

RIDING MILL TENNIS CLUB CODE OF CONDUCT

All members are expected to:

- Treat other members, visitors and officials with respect. There must be no inappropriate actions, behaviours, comments, swearing or physical contact which may cause offence to others.
- Act responsibly 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
- Not question another person's integrity. Disputes, such as line calls, should be settled politely (see below)
- Not smoke or vape anywhere on the club premises
- To help clean the courts before play commences

Order of play

- You can arrive at any time and filter into the system once a court becomes free
- Those who have been waiting the longest to play will have first priority, so don't queue jump or ask someone else to keep your place in the queue
- While you may politely ask the score, don't pressurise players during a match by asking when they are going to finish or otherwise interrupt play
- If there are a lot of people waiting, keep any warm ups to a minimum

Line Calls

- Only call the lines on your side of the net
- Players on the side of any disputed call have the final say
- If you have genuine doubts about the call, ask politely. If the opponent reaffirms the ball was out, the call should be accepted
- If the player is not absolutely certain or didn't see the ball clearly, the ball was IN and must be given in the opponents' favour
- If neither side is sure if the ball was in or out, the point should be played again

During Play

- Avoid causing damage or harm to other players through your play by not aiming shots directly at opponents' bodies
- Do not criticise partners' or opponents' play
- Do not walk behind players whilst a rally is in progress. This particularly applies when entering or leaving the double courts, as the door is directly behind the line of play
- If requested, feed your doubles partner with tennis balls when they are serving
- Take into account your opponents when playing, particularly the speed of your service
- Players on the receiving side should return the balls back to the server once a point has been completed
- If a ball goes into a neighbouring court, wait till a suitable break in your and the neighbouring match before retrieving the ball

After Play

- Once you have completed your match, you should come off court until it is determined who is next entitled to play
- If you are the last players on the court for any session, please collect all balls at the end of play and return them to the clubhouse
- Retrieve any lost balls out of court and return them to the clubhouse

Resolving Differences

- Wherever possible, disputes should be settled amicably among the parties concerned
- If still unresolved, any member can ask that the matter be brought to the attention of a committee member for discussion at the next meeting
- Where deemed appropriate, the committee can invite the relevant parties to discuss the issue at a committee meeting. The committee will then decide what action to take and has the power to censure and, if deemed necessary, to suspend any member from the club for an agreed period