

ALWAYS TREAT YOUR OPPONENTS WITH COURTESY AND RESPECT

General Etiquette

As part of the commitment to fostering a welcoming and enjoyable atmosphere at the Club, it is important that members adhere to court rules and tennis etiquette. Tennis is a social game involving politeness and consideration. Observing these guidelines ensures that all players enjoy time on the courts, and the Club requires that these standards are maintained.

1. Good sportsmanship is mandatory.
2. Always begin a game by introducing yourself, especially if there is a player(s) that you do not know.
3. Courtesy. Tennis is a game that requires cooperation and courtesy from all participants. Praise your opponents' good shots.
 - DO NOT
 - Conduct loud postmortems after points
 - Complain about shots like lobs and drop shots
 - Embarrass a weaker opponent by being condescending
 - Lose your temper, use vile language, throw your racket or slam a ball in anger
 - Sulk when you are losing
4. Do NOT criticize your partner. Do NOT offer unsolicited tips to players. Offer encouragement.
5. Talk quietly when standing near tennis courts that are in use.
6. Never walk behind a court when a point is still in play. Wait until the point is over and then cross as quickly as possible.
7. Always come prepared. Bring balls, towels and water.
8. Clean up after yourself. Do NOT leave food wrappers, ball cans/lids, food waste behind on the courts.
9. Wear proper tennis sneakers. Flip flops, sandals, street shoes are NOT permitted for play.
10. Shirts MUST be worn at all times while on the Club premises.
11. Children and pets must NOT enter the playing area and must not be left unattended or be disruptive to other players. Pets may NOT be tied to the Club fence or property.
12. When you are ready to play, put racket covers, ball cans, jackets etc. out of everyone's way.
13. When sending balls back to a neighboring court, roll them to the back of the court. NEVER send ball back while play is in progress.
14. Retrieve balls for your partner and your opponent.
15. Call your own lines and ensure your opponent hears the call. If the ball is good, say nothing and play on.
16. Always respect the line calls of your opponent.
17. If there is a disagreement, offer a let. In other words, replay the point.
18. Always display good sportsmanship. Compliment your opponent on good shots.

Ball Management

1. Balls should be kept either in hand, in a pocket or ball clip, or against the fence directly behind the center mark.

2. Any time your opponent must walk a significant distance to retrieve a ball, look around your side to see whether you can use the time to collect a ball that is similarly far away.
3. If the server needs a ball, the player closest to the ball should get it and send it to the server.
4. Send a ball at a low speed to the server so that he/she can catch it easily with one hand.

Keeping Score

The server must announce the score at the start of each game and at the start of the second point and each subsequent point in each game.

If the receiver cannot hear the server's announcement of the score, he must ask the server to speak louder. You cannot wait until the server believes he has won the game to try to reconstruct the scoring point by point.

Line Calls

The Code addresses this topic quite well, but here are a few points that many players often overlook:

1. If you are not sure whether your opponent's shot is in or out, it is in.
2. If you return a first serve that you opponent can clearly see is out, your opponent will not be sure why you are not calling it out. It is often hard for the receiver to tell on fast serves, and you must give the serve the benefit of the doubt. But if you can see that you confused your opponent by playing an out ball, offer to replay the point.
3. In doubles, you should not call balls wide when they land near the far sideline, unless the call is obvious and your partner was somehow hindered from seeing the ball land.
4. If you are the receiver and your partner is on or near the service line at the start of the point, your partner has the best view of whether a serve is in or long. You can make a call if he/she does not, but always defer to his/her judgment.

Playing With Mixed Levels

1. Weaker Player Consideration

If you are the weakest player on the court, appreciate the time that other players have spent with you. Do not take advantage of their graciousness by overstaying your welcome on the court.

2. Playing with Lower Skill Levels

When asked to play with a group that is of a lower skill level than you, graciously accept and demonstrate good sportsmanship. They will likely appreciate your time and understand that you may want to get back to similarly skilled players after the game.

3. Strongest Player Adjustments

If you are obviously the strongest player in your group, tone down the competitiveness and hit balls to your opponents that they can return. Adjust your gameplay to ensure a balanced and enjoyable experience for all players by emphasizing skill development and good sportsmanship.