

Codes of Practice for Parents, Guardians & Young Persons

We want tennis to be fun and safe.

Code of practice for parents and guardians

Tower Hamlets Tennis (THT) is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of all its members. THT believes that it is important that members, coaches, administrators and parents/guardians associated with THT should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others. Therefore, members are encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of THT with Peter Smith or Jamie Faint, Founding Directors of THT.

As a member of Tower Hamlets Tennis you are expected to abide by the following code of practice:

- Encourage your child to learn the rules of tennis and play within them.
- Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.
- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results. Your first question following any match should be: “Did you enjoy it?” not “Did you win?”
- Never force your child to take part in sport.
- 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.
- Publicly accept judgements made by officials and staff
- Support your child’s involvement and help them to enjoy their sport. Use correct and proper language at all times.
- Allow your child to play in the Mini Tennis colour stage that is appropriate to them and trust coaches decisions on this. This will ensure they enjoy playing the game, develop their skills and gain confidence.
- Purchase balls and rackets that match the stage your child is in.
- Be patient. Steady progression is unusual in children; peaks and plateaus are common.
- 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!

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For all Mini Tennis

Before each session please make sure your child:

- Has visited the toilet.
- Is wearing training shoes (NB sandals are not suitable footwear).
- Is wearing clothes suitable for physical activity and the weather conditions.
- Has water to drink.
- Has protection from the sun when applicable (E.g. hat, sun cream)

Parents/carers of children aged younger than 5

- Must not leave the site where the lesson is taking place.
- May remain courtside on the recommendation of the coach taking the session.

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Tower Hamlets Tennis - Code of practice for young people

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As a junior customer of Tower Hamlets Tennis you are expected to abide by the following code of practice:

- All customers must play within the rules and respect officials and their decisions.
- All customers must respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of age, gender, ability, race, cultural background, religious beliefs or sexual identity.
- Customers should keep to agreed timings for training and competitions, or inform their coach or team manager if they are going to be late.
- Members must wear suitable kit for training and match sessions, as agreed with the coach.
- Members must pay any fees for training or events promptly.
- Junior members are not allowed to smoke on club premises or whilst representing THT at competitions.
- Junior members are not allowed to consume alcohol or drugs of any kind on THT premises or whilst representing the club.