

Herts Tennis Code of Conduct for Parents and Carers

All parents play an instrumental role in sport and children depend heavily on their involvement, support and encouragement. Collectively we have a responsibility to create safe, inclusive, fun, enjoyable, rewarding tennis environments and experiences, so we ask that you:

- Teach children that honest and determined effort is the primary measure of success; make every effort to focus on long-term development and enjoyment ahead of results.
- Positively reinforce your child and show an interest in their tennis, but never punish or belittle them for losing or making errors
- Use correct and proper language at all times and set a good example by your own conduct and behaviour
- Recognise fair play and applaud good performances
- Encourage children to respect the rules of the game and observe fair play both on and off court
- Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials
- Treat all children, adults, volunteers, coaches, officials and members of staff with respect and encourage your child to do the same
- Promote safe and inclusive tennis that is free of discrimination
- Accept decisions and judgments of officials and players as being fair and called to the best of their ability; do not go on court or interfere with matches
- Do not raise issues of disagreement publicly
- Do not communicate with your child or court officials during a match
- Support the removal of verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities
- Demand that sports environments are free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol
- Help children develop tennis independence/self-responsibility by encouraging them to prepare/carry their tennis bag, warm up/cool down and demonstrate good practice/competition habits
- Encourage your child to respect their training/competing environments and equipment (tennis rackets must not leave their hand or be hit)
- Complete the “Consent and Emergency Contact Forms” if your child is attending any County event or activity and provide any other relevant information as required
- Ensure that your child understands the Code of Conduct for Players
- You raise any concerns with the county official in charge of your child’s event and follow the Safeguarding Reporting Procedure. In an emergency call 999
- Promote the Herts Tennis values: **Honesty; Excellence; Resilience; Teamwork; Sportsmanship**

This Code of Conduct is reviewed every two years (or earlier if there is a change in national legislation) and recommended for approval by:

Herts Tennis Chairperson
County Safeguarding Officer

Trevor Adamson
Tessa Terry

Date: 1st November 2021
Date: 1st November 2021