

Tips to Avoid the Blowout Game

The Code of Conduct is very clear... **No running up the score. A team committing this offense more than once will forfeit all wins with a margin of victory in excess of 35 points and the Coach will be suspended for the next game.**

The NYBA understands that this can be one of the most challenging coaching scenarios ... **when your team builds a 25+ point lead.** This is a tough situation because you certainly don't want to humiliate the other team and at the same time, it's difficult to ask your kids not to play hard...in fact we've learned from experience that no matter how much you ask you kids to back off...it often doesn't happen!

Here' are a few suggestions to make a winner out of this type of situation. **If your team is up by 25+ points and it is clear that as time goes on the point difference will increase, try implementing the following strategies:**

On offense

- 1) No lay ups...**minimum of 2 Passes leading to an **Outside Shot (10 to 15 feet) only...** eliminates the steal and fast break lay up because your team has to move the ball around and take an outside shot.
- 2) Designated Scorer(s) ...**for each section...only allow shots from some of your lesser accomplished players...can be a very effective way to teach your more accomplished players how to play without the ball by setting screens for their Team mates.

On defense

- 1) Less aggressive man to man defense outside the designated area...**allow the other team to handle the ball to set up their offense without fear of a steal or committing a turnover
- 2) No double teaming the ball inside the designated area...**allow the team to get to the basket for a shot

Thank you for using these strategies or some variation of these strategies to help prevent the lopsided scores from occurring. Your young players will learn the valuable lesson to win with class without rubbing it in...you'll make it easier for the other team to come up and shake hands at the end of the game because they recognize that you did your best to make it a positive experience for all involved.