

Ohio Tennis Coaches' Association/OHSAA Code of Conduct

The following Code of Conduct has been adopted by the Ohio Tennis Coaches' Association and the OHSAA and is used for all OHSAA tournament and school matches. *In some cases, it supersedes USTA regulations.* **Players can incur Code Violation Penalties for actions not only during the match, but also before and after the match.** In dual matches, even though the home coach is the referee, both coaches MAY and SHALL enforce these regulations. It is suggested that, before each tournament or match, each participant be advised that the OHSAA point penalty will be enforced. **Penalties for code violations are accumulative and follow the listed progressions.**

Time Violations

1. In OHSAA-sponsored tournaments where there is a meeting of the manager and coaches:

The penalties for time violations in No. 1 are:

15 minutes late for meeting: LOSS OF COIN TOSS PLUS ONE GAME.

Each additional 5 minutes late: LOSS OF GAME; UP TO THREE GAMES.

Note: This holds for all players for which the coach is responsible. Implementation of these penalties is at the discretion of the tournament manager.

2. Not starting play within 20 seconds after a 10 minute warm-up.

3. The receiver must play at the reasonable pace of the server and must be ready to receive when the server is ready to serve.

4. 90 second rule on game change over.

The penalties for violations in No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4 are:

1st Offense: WARNING

Each Subsequent Offense: POINT

5. Violations of continuous coaching guidelines

6. ANY unsporting conduct including but not limited to:

- 6.1 Prolonging an argument after being directed to play.

- 6.2 Visible or audible profanity.

- 6.3 Abuse of racquet, balls or equipment.

- 6.4 Abusive conduct by a player or a person associated with a player.

- 6.5 Taunting or baiting an opponent (any attempt to embarrass, ridicule or demean another person).

- 6.6 In an officiated match, excessive overrules by an official or excessive appeals by a player can be deemed unsporting conduct and penalized as such.

The penalties for violations above are:

1st Offense: POINT

2nd Offense: GAME

3rd Offense: DISQUALIFICATION

7. CODE VIOLATIONS RESULTING IN IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION.

- 7.1 Verbal or physical abuse of player or official.

- 7.2 Extreme unsporting behavior.

- 7.3 Not resuming play after 5 minutes following treatment of an injury or illness.

- 7.4 Being late for a tournament match (**10 minutes**) after the match has been called to start. (This is after the coach has reported to the tournament manager that they are present. A team still has 30 minutes to report to the tournament at the sectional and district tournament level.)

NOTE — These are minimum regulations, and, depending upon the severity of the situation, a coach or official may issue a penalty more severe than is listed.