



March 14, 2006

As we draw near to the conclusion of our 15<sup>th</sup> season, and the beginning of the playoffs, we thank you for your participation in the Over 40 League and hope you have enjoyed playing. What started as a group of "Over 40" guys looking for a night out for some competitive and friendly basketball followed by some socializing to rehash all our great moves on the court, has evolved to a league that has 80 active players in uniform each season and a waiting list anxious to find a spot on the roster. Over 200 of our RVC neighbors have participated in this league and we expect another 200 will as we maintain the League's reputation and success as a competitive recreational game into the future. One of the reasons we have existed for 15 years is our commitment to following:

The **Principles** of the Rockville Centre Over 40 League are *Sportsmanship* and *Camaraderie*. While the League is designed to be competitive, each player is expected to abide by and demonstrate these **Principles**.

We want to remind you that our commitment to Sportsmanship and Camaraderie is real and that each of us has a role in ensuring we achieve these principles and maintain the spirit of our League. Unfortunately, there have been too many instances of un-sportsmanship behavior during this season. Therefore, we are initiating a **Zero Tolerance** approach to behaviors that do not conform to our Principles. Beginning immediately we are implementing the following two actions.

1. **Enforcement of the Technical Foul Rule as follows:**

Player Technical

A player shall not commit an unsporting foul. This includes, but is not limited to, acts or conduct such as:

- a) disrespectfully addressing or contacting an official or gesturing in such a manner as to indicate resentment
- b) using profane or inappropriate language or obscene gestures
- c) baiting or taunting an opponent or referees (the league disapproves of any form of taunting which is intended or designed to embarrass, ridicule or demean others under any circumstances)

The Over 40 League includes as an unsporting foul trash talking, fighting or threats of physical harm from a player on the court or on the bench directed to a player or referee. A Technical Foul given for this infraction will count against a player's three Technical Foul limit as stated in our rules. The referees have been instructed to enforce these rules more stringently for the betterment of the League.

2. **League Review**

Acts or behaviors that violate the Principles above also will be subject to review by the League independent of Technical Fouls assigned by the referees. Review of all players adherence to the Principles will be conducted at the end of each season as well as during the season as necessary. Players will be notified when their behavior has been determined to be in non-conformance with the Principles. This notice shall serve as a Warning. If a player's continuing behavior is determined by consensus of the League's organizers to be in non-conformance to our Principles the player will be dismissed immediately from the League and refunded the annual fee for that year. Such dismissal is permanent.

Our desire is that no player will be subjected to these actions. The League will continue and it will do so in accordance with our Principles. The Principles are simple and easy and so is conformance. We trust everyone shares this view.

*Board of Directors  
Rockville Centre Over 40 League*