

CODE OF CONDUCT AT 8U & 10U MATCHES (Players, Spectators, and Parents)

ONLY the Court Monitor is able to interact with the tennis players on the court. Off court parents, players and spectators are never to get involved in any court issue. Too many cooks in the kitchen make for a very bad meal.

WHY can't off court parents or spectators help? We are trying to teach these young players how to be independent. MOST IMPORTANTLY- we are trying to teach them how to advocate for themselves. Court Monitors are there as the SOLE league representative to help educate our young players about the rules.

COURT MONITOR DUTIES:

- The Court Monitors 1st duty is to ensure fair play for both children and encourage an atmosphere of good sportsmanship.
- **The Court Monitor is the SOLE person interacting with players during the match.**
- Aid young players with learning how to call lines, keep score and 8U rules.
- Players can only call balls on their OWN side of the court; opponent calls the balls on the other side.
- Court Monitor can overrule any call made by a player in order to promote fair play and player education.
- **Player CALLS a ball "OUT, when it was IN", and it benefits the calling player, it is IMMEDIATELY corrected and overruled. Point goes to the opponent.**
- **Player CALLS a ball "IN, when it was OUT", in their opponent's favor; play continues. BUT- it is mentioned to both players after the point is concluded. Point is awarded to either player as if the "OUT" never happened.**
- Understand 8U and 10U Rules Sheet.

SPECTATOR DUTIES:

Tennis is a wonderful life-long sport, but it is fundamentally unique from other sports. That is because tennis players are self sufficient and independent during their matches. Tennis players are expected to advocate for themselves and actively participate in "refereeing". Even young players act as their own advocates, have a solid understanding of tennis rules and are solely in charge of their match outcomes. This can be challenging for young players, but JTT league play promotes this ideal.

- The JTT match experience allows allows players to experience INDEPENDENT decision making; unlike during a tennis lesson. Nothing teaches like experience; and lessons learned through experience are not easily forgotten.
- Tennis Cheering is WAY different than soccer or basketball. Cheering at a basketball game during a free throw; is polar opposite to tennis cheering. Cheering **during** a tennis point isn't allowed.
- COACHING IS NEVER ALLOWED DURING A MATCH; IT IS CONSIDERED CHEATING. This rule is even applied to players in Wimbledon and the US Open. Players at the professional level are fined thousands of dollars if their coaches even say "hit the ball to his backhand".
- Feel free to cheer enthusiastically after a point is over.
- Cheer as if both of the players are your children. "Beautiful Rally", "Nice patience", "Quality Point" etc. Cheer as if you are at Disneyland!
- Understand that similarly to other sports, some referees (Court Monitors) are more experienced than others. Regardless, please do not aid the Court Monitor.

PARENT DUTIES:

- To support their child's commitment to their team. (arrive on time for matches, return emails promptly to Team Parent etc.)
- Understand that while their child's is playing a tennis match, it is solely the experience for their child.
- If you ever feel that your child is having a "melt down" on the court, you are within your parental rights to pull your child from the match. Typically kids learn really fast, you'll only have to do it once.

"OH NO...WE HAVE A PROBLEM HOUSTON !" — HOW TO RESOLVE ISSUES ON THE COURT

Any issues that arise on the court, should be resolved by players and the Court Monitor.

If Players are unable to resolve an issue, they may consult an existing court monitors. If they do not have an existing court monitor, they may ask for one to be appointed by the official Team Parent. If they need additional help, they may both consult their official Team Parents for help -

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1st bad call- Player asks "are you sure?" in a calm and respectful way.

2nd bad call- Players are within their rights to ask for a Court Monitor or their Team Parent before moving forward.

LEAGUE DUTIES:

- To give young players a positive and happy tennis experience.
- To give young players the opportunity to build good character through tennis.
- To allow young players the opportunity to experience independent decision making through tennis.

The undersigned acknowledge the above policies and promise to abide by them in order to allow each player the opportunity for a FUN and independent learning opportunity.

PLAYER SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

PARENT #1 SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

PARENT #2 SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

SPECTATOR SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

SPECTATOR SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____