVICE	n/a
MINI	n/a
BANTAM	30
MIDGET	24
JUVENILE	24

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Rule 17: Period lengths:

Novice, Mini and Bantam

1 st quarter			2 nd quarter			Half-time	3 rd quarter			4 th quarter	Overtime
4 minutes	SUB	4 minutes	4 minutes	SUB	4 minutes	5 minutes	4 minutes	SUB	4 minutes	8 minutes	3 minutes

Midget and Juvenile both AA and AAA

1 st quarter		2 nd quarter		Half-time	3 rd quarter		4 th quarter		Overtime
10 minutes		10 minutes		10 minutes	10 minutes		10 minutes		5 minutes

Rule 21: Dress code - Each member of the coaching staff will be required to wear a polo or a shirt. A coach who does not comply with the dress code will receive a technical foul at the beginning of the game.

Note that anyone sitting on the bench will have to comply with this rule. It is the responsibility of the head coach to ensure the respect of this rule. **MMBRA has notified the MBL that referees will not apply this rule in game. No technical foul will be given.**

Basketball Rules (cont'd) - MBL

Rule 24.2: Failure to comply to the following rules will result in the forfeit (20-0) of the game concerned:

- The absence of a team 15 minutes after the scheduled time of the game.
- Non-respect of the age group rule.
- The absence of the coach 15 minutes after the scheduled time of the game.
- Insufficient number of players to start a game 15 minutes after the scheduled game time.

Various leagues:

Please verify when you arrive at the game if any special rules are applied such as running time, last 2 minutes of the game and number of timeouts that can be called.

By general rules of the game, when a game has two halves of 15 or 20 mins. The total team fouls before the penalty is applied is after the 7-team foul.

Some leagues will use a virtual shot clock. All the same rules apply to the shot clock rule, but it may only be applied at a certain point of the game, within a specific point difference or during a certain amount of time to play in the game.

12. Technical Fouls & Unsportsmanlike Fouls

Ejections:

It is very important that members follow proper procedures after ejecting a player or

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coach. At the game site, fill out a report of the incident as mandated by the individual league. If no game report is available on site, use the back of the score sheet to report the ejection. Please make your report as comprehensive as possible. Report the incident (use your or your partner's phone to take a photo of the score sheet) to the assigner within 12 hours of the game.

File the report in a comprehensive manner. It is imperative that members follow these procedures following the ejection of any person from an assigned game, including fans.

MMBRA Code of Ethics

A member in good standing of MMBRA should adhere to the following:

1. Officials, who also act as coaches, have an obligation to treat other officials with professional dignity and courtesy.
2. Officials must recognize that it is inappropriate to threaten or speak ill of MMBRA officials in any capacity unless leveraging a formal complaint to the executive committee. This may include but is not limited to social media posts (Facebook, twitter, or otherwise), email, or public message boards that may discredit MMBRA or its members, as decreed by the Executive Committee.
3. Officials must recognize and avoid situations which can lead to conflicts of interest or impartiality. These conflicts include but are not limited to gifts, favors, special treatment, privileges, employment or a personal relationship with a team, player, or coach.
4. Officials must always maintain the integrity and professionalism of officiating by striving for a higher degree of commitment and expertise.
5. Officials must not solicit nor accept games from any coach, league, or representative thereof unless games occur between May 1st and August 31st (inclusive).
6. Officials must not officiate any game with a non-certified official, first year official (rookie) sessions and trainings notwithstanding.



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7. Officials must not officiate any game after having consumed any alcohol, illegal substance, any substance that might impair judgment, or motor skills.
8. Officials must refrain from any remark, action or gesture that may be interpreted as sexual harassment.
9. All games officiated by MMBRA officials during the season, between September 1st and April 30th (inclusive), must be assigned by MMBRA assigners unless permission is provided by the Executive Committee.
10. Officials are allowed to work for other regions and are not bound to 4-3.9 between May 1st and August 31st (inclusive) barring leagues that have accounts outstanding with MMBRA.
11. These are our principles, and this is what we stand for.

An official in violation of this Code of Ethics may be referred to the Discipline Committee.

QUICK LINKS:

MMBRA Equipment Store:

<https://form.jotform.com/242295821088260>



MMBRA Incident Report:

<https://form.jotform.com/252263524752052>





Canadian Basketball Officials Commission CBOC:

<https://www.basketball.ca/en/development/officials>