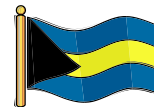




THE BAHAMAS LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION



PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT (“The Code”)

I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child participating in The Game of Tennis by following this Parents’ Code of Conduct:

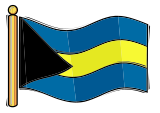
1. I and my child’s support team will learn and abide by the rules of the ITF Welfare Policy (see ITF.com)
2. I will treat each athlete, opposing coach, official, parent, and BLTA Executives with dignity, based on the values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility.
3. I will uphold the authority of BLTA Officials who are assigned to the Tournament in which my child is participating, and I will assist them in every way possible to conduct fair and impartial competitive contests.
4. I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every Tournament, practice or other BLTA events.
5. I will place the emotional and physical well being of my child ahead of my personal desire to win.
6. I will require that my child’s coach be trained in the responsibilities of being a youth sports coach and that the coach upholds the ITF Coaches’ Code of Ethics.
7. I will support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
8. I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment that is free from the abuse of drugs and alcohol and I will refrain from the use of drugs and abuse of alcohol at all BLTA sports events.
9. I will remember that the game of tennis is designed to develop positive and productive citizens and I will do my very best to make the Game of Tennis fun for my child.
10. I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.
11. I will maintain full control over my emotions and behavior throughout the match. Coaching, yelling, swearing, and other similar behavior is absolutely unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Parents and or Coaches exhibiting such behavior will be:
  - a. cautioned once;
  - b. if a second unacceptable event occurs, the player will receive a point penalty;
  - c. a third unacceptable even will result in the player receiving a game penalty; and
  - d. any further abuse will result in the player being defaulted from the Tournament and the Parent and or Coach formally reported by the BLTA to its disciplinary committee for further investigation and action.
12. I have read the document, “TIPS FOR BECOMING A GOOD TENNIS SPORTS PARENT” and will do my best in following these tips to become a ‘Good Tennis Sports Parent’.
13. I have read the Codes and discussed with my child and understand that Sanctions, as outlined by the BLTA, will apply if we are in breach of the Codes.

\*\*\*\*\*



# THE BAHAMAS LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION

## TIPS FOR BECOMING A GOOD TENNIS SPORTS PARENT



JUNE 2010

Always treat others (coaches, parents, officials and players) the same way you would want your child to be treated. Set the example by showing respect, dignity, and sportsmanship at all times. Make only positive, encouraging comments.

---

Ensure that their child practices good eating habits and consume sufficient liquids during the days/weeks leading up to the Tournament to remain hydrated during and after their matches.

Be responsible; Get your kids to Practices and Tournaments on time. Make sure they are dressed in proper Tennis Attire and that they have had something to eat and drink. Let the Tournament Director and Coach know if your child will be missing a Tournament or Practice.

Focus on fun and participation rather than winning and losing. Motivate through confidence by trying to identify a positive from every Tournament and Practice. Making mistakes is part of the learning process so do not criticize and try to avoid too much post tournament analysis.

Act your age; Junior Tennis is for kids. If you find yourself becoming too emotionally involved, take a step back and relax. Remember that your childhood is over. Give the young players a chance to enjoy theirs.

Be seen, not heard; nothing is better for a young player than having parents watch them play. However, nothing is worse for a player than to have a parent boo, taunt, scream or conduct himself in an undignified manner when dealing with other officials, players, other parents or coaches.

Respect the officials. Even if you do not agree with a call, accept it and move on. It's not your job to officiate the game. If you must talk to the official or coach, do it in private after the game or practice. Better yet, wait until the next day when the heat of the moment has passed. Never create a scene in front of your child or other players.

Refrain from use of drugs and the abuse of alcohol at all BLTA Tournaments or at Practice.

Get interested in the Game of Tennis and learn the rules. Participate in team activities and volunteer to help.

\*\*\*\*\*