



## Guidelines for Parents

*Helpful Hints to assist you and your child in achieving the best tennis experience with Waverley Tennis*

**"Serving Grass Roots Tennis"**

Founded 1979

**Waverley and District  
Tennis Association Inc.**

### WELCOME TO WAVERLEY TENNIS

As a new Parent/Carer of a Waverley Tennis Junior player, this document has been designed to help you understand the involvement of both your players and yourself in competition tennis and give you an outline of what you can expect. You will be provided with a handbook, which contains the rules of Waverley Tennis and a section on Tennis Etiquette, just prior to the start of the season. Please find the time to read the sections applicable to your involvement. If you are not sure or don't understand anything please talk to your Junior Convenor.

### ATTENDANCE

As a Parent/Carer you and your child have entered your player in a Waverley Tennis Junior competition. There are a number of responsibilities associated with this commitment.

1. For Saturday morning competition, your player should be in attendance by 8 am, Sunday mornings by 8.45 am.
2. Should your player be unavailable for any reason your club Junior Convenor should be advised at the earliest possible time so that a replacement/emergency can be arranged. This often isn't easy. Please remember that your club will be fined should the team have to forfeit! Please also be aware that if a team forfeits 3 times in a season it will be withdrawn from the current competition.
3. Should a player be very late the opposition team may claim the first set to nil.
4. Your club will have its own arrangements in place for away matches. Please make sure that you are aware of them.
5. Most clubs tend to appoint a parent/carer of each team as a team manager to liaise with the other parents/carers of the team members in the team and to arrange team and driving rosters for away matches. On arrival at an away venue the team manager should advise the duty supervisor that all team members are present, find out which courts are being used and make sure that players are entered on the score sheets in the correct order, and, most importantly, that the first and last names of all players are clearly readable.
6. Some clubs, due to a large number of teams, are required to use outside venues (i.e. venues at other clubs). You need to check with your club Junior Convenor as to whether this situation will affect each week's match.
7. Inclement weather. Unless you are advised otherwise by your Club Junior Convenor all players should attend, whether at home or away.

8. It is the responsibility of the Duty Supervisor at the Venue Club to decide as to whether or not courts are playable, and matches cannot be called a washout unless the Duty Venue Supervisor has signed the scoresheets accordingly.
9. It is not up to parents/carers to decide that it is too wet to play.
10. At least one parent of the away team must be in attendance at all times during away matches and stay until all players are collected when the match is finished.

## ON COURT

Unlike some other sports there are clear rules and regulations that apply to parent involvement in tennis. Many of our parents/carers are new to the sport and the following is a list of the most important rules and regulations.

1. Coaching or communication in any form while a player is involved on court in either a set or rubber is strictly a no no.
2. Assisting players in any way to call lines or keep score or in any other involvement in the match is not allowed.



3. No parent/carer or other player is allowed on the court while a match is in progress.

### **Exceptions:**

- a) The duty supervisor, or their authorised representative, may be on court to supervise when required.
  - b) In the case of "D" grade (basically beginners) the duty supervisor may appoint someone to assist the players if necessary. This sometimes needs to happen when first time players are at the beginning of a new season.
4. There is no problem reminding players to call the score after each point, however, it should be a reminder only and not provide the score.
  5. If as a parent/carer you are concerned with any on court or off court activity, such as parental involvement of your player's opponents, you should

bring the problem to the attention of the venue supervisor for action. You must not try to handle it yourself.

6. Please feel free to encourage all players from both teams and always remember the children, particularly at the lower levels, are learning.
7. Finally, encourage but don't criticise (e.g. clapping faults), as the latter will kill a player's enthusiasm quicker than anything else and ultimately turn them away from the sport.

## DISPUTES / QUERIES

There are clear channels for the above. All disputes/queries that need the attention of Waverley Tennis must be submitted through your club. Your club convenor knows the procedure.

As an Association we are involved with over 100 clubs and somewhere around 1000 teams each week. As a result we cannot accept phone calls and emails from individual players or parents/carers. In most cases queries can and will be satisfied at club level. If it is a problem a club can't handle they know whom to contact at Association level to obtain an answer.

## FINALLY

Please remember that your Club Officials and Waverley Tennis Officials are all volunteers that willingly give up their time and use their expertise to provide your players with the opportunity to play competition tennis. If you have the opportunity to meet them please show them the respect they deserve for doing what is sometimes a very difficult job.

REVISED APRIL 2014

## WAVERLEY TENNIS

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