

## **Goring Tennis Club Code of Conduct**

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Document owner: Mandy Jacklin, Welfare Officer

Approved by Goring Tennis Club Committee on 29th April 2024

Next review due April 2026

### **Code of Conduct for GTC's members, volunteers and visitors**

This document sets out the standards of conduct that are expected and required of club members and visitors to the club. The Club's committee has overall responsibility for the policy and its implementation

GTC strives to create a safe, inclusive, accessible, welcoming and enjoyable environment both on and off the court

All members are therefore expected to:

Treat all other members (both junior and adult), visitors and other players respectfully by showing good manners, honesty and integrity.

Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, race, sexual identity, cultural background or faith;

Welcome new members and players to the Club irrespective of their experience of the game and their level of play.

The Club will not accept any behaviour which may cause any physical harm or mental anxiety to any other member or visitor. Inappropriate actions include:

- Swearing
- Being abusive or aggressive
- Intimidating behaviour
- Verbal abuse (including, but not limited to, the use of racial or homophobic language)

Failure to comply with GTC's Code of Conduct could mean repercussions for yourself and for the club.

Members are encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns relating to the Code of Conduct or informal complaints that they may have with the Welfare Officer, Mandy Jacklin, by email ([welfare.officer@goring-tennis.co.uk](mailto:welfare.officer@goring-tennis.co.uk)).

### **All members of staff and volunteers agree to:**

- Prioritise the well-being of all children and adults at risk at all times
- Treat all children and adults at risk fairly and with respect
- Be a positive role model. Act with integrity, even when no one is looking
- Help to create a safe and inclusive environment both on and off court
- Not allow any rough or dangerous behaviour, bullying or the use of bad or inappropriate language
- Report all allegations of abuse or poor practice to the club Welfare Officer
- Not use any sanctions that humiliate or harm a child or adult at risk
- Value and celebrate diversity and make all reasonable efforts to meet individual needs
- Keep clear boundaries between professional and personal life, including on social media
- Have the relevant consent from parents/carers, children and adults before taking or using photos and videos; for example the use of photographs for club publicity or other reasons, uploading to the club's website and or social media sites.
- Refrain from making physical contact with children or adults unless it is necessary as part of an emergency or congratulatory (e.g. handshake / high five)

- Refrain from smoking and consuming alcohol during club activities or coaching sessions, unless expressly approved by the committee, for example at a social event
- Ensure roles and responsibilities are clearly outlined and everyone has the required information and training
- Avoid being alone with a child or adult at risk unless there are exceptional circumstances
- Refrain from transporting children or adults at risk, unless this is required as part of a club activity (e.g. away match) and there is another adult in the vehicle
- Not abuse, neglect, harm or discriminate against anyone; or act in a way that may be interpreted as such
- Not have a relationship with anyone under 18 for whom they are coaching or responsible for
- Not have a relationship with anyone over 18 whilst continuing to coach or be responsible for them

### **All children agree to:**

- Be friendly, supportive and welcoming to other children and adults
  - Play fairly and honestly
  - Respect club staff, volunteers and Officials and accept their decisions
  - Behave, respect and listen to your coach
  - Take care of your equipment and club property
  - Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of age, gender, ability, race, culture, religion or sexual identity
  - Not use bad, inappropriate or racist language, including on social media
  - Not bully, intimidate or harass anyone, including on social media
  - Not smoke, drink alcohol or take drugs of any kind ((with the exception of prescription drugs) on club premises or whilst representing the club at competitions or events
  - Talk to the club Welfare Officer about any concerns or worries they have about themselves or others

### **All adults agree to:**

Positively reinforce your child and show an interest in their tennis

- Use appropriate language at all times
- Be realistic and supportive
- Never ridicule or admonish a child for making a mistake or losing a match
- Treat all children, adults, volunteers, coaches, officials and members of staff with respect
- Behave responsibly at the venue; do not embarrass your child
- Accept the official's decisions and do not go on court or interfere with matches
- Encourage your child to play by the rules, and teach them that they can only do their best
- Deliver and collect your child punctually from the venue
- Ensure your child has appropriate clothing for the weather conditions
- Ensure that your child understands their code of conduct
- Adhere to your venue's safeguarding policy, diversity and inclusion policy, rules and regulations
- Provide emergency contact details and any relevant information about your child including medical history