**Hensman Park Tennis Club**

**Code of Conduct**

All members, players, visitors, volunteers, coaches and club officials are expected to observe this Code of Conduct at all times. The aim is to provide a fun environment for all people to enjoy tennis whilst being respectful of others.

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
2. Refrain from any form of harassment of others.
3. Be fair, considerate and honest in all of your dealings with others.
4. Players should conduct themselves in a proper manner at all times. Unacceptable behaviour includes: swearing, yelling, throwing of racquet or hitting the courts or objects with a racquet, being rude, abusive, threatening or violent towards your opponent, officials, visitors, volunteers, committee members or anyone else at the Club premises.
5. Be aware of and follow the Club’s behaviour and etiquette rules.
6. Do not tolerate unacceptable behaviour from others. Report it immediately.
7. Be aware of, and maintain adherence to Tennis Australia’s standards, rules, regulations and policies. (See the Tennis Australia website for these.)
8. Provide a safe environment for the conduct of all activities.

Any person breaching the Code of Conduct should be reported immediately to an official or to a committee member. Complaints in writing listing date and a summary of events can be emailed to The President at [hptc@bigpond.net.au](mailto:hptc@bigpond.net.au). These will be acted on within 14 days.

**Behaviour and Etiquette Rules**

* Observe and comply with the HPTC Code of Conduct
* Players are expected at all times to shake hands with their opponent(s) at the end of a match.
* Constant overt celebration directed at an opponent may be considered intimidation, and is unsporting conduct. Screaming regularly and loudly, whether in relation to winning or losing a point is likely to cause interference to play on nearby courts and is considered unsporting conduct.
* Wait until a point is over before walking behind a court where a match is in progress.
* To retrieve a ball from another court or to return a ball to another court, wait until the players have completed a point.
* You are responsible for all line calls on your side of the net. A service "Let" may be called by either player/team. If in doubt about a line call, the player must give the benefit of any doubt to his/her opponent. Always respect the line calls of your opponent. If you're not sure whether your opponent's shot is in or out, then it is in. If there is a disagreement, offer to play the point again from the beginning, even if it was a second service.
* To avoid controversy over the score, the server should announce the game score before starting a game and the point score prior to serving for each point.
* All balls on your side of the net are your responsibility to pick up and return directly to the server.
* The receiver should not return the first service if it is a fault. Let it go by or ground it.
* All "out" or "fault" calls should be made promptly after the ball has bounced and must be loud enough for the opponent to hear.
* Respect all other people and the Club’s facilities.
* Keep all facilities clean and tidy. Help to clean up at the end of the day.
* Comply with all laws that apply to the Club including the Responsible Service of Alcohol legislation
* The club promotes a healthy environment, is a non smoking venue and encourages members to consume alcohol in a responsible manner and follow sun smart guidelines.

**Parent Behaviour**

* Observe and comply with the HPTC Code of Conduct.
* Be encouraging and show interest but don't get overly involved. Competition can be stressful, so try not to add to the pressure.
* Encourage good sportsmanship and fair play in your child, not a "win at all costs" attitude.
* Communicate with the coach on goals and general improvement, but don't coach the coach.
* Understand that sport is a great lesson for life (self-discipline, problem solving) and not just about winning.
* Remember that there are many qualified people who can coach your child, but only you can be a loving supportive parent.
* Offer congratulations to other competitors and foster friendly relations with other parents, club officials, volunteers, umpires and tournament officials.
* Please do not get too close to the action- support your child from a distance. You are not allowed on the side or at the back of the court.
* Encourage good shots and good play but do not applaud the opposition's errors or coach your own child during a match.
* Be supportive of tournament and competition organizers- they have a big job and a lot is expected of them. Rules and scheduling of matches are made for the benefit of all- not for individuals.