CODE OF CONDUCT

Introduction

This code of conduct sets out what Team Bath Tennis regards as good practice for all users to follow and is available so that every user is clear as to what is expected of them to create the right playing environment in which everyone can enjoy their tennis.

The code of conduct and the policy on court behaviour reflect the friendly and co-operative spirit which customers at the Sports Training Village have enjoyed for many years, as well as guidance from the LTA.

The Code of Conduct sets out minimum standards of behaviour, which all users are expected to follow, and seeks to avoid any serious issues arising.

Should a breach of the code of conduct or a serious breach of the policy or court behaviour occur, a complaints and sanctions process is set out below. We will follow the DSDR process named: Process for breaches of code of conduct for customers.

Should a continued breach of the code of conduct occur we will follow the DSDR process named: Process for further investigation or continued breaches of code of conduct for customers.

These can be found in the appendix of this document.

This code of conduct and policy on court behaviour comes into effect on 1st January 2023.

Aims of the Code of Conduct

The aims of the code of conduct are to:

1. Ensure that all users are treated fairly and with respect.
2. Advise all users of the standards of behaviour which they are expected to meet so that an environment is created within which users can enjoy their tennis and the club can continue to flourish.
3. Provide a complaints and sanctions process so that any issues can be addressed.

General Code of Conduct

1. All users are expected to:

1.1 Help to create a safe, inclusive, accessible, welcoming, and enjoyable environment, both on and off the court.

1.2 Treat all other users and all other players respectfully. Team Bath Tennis will not accept any behaviour which may cause any physical or mental harm to any other person. Unacceptable actions will include:

- Being abusive or showing aggression towards another person;
- Swearing;
- Racket throwing;
- Intimidating another user;
- Creating a danger to another person;
- Calling into doubt the integrity of another user by repeatedly querying line calls;
- Playing at the University of Bath without prior booking and payment of the court.

1.3 Value diversity, and not unlawfully discriminate against anyone, or treat anyone less favourably or unfavourably, by reason of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage, civil partnership, pregnancy, maternity, race (including colour, nationality, or ethnic or national origins), religion, belief (including religious, philosophical or lack of belief), sex or sexual orientation.

1.4 Take responsibility for their actions or conduct, and the effects of those actions or conduct, and not condone conduct that breaches this Code of Conduct.

1.5 Welcome new users to the venue irrespective of their experience of the game and their level of play.

1.6 Show respect and courtesy to your partner, your opponents, and others on or around the courts.

1.7 Instead of criticising your partner or opponent, offer encouragement instead.

1.8 Do not walk behind courts when a point is in progress to avoid causing a distraction.

1.9 During play and particularly between games keep the amount and volume of conversation to a minimum to avoid distracting players on other courts.

1.10 If a ball from an adjacent court strays onto yours do not hit it back immediately but do so when the players on that court are ready and then hit it to the server's end of that court.

1.11 Courtesy to your opponents should include leaving the court together at the end of the session.

1.12 Adhere to the LTA Code of Conduct (lta-code-of-conduct-jan-2025.pdf)

Code of Conduct – Players

2. Each Player must:

2.1 act with honesty, integrity and in a sporting manner (including any on-court matters, such as line calls).

2.2 accept and respect (i) the authority of officials, (ii) the role of officials in ensuring that competitions are conducted fairly and according to the relevant rules and regulations, and (iii) decisions made by officials.

2.3 not violently, dangerously, in anger, or with the intention to cause harm or damage to a person, the object itself or another object or property, hit, kick, throw or use as a weapon, a tennis ball, racket, or other equipment.

2.4 during any match:

2.4.1 not receive coaching (including during the warm-up), except (i) where play is suspended and the Players are off court, or (ii) where explicitly permitted in terms of the relevant competition rules or regulations. 'Coaching' is to be interpreted widely and considered to be communication, advice, or instruction of any kind, audible or visible, and by any means.

2.4.2 not leave the court (including during the warm-up) except with the permission of an appropriate official appointed in respect of the relevant match/competition (unless an appropriate official is not on the court and the player is calling for the referee in terms of LTA Competition Regulation 5.55).

2.4.3 not refuse to play or fail to be ready to play within 15 minutes of their match being called or within the allowed time due to a medical condition or treatment or having left the court with appropriate permission.

2.4.4 use their best efforts to win each match in which they participate.

2.4.5 complete each match in which they participate unless they are not able to do so.

2.5 Adhere to the Team Bath Tennis Anti Bullying Policy

2.6 Adhere to the Team Bath Tennis Online and Social Media Policy

Code of Conduct – Academy Players (RPDC, 18&U and Seniors)

'Actions have consequences'

2.7 We expect players to be ready, both physically and mentally, when starting a session.

2.8 If a player is not in the right frame of mind to work after 5 minutes of a session, they will be asked to leave for 5 minutes and return ready to work.

2.9 If a player is late for a session with no communication, the session does not take place (allowances are made for players who have no means of communication, or it is out of their control (younger players reliant on parents)).

2.10 If the coach deems there has been a poor physical warm up completed, the entire warm up is to be repeated.

2.11 If a player has none of their own rackets, they do not participate in the session.

2.12 Poor tournament behaviour = any reports or viewing of: code violations, bad line calling, lack of respect to players, officials, or parents. This will incur a 3-day period of no training to take place.

2.13 No communication with the coach after a match – 1st time = a reminder. 2nd time onwards, miss the next training session.

Code of Conduct - Coaches

3. All Team Bath Tennis coaches must

3.1 Read and assimilate the 'Team Bath Tennis Staff Handbook' which covers the required coach behaviours in further detail. The main 5 points from this have been summarised below:

3.1.1 Adhere to our core values at all times:

- Appreciation;
- Teamwork;
- Trust;
- Inspirational;
- Excellence.

3.2 Provide a positive learning environment by ensuring players are appropriately challenged and supported.

3.3 Be responsible for seeking CPD opportunities and commit to maintaining their LTA Accreditation.

3.4 Treat each person with dignity, equality and respect and get to know the person, not the player.

3.5 Be friendly and approachable when speaking to parents and attend open days, competitions, and education sessions.

3.6 Keep accurate records of attendance using their registers and must raise any safeguarding concerns to the Welfare officers.

3.7 Ensure the safety of all children by providing effective supervision, proper pre-planning of coaching sessions, always using safe methods.

3.8 Consider the wellbeing and safety of participants before the development of performance

3.9 Adhere to the LTA Accredited Coaches Code of Conduct

Code of Conduct – Parents & Spectators

4. All Parents and Spectators must:

4.1 Fully read the appropriate '*Team Bath Tennis Welcome Pack.'*

4.2 Praise effort over outcome (Growth Mindset).

4.3 Encourage independence by not watching every training session and match.

4.4 Not communicate verbally or non-verbally to your child during coaching or matches.

4.5 Encourage your child to show respect and appreciation.

4.6 Look for positives and reinforce these as much as possible.

4.7 Be consistent with your messages and behaviour, children like consistency.

4.8 Encourage internal motivation by making your child feel competent, autonomous, and related.

4.9 Not doing anything for your child that they can do themselves, this could include packing their tennis bag or carrying it to the ground.

COMPLAINTS AND SANCTIONS

If any person(s) believes that they have experienced either a breach of the code of conduct or a serious breach of the policy on court behaviour, then they should contact Team Bath Tennis Head of Performance Ian Macdonald on jim21@bath.ac.uk .

Team Bath Tennis will then follow the steps in the DSDR process for breach of conduct as seen in the appendix below

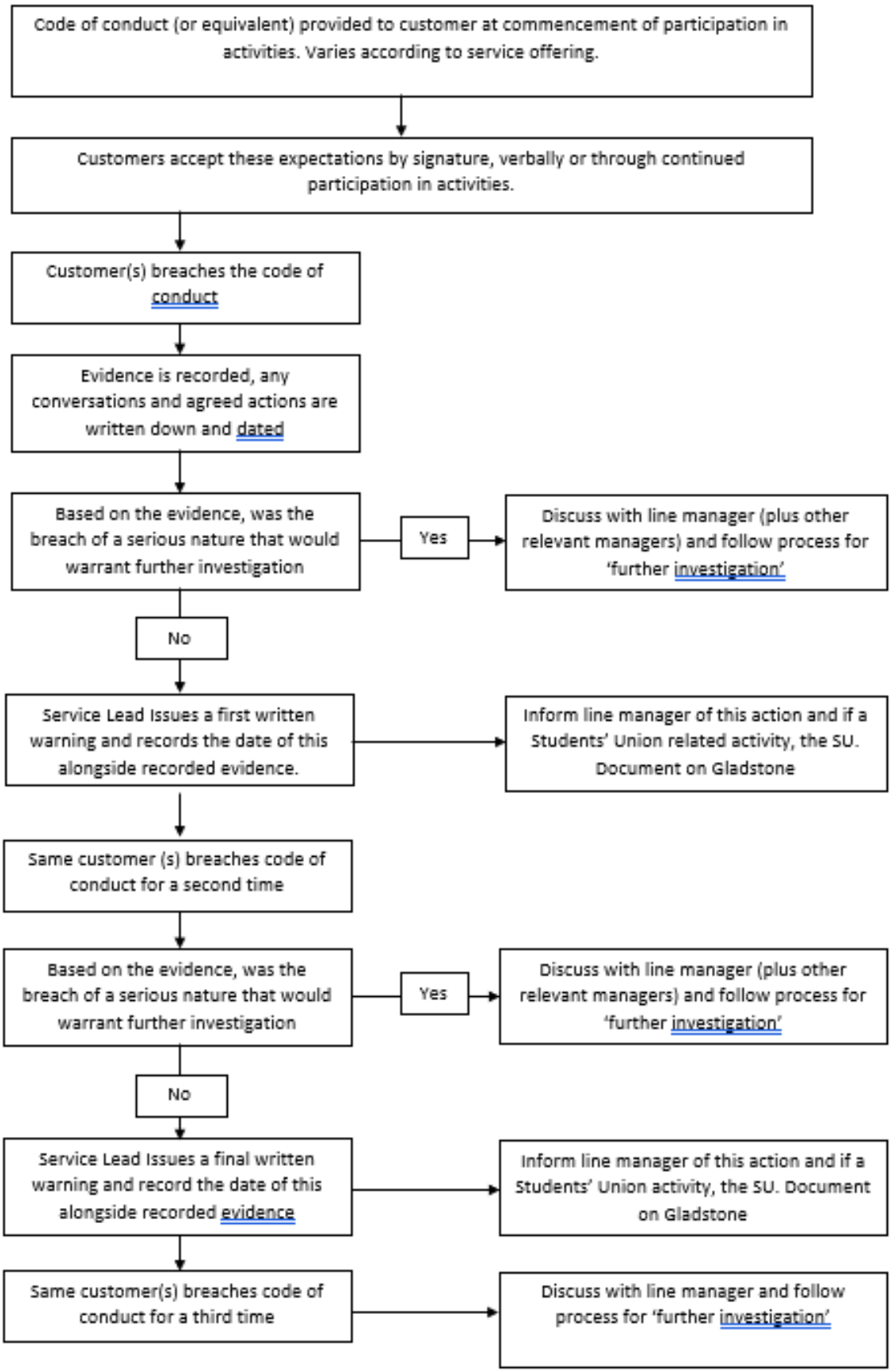
After Team Bath Tennis have deliberated and decided on a course of action with regards to the complaint, Team Bath Tennis will arrange a feedback meeting with the person(s) concerned.

Team Bath Tennis may impose any one or more of the following sanctions on a person found to be in breach of this code of conduct or in serious breach of this policy on court etiquette as it considers appropriate in all the circumstances, namely:

1. A warning as to future conduct;
2. Disqualification from any event or tournament in which the breach has taken place;
3. Suspension from further activity;
4. Expulsion of the user from the venue;
5. If the matter is a safeguarding issue, then the appropriate line of action will be taken in accordance with the University's safeguarding policy and procedures.

All complaints will be recorded for learning and development purposes.

Appendix 1: Process for a Breach of the Code of Conduct



Appendix 2: Process for further investigation or continued breaches of code of conduct for customers.

