

SSTA CODE OF CONDUCT

The Salt Spring Tennis Association (SSTA) strives to preserve a safe and inviting environment for all members and guests to use and enjoy. Fair play, court etiquette, sportsmanship, and respect for others are expected behaviours. These principles are expected to be followed by guests and visitors, teaching professionals, coaches, parents and among all SSTA members at home or as guests of other tennis clubs.

PRINCIPLES

- Respect for all SSTA property and facilities, including but not limited to courts, nets, teaching equipment, grooming equipment, furnishings, supplies, and appliances.
- Respectful behaviours towards all members regardless of age, gender or sexual orientation, race, culture or religion.
- Harassment is not tolerated and is defined as any comment, conduct, or gesture directed toward an individual or group of individuals which is insulting, intimidating, humiliating, malicious, degrading or offensive. It includes, but is not limited to swearing, yelling, or scolding.
- Members are responsible for ensuring that their guests follow this Code of Conduct.
- Three pillars of the SSTA Tennis Code of Conduct are Sportsmanship, Etiquette, and Dress Code.

Sportsmanship

- Set a positive example.
- Introduce yourself to new members.
- Play fairly; acknowledge good shots; thank each other for playing at the end of every match.
- Be aware that children and beginners are always nearby copying and learning behaviour.
- Anyone yelling, swearing, or abusing equipment or any of the SSTA facilities will be warned once, and then asked to leave the grounds.

- If further reprimand is necessary, or chronic disregard for sportsmanship behaviour persists, membership may be revoked with no fees returned.

Etiquette

- Be considerate of others.
- No swearing, or inappropriate behaviour is permitted on SSTA grounds.
- Keep voices low except when others also take part in showing support; clapping is recommended when appropriate.
- Be patient awaiting your turn to play; let others finish their game.
- Be prompt in arriving and leaving the court at the beginning and end of your court booking.
- Return balls to other courts only when others are prepared to receive them.
- Wait until play has stopped on another court to get your ball.
- Return balls directly to others.
- Refrain from practicing your service return on 'out' serves.
- Players should always thank each other for playing at the end of the game as a sign of good will.
- If chronic disregard for etiquette persists, membership may be revoked with no fees returned.

Dress Code

- Proper tennis/athletic attire is required.
- Clean indoor rubber-soled athletic shoes must be worn at all times.
- No bare or stocking-feet, sandals, boots, roller blades/skates may be worn on SSTA courts.
- If chronic disregard for the SSTA dress code persists, membership may be revoked with no fees returned.

CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS

A concern or complaint by anyone against a member, visitor, guest, parent, coach or teaching professional alleging a failure to follow SSTA's Code of Conduct shall be in writing and indicate the specific charges or alleged violations and the resolution desired. Concern forms are available on our website.

The Board of Directors shall follow procedures for handling concerns and complaints in accordance with the principles of fairness.

RESOLUTIONS

Members who contravene the SSTA Code of Conduct may lose their good standing at the Salt Spring Tennis Association and be disciplined.

The Board of Directors will determine the appropriate action which may include but not limited to:

1. Corrective action (warning) in writing.
2. Revoking membership and forfeiture of membership fees.
3. Non-members or visitors will be prohibited from returning to SSTA facilities.
4. The use of any anti-social, aggressive, annoying or dangerous behaviour; foul, abusive or racist language or obscene gestures; the removal of shirts or any clothing likely to cause offence; the climbing onto any building, wall or other structure/equipment is forbidden and may result in ejection from the SSTA facilities.
5. The Board's decision in matters of discipline or policy is final.