

LET THEM PLAY CAMPAIGN

BALANCE IS BETTER – BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Badminton New Zealand is committed to working collaboratively as one Badminton system, to provide quality and consistent Badminton experiences for all participants. A quality experience is the fundamental driver of attracting and retaining participants in Badminton.

LET THEM PLAY CAMPAIGN

In 2026 no coaches, teachers, parents, players, or friends will be allowed on the back of court for all U13 Sanctioned Events including AIMS Games. No coaching is permitted during a match, including between rallies and at intervals.

THE LET THEM PLAY CAMPAIGN:

APPLIES TO	DOES NOT APPLY TO
Under 13 Sanctioned Events	New Zealand Under 13 National Championships
AIMS Games	New Zealand Under 13 Junior Team Championships

COACHES CAN:

1. Talk with your player(s) before the match starts
2. Once the match begins, there is no coaching until the match concludes
3. Talk with your player(s) after the match

Associations, School Coordinators, Competition Coordinators and Technical Officials will be given guidelines in 2026 around roles and responsibilities and how to manage this ruling at Sanctioned Events including AIMS Games.

This information will be developed and designed so that it can then be clearly communicated out to school coordinators, parents, caregivers, and coaches prior to event entries closing.

COMPLIANCE:

Please refer to the Balance is Better Behaviour Management Guidelines for procedures regarding compliance with reference to the Let Them Play Campaign.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this document, please contact:

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COACHING AT INTERVALS ONLY

PURPOSE

- This change is to support player decision-making and tactical understanding, and to further develop coaches' interval-based communication.
- Coaching Module 1 includes guidance on questioning techniques to support player learning.

COACHING AT INTERVALS

- In 2026 Under 15: Coaching is not permitted between points, but coaching is permitted at intervals (e.g. at 11 points and between games).
- Any person coaching must meet the requirements of the Badminton New Zealand Accredited Coaches policy.
- Any person coaching during a match who refuses the request of the referee or tournament director to stop coaching may be referred to the Badminton New Zealand disciplinary panel.
- No coaching from the back of the court will remain for U13 events.

- For U13 and U15 NZJTC and National Championships, coaching will be at intervals only.

COACHING AT INTERVALS:

APPLIES TO	DOES NOT APPLY TO
Under 15 Sanctioned Events New Zealand Under 13 National Championships New Zealand Under 13 Junior Team Championships New Zealand Under 15 National Championships New Zealand Under 15 Junior Team Championships	Under 13 Sanctioned Events – Let Them Play Campaign regulations are followed

COMPLIANCE:

Please refer to the Balance is Better Behaviour Management Guidelines for procedures regarding compliance.

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