

Tennis Etiquette

The appropriate behaviours on the tennis court:

General

- Play tennis in clothing for the conditions and the relevant dress code
- Wait until a game or point is finished before walking on to a court
- If you don't know any of the players on court, introduce yourself
- Play hard but play fair – remember it's only a game and there is always next week

Serving

- Always have both tennis balls on you when you're about to serve
- Serve when both you and the receiver are ready
- Don't return (obvious) faults to the server or into the net

Line Calls

- The receiver calls the serve when it is near the centreline or sideline. The receiving net person calls the service line
- Don't call the receiving service line from the baseline where you served
- Don't call a serve into the net as a "fault" – the result is obvious to all
- Always call a ball out when you are in a position to, even if the point is not in your favour
- If you wish to query a line call ask "Are you sure of your call?"
- Call the lines honestly and give your opponent the benefit of the doubt in those inevitable close ones – everyone will admire you and respect your achievements

Scoring

- The server has the responsibility of keeping score and should state the score clearly prior to serving each point.

Retrieving tennis balls

- Return the balls for service when the Server is ready to receive the balls

Matchplay

- At the conclusion of your match, the match balls are returned to reception
- Should tennis balls exit the playing area, players should retrieve the balls in between games
- Regardless of the result, either a shake of hands or tapping of racquet is good etiquette to congratulate both players on a good effort.