



# Code of Conduct for Members and Users

## Purpose

HORLEY LAWN TENNIS CLUB (“HLTC”, “the Club”) is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of all its members, visitors and guests. HLTC believes that it is important that members, coaches, administrators, parents/guardians and visiting players should, at all times, show respect for, and understanding for the safety and welfare of, others.

This policy defines what is expected of all persons taking part in or observing activities at or on behalf of HLTC.

This Policy replaces the Code of Practice for Members and Users v1.0 dated 24 Jan 2012

## Policy

All members of HLTC are required, as a condition of membership, to abide by the following Code of Conduct.

Members introducing guests are responsible for ensuring that their guests also abide this Code of Conduct. Visiting players from other Clubs are also required to abide by this Code of Conduct.

This Code of Conduct shall be displayed on a notice board within the HLTC Clubhouse.

## Code of Conduct

### **ALL Members (including junior members), Parents/Guardians and Carers, Visiting players and Guests**

- must play within the rules of Lawn Tennis as defined by the Lawn Tennis Association, and respect officials and their decisions
- must respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of age, gender, gender identity, ability or disability, race, culture, religion or faith including lack of one, sex, sexual identity or other protected characteristic
- must not act in a discriminatory way against any other person or group of persons, nor bully, intimidate or harass anyone including on social media
- must not use bad or inappropriate language, including on social media
- should keep to agreed timings for training and competitions, or inform their coach or team captain if they are going to be late
- must wear appropriate kit for all tennis sessions
- must pay any fees for training or events promptly
- should follow the behavioural and other guidelines contained in the HLTC booklet “Health, Safety and Well-being at Horley Lawn Tennis Club”
- shall not use drugs (apart from those required for medical conditions) on Club premises or whilst representing the Club at competitions or events

- shall note that HLTC has banned the use of chewing gum due to some users spitting it out on courts and around the Club's grounds, and accordingly shall not use chewing gum on HLTC premises
- shall remove food or other waste or put it in an appropriate bin

### **Juniors (including visiting juniors and junior guests)**

- must be friendly, supportive and welcoming to other children and adults
- must play fairly and honestly
- must respect Club staff, volunteers and Officials and accept their decisions
- must behave, respect and listen to their coach
- must take care of their equipment and Club property
- must not smoke, drink alcohol or use drugs (apart from those required for medical conditions) on Club premises or whilst representing the Club at competitions or events
- should talk to the Club Welfare Officer about any concerns or worries they have about themselves or others

### **Parents, Guardians, Carers and others *in locum parentis***

- should encourage their child(ren) or charge(s) to learn the rules of tennis and play within them
- should discourage unfair play and arguing with officials
- should help their child(ren) or charge(s) to recognise good performance, not just results
- should never force their child(ren) or charge(s) to take part in sport
- should set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding the good performances of all
- should never punish or belittle a child or charge for losing or making mistakes
- must publicly accept judgements made by officials
- should support their child(ren)'s or charge(s)'s involvement and help them to enjoy their sport
- must use correct and proper language at all times
- must be patient - steady progression is unusual in children and disadvantaged or less well able adults; peaks and plateaus are common
- the first question following any match should be: "Did you enjoy it ?" not "Did you win ?"
- must at no stage communicate with their child(ren) or charge(s) or interfere with the on-court helpers and referees during a match – just enjoy the game and let officials take care of the rules !
- must encourage their child(ren) or charge(s) to respect the Club's facilities and other people

### **Non-Compliance and Complaints**

Complaints about other peoples' behaviour or non-compliance with this policy should be made in accordance with HLTC's Complaints Policy. HLTC will follow the procedures within that policy accordingly.

### **Approval**

This policy update was approved by the HLTC Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020.