USTA NORTHERN

SPECTATOR POLICY

A tournament tennis match is between the players on the court. The only individuals allowed on court or to be involved in the match in any way are players and officials, including tournament directors and referees. At the tournament site, it is your responsibility to set a good example for your player by modeling good sportsmanship, ethical behavior, and self-control at all times.

- ◊ High standards of conduct, fair play, and good sportsmanship are expected.
- ◊ Conversation is not allowed between spectators and the players while on court. Spectators may offer nonspecific encouragement to their players, such as clapping or saying “Nice Shot” or “Good Try.”
- ◊ Applauding double faults or unforced errors is inappropriate and may result in an unsportsmanlike conduct code violation for your player.
- ◊ Officials may enter the playing area at any time, whether or not a request is made by a player.
- ◊ Coaching is NOT allowed during the warmup or during the match (except during an authorized rest period). Coaching may NOT take place during a medical timeout, a bathroom break, or while seeking assistance from an official. Unauthorized coaching will result in the player being subject to the Point Penalty System.
- ◊ Only players and officials may call the score or make line calls during a match. Only a player may request help from an official.
- ◊ Be courteous to those playing matches on other courts.

*Spectators are strictly prohibited from interfering with players and tournament officials.

With one exception only—that of a parent removing their own child from competition—a parent, friend, or coach is merely a spectator.

Coaching, match interference, audible obscenities, and physical/verbal confrontations by a spectator, deemed to be threatening or disruptive, are unacceptable in USTA Northern and will not be tolerated.

Should interference occur, the following process will come into immediate effect and be strictly enforced:

- ◊ Attempts by spectators to question a line call or other ruling made by an official, tournament staff, or player during match play will be grounds for removal from the playing area and, if warranted, from the facility.
- ◊ Spectator behavior deemed unacceptable toward players, other spectators, officials, or staff members will be grounds for removal from the playing area or facility. Unacceptable behavior towards a player—either before, during, or after a match/tournament—will result in suspension of that spectator’s right to attend USTA Northern tournaments for a period of time to be determined by the Junior Competition Committee and/or the Director of Junior Play.
- ◊ Refusal to adhere to a removal request will trigger immediate enforcement of the point penalty system against the player with whom the spectator is involved.
- ◊ Only tournament directors, deputy directors, referees and officials may enforce the spectator policy and its subsequent procedures.
- ◊ If you witness any violation to this policy, please report your concern to the tournament desk staff and/or director immediately.