

# Professionals' Code of Conduct

The Professionals' Code of Conduct applies to all professionals in Real Tennis and Rackets at every level within the games. If the code is breached and reported, all complaints and allegations will be acted upon accordingly.

## **Professionals will:**

- Remember that players participate for pleasure and winning is part of the fun
- Operate within the rules and spirit of Real Tennis and Rackets and teach players to do the same
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all players
- Obtain appropriate qualifications and stay current with the latest coaching practices and developments  
*Professionals should be adequately protected with **Public Liability Insurance**, which covers them if a player is injured while in their charge. If they have other professionals who work under their direction or take work for them in their absence, they should be protected with adequate **Employers Liability Insurance***
- Avoid over playing the best players by using a squad system
- Ensure there is appropriate and correct supervision of players on and off the court
- Be aware of and abide by the T&RA's Safeguarding and Protecting Young People Policy, Procedures and Guidelines
- Set high standards and be a positive role model
- Provide positive feedback to all players during training and matches
- Respect all markers' decisions and ensure players do the same
- Professionals shall refrain from public criticism of fellow professionals  
*Public in this context means criticism expressed in any branch of the media or in a meeting. Any such criticism will be regarded as a prima facie breach of this code and may be subject to disciplinary action*
- A professional is responsible to both players and fellow professionals and should not under any circumstances solicit business from any other professional or club
- A professional should communicate and co-operate with medical practitioners in the diagnosis, treatment and management of their player's medical and psychological problems
- Treat everyone equally regardless of age, ability, gender, race, religion, ethnic origin, social status or sexual orientation and accept that everyone has the right to be protected from abuse
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person within the context of Real Tennis and Rackets
- Report any concerns in relation to a young person, follow reporting procedures laid down by the T&RA
- A professional should not condone any form of discrimination or allow it to go unchallenged
- A professional should be aware of the risk of infatuation

## **Prohibited Practice - Professionals Will NOT:**

- Spend time alone with young people away from others
- Take young people to their home where they will be alone with them
- Invite or allow young people to stay at your home
- Transport young people in their car alone

- Transport children if they are an unregistered driver (Good Practice – Transport)
- Engage in rough, physical or sexually provocative games with young people.
- Share a room with a young person
- Allow or engage in any form of inappropriate physical touching or sexual contact or behaviour
- Use or allow young people to use inappropriate language unchallenged
- Make sexually suggestive comments to a young person, even in fun
- Engage in any form of sexually related contact with a young player<sup>1</sup>. This is strictly forbidden as is sexual innuendo, flirting or inappropriate gestures and terms
- Allow allegations made by a young person to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon
- Do things of a personal nature for young people that they can do for themselves, unless you have been requested to do so by the parents/carer. *(It is recognised that some young people will always need help with things such as tying laces and this does not preclude anyone attending to an injured/ill young person or rendering first aid)*
- Depart the Club or agreed rendezvous point until the safe dispersal of all young people is complete
- Cause an individual to lose self-esteem by embarrassing, humiliating or undermining the individual
- Treat some young people more favourably than others
- Agree to meet a young person on their own on a one to one basis
- Ridicule or shout at a player for making a mistake or not winning
- Expose players to extreme heat or cold or unacceptable risk of injury
- Smoke while working/participating in a Real Tennis and Rackets environment (or allows others to do so)
- Consume alcohol or illegal substances while working/participating in a Real Tennis and Rackets environment (or allows others to do so)
- Use foul, sexist or racist language or gestures at any time
- Condone behaviour that contravenes the codes of conduct/prohibited practice
- Use illegal or dangerous tactics
- Give young people alcohol, cigarettes or drugs when they are under the care of the T&RA or Club

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the Positions of Trust within the Sexual Offences Act and the T&RA Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Real Tennis and Rackets Policy