



ON-COURT RULES and TENNIS ETIQUETTE

Here are a few tips for making the game more enjoyable for everyone:

- **No spectators** are allowed on the courts, including members and members' children. No unofficial ball persons are allowed. Exceptions may exist under specified conditions, with proper etiquette, during certain events (e.g. inter-urban play, tournaments).
- Players must be considerate of the game in progress. When entering the courts, wait until a break in play and ensure that the gates to the outdoor courts or curtains in the bubble are closed securely. Open gates and curtains are a hazard.
- **Food and smoking** are not allowed on the courts. Except for water containers, no drinks are allowed on the courts.
- **Loud conversations, abusive language and outbursts of anger** are not permitted.
- **Equipment such as nets, net posts, court surface** etc. must not be physically abused.
- Always call your opponent's shots and let your opponent call yours.
- Call only the **out** shots. If there is no call the ball is **in**.
- If in doubt, the point is **in**. Do not offer to play the point again.
- Hand signals are often convenient – point to the sky if ball is **out** – a flat open palm facing downward for **in**.
- The server should keep the score and call it before each point – the ball shouldn't be served if the score is in doubt.
- If a stray ball comes onto the court while a point is being played, call a let automatically – this is simpler than trying to determine whether it affected the player or not. Either the serving or the returning player(s) can call a let.
- Do not enter another court area to retrieve a ball. Kindly ask for your ball to be returned when play on the court that your ball has rolled onto has stopped.
- Return balls to the rear of another court if play is in progress on that court.
- Belongings should be piled beside the net post. Placing belongings at the back of the court lends itself to a potential safety hazard if a player is trying to retrieve a deep lob.
- Players using more than six balls per court should make every effort to ensure that doing so does not result in more interruptions to play on adjoining courts than is considered reasonable. Should there be complaints, no more than six balls will be allowed. Please be considerate and exercise good sense at all times.