

# Tournament Parent Guide

## TOURNAMENT PREPARATION



**Ensure your child has all their equipment** including a racquet, suitable clothing (shorts, t-shirts and a hat/sunscreen if they are playing outside), tennis shoes and water.



**Check the tournament home page frequently** for any updates on schedule, draws or other relevant tournament information.



Remember that tennis matches vary in length, so **be prepared for a wait**, particularly if a tournament has been affected by bad weather.



**Talk to your child about the importance of fair play and enjoyment**, ensuring they try their best and focus on any goals they have worked on with their coach in training.



**Allow enough time for your journey** including allowances for delays. If you are going to be delayed, let the Tournament Director know as soon as possible.



**Your child should avoid playing if they are injured or ill.** They need to give their body time to recover properly from injury or illness.



**Make sure your child is committed to playing and completing the tournament in its entirety.**

Withdrawing from a tournament without a valid excuse can result in a player being penalized.



**Do not expect the tournament to wait for you if you are running late.**

Depending on the tournament schedule, the referee may or may not be able to delay the match.

## BEFORE the match

- **Check in to the tournament desk at least 15 minutes prior to your scheduled match time** and remain close by while waiting for the tournament director to call your match.
- **Make sure your child has plenty of water and uses the restroom** before going on court.
- **Confirm that your child knows what scoring format is being used.** and check with the tournament referee if unsure.
- **Help your child to stay calm and relaxed** and check that they have everything that they need to take onto the court.
- **Encourage your child to stretch and warm up** off court, as the on-court warm-up is limited to five minutes.

## DURING the match

- **Each player is responsible for calling all out-balls on their side of the net clearly and fairly** even if it costs them the point. Such calls must be clearly audible.
- The player serving should **call the score before every point clearly and audibly.**
- Teach your child to always **treat their opponent with respect.** Good sportsmanship and honesty are extremely important regardless of whether they win or lose.
- **Encourage your child to raise their racket for a referee or official** if there is an issue.
- **Swearing, throwing racquets/balls in temper or behaving in an unsportsmanlike manner is unacceptable** and can result in a player being penalized.
- **Coaching your child during a match is not allowed**, but feel free to show other signs of encouragement and support between points.
- If you can, **make sure to watch their whole match regardless of their performance.**

## AFTER the match

- **Make sure your child shakes their opponent's hand** no matter the outcome.
- Check that your child **reports their score to the tournament desk** even if they lost.
- **Find out your child's next match time.** The number of matches your child plays will depend on the draw format. If in doubt, check with the tournament director.
- **Be prepared to wait between matches** and be patient with the tournament director who will always try and get matches on court as soon as possible.
- **Encourage consistent positive behavior** from your child regardless of the result.
- **Remember to thank the tournament officials.** They are hardworking, dedicated people and many are volunteers.