

## **Introduction**

All players need to read and understand QPTC's Code as it applies to play at all levels.

All players, their supporters, and officials have a duty to encourage and maintain the highest standards of sportsmanship, courtesy and fair play. They are under an obligation to avoid conflict, acts or practices, which are perceived to be detrimental to the integrity of the game.

(The following has been summarized for the general needs of the Quaker Park Tennis Club (QPTC) from the *Ontario Tennis Association's (OTA) Code of Conduct*, (updated February 6, 2016). In the event, that a situation at QPTC is more complex than addressed below, the Executive will refer to the complete OTA Code for direction.)

**Fair Play** Players shall call all balls, double bounces and foul shots, fairly and honestly.

**Abuse of Balls** Players shall not violently, dangerously, or with anger hit, kick or throw a tennis ball while on the grounds of QPTC.

**Abuse of Equipment** Players, and their supporters, shall not violently, dangerously or with anger hit, kick or throw a racquet or other equipment while on the grounds of QPTC.

**Physical Abuse** Players, and their supporters, shall not at any time physically abuse any official, opponent, spectator or other person within the grounds. Physical abuse refers to the unauthorized touching of another person.

**Verbal Abuse** Players and their supporters, shall not at any time verbally abuse any official, spectator or other person within the grounds. Verbal abuse is defined as any statement directed at another person that implies dishonesty or is derogatory, insulting or otherwise abusive.

**Audible Obscenity** Players and their supporters, shall not use audible obscenities while on-site. An audible obscenity is defined as the use of words commonly known and understood to be profane and uttered clearly and loudly enough to be heard.

**Visible Obscenity** Players and their supporters, shall not make obscene gestures while on site. A visible obscenity is defined as the making of a sign with one's hands and/or racquet or balls that commonly has an obscene meaning.

**Unreasonable Delays** Following expiration of the warm-up period, play shall be continuous. A player shall not unreasonably delay a match for any cause.

**Failure to Give Best Effort** All players shall use their best efforts during matches when competing in a tournament.

**Unsportsmanlike Conduct** Players, and their supporters, shall at all times conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner and give due regard to the authority of officials and the rights of opponents, spectators and others. Unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as any misconduct that is clearly abusive or detrimental to the success of the tournament, and/or sport.

## Code of Conduct continued...

**Proper Attire** All players shall wear tennis tops, shorts, skirts, dresses as well as approved clay court tennis shoes.

**Failure to Appear** Entering a tournament and failing to appear without adequate reason and sufficient notice will result in a default. Players who fail to appear after being placed in the draw remain liable for any entry fees for the event.

**Defaulting in a Tournament** All tournaments in which a player is entered must be completed unless the player is unable to do so by reason of injury, illness or personal emergency as recognized by the designated tournament official.

**Gambling** It is forbidden ...

**Punctuality** Players are responsible for being ready to play when their match is called, which includes: wearing proper attire, having already used the washroom facilities, and preparation of all their equipment.

**Illegal Drugs** The possession, or use, of illegal drugs by any player is forbidden.

### **Disciplinary Procedures**

1. The QPTC Manager, employee, or Executive member present, or in the case of a tournament, the Tournament Director, shall determine any breach of the Code of Conduct.
2. Written documentation shall be submitted to the QPTC President within five business days of the occurrence noting all off-court and/or egregious on-court violations of the Code of Conduct.
3. The President will review the reports and request clarification, if required. The QPTC Executive will review the reports and determine if any penalties are to be assessed to the players and/or supporters.
4. The President will share, with those involved, the decision of the Executive and steps for an appeal process.
5. Appeal Process:
  - a. Those involved have five business days of their notification to request an appeal of their discipline action. The request is to be sent to the Club President, in writing.
  - b. The President will arrange for those involved, the Executive, and those who submitted the original reports to meet.
  - c. The players involved will be given the opportunity in an organized fashion to review their concerns. The Executive will have the opportunity to ask questions of the players.
  - d. Following the departure of the players involved, the Executive will reach a decision or recommend a change, which the President will share with those involved.