

Court Etiquette

1. Talk quietly when standing near tennis courts that are in use.
2. Never walk behind a court when a point is still in play. Wait until the point is over and then cross as fast as possible.
3. If people are already on your court, don't disturb them until their time is up.
4. Always come prepared. Bring not only balls, but towels and water to drink.
5. Wear tennis shoes. Other shoes may not provide grip on the court, hurt your feet, or damage the court.
6. When you're ready to play, put gear bags, ball cans, jackets etc., out of everyone's way.
7. To see who serves first, spin your racket or toss a coin. If you win the toss, the choice is yours. You may serve first, or you may choose to receive first or to pick which end of the court you want to start playing on. As a third choice you may make your opponent choose first.
8. When sending balls back to a neighbouring court, roll them directly to one of the players or to the back of the court. Never send them back while play is in progress. If you are in the middle of a point, either stop play, play a "let" or return the ball as soon as the point is over.
9. If your ball rolls onto another court, wait for the other members to return it to you. Do not run onto the other court to retrieve it. Wait until play stops before asking for your ball.
10. Offer to bring new balls or organize a system to decide who brings the balls.
11. Retrieve balls for your partner and your opponent.
12. Don't criticize your partner, offer encouragement.
13. Call your own lines and let your opponent hear the call. Never call "good" or "in" during a rally. Say nothing unless the ball is out.
14. Always respect the line calls of your opponent.
15. If there is a disagreement, offer a let. In other words, replay the point, even if it was a second service.
16. Avoid any possible disagreement about the score by calling the game score before your first serve and by calling the point score each time you serve thereafter. If there is a disagreement about the score and a consensus cannot be reached, as a last resort, spin a racquet.
17. Always clearly signal "out" balls even if you see them as obviously out. It may not be obvious to your opponent and eliminates any possibility of misunderstanding.
18. Dangerous or violent racquet and ball throwing, loud, vulgar language and similar behaviour will not be tolerated. Unsuitable etiquette may result in playing privileges being revoked.
19. Play within the spirit of the best traditions of the game and have FUN!