



# WESTCLIFF LAWN TENNIS CLUB



## CODE of CONDUCT

We are all keen to enjoy our sport so we have just a simple Club Rule to make the playing experience more enjoyable for all and that is 'Keep it clean!'. The 'it' being:

the courts,  
your language and  
your play.

Leave the courts free of litter, collect in tennis balls for other players to use, do not remove social balls from the premises for personal use and don't let the frustrations of the game make you an unpleasant person to play with.

### Social Play

In each four, you play one short set, first pair to win six games, maximum 11 games, then come off court. Unless there are good quality balls remaining from matches or previous club sessions, the club will provide 3 new balls/court for Saturday sessions. At the end of every four, please return all balls to the clubhouse. Floodlights are provided free of charge during Social Play, however if you are the last on courts, please turn off the floodlights; the control panel is in the clubhouse.

### Our Clay Courts

These courts require regular dragging; so, always drag the courts before you play on the court.

### Court Etiquette

Please do not walk behind players whilst a game, a rally or coaching is in progress, this is to avoid distracting other members and most importantly to avoid any potential accidents on court.

If you are trying to cross a court please wait until you are invited to and it is safe to do so.

If a stray ball comes onto your court don't knock it back immediately, wait until the owners are ready and then hit it to the server's end.

During play, and particularly between games, keep the amount and volume of conversation down to a minimum necessary to play and enjoy your own games. Too much chatter can disturb those playing nearby and, in between games, can hold up play for people waiting.

Line calls can be a problem and we recommend the use of what the Americans call the 'honour system'.

Only call the lines on your side of the net.

Call clearly and firmly what you see, and what you honestly believe to be correct.

If you are not absolutely certain or didn't see the ball clearly, the ball was **IN** and must be given in the opponents favour.

If occasionally you have serious doubts as to your opponent's eye-sight, ask politely if they are certain as to the accuracy of their call. If they say that they are, get on with the next point.

If you feel your opponents' regularly have difficulties making correct calls, start looking for different opponents!

If in social friendly matches there is some doubt over a line call, offer to play the point again rather than cause undue aggravation and time wasting.

Do not criticise your partner or opponent, be positive and offer encouragement instead. Overall, use your best judgement; we all want to be competitive but don't let your emotions get on top of you!

### **Respect and Behaviour**

All Club members and coaches must show tolerance, courtesy, good manners, fairness, honesty and integrity in their dealings with Club members, officials, Club members' guests, playing and social visitors.

### **Equality**

The Club is opposed to discrimination in **any** form. All Club members have a responsibility to make everyone feel welcome and to ensure that membership of the club is a positive experience.

### **Safety and Responsibility**

All Club members will act responsibly and look to protect and ensure the safety of everyone at the Club at all times and particularly to consider the well-being and care of junior players and visitors.

### **Fair Play**

All Club members will respect the rules of the sports of tennis and address disputes with dignity and appropriate language.

### **Club Reputation**

All Club members should endeavour to protect and further the Club's good reputation at all times. When representing the Club, all players will observe the principles in this Code of Conduct.

### **Resolving Differences**

All club members will endeavour to resolve differences in the following order:

1. Between the parties involved.
2. By reference to the appropriate Club Section i.e. Club Captain or the Club's Child Welfare Officer who will determine the course of action to be followed.
3. If a member has not followed the Code of Conduct, depending on the misdemeanor, there is a possibility they might be suspended or excluded. This can only happen if approved by the Club General Committee.
4. All disciplinary action shall be subject to a right of appeal to an Appeals Committee. This Appeals Committee shall comprise of three individuals appointed by the General Committee. The majority verdict of the Appeals Committee shall be final and binding.

### **PLEASE ALSO READ OUR FAIR PLAY POLICY**