## **Honor Code of Ethics**

## Courtesy

- The game of tennis depends upon courtesy and fairness.
- Hosting teams are to provide pleasant, friendly conditions for their opponents.
- Guest teams should be courteous and friendly, appreciative of their hosts' efforts.

## Spectators, Coaches and Children

- Spectators are not permitted on the court at any time. NO children and NO pets are allowed at matches, period.
- Cell phones OFF! The ringing of a cell phone during a point is considered a deliberate hindrance. The opponent may stop the point and claim the point based on the deliberate hindrance rule.
- Coaching is only allowed during the break between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and full 3<sup>rd</sup> sets. Absolutely no coaching will be permitted during play or if a Match Tie Breaker is played.

## **Conduct of Players**

- The highest type of sportsmanship is expected from every player.
- Call balls as if you were a linesman, any doubt must be in favor or opponent.
- Help your opponent make a call when your help is requested.
- Do not enlist the aid of a spectator in making calls.
- It is the server's responsibility to call the score before each point.
- "Out" and "let" calls must be made instantly. Delay implies doubt, and in doubt, the ball is good.
- In doubles, if one partner calls a ball out, and one calls it good, the ball is good.
- No quick serving. Opponents may ask for a "let" if you quick serve. However, if your opponent hits the ball or tries to hit it, they cannot claim they weren't ready.
- Violations of double bounces, ball touching body or clothing, touching the net or reaching over before the ball crosses the net, must be volunteered on yourself.
- USTA specifically prohibits the following:
  - o Loud, abusive profane language, racquet throwing or slamming of balls.
  - Stalling. There will be no continuous strolling to the net to use towels, get water or rest between points.
  - Coaching or outside distractions.
  - Cheating. Golden Rule of Tennis-every player to call balls on their side of court, as they would want them called on the other side.
  - o Intentional waving of racquet or arms, or making distracting noises.
  - o Foot Faults. A person who knowingly foot faults is taking advantage of their opponent and cheating.
  - Conduct loud postmortems after points.
  - Complain about shots like lobs or drop shots
  - o Embarrass a weak opponent by being overly gracious or condescending.
  - Sulk when losing.