

RICHINGS PARK LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Code of Conduct – Junior Players, Parents, Coaches

The Parent / Guardian:

- Encourage your child to learn the rules of tennis and play within them.
- Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.
- Publicly accept judgements made by officials.
- At no stage should you communicate with your child or interfere with the on-court helpers and referees during a match – just enjoy the game and let officials take care of the rules.
- Respect all officials, players, coaches and associated people and behave to them in a way that they themselves would be expected to be treated.
- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding the good performances of all.
- Never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport.
- Allow the coach and staff to run the programme free from external pressures or influences.
- Behave in a manner that sets a positive example for others.
- It is the parent's responsibility to notify the Membership Secretary or Coach of any changes to circumstances. This includes: - medical (including injuries), photo consent and personal circumstances etc.

The Junior Player:

- Players must play within the rules and respect officials and their decisions.
- Players must respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of age, gender, ability, race, cultural background, religious beliefs or sexual identity.
- Players must wear suitable kit for training and match sessions, as agreed with the coach.
- Players must pay any fees for training or events promptly.
- Players will not use inappropriate language.
- Bullying, Racket or Ball abuse will not be tolerated. Players on the receiving end are encouraged to report such behaviour to the coach, committee member or safe-guarding officer.
- Players must not smoke, consume alcohol or participate in anti-social behaviour anywhere on the Richings Park complex or at other locations when representing Richings Park Tennis Club.
- Mobile phone calls should not be made or received on court: leave the court to make or receive a call; Mobile phones taken onto court should be switched off, or put on silent or vibrate mode, so as to avoid creating a distraction.

The Coach:

- Coaches must respect the rights, dignity and worth of each person and treat them equally within the context of the sport.
- Coaches must place the wellbeing and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of the performance.
- Coaches must develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect.
- Coaches must encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- Coaches must ensure that the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players.
- Coaches should, at the outset, clarify with the players (and, where appropriate, the parents) exactly what is expected of them and what they are entitled to expect from their coach.
- Coaches must always promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. FAIR Play) and never condone violations of the Laws of the Game, behaviour contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game or relevant rules and regulations or the use of prohibited substances or techniques.
- Coaches must consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.
- Coaches will not tolerate inappropriate language, bullying, racket and / or ball abuse.