

# The Code

## THE PLAYERS' GUIDE TO FAIR PLAY AND THE UNWRITTEN RULES OF TENNIS

The Code is not part of the ITF Rules of Tennis. Players must follow The Code, except to the extent to which an official assumes some of their responsibilities. This edition of The Code is an adaptation of the original.

### SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY

Sportsmanship is the foundation of tennis. It is essential to tennis as a welcoming, open, and inclusive sport. Sports integrity follows a boundless set of core values and attributes that enrich the lives of all who participate. These attributes include, but are not limited to:

- **Understanding and following the rules**
- **Being fair**
- **Acting with character**
- **Respecting others**
- **Winning with humility and losing with grace**
- **Maintaining composure**
- **Being accountable for one's own actions**
- **Giving others the benefit of the doubt**

Tennis is more fun when players are good sports, and when persons associated with the players and the sport reinforce the ideals of good sport conduct. It entices people to stay involved with the sport their entire lives.

Being a good sport is its own reward—both on and off the tennis court.

Sportsmanship builds trust, generates mutual respect, and promotes friendship among all people. As we grow and develop the game, we do so with the highest commitment to sports integrity.