

Coaching

Coaching by a Team Captain/Assistant Captain/Substitute Captain is allowed in Junior Team Tennis with certain expectations. Spectators are prohibited from coaching players. Substitute Captains must be appointed by the Team Captain and the Site Coordinator must be informed prior to the start of the match. Coaching is allowed only during match changeovers and only from outside the court. Only one Team Captain/Assistant Captain/Substitute Captain can provide coaching during a match. Coaching should be used for positive reinforcement and must not exceed the 90-second rule for changeovers. Captains are prohibited from making line calls, calling double bounces or providing scores to players while a game is in progress. Captains are prohibited from being on the court while a match is in play. Coaching is not permitted during a tiebreak (with the exception of the 10U Intermediate and 12U Beginner divisions and with the permission of the Site Coordinator). If help is needed during a tiebreak, the Site Coordinator should be notified. If you believe a player is being coached unfairly, please inform the Site Coordinator instead of addressing the issue yourself.

Spectator Rules of Conduct

In an effort to promote fairness, and to assure a physically and mentally healthy experience for all players, tennis has expectations around spectator behavior. One of the goals of JTT is to provide juniors the opportunity to play competitive tennis in a fun and friendly environment. Ultimately, spectators are asked to use kindness and common sense. Think how your child would feel in a situation before subjecting another child to unfairness. All JTT spectators are asked to follow these rules of conduct:

1. **Cheering.** Clapping for good shots is encouraged and will be allowed provided spectators show respect for all players.
 - Please wait until a point has finished before clapping. Clapping during play is a distraction for all players.
 - Please do not cheer when a player makes a mistake. This is considered poor etiquette.
 - Please keep cheering respectful in tone and volume. Cheering that gets out of control can intimidate children on the court, disrupt other matches in progress and cause conflict between opposing teams.
 - If cheering gets out of hand, spectators will be informed that any cheering or clapping will not be allowed the remainder of the match
2. **Coaching.** Spectators are prohibited from coaching players. This includes verbal queues, hand gestures, or anything intended to “help” a player. Please inform the site coordinator if you believe a player is being coached. Players should not attempt to interact with a spectator themselves.

Let your players know they may stop match play at any time and inform the site coordinator if they believe their opponent is being coached unfairly.

3. **Spectator Help.** Spectators are prohibited from making line calls, calling double bounces or providing scores to players. Only the players on the court, or designated court monitors (for 10 and under divisions), can make line calls, double-bounce calls or assist with scoring. Spectators are prohibited from being on the court while a match is in play.

- Spectators should refrain from making any noises, negative facial expressions, or verbal outbursts related to scoring, line calls, and double-bounce calls.
- Encourage good sportsmanship. When in doubt, the ball is IN. Everyone makes mistakes. Give players the benefit of the doubt. Encourage your player to be fair with her/his own calls. Players may speak to the Team Manager/Coach on a changeover to discuss concerns about calls.
- If a player is consistently displaying poor sportsmanship, such as using profanity or throwing her/his equipment, please contact the JTT coordinator, Stacey Adams at stacey@gretanc.com.
- Please control any urge to address a perceived injustice. Remember that these are children that are still learning the mechanics and rules of the game. In addition, they are also learning how to manage their own behavior and make good decisions on the court.
- Address any concerns you have with your Team Captain or the JTT coordinator. The Team Captain or JTT coordinator should be the one to discuss player behavior with the opponent's Team Captain.

A player may stop match play at any time and inform the site coordinator if they believe they are being harassed by a spectator or their opponent is showing poor sportsmanship.