

Since its founding, the Madison Beach Club is a family club that places high value on courtesy, good sportsmanship and respect for others, while fostering cordiality, good fun and caring friendships. These standards extend to our beloved Madison Beach Club tennis program. Whether you are a seasoned player, picking up a racket for the first time, a parent of a child in the junior program or a spectator on the bleachers, our goal is to create a family-friendly tennis experience for the entire club community.

The Madison Beach Club Tennis Code of Etiquette supports our overall club standards and provides guidance related to player and spectator etiquette for members and their guests. It also aligns with key elements of USTA's rules, regulations and code of conduct which can be found on <u>USTA's website</u>.

## The Madison Beach Club Tennis Code of Etiquette

A tennis player, spectator or guest of a member from the Madison Beach Club shall at all times pursue the highest standard of sportsmanship. All players, spectators and guests will be courteous and respectful to fellow members, opponents, guests and staff whether playing at the club or elsewhere.

## **Tennis Player Etiquette**

- We love great tennis.
  - Compliment good shots and good points.
  - Do not celebrate misses or mistakes.
  - Yelling, swearing, throwing racquets, smacking balls into the windscreen or net during play is not acceptable.
  - Be quiet while walking behind other matches and do not enter the court until they are between points (during casual play) or a changeover (during tournament play).
- Tennis players are human, too.
  - o If you're not sure of a call, you should call it in.
  - Unintentional questionable line calls inevitably happen.
  - You shouldn't ask "Are you sure?" if you think they've made a questionable call. It's best to accept the call and move on.
  - During club championship finals, the chair umpire makes the ultimate line call.
- Keep the pace of play moving, especially during tournament matches.
  - While the server sets the pace, they should not serve before the returner is facing you and the racquet is in the ready position.
  - During tournament matches, changeovers are typically around one to two minutes and are an opportunity to drink some water, towel off and hand the tennis balls to your opponent.
  - Lengthy changeovers are discouraged unless the weather is excessively hot hydration is important!
  - During club championship finals, the chair umpire has the authority to enforce the USTA 90second changeover rule if the pace of play is unusually slow.
  - Regardless of the outcome, always shake hands, tap racquets or otherwise courteously acknowledge the match with your opponent(s).



## **Tennis Spectator Etiquette**

- We love watching great tennis.
  - Celebrate good shots and good points.
  - o Do not celebrate misses or mistakes.
  - Yelling, swearing and otherwise inappropriate behavior from spectators is not acceptable.
  - o Be quiet while walking behind other matches and do not enter the court until they are between points (during casual play) or a changeover (during tournament play).
  - Cell phone conversations are not permitted on the courts or in the viewing areas. Cell phones should be on silent mode.
- Tennis players and lines people are human, too.
  - The players, dedicated lines people and/or chair umpire make the calls, not spectators.

The Madison Beach Club Tennis Director and Staff are responsible for the supervision and enforcement of these guidelines. Please notify the Tennis Director or supervising Tennis Pro if you observe any of these guidelines not being upheld.