

Great Baddow Lawn Tennis Club

Club Rules, Standards, Etiquette and Complaints Code

Standards, Etiquette and Complaints

This policy sets out good practice around standards and values expected to be adopted by all members of GBLTC, so that everyone is clear about what is expected to create the right playing environment.

Setting standards and values is about the integrity of Great Baddow LTC and the image and professionalism GBLTC wishes to project. It is about the club's reputation which all members should endeavour to protect and further at all times.

Standards

GBLTC is responsible for setting standards and values to apply throughout the club at every level. Tennis should be enjoyed by everyone who wants to play the game.

All members must treat other members with dignity and respect. Dignity is about respectful, responsible, fair behaviour. There must be no inappropriate actions, i.e. causing danger to other players through your play, behaviour, i.e. racquet throwing, comments or physical contact which may cause offence i.e. mental or physical anxiety or hurt to an individual.

Etiquette

Court etiquette is different from the rules of the game. It covers a broad range of actions and behaviours which are traditionally considered acceptable on and around the tennis court. Here are some actions and behaviours that GBLTC recommends to members:-

- Please wear recognised sports clothing and most importantly 'Non-Marking' tennis shoes
- Leave the courts free of litter
- Collect in tennis balls and return to the rack for other players to use
- Please do not walk behind players whilst a game, a rally or coaching is in progress, this is to avoid distracting other members and most importantly to avoid any potential accidents on court
- If you are trying to cross a court please wait until you are invited to and it is safe to do so
- If a stray ball comes onto your court knock it back when it is appropriate and safe to do so
- Line calls can be a problem, so we recommend
 - Only call the lines on your side of the net
 - Call clearly and firmly what you honestly believe to be correct
 - If you are unsure or did not see the ball clearly then it is **IN**
 - If there is doubt, offer to play the point again
- Be respectful and courteous at all times
- All club members must show tolerance, courtesy, good manners, fairness, honesty and integrity in their dealings with other club members, their guests and visitors whether playing or social
- Rude or offensive language is not permitted
- Keep your voice down and confined to your court as much as possible
- Turn your mobile phone off
- Do not criticise your partner or opponent, be positive and offer encouragement instead
- Do not let the frustrations of the game make you an unpleasant person to play with.

Complaints

In the event of a member or guest behaving in a manner not consistent with GBLTC etiquette the member should:-

- Raise the matter with the offending player/individual and endeavour to resolve the issue
- If the offending player/individual persists in their behaviour, the member should seek the advice and involvement of a coach or committee member
- In cases of consistent breaches of etiquette, the member should contact the committee by email or by letter with details of the offending player/individual and details of the breach(es) of etiquette.

Club Rules

- All club members will act responsibly and look to protect and ensure the safety of everyone at the club at all times and particularly to consider the well-being and care of junior players and visitors
- All club members will respect the rules of the sport of tennis and address disputes with dignity and appropriate language
- To pay all fees due (membership, coaching, lights) on time

Tennis Balls

- Adult 'Slazenger' balls are located under the adult noticeboard in the clubhouse. Please only take 4 balls maximum for the court you are intending to use.
- Junior balls are located in the porch or under the junior notice board. Please only take 4 balls maximum.
- Tennis balls are provided for use ON COURT only

On Court

- If the club is busy and players are waiting, then the rule is to play one short set only (first to 6 games) and then vacate the court. Doubles games have priority over singles games at all times
- When entering and leaving courts please ensure you are not interfering with anyone else's game
- Please ensure that gates to the courts are shut
- Please use the paths and steps and do not cut across the grass verges
- If the courts are covered in leaves or debris please sweep them prior to play with the drag mats provided and hang the drag mats up after use to prevent damage
- Should a ball you are using go out of court completely then please retrieve it unless it has gone into a neighbour's garden, when it is considered 'lost'
- ALL litter must be removed at the end of play and deposited in the appropriate receptacle either in the clubhouse or in the wheelie bin by the porch door
- All Captain's or their representatives, are responsible for the safe removal and disposal of the metal ring pulls from cans of balls
- All accidents MUST be recorded in the Accident Book located behind the door in the bar
- All members attending Club Play sessions should be inclusive and welcoming
- During Club Play sessions stronger players are expected to adjust their style of play accordingly when playing with or against weaker players. All players are expected to observe the accepted standards of tennis etiquette at all times
- Coaching sessions are ONLY permitted with one of the club's 3 authorised coaches – Richard Dupree, Katie Lucas, Jake Wyatt

The Clubhouse and Bar

- . No children are permitted in the bar area without adult supervision and only when the bar is open
- . Do not climb or drop anything over the bar area, it is ALARMED
- . No ball games are permitted within the clubhouse or bar area, other than table tennis provided
- . ALL litter in the clubhouse must be deposited in the bins provided
- . The clubhouse, bar and kitchen areas should be left clean and tidy at all times
- . If you are the last to leave, please close all windows and ensure all doors are shut and locked appropriately

The committee reserves the right to amend or add to these rules when required