



Tennis Etiquette

What is Sportsmanship?

Sports·man·ship: n. fair play; the ability to win or lose graciously, abide by the rules and a code of fair play, either in games or in daily practice.

PARENTS, SPECTATORS & FANS

- Tennis is a unique sport with rules of etiquette.
- Take your best manners courtside and silence your cell phones.
- Players are accustomed to having it quiet during play.
- Unnecessary noise and distractions are considered poor etiquette.
- Wait until the point is over to cheer/clap for your player/team.
- Cheer/clap to show appreciation for good shots and long rallies.
- It is unsportsmanlike and considered poor etiquette to applaud an unforced error (i.e., double faults, missed shots, etc).
- Do not shout instructions to the players (i.e., "It's out!").
- Only the coaches are allowed to coach (wearing a UHSAA badge).
- No coaching or communicating with players during a match.
- Treat officials with respect even in controversial situations.
- Abusive behavior toward any individual will not be tolerated.
- Provide your support and school spirit the right way!

*Our high school players deserve the **COURTESY** and **RESPECT** they are accustomed to under the rules of tennis etiquette.*

INTEGRITY & SPORTSMANSHIP

Most tennis matches are played without certified USTA umpires. Players are required to play by **The Code**, a summary of procedures and unwritten rules that custom and tradition dictate all players should follow (UTSA, *Friend at Court*, page 52).

According to **The Code**, *any ball that cannot be called out is good and any doubt on a line call must be resolved in favor of the opponent.*

Players have a responsibility to be familiar with the basic rules and customs of tennis including the **Point Penalty System** which is a system of penalties designed to deter unsportsmanlike behavior during matches. The first penalty results in loss of a point; the second penalty results in the loss of the game in progress, and the third penalty results in a Default (UTSA, *Friend at Court*, pages 136-138).

UHSAA Sportsmanship Challenge—"Raise the Bar!"
"Positive Sporting Behavior" is not only expected, it is the right thing to do. Thanks for your support!

*Partner with the [Utah High School Activities Association](#) to promote good sportsmanship.