

Code of Conduct & Ethics Policy

1. INTRODUCTION

City of Derry Tennis Club (CODTC) is committed to promoting a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all members, visitors and guests. This Code of Conduct & Ethics Policy outlines the expected behaviour of all individuals at the club, ensuring that tennis is played in a spirit of fairness, respect, and integrity.

2. GENERAL CODE OF CONDUCT

All members, guests and staff are expected to:

- Treat others with respect, courtesy, and sportsmanship at all times.
- Encourage a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere, free from discrimination, harassment, or bullying.
- Respect all the facilities, equipment and environment used by the club to ensure courts are left clean and tidy.
- Adhere to club rules and regulations, including booking procedures and dress codes.
- Comply with the decisions of coaches, officials, and club representatives.

3. DRESS CODE

All members and guests attire:

- Should be appropriate for tennis and include tennis shoes
- Should not display any political or sectarian logos to ensure neutrality, avoid discrimination and ensure a safe environment for all

4. PLAYER CONDUCT

All players should:

- Play fairly within the rules of tennis.
- Accept both victory and defeat with grace and good sportsmanship.
- Refrain from using abusive or offensive language.
- Avoid any form of gamesmanship, cheating, or unsportsmanlike behaviour.

- Respect the rights and well-being of other players, officials, and spectators.

5. PARENT & GUARDIAN CONDUCT

Parents and guardians should:

- Encourage children to enjoy the game and develop a love for sport.
- Support coaches and club officials in creating a positive environment.
- Set an example of respect, courtesy, and good sportsmanship.
- Avoid coaching from the sidelines during matches and training sessions.

6. COACHING & CLUB REPRESENTATIVE CONDUCT

Coaches and club officials must:

- Act professionally and ethically at all times.
- Ensure that coaching sessions are conducted in a safe and supportive manner.
- Treat all players equally, regardless of age, gender, ability, or background.
- Follow all safeguarding policies and procedures, ensuring the welfare of children and vulnerable adults.

7. COURT & FACILITY USAGE

To ensure fair and responsible use of available court slots, all members must:

- Book courts in advance and respect allocated playing times.
- Cancel bookings if they are unable to play, allowing others the opportunity to use the courts.
- Use appropriate footwear and equipment to maintain court quality and safety.
- Follow any local rules at Waterside Shared Village and Foyle College regarding access, car parking and use of their facilities

8. SAFEGUARDING & WELFARE

City of Derry Tennis Club prioritises the welfare and safety of all members, particularly children and vulnerable adults.

- Any concerns regarding safeguarding must be reported to the **Club Safeguarding Officer**.
- The club adheres to **Tennis Ireland safeguarding policies**, and all members should familiarise themselves with these policies.
- Members should never engage in inappropriate behaviour, including bullying, harassment, or discrimination.

8. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Failure to adhere to this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, including:

- A verbal or written warning from the club committee.
- Temporary or permanent suspension of membership.
- Referral to the Tennis Ireland for further action.

All disciplinary matters will be handled fairly and in accordance with club procedures.

9. REPORTING CONCERNS

If you witness or experience any behaviour that breaches this policy, please report it to:

- **Club Chairperson:** Teresa Sweidan
- **Safeguarding Officer:** Sinead Gallen
- **Contact us:** City of Derry Tennis Club

All reports will be taken seriously and handled confidentially.

10. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

By joining City of Derry Tennis Club, all members agree to abide by this Code of Conduct & Ethics Policy. We appreciate your cooperation in maintaining a respectful and enjoyable environment for all.