

Sportsmanship Do's and Don'ts for Players and Parents

Do's and Don'ts for Players

- **Do** give 100% effort in every match.
- **Do** know the rules before going on the court.
- **Do** make accurate and honest line calls.
- **Do** acknowledge an opponent's good shots
- **Do** be respectful of your opponent at all times.
- **Do** be respectful of the officials at all times.
- **Do** know that only the player may request an official or monitor if the need arises.
- **Do** be a good sport – win or lose!
- **Do** keep a positive outlook on the game – you are playing for fun!
- **Do** remember to keep the game of tennis in perspective at all times.
- **Don't** talk during a point or purposely try to distract your opponent.
- **Don't** be a distraction to the court next to you.
- **Don't** physically abuse your equipment or verbally abuse your opponent or tournament officials. You are responsible for your own actions.
- **Don't** take the game of tennis so seriously that you lose sight of your ability to have fun.
- **Don't** dwell on a loss – it is by losing that you learn to win.

Do's and Don'ts for Parents

- **Do** be supportive, interested and encouraging.
- **Do** know the basic rules of tennis.
- **Do** know that parents/coaches may not be involved in the match.
- **Do** know that parents/coaches are not permitted to speak to the players during the match.
- **Do** know parents/coaches may not request an official or monitor. Only players may request an official or monitor.
- **Do** be there when your child loses.
- **Do** be tough on cheating, temper, vulgarity, and lack of sportsmanship.
- **Do** make sure that your child's self-esteem is not on the line.
- **Do** acknowledge good shots by all players.
- **Do** respect your child's opponent at all times.
- **Do** respect the officials at all times.
- **Do** remember to keep the game of tennis in perspective at all times.
- **Don't** get overly excited when your child wins or loses.
- **Don't** show negative emotion, fear or nervousness from the sidelines.
- **Don't** distract players from the sidelines by speaking loudly.
- **Don't** say, "We're playing today" or "We won."
- **Don't** get over-involved.
- **Don't** hang on the fence – keep your distance from the match.
- **Don't** interfere in your child's matches.
- **Don't** criticize opponents.
- **Don't** applaud errors.