

USTA SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS, COACHES, AND SPECTATORS

A tournament tennis match is between the players on the court. No one else other than an official may go onto the court or become involved in any way in the match.

** Any person associated with a player has an obligation to encourage and maintain high standards of proper conduct, fair play, and good sportsmanship. He/she must avoid acts that may be considered detrimental to the game of tennis.

** No conversation is allowed between the players on the court and anyone other than an official. Parents, coaches and spectators may offer encouragement to their player, such as clapping or saying "Good shot." Advice such as "Move your feet", "Stay focused", or "Settle down", or speaking to your player in any language other than English, may be interpreted as coaching. The only exception to conversing with your player is to ask the score on a changeover. This must be done in a loud enough voice that no one would construe it as coaching.

** Applauding an opponent's double fault or unforced error is always inappropriate.

** Coaching is permitted during the three-minute (near the court) and ten-minute rest period after the second set, or during a rain delay when the official allows the players to leave the court.

** Coaching is **not** allowed during the warm-up, during the match, or during a suspension or interruption of play, except during an authorized rest period. Coaching is **not** permitted when a player takes a medical time-out, a toilet break, or seeks the assistance of an official. If a player accepts coaching at an unauthorized time, the player will be subject to the Point Penalty System.

** Only the players or an official may make a call during a match. No one else may become involved in making calls or settling disputes. **Only the player may request the help of an official.**

** An official may enter the playing area at any time, whether or not a request is made by any player.

** As stated in Friend at Court (FAC), a player may only leave the court area with the permission of an official. If an official cannot be found, a player may leave the court area to find an official.

** ***Unsportsmanlike conduct by player or person associated with player.*** A player who enters a sanctioned tournament or match consents to being penalized under the Point Penalty System and the USTA Suspension Point System for any unsportsmanlike conduct, including conduct by a person associated with the player. Persons who are unsportsmanlike may be asked by any member of the Tournament Committee or any official representative of the tournament to desist and/or to leave the tournament site, and must comply.

** Your player's court is just one of many that you must be aware of when talking or cheering. Please be courteous to those playing matches on other courts.

Young people learn from watching adults. At the tournament site, it is your responsibility to set a good example for your player by modeling good sportsmanship, ethical behavior and self-control at all times.

I have read and agree to abide by the above USTA Southern California Code of Conduct for Parents, Coaches, and Spectators.