



Racism in Sport

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Presentation of FIBA

- Founded in Geneva, Switzerland in 1932 by 8 NFs
- Currently counts 215 National member Federations
- Recognized by the IOC as the sole competent world governing body for basketball:
 - Define the Official Basketball Rules
 - Establish the World Competitions Calendar
 - Regulate the game of basketball worldwide (International transfers, Appointment of referees, licensing of Agents, etc.)
 - Organize International competitions
 - Produce specifications for equipment and facilities



The fight against racism

- One fight amongst many other... (doping, match-fixing, corruption, good governance)
- Basketball reached new heights and worldwide popularity during the 1992 Barcelona olympic Games (USA vs Croatia final)
- Basketball closely connected to urban culture
- FIBA's fight against racism through different means:
 - Promotion of a sport open to all
 - Education and raising awareness, in particular during youth events
 - Strict regulations
 - Severe sanctions



General principles

The IOC Olympic Charter

- The practice of sport is a human right. Every individual must have the possibility of practicing sport, **without discrimination of any kind** and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play.
- The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms set forth in this Olympic Charter shall be secured **without discrimination of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.**



General principles

The FIBA General Statutes

- Article 1: FIBA maintains absolute political and religious neutrality and **does not tolerate any form of discrimination.**

- ARTICLE 4: MISSION AND ROLE

- The mission of FIBA is to promote the sport of basketball throughout the world and to lead the basketball movement as recognised by the International Olympic Committee. FIBA's role is to:

- d. **Formulate or adopt and implement appropriate policies in relation to discrimination**, sexual harassment, equal opportunity, equity, drugs and doping, health, safety, infectious diseases, and such other matters as arise from time to time as issues to be addressed in basketball;



General principles

The FIBA Code of ethics

- Preamble: Inherent in this Code of Ethics is the individual's right to dignity and to being treated with respect. Basketball allows no discrimination between the basketball parties on the basis of race, gender, ethnic origin, religion, philosophical or political opinion, marital status, or other grounds.

- Requirements of the Code:
 - Ensure that discrimination, harassment, vilification, and/or abuse are not tolerated at any level and that there are appropriate policies and processes in place to deal with such behaviour.



General principles

The FIBA Code of Conduct and fair play

➤ Ten golden rules

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- Vii: Reject corruption, drugs, **racism**, violence, gambling and other dangers to our sport: Basketball's huge popularity sometimes makes it vulnerable to negative outside interests. Watch out for attempts to tempt you into cheating or using drugs. Drugs have no place in basketball, in any other sport or in society as a whole. Say “no” to drugs. **Treat all players and everyone else equally, regardless of their religion, race, sex or national origin.** Show zero tolerance for gambling on games in which you participate. It negatively affects your ability to perform and creates the appearance of a conflict of interests. Show that basketball does not want violence, even from your own fans. Basketball is sport, and sport is peace.



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 - Strict regulations and narrow interpretation
 - Severe sanctions (potentially worldwide application)



The fight against racism

- Principle of subsidiarity : disciplinary proceedings at national vs international level
- Very few cases at international level
- Review of decisions taken at domestic level but more importantly review of national federations' regulatory framework
- Possible offences:
 - During a game between participants.....
 - During a game between fans or between fans and participants
 - Discriminatory policies or rules
 - Discriminatory declarations by players, coaches, referees, officials, etc.





Thank you for your
attention

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