



# Mahone Bay Tennis Club Code of Conduct

Mahone Bay Tennis Club (MBTC) members, both adult and youth, share the responsibility for creating and maintaining a positive and inclusive climate where all members have a role to play in the awareness and prevention of unacceptable behavior. The Mahone Bay Tennis Club Code of Conduct applies at all times while on the court or while interacting with club members on and off the tennis club site.

All players, coaches, parents, spectators and Board members have a duty to encourage and maintain the highest standards of good sportsmanship, courtesy, fair play, and are under obligation to avoid all unsportsmanlike conduct and any acts or practices which are detrimental to the game.

## **All Mahone Bay Tennis Club members will:**

- show respect for the rights, property, and safety of themselves and others
- accept personal responsibility for their behavior
- demonstrate socially appropriate behavior
- respect and appreciate diversity of all
- refrain from all forms of \*bullying, intimidation, \*racism and discrimination
- refrain from \*physical violence
- treat club property with respect
- share in the joy of playing tennis

\* Bullying is behavior, typically repeated, that is intended to cause or is known to cause fear, intimidation, humiliation, exclusion, distress or other harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem, reputation or property, and can be direct or indirect, and includes assisting or encouraging the behavior in any way

\* Racist behavior includes using racial/cultural slurs, engaging in racial/ethnic name-calling or actions, or inciting others to use racist language or engage in racist behaviors

\* Physical violence includes using force, gesturing, or inciting others to use force to injure a member of the tennis community



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## Junior Tennis Program

Research has shown that a child's early experiences in sport can have a long-lasting impact on physical activity levels and continued sport participation as an adult. These early experiences are heavily influenced by a child's need for positive interactions with peers and coaches and the belief that they can experience success in a fun and safe environment.

The Junior Tennis Program will use proactive and preventative approaches to reduce the occurrence of unacceptable behaviour and maintain a positive environment that is conducive to teaching, learning and playing the sport of tennis.

When responding to unacceptable behaviour in the junior program, the coach/program chair will give first consideration to the safety and security of players. Every effort will be made to address consequences in a fair manner and efforts will be made to assist junior players with developing new behaviours. Responses to these behaviours may include student and/or parent conferences, creating a plan for restitution, restorative approaches (when appropriate), and/or time-out as a time to reflect.

In responding to an alleged incident, students or parents are required to address their concern with the coach or program chair (and vice versa) in a timely manner as to when and what allegedly took place.

**Chair of Junior Program - Anna Patscha, (902) 521 9603, [apatscha@gmail.com](mailto:apatscha@gmail.com)**

### **Responses to Violations of the Code of Conduct will:**

- be appropriate for the player's age and stage of development
- be fair and equitable and respect the dignity of all involved
- reflect the severity of the behaviour
- consider the frequency and duration of the behaviour

Some behaviours—such as failure to follow directions, shoving and pushing, profanity, disrespectful behaviour that shows disregard for a coach's or other supervising adult's position—will be addressed by the coach/program leader in the course of their daily work and supervision while on or using MBTC facilities.

If the concern cannot be resolved, the program chair (in consultation with the coach/parents) may deem it necessary to suspend the player(s) from one or more classes until acceptable strategies have been implemented and a positive change in behaviour has been noted.