

# ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

## USTA North Carolina Junior Team Tennis Sportsmanship Initiative

To promote a more enjoyable and fair experience for all, USTA North Carolina has implemented a **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY** for unsportsmanlike conduct.

### PLAYERS

Players must adhere to the **USTA Player Oath**:

**I recognize that tennis is a sport that places the responsibility for fair play on me. I promise to abide by the rules of the game, which require me to give the benefit of the doubt to my opponent. At all times I shall strive to compete with the true spirit of sportsmanship, recognizing that my behavior on the court is a direct reflection of my character. Whether my matches end with my victory or defeat, I promise to conduct myself in a way that honors my opponents, those who support me, and the game of tennis.**

Players must adhere to the **principles of good sportsmanship and fair play**.

- Introduce yourself to your opponent.
- Give your opponent the benefit of the doubt.
- As the server, clearly call out the score before each point.
- Give your best effort no matter the score.
- Respect opponents calls on their side of the net.
- Shake hands or tap racquets at the end of the match, be positive no matter the result.



### SPECTATORS

Spectators refers to anyone in attendance not actively playing a match.

Spectators must adhere to the **Spectator Oath**:

**I recognize that tennis is a sport rooted in respect, integrity, and fairness. I will honor the calls and decisions made by the players on the court. My support will always be positive and uplifting. Win or lose, I am committed to fostering a fun, respectful atmosphere for everyone involved. Above all, I promise to carry myself with dignity and sportsmanship, honoring the game and all who play it.**

Spectators must adhere to the **principles of good sportsmanship and fair play**.

- Set a positive example for players.
- Treat fellow spectators, players, coaches, and JTT staff/officials with respect.
- Emphasize the importance of fair play and good sportsmanship.
- Cheer respectfully for winners and good points.
- Players will make mistakes, it's okay.
- Allow players to make their own calls and settle on-court disputes without interfering.

Unsportsmanlike behavior by a spectator may result in immediate removal of that spectator from the playing area or premises.

**Removal is not subject to appeal.** Failure to comply with a removal request may result in further penalties assessed by the local league coordinator.

**JTT staff have the authority to determine unsportsmanlike behavior and impose penalties. Players and spectators may be assessed penalties at the first occurrence of misconduct.**

**This policy is in immediate effect and will be diligently enforced.**