

## Tildesley Shield

### *1. Statement of intent*

These regulations provide the framework for dealing with tournament related breaches of discipline by players, coaches, parents/guardians and spectators who participate in or attend the Tildesley Shield.

### *2. Purpose*

To preserve the image and integrity of tennis in Australia and to promote sportsmanlike conduct in the Tildesley Shield by dealing with breaches of discipline in a consistent manner.

### *3. Application*

The Code of Behaviour applies to violations occurring during the Tildesley Shield. It also applies to instances of unacceptable behaviour (as deemed by the organisers) that may occur off-precinct during a tournament.

### *4. Interpretation and on-site administration*

The tournament director and all officials appointed by the tournament are empowered with the authority of administering these regulations.

All officials appointed by the tournament are empowered with the authority to interpret and determine match offences documented within these regulations, and take appropriate action.

The referee is the final on-site authority regarding the interpretation of match and tournament offences within the Code of Behaviour regulations.

### *5. Mutual recognition*

Any penalty imposed upon a player under this Code of Behaviour will be recognised and respected by all Australia Tennis Organisations. A player is not permitted to play any tournaments or weekly competitions during the time of any suspension imposed under this Code of Behaviour.

### *6. Disciplinary process*

Breaches of the Code of Behaviour as detailed in Appendix I will be dealt with in the following Manner at The Tildesley Shield Tournament.

**Table 1**

<u>OFFENCE</u>	<u>PENALTY</u>
First Offence	Code Violation
Second Offence	Match Default **

*\*\*A match default can only be administered by the tournament referee.*

The tournament referee, after consultation with any official and taking into account all the facts, may determine that a significant violation warrants an immediate match default without progressing through the above stages. In addition, after consultation with the tournament director it may be determined that the violation also warrants suspension from the remainder of the tournament.

### Match and Tournament Violations

#### **Line Calling**

Where a player has a point awarded to their opponent due to an incorrect line call by that player on a non-clay court (in accordance with Rules for Matches Played without a Chair Umpire) a Code Violation may be applied at the discretion of the relevant Official in addition to the loss of the point. Where a player is consistently making incorrect calls on a clay court resulting in numerous ball mark inspections a Code Violation may be imposed in addition to the loss of a point] at the discretion of the relevant Official. Additionally where a player is constantly showing the incorrect ball mark in order to justify line calls a Code Violation may also be applied at the discretion of the relevant Official. Any of the line calling situations described above that attract a Code Violation will be deemed to be Unsportsmanlike Conduct under this section 5.

### ***Unreasonable delays***

A player unreasonably delays a match. A player shall commence the match after the expiration of the established warm-up period. Thereafter, play shall be continuous as provided in the Rules of Tennis and a player shall not unreasonably delay a match for any cause. When a violation is a result of a medical condition, refusal to play or not returning to the court within the allocated time a code violation (delay of game) penalty shall be assessed in accordance with the code schedule. Other delays may be dealt with as a time violation.

### ***Visible obscenity***

A player makes offensive or obscene gestures during any match or within the precinct. For the purposes of this rule, visible obscenity is defined as the making of signs by a player with his hands, body and/or racquet/balls that commonly have an obscene meaning.

### ***Abuse of racquets or equipment***

A player violently or with anger, hits, kicks or throws a racquet or other equipment, or in any way unreasonably interferes with any court fixtures and equipment within the precinct. For the purposes of this rule abuse of racquets or equipment is defined as intentionally and violently throwing, destroying or damaging racquets or equipment or intentionally and violently hitting the net, court, umpire's chair or other fixture during or after a match out of anger or frustration.

### ***Abuse of balls***

Players shall not violently, dangerously or with anger hit, kick or throw a tennis ball within the precinct except in the reasonable pursuit of a point during a match (including warm-up). For the purposes of this rule abuse of balls is defined as intentionally hitting a ball out of the enclosure of the court, hitting a ball dangerously or recklessly within the court or hitting a ball with negligent disregard of the consequences.

### ***Leaving the court***

A player leaves the court area during a match (including the warm-up) without the permission of an official.

### ***Best efforts***

A player shall use his/her best efforts to win a match when competing in a tournament/competition. For the purposes of this rule, the referee shall have the authority to penalise a player in accordance with the Code of Behaviour.

### ***Coaching***

A player receives any type of coaching from any person while a match is in progress, except where special provision is made for a tournament/competition. Communication of any kind, audible or visible between a player and any other person may be construed as coaching. Coaching shall be permitted where there is an off-court break between sets or during interruptions to play caused by bad weather or light where players leave the court. Coaching is not permitted while a court is being serviced at the end of or during a set and players are still on court, or during a toilet break.

### ***Failure to complete a match***

A player must complete a match in progress unless he/she is reasonably unable to do so. A violation of this section may subject a player to immediate default.

### ***Spectator Interference***

A player is deemed to be responsible for the behaviour and conduct of their entourage and support team who attend their matches or attend a Tournament in which they are participating (i.e. parent, family member, coach, trainer or friend). Where a match is disrupted or interfered with by the action/s of a spectator who is part of a player's entourage (i.e. parent, family member, coach, trainer or friend) the relevant Official may at first instance attempt to address and eliminate any spectator interference at Tournaments/Competitions by discussing the relevant offences or behaviour with the offending person and/or applicable player. This discussion may include a warning to the player and the interfering spectator that any further interference by the spectator may result in:

- a) The match being suspended until the Official determines that the issue is resolved and that play can continue without further disruption or interference;
- b) A Code Violation is being issued in accordance with the provisions below; and/or the ATO [at a later date] refusing the player's entry into future tournaments/competitions pursuant to the procedure set out below.

However, notwithstanding the above, where matches are disrupted or interfered with by the actions of a spectator who is part of a player's entourage [i.e. parent, family member, coach or friend] the Official may also decide in their discretion to, and without having first issued a warning, to impose Code Violation(s) on the relevant player(s) whose entourage that spectator forms part of, in accordance with the standard Code Violation process.

Disruption/Interference is defined as including the following:

- Intimidation threatening or abuse of opponents;
- making or causing to be made disrespectful or inappropriate comments or gestures towards Officials, players, Tournament Directors/Staff, competition managers, coaches, other parents and other persons on-site at or involved with a Tournament at a Precinct;
- providing inappropriate instructions, comments or direction to a player including both the spectators own player or the opponent, of any type (although this may also be considered as "Coaching" in accordance with section 12 above); and any other inappropriate or Unsportsmanlike Conduct [as defined in section 5 above] of any type as determined by the applicable Official.

The Official may also choose to suspend the match until the relevant disruption or interference, or the situation giving rise to that disruption or interference has improved or dissipated sufficiently so as to allow for the match to continue without disruption or interference.

For the avoidance of any doubt, any Code Violations issued under this section 14 will attract applicable athlete Disciplinary Points in accordance with this Code of Behaviour document. In addition to and without limiting the above the Official, Tournament Director or Competition Manager will provide a report regarding the applicable disruption and/or interference to Tennis New South Wales.

#### ***Dress and equipment***

A player does not dress and present himself/herself for play in approved tennis attire (see Tennis Australia Dress Regulations). Clean and customarily acceptable attire shall be worn at all times during match play. A player must be given the opportunity to change his/her clothing in order to comply with the dress regulations particularly before a match starts. At the discretion of the relevant official a maximum period of 10 minutes may be allowed in order for a player to change attire. A direction to improve the player's dress before the next tournament/competition day may also be given by the relevant official.

#### ***Conduct unbecoming***

A player who behaves in a manner considered being detrimental to the best interests of the event and the sport will be deemed to have committed a violation. For the purpose of this rule, a violation may occur at, or away from, the precinct e.g. at a place of accommodation.

#### ***Time violation***

Where a player takes longer than the prescribed time between points, or at the change of ends, the official will determine whether a violation has occurred. If it is determined that a violation has occurred the first violation shall be penalised by a warning and each subsequent violation by a point penalty.

Notwithstanding the previous paragraph, when a time violation is a result of natural loss of physical condition, injury or refusal to play after being ordered to play by an official a penalty will be assessed in accordance with the code violation – unreasonable delays.

#### ***Withdrawal from tournament***

Where a player withdraws from a tournament/competition after the advertised date upon which the draw is made, or withdraws from an event during a tournament/competition entered by him/her, except in those cases where a medical certificate or other reasonable cause is provided for non-participation. A player who enters two

tournaments and is a late withdrawal from one will be penalised in accordance with the regulations. A breach of this violation will attract the appropriate disciplinary points as stated in the regulations.

*Contacts*

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