

CODE OF CONDUCT

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

1. Each Participant must:

1.1 conduct themselves, and ensure that any person supporting or working with them conducts themselves, in a professional and appropriate manner and in accordance with the highest standards of disciplined and sporting behaviour and integrity;

1.2 help to create a safe, inclusive, accessible, welcoming and enjoyable environment, both on and off the court/green;

1.3 treat all other Participants (including officials) fairly and with respect;

1.4 encourage other Participants to have respect for one another and to conduct themselves with integrity;

1.5 not verbally, physically or emotionally abuse any other Participant in any way;

1.6 not act or do anything (physically and/or orally) in a violent, threatening, intimidating, harassing or deliberately provocative way...or which is intended to offend, insult, humiliate, ridicule or cause harm or fear;

1.7 value diversity, and not unlawfully discriminate against anyone, or treat anyone less favourably or unfavourably;

1.8 not do anything, on or off the court/green, that (i) is or may be (a) unsporting, (b) insulting, and/or (c) contrary to the integrity of the sport, and/or (ii) brings the sport into disrepute;

1.9 not use any language, or make any communication or statement, on or off the court/green whether orally or in writing, that is or may be contrary to, or not compliant with, any other standard set out in this Code of Conduct;

1.10 not use an audible obscenity and/or make an obscene gesture of any kind while participating in any way in, or in connection with, the sport;

1.11 take responsibility for their actions or conduct, and the effects of those actions or conduct, and not condone conduct that breaches this Code of Conduct;

1.12 comply with all rules, regulations, policies, codes of conduct, codes of behaviour, protocols and procedures adopted or issued by the professional sporting bodies;

1.13 keep confidential any confidential information disclosed to, or obtained by, them in their capacity as a Participant (for example, medical information relating to a player);

1.14 ***ensure the safety and welfare of children and adults at risk by maintaining appropriate standards of conduct and behaviour in their dealings with children and adults at risk in accordance with our Safeguarding Policy;***

Adapted from the LTA Code of Conduct – January 2025

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CASC no. 00290

1.15 not participate in the sport having ingested or used or while under the influence of any (i) drug (except one required for legitimate medical treatment) or illegal substance of any kind, or (ii) "Prohibited Substance" in terms of Anti-Doping Regulations;

1.16 comply with the reasonable directions of any official;

1.17 if so requested, cooperate fully with any governing or official body investigation and provide comprehensive, honest and accurate information and responses; and

PLAYERS - ADDITIONAL STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

2. Each Player must:

2.1 act with honesty, integrity and in a sporting manner (including with regard to any on court/green matters, such as line calls);

2.2 accept and respect (i) the authority of officials, (ii) the role of officials in ensuring that competitions are conducted fairly and according to the relevant rules and regulations, and (iii) decisions made by officials;

2.3 not violently, dangerously, in anger, or with the intention to cause harm or damage to a person, the object itself or another object or property, hit, kick, throw or use as a weapon, a ball, racket, or other equipment;

2.4 during any match:

2.4.1 not receive coaching (including during the warm-up), except where explicitly permitted in terms of the relevant competition rules or regulations; 'coaching' is to be interpreted widely and considered to be communication, advice or instruction of any kind, audible or visible, and by any means, to a Player;

2.4.2 not leave the court/green (including during the warm-up) except with the permission of an appropriate official appointed in respect of the relevant match/competition;

2.4.3 not refuse to play or fail to be ready to play within 15 minutes of their match being called or within the allowed time due to a medical condition or treatment or having left the court/green with appropriate permission;

2.4.4 use their best efforts to win each match in which they participate; and

2.4.5 complete each match in which they participate unless they are not reasonably able to do so;

2.5 not play with or against a Participant who is under suspension or ban;

COACHES, PARENTS AND OTHER PLAYER SUPPORT PERSONS – ADDITIONAL STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

3. Each parent, coach and other Player Support Person must:

3.1 act as a positive role model by maintaining the highest standards of disciplined and sporting behaviour and projecting a favourable image of sport and (where relevant) the coaching profession or other sport-related vocation;

3.2 accept and respect (i) the authority of officials, (ii) the role of officials in ensuring that competitions are conducted fairly and according to the relevant rules and regulations, and (iii) decisions made by officials;

3.3 refrain from (i) becoming involved in any on-court/on-green/in-match matter, including line calls and scores; (ii) engaging with the player's opponent(s) and/or playing partner; and/or (iii) engaging with the opponent's Player Support Person(s) or any other Participant(s), other than in a positive and respectful manner;

3.4 act in the best interests of the player(s) they support, including by being honest, realistic and consistent with them, and teaching them (and accepting) that the player(s) can only do their best;

3.5 be sensitive to each player's self-esteem when providing constructive feedback, including where the player may have made a mistake or lost a match;

3.6 involve each player in decisions that will affect them;

3.7 prepare each player to respond to success and failure in a dignified manner and encourage and facilitate each player's independence and responsibility for their own behaviour, performance, decisions and actions;

3.8 actively discourage the ingestion or use of any (i) drug (except one required for legitimate medical treatment) or illegal substance of any kind, in either case whether or not performance-enhancing, or (ii) "Prohibited Substance" in terms of Anti-Doping Regulations;

4. Each coach and other Player Support Person (with the exception of the parent, guardian, carer, family member and relative of the player in question) must:

4.1 be aware of power imbalances that may arise between a coach or other Player Support Person and a player;

4.2 maintain appropriate boundaries and relationships (including online, on social networking platforms or on group chat or messaging applications or sites), and avoid any improper intimacy (sexual or otherwise) with a player while that relationship exists;

4.3 ensure that any physical contact is appropriate and necessary, and is carried out within applicable guidelines, and (except in a medical emergency) only with the player's (and/or, if the player is under 18 or an adult at risk, their parent's, guardian's, carer's, family member's or relative's) consent;

4.4 avoid situations with players that could be construed as improper or compromising, and actions that could be perceived as improper or inappropriate;

4.5 avoid being alone (including for travel) with a child or an adult at risk, except only when necessary for the proper performance of their professional services (for example, for 1:1 coaching session);

4.6 when providing any service, provide a positive experience, appropriate to the age and developmental stage of each player, that respects their long-term welfare and best interests, and recognise the player's right to consult with other Player Support Persons and other specialists; and

4.7 not misrepresent their qualifications, professional affiliations and/or experience.

5. Each coach must:

5.1 fully engage in and give maximum effort during all training undertaken (including continuing professional development (CPD)) and when leading or otherwise delivering coaching; and

5.2 maintain a high level of personal hygiene and a professional appearance (including with regard to the equipment used and its state of repair).

RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

This Code of Conduct should be read alongside our other policies and procedures, including:

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- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Safeguarding and Whistleblowing
- Anti-Bullying
- Use of Changing Rooms
- Online Safety and Communication
- Photography and Filming
- Safe Recruitment