

Section 7 CODE OF CONDUCT

Tennis Geelong defer to the following documents for rules, definitions, procedures:

Document 1: Tennis Etiquette and Rules for Non-Umpired Matches

Document 2: Tennis Australia Code of Behaviour:

Part A - Weekly Competition Guidelines

Part B - Appendix 1: Match and Tournament Violations

These documents are available on the Tennis Geelong website, and are the basis for the Code of Conduct.

FOR PLAYERS

MATCHES WITHOUT UMPIRES OR REFEREES

Players are expected to abide by the rules and conduct as outlined by Tennis Australia in Document 1. Violations of these rules and conduct should be reported to the relevant Competition Secretary, as a complaint as detailed in By-Law 1.21.1. Complaints can be reported by players, spectators or any person within the precinct of the match site, who is witness to the violation, to their club representative who will lodge the complaint with the Competition Secretary.

MATCHES WITH UMPIRES AND/OR REFEREES

On the occasions that Tennis Geelong appoint Umpires and Referees, they are actually considered Court Monitors, as defined in Document 2 Part A, as they are not fully accredited officials. As such, Tennis Geelong employ two ways for violations to be dealt with:

1. Delegation of Authority to award penalties

The Competition Committees delegate Chair/Central Umpires in consultation with appointed Referees to have the authority to award penalties for the following violations from Document 2 Part B:

2.2 Physical Abuse

2.3 Verbal Abuse

2.4 Audible Obscenity

2.8 Visible Obscenity

2.9 Abuse of racquets or equipment

2.10 Abuse of balls

Penalties for these violations:

FIRST Instance: Warning

SECOND Instance: Loss of a point

THIRD Instance: Loss of set/rubber

These penalties carry over to any other remaining sets/rubbers for the match.

If a player is defaulted, they are no longer able to participate in the remainder of the match and cannot be substituted.

2. Referral to Competition Committees

In the event of violations from Document 2 Part B relating to:

2.5 Unsportsmanlike conduct

2.7 Unreasonable delays

2.12 Best efforts

2.14 Failure to complete a match/a tournament

3.1 Dress and equipment

3.2 Conduct unbecoming

The Chair/Central Umpires in consultation with appointed Referees should, in the first instance, counsel and warn the individual, that their conduct is inappropriate and that if the behaviour continues it will be referred to the Competition Committee.

If further instances of violation are observed, the Chair/Central Umpire and Referee together, should provide a written complaint to the relevant Competition Committee, as detailed in By-Law 1.21.1. The complaint should detail the situation of the match, the violation, any witnesses and any other pertinent information.

Any sanctions will be determined by the relevant Competition Committee.

BEGINNER SECTIONS WITH MANDATORY CHAIR/CENTRAL UMPIRE (By-Law 4.4.1)

These sections are learning and should be treated as such. Players, parents and spectators should be counselled about inappropriate behaviour and where details of the Code of Conduct can be found. Clubs should ensure that all new junior players and junior parents are aware of where to find information relating to the rules of Tennis and of Tennis Geelong.

FOR SPECTATORS (PLAYERS NOT ON COURT, PARENTS etc)

Tennis Geelong considers a Spectator to be person who is not directly involved with the match in progress. Those directly involved include a player, umpire, linesperson, referee etc. Spectators are not to direct play or instruct players, either during or between points whilst the match is in progress.

Spectators are expected to abide by the rules and conduct as outlined by Tennis Australia in Document 2 Part B, in particular 2.13 Coaching and 2.15 Spectator Interference.

If requested by either team, a spectator can be asked to umpire a match, as provided in the relevant By-Laws (Senior 2.10.1, Midweek 3.10.1, Junior 4.4.1). An example of this is could be players being unsure of how to play a tie break. The spectator must become the central/chair umpire, and participate in the match, not direct/score from outside the court boundary.

MATCHES WITHOUT UMPIRES OR REFEREES

In Junior events, violations of these rules and conduct can be reported to the Club Supervisor at the time, and in the first instance the Supervisor would counsel the individual that their conduct is inappropriate. If the behaviour continues, it should be referred to the relevant Competition Committee by the Club Representative, as a complaint as detailed in By-Law 1.21.1 with details of the violation.

In all other instances, violations of these rules and conduct should be reported to the relevant Competition Secretary, as a complaint as detailed in By-Law 1.21.1. Complaints can be reported by players, spectators or any person within the precinct of the match site, who is witness to the violation, to their club representative who will lodge the complaint with the Competition Secretary.

MATCHES WITH UMPIRES AND/OR REFEREES

On the occasions that Tennis Geelong appoint Umpires and Referees, they are actually considered Court Monitors, as defined in Document 2 Part A, as they are not fully accredited officials. The appointed Referees can refer violations to the relevant Competition Committee, when relating to (Document 2 Part B):

2.2 Physical Abuse

2.3 Verbal Abuse

2.4 Audible Obscenity

2.8 Visible Obscenity

2.13 Coaching

2.15 Spectator Interference

Where possible, any instance of these violations, noticed by any linesperson involved in the match, or player should be directed through the Chair/Central umpire to the Court Referee.

If violations are observed by other spectators, this should be brought directly to the attention of the Court Referee.

In the first instance, the Referee must counsel and warn the individual that their conduct is inappropriate and that if the behaviour continues it will be referred to the Competition Committee. If further instances of violation are observed, the Referee, together with the original reporter, should provide a written complaint to the relevant Competition Committee, as detailed in By-Law 1.21.1. The complaint should detail the situation of the match, the violation, any witnesses and any other pertinent information.

Any sanctions will be determined by the relevant Competition Committee.