



2018 CODE OF CONDUCT

ARTICLE 1 – GENERAL

1.1 INTRODUCTION:

Tennis South Africa (TSA) promulgates this Code of Conduct in order to maintain fair and reasonable standards of conduct for players, officials, coaches, parents and the organizers of the various tournaments, as well as to uphold their respective rights, and to maintain the integrity of the Sport of Tennis.

Due to the Code of Conduct having various sections, all sections will be covered individually and ALL form part of the TSA Code of Conduct. The sections are as follows:

- On-Site Offences (Players, Coaches & Parents)
- Suspension Points and/or Fines Tables
- Procedures for holding Disciplinary Hearings (Players, Coaches, Parents and Officials)
- Coaches and Officials

The TSA Code of Conduct is drafted in line with the Code of Conduct as used by the International Tennis Federation (ITF). In certain instances penalties imposed at TSA sanctioned tournaments may differ from what is imposed at ITF sanctioned events as this is due to TSA formulating its own Code of Conduct Policy.

In cases where the interpretation and/or application of the Code of Conduct is questioned, the ITF interpretation and application of the Code of Conduct will take precedent.

ITF tournaments taking place within South Africa will see South African registered players being penalized in accordance with the TSA penalties owing to these tournaments counting for local ranking points. In addition South African players could be further penalized by the ITF in terms of the International penalties.

All players entering any TSA sanctioned tournament accept and agree to abide by the TSA Code of Conduct at all times.

All Tennis South Africa Tournament Venues shall have displayed in a visible position a sign that clearly states that the “Right of Admission is reserved and that all unauthorised persons who attempt to enter the Venue may, at the discretion of the organisers, be removed by either the organisers or their authorised representatives”.

Players agree to make themselves available to any form of drug testing that may be done onsite during competition, or out of competition by TSA Medical Team, Drug Free Sport, WADA or ITF Medical Personnel.

Notwithstanding any ruling by WADA in the event of a player being found guilty of using a “banned substance as set out in the ITF guidelines available on the TSA website, under Rules and Regulations section”, TSA, in addition to whatever penalty may be imposed on such player by that body, shall impose a tournament playing ban on such player that shall not be less than two (2) years.

1.2 TSA SUPERVISOR/REFEREE:

The approved TSA Referee and/or Supervisor for each Tournament shall be the final authority for the interpretation of the Tournament Regulations, Code of Conduct for On-Site Offences and the Rules of Tennis as to all matters arising that require immediate resolution at the tournament site.

ARTICLE 2 – ON-SITE OFFENCES

2.1 GENERAL:

Every player shall, during all matches and at all times while within the precincts of the site of any TSA Tournament, conduct himself in a professional manner. The provisions herein shall apply to each player's conduct while within the precincts of each venue or site of the tournament, as well as any official hotel or event/function related to the tournament.

On-Site offences refer to either on-court actions, which can be penalized in accordance to the Point Penalty Schedule, or actions off-court while still on the tournament site, which can be penalized in accordance to the appropriate Suspension Points or Fines Tables.

2.2 PUNCTUALITY:

Matches shall follow each other without delay in accordance with the announced Order of Play. The Order of Play shall be posted at a highly visible place in a general area as designated by the Referee.

The Referee shall designate an official clock for the event. Matches shall be called in accordance with the Order of Play using all available and reasonable means. Players shall be ready to play when their matches are called.

Any player not ready to play within fifteen (15) minutes after his match is called shall be defaulted unless the Referee in his sole discretion, after considering all relevant circumstances, elects not to declare a default.

A player that is defaulted due to punctuality will be penalized in accordance to the relevant Suspension Points and/or Fines Tables.

2.3 DRESS AND EQUIPMENT:

The following is dress code pertains to TSA Junior and Senior Tournaments as well as Junior ITF events. Player wishing to compete at Men/Women Pro Circuit events, should consult the appropriate dress code section covered within these rule books.

2.3.1 General Attire:

a. Unacceptable Attire

Sweatshirts, gym shorts, dress shirts, T-shirts or any other inappropriate attire may not be worn during the match. This includes the warm-up unless approved by the Referee/Supervisor.

b. Visible Identification

Shirt, Sweater or Jacket:

Sleeves: One (1) commercial logo (non-manufacturers') identification for each sleeve, neither of which exceeds four (4) square inches (26 sq.cm), plus one (1) manufacturer's identification on each sleeve, neither of which exceeds four (4) square inches (26 sq.cm) shall be permitted. Identifications may contain writing.

Sleeveless: The two (2) commercial (non-manufacturer's) identifications permitted on the sleeves above, neither of which shall exceed four (4) square inches (26sq.cm) may be placed on the front of the garment. Identifications may contain writing.

Front, Back and Collar: Total of two (2) manufacturer's identifications, neither of which exceeds two (2) square inches (13 sq.cm) or one (1) manufacturer's identification, which does not exceed four (4) square inches (26 sq.cm), may be placed in any of these three locations. Identifications may contain writing.

Other: Identification of the clothing manufacturer, without the name of the manufacturer or any other writing, may be placed once or repeatedly within an area not to exceed twelve (12) square inches (77.5sq.cm) in one of the following positions:

- On each of the shirt sleeves (if a manufacturer's identification is not on the sleeves pursuant to the section a above); or
- On the outer seams (sides or torso) of the shirt.

Shorts/Skirts:

Two (2) manufacturer's identifications, neither of which exceeds two (2) square inches (13sq.cm) may be placed on the front or back of the shorts; or one (1) manufacturer's identification which does not exceed four (4) square inches (26sq.cm) shall be permitted.

On compression shorts and/or compression sleeves, one (1) manufacturer's identification not to exceed two (2) square inches (13sq.cm) and which shall be in addition to the manufacturer's identifications permitted on shorts/skirts shall be permitted.

Note: A dress, for the purposes of permissible identification shall be treated as a combination of a skirt and shirt (dividing dress at the waist).

Hat, Headband or Wristband:

One (1) manufacturer's identification not to exceed two (2) square inches (13 sq.cm) shall be permitted..

2.3.2 Socks/Shoes:

Manufacturer's identifications on each sock and on each shoe shall be permitted.

2.3.3 Racquet:

Manufacturer's identifications on racquet and strings shall be permitted.

2.3.4 Bags, Towels, Other Equipment or Paraphernalia:

Tennis equipment manufacturer's identifications, on each item plus two (2) separate commercial identifications on one (1) bag, neither of which exceeds four (4) square inches (26 sq.cm) shall be permitted.

2.3.5 Warm-Up Clothing:

Players may wear warm-up clothing during the warm-up and during a match provided it complies with the foregoing provisions and provided further that the players obtain approval of the Referee prior to the match.

2.3.6 Change / Taping:

No taping over logos/patches shall be allowed.

2.4 LEAVING THE COURT (LC):

A player shall not leave the court area during a match (including the warm-up) without the permission of an official. Violation of this section **may** result in a player being defaulted and subjected to the additional penalties for Failure to Complete a Match as hereinafter set forth. Players will be penalized in accordance to the relevant Suspension Points and/or Fines Tables, for violation of this section. The Referee may, in his/her sole discretion decide to penalize the player in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule as opposed to issuing a Default, depending on the situation.

2.5 FAILURE TO COMPLETE A MATCH (FCM):

A player must complete a match in progress unless he is reasonably unable to do so. Violation of this section shall subject a player to an immediate default and shall also constitute the Major Offence of "Aggravated Behavior" and shall be subject to the additional penalties hereinafter set forth therefore.

2.6 BEST EFFORTS (BE):

A player shall use his best efforts to win a match when competing in any TSA sanctioned tournament. For the purpose of this rule, the TSA Referee and/or Court Monitor/Chair Umpire shall have the authority to penalize a player in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of "Aggravated Behavior" and shall be subject to the additional penalties hereinafter set forth therefore.

2.7 CEREMONIES (CER):

A player participating in the finals of a TSA tournament must attend and participate in the final ceremonies after the match unless he is reasonably unable to do so. Violation of this section shall subject a player to forfeiting all ranking points at the tournament, in addition to be awarded Suspension Points for Player Off Court Offences.

2.8 TIME VIOLATION / DELAY OF GAME (DG):

Following the expiration of the warm-up period play shall be continuous and a player shall not unreasonably delay a match for any cause.

A maximum of twenty (20) seconds shall elapse from the moment the ball goes out of play at the end of the point until the time the ball is struck for the first serve of the next point. If such serve is a fault then the second serve must be struck by the server without delay.

When changing ends a maximum of ninety (90) seconds shall elapse from the moment the ball goes out of play at the end of the game until the time the first serve is struck for the next game. If such first serve is a fault the second serve must be struck by the server without delay. However, after the first game of each set and during a tie-break, play shall be continuous without a rest period.

At the conclusion of each set, regardless of the score, there shall be a set break of one hundred and twenty (120) seconds from the moment the ball goes out of play at the end of the set until the time the first serve is struck for the next set. If a set ends after an even number of games, there shall be no change of ends until after the first game of the next set.

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

The first violation of this section shall be penalized by a Time Violation warning and each subsequent violation shall be penalized by the assessment of a one (1) Time Violation point penalty.

Note: In Professional Tennis, the Time Violation Penalties are different. The Server and Receiver are penalized differently from the second and subsequent steps (if required):

Step 1: Warning (Server and Receiver)

Step 2: Receiver – Point Penalty Server – Loss of Serve i.e. 1st serve

When a violation is a result of a medical condition, refusal to play or not returning to the court within the allowed time a Code Violation (Delay of Game) penalty shall be assessed in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule.

2.9 AUDIBLE OBSCENITY (AOB):

Players shall not use audible obscenity within the precinct of the tournament site. Players will be penalized in accordance to the relevant Suspension Points and/or Fines Tables, for violation of this section. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule hereinafter set forth. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of “Aggravated Behavior” and shall be subject to the additional penalties hereinafter set forth therefore. For the purpose of this Rule, audible obscenity is defined as the use of words commonly known and understood to be profane and uttered clearly and loudly enough to be heard by the Tournament officials, Court officials or spectators.

2.10 COACHING AND COACHING (CC):

Players shall not receive coaching during a match. Communication of any kind, audible or visible, between a player and a coach may be construed as coaching. Players shall also prohibit their coaches (1) from using audible obscenity within the precincts of the tournament site, (2) from making obscene gestures of any kind within the precincts of the tournament site, (3) from verbally abusing any official, opponent, spectator or other person within the precincts of the tournament site, (4) from physically abusing any official, opponent, spectator or other person within the precincts of the tournament site and (5) from giving, making, issuing, authorizing or endorsing any public statement within the precincts of the tournament site having, or designed to have, an effect prejudicial or detrimental to the best interests of the tournament and/or of the officiating thereof.

Players will be penalized in accordance to the relevant Suspension Points and/or Fines Tables, for violation of this section. In addition, if such a violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule hereinafter set forth. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this section shall also constitute the Major Offence of "Aggravated Behavior" and shall be subject to the additional penalties hereinafter set forth therefore and the Referee may order the Coach to be removed from the site of a match or the precincts of the tournament site and upon failure to comply with such order may declare an immediate default of such player.

For the purpose of this Rule, a "coach" shall also include any representative and/or relative of a player.

See Coaches and On-Court Coaching under TSA Events Format in the Junior Rule Book.

2.11 VISIBLE OBSCENITY (VOB):

Players shall not make obscene gestures of any kind within the precincts of the tournament site. Players will be penalized in accordance to the relevant Suspension Points and/or Fines Tables, for violation of this section. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule hereinafter set forth. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of "Aggravated Behavior" and shall be subject to the additional penalties hereinafter set forth therefore.

For the purposes of this Rule, visible obscenity is defined as the making of signs by a player with his hands and/or racquet or balls that commonly have an obscene meaning.

2.12 ABUSE OF BALLS (BA):

Players shall not violently, dangerously or with anger hit, kick or throw a tennis ball within the precincts of the tournament site except in the reasonable pursuit of a point during a match (including the warm-up). Players will be penalized in accordance to the relevant Suspension Points and/or Fines Tables, for violation of this section. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule hereinafter set forth.

For the purposes of this Rule, abuse of balls is defined as intentionally hitting a ball out of the enclosure of the court, hitting a ball dangerously or recklessly within the court or hitting a ball with negligent disregard of the consequences.

2.13 ABUSE OF RACQUETS OR EQUIPMENT (RA):

Players shall not violently or with anger hit, kick or throw a racquet or other equipment within the precincts of the tournament site. Players will be penalized in accordance to the relevant Suspension Points and/or Fines Tables, for violation of this section. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule hereinafter set forth.

For the purposes of this Rule, abuse of racquets or equipment is defined as intentionally and violently destroying or damaging racquets or equipment or intentionally and violently hitting the net, court, umpires chair or other fixture during a match out of anger or frustration.

2.14 VERBAL ABUSE (VA):

Players shall not at any time directly or indirectly verbally abuse any official, opponent, sponsor, spectator or other person within the precincts of the tournament site. Players will be penalized in accordance to the relevant Suspension Points and/or Fines Tables, for violation of this section. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule hereinafter set forth. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of "Aggravated Behavior" and shall be subject to the additional penalties hereinafter set forth therefore.

For the purposes of this Rule, verbal abuse is defined as a statement about an official, opponent, sponsor, spectator or other person that implies dishonesty or is derogatory, insulting or otherwise abusive.

In addition, Verbal Abuse will also include any statements made in electronic format via any form of electronic media (email, Facebook, Twitter, Whatsapp, SMS, etc.) that either infers or implies dishonesty, is considered derogatory, insulting, abusive, or is considered attacking a person or group in terms of gender, race, nationality, gender, disability or religion (i.e. Hate Speech). Whilst "Verbal Abuse" generally covers "On Site" offences, any reference to Electronic Verbal Abuse will cover the full duration of a tournament for which a player has been entered, regardless of whether a player has been eliminated or not. Players will be penalized according to the suspension points allocated for "Off Court Offences". In circumstances that are considered flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, singularly egregious, or extremely offensive, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the "Major Offence" of "Aggravated Behavior" and shall be subject to the additional penalties and procedures hereinafter set forth therefore.

2.15 PHYSICAL ABUSE (PHA):

Players shall not at any time physically abuse any official, opponent, spectator or other person within the precincts of the tournament site. Players will be penalized in accordance

to the relevant Suspension Points and/or Fines Tables, for violation of this section. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule hereinafter set forth. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of “Aggravated Behavior” and shall be subject to the additional penalties hereinafter set forth therefore.

For the purposes of this Rule, physical abuse is the unauthorized touching of an official, opponent, and spectator or other person.

2.16 UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT (UNC):

Players shall at all times conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner and give due regard to the authority of officials and the rights of opponents, spectators and others. Players will be penalized in accordance to the relevant Suspension Points and/or Fines Tables, for violation of this section. In addition, if such violation occurs during a match (including the warm-up), the player shall be penalized in accordance with the Point Penalty Schedule hereinafter set forth. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of “Aggravated Behavior” and shall be subject to the additional penalties hereinafter set forth therefore.

For the purposes of this Rule, unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as any misconduct by a player that is clearly abusive or detrimental to the Sport, but that does not fall within a prohibition of any specific on-site offence contained herein. In addition, unsportsmanlike conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the giving, making, issuing, authorizing or endorsing any public statement having, or designed to have, an effect prejudicial or detrimental to the best interests of the tournament and/or the officiating thereof.

The following areas of player intimidation will also be considered “Unsportsmanlike Conduct” and are not necessarily limited to these examples only:

Player shouting “Come on” **while facing** their opponent, irrespective of how close or far away from the net/opponent;

Players doing “fist pumps” **while facing** their opponent, irrespective of how close or far away from the net/opponent;

Players making any type of remark concerning the playing ability or result of a rally resulting in their opponent winning the point that is deemed to be derogatory. i.e. “Lucky shot”, “he/she is so lucky today”, “try using the strings”; This interpretation is not restricted to only these three types of examples as there are many other statements that will be classified to be derogatory.

2.17 PARENT / SUPPORTER INTERFERENCE (PI):

Parents shall not interfere and/or disrupt the progress of a match. Players shall prohibit their parents, family members or members of their support group (1) from using audible

obscenity within the precincts of the tournament site, (2) from making obscene gestures of any kind within the precincts of the tournament site, (3) from verbally abusing any official, opponent, spectator or other person within the precincts of the tournament site, (4) from physically abusing any official, opponent, spectator or other person within the precincts of the tournament site and (5) from giving, making, issuing, authorizing or endorsing any public statement within the precincts of the tournament site having, or designed to have, an effect prejudicial or detrimental to the best interests of the tournament and/or of the officiating thereof.

Players will be penalized in accordance to the relevant Suspension Points and/or Fines Tables, for violation of this section. In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, the Referee may order the Parent to either:
Be removed from the surrounding area where the match is taking place; or
Be removed from the precincts of the tournament site; and
Upon failure to comply with such order may declare an immediate default of such player.

In circumstances that are flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a tournament, or are singularly egregious, a single violation of this Section shall also constitute the Major Offence of “Aggravated Behavior” and shall be subject to the additional penalties hereinafter set forth therefore.

2.18 POINT PENALTY SCHEDULE:

The Point Penalty Schedule to be used for violations as described and set forth above is as follows:

First Offence:	WARNING
Second Offence:	POINT PENALTY
Third and each subsequent offence:	GAME PENALTY or DEFAULT

However, after the third Code Violation (first Game Penalty), the Referee/Supervisor shall determine whether each subsequent offence shall constitute a Default.

Code Violations should be issued immediately (as soon as the incident occurs) before commencement of the next point. However, in most cases matches are monitored by Off Court Officials. In this case, if the Off Court Official is unable to reach the court before the next point commences, the appropriate Code Violation and Step within the Point Penalty Schedule will be issued at the first appropriate time, when reaching the court and being able to inform the offending player, provided this is done before the completion of the next change over i.e. if a Point Penalty is to be awarded then this will be awarded from the score at which the Official is now able to enter the court.

Example: Player A is serving and throws his racket at the end of the point. Player A is due to receive a Point Penalty, The score is 3 All, 0-15. The Off Court Official reaches the court with the score being 30-15. The Point Penalty will be awarded to Player B with the new score being 30-30.

2.19 DEFAULTS:

The Referee/Supervisor may declare a default for either a single violation of this Code (Immediate Default) or pursuant to the Point Penalty Schedule set out above.

In all cases of a default (Immediate or through the steps), the decision of the Referee/Supervisor shall be final and un-appealable.

Any player who is defaulted as herein provided will be subject to the necessary disciplinary procedures (see suspension of players). In addition, any player who is defaulted as herein provided may be defaulted from all other events, if any, in that tournament, except when the offending incident involves a violation of the Punctuality or Dress and Equipment provisions or as a result of medical condition or when his doubles partner commits a Code Violation which causes the default.

In the event of a Default, the offending player will also automatically receive **ten (10) suspension** points as per the relevant table below for the on-site offence. The player will automatically be suspended for a **six (6) month** period and lose all ranking points earned at the tournament Singles and/or Doubles as well as not be entitled to receiving Prize Money (Open and Seniors) or Prizes (Juniors)

2.20 DOUBLES EVENTS:

2.20.1. Point Penalties / Game Penalties / Defaults

Point Penalties, Game Penalties and/or Defaults if assessed for violation of the Code shall be assessed against the team.

2.20.2. Suspension Points / Fines

Any Suspension Points and/or fines relating to the violation of Article 2 of the Code of Conduct shall be assessed only against the individual member of the team who is in violation, unless both members of the team are in violation.

2.21 DETERMINATION AND PENALTY:

The Referee/Supervisor shall make such investigation as is reasonable to determine the facts regarding all Player On-Site Offences relating to the Code of Conduct, and the collecting of ALL on-site fines. Or the issuing of the appropriate suspension points for On-Site Offences

In situations that are flagrant, singularly egregious and injurious to the success of the tournament or the Sport, these matters will be referred to the TSA Manager responsible for Technical and Officiating matters for further action.

2.22 SUSPENSION POINTS / PAYMENT OF FINES:

In the case of Junior Tournaments, Suspension points will be awarded at the end of the tournament by the Referee/Supervisor as per the suspension points table below and reported to TSA.

Suspension Points / Fines are accumulative and will be in place for a period of one (1) year (similar to ranking points).

All On-Site fines levied by the Referee/Supervisor at Open Tournaments, may be collected by the Referee, or, shall be paid prior to the offending player's next tournament. All fines collected by the Referee/Supervisor and submitted to TSA with the tournament reconciliation documentation at the completion of the respective tournament.

A player that has accumulated 10 suspension points (juniors) or R600-00 in Fines (Open Tournaments) will face an automatic **three (3) month** suspension at the discretion of TSA. This also refers to junior players participating in Open Tournaments.

In the event of a junior member accumulating R600 in Fines at Open events, the suspension can cover Open or Junior tournaments within a specific month.

Where a player at the end of a tournament exceeds the 10 suspension points or the R600 in fines, such player will face the possibility of an immediate **three (3) month** suspension being imposed from the day after completion of the said tournament in which the offence occurred that caused the suspension points or fines to exceed the permitted amount.

Should a player exceed the ten (10) suspension points and / or R600 in Fines, the players profile/record will automatically revert back to zero once ten (10) or the R600 has been reached and recommence.

E.g. Player A has 9 suspension points and is awarded a Game Penalty at his next tournament for bad behavior. The player's accumulated tally now stands at 16. He is automatically suspended for **three (3) months**. Once the player returns from his suspension, his suspension points tally recommences at 6 suspension points.

2.23 APPEALING OF SUSPENSION POINTS / FINES:

Any player convicted for a violation relating to On-Site Offences may, after being awarded the specific Suspension Points, or in the case of Fines being issued and/or paid, may appeal to TSA for review of the determination of guilt and penalty therefore. Such appeal shall be submitted in writing within five (5) calendar days after the last day of the event.

Attached to and included with the appeal, shall be a statement by the player as to the facts and circumstances of such incident along with any other evidence that the player desires to submit.

Upon receipt of such an appeal, TSA will conduct a reasonable investigation along with the report submitted by the Referee, and shall either affirm or reverse the decision taken by the Referee. In the event of a reversal, the applicable Suspension points will be reversed, in the case of a Fine(s) this will be refunded to the player.

2.24 SUSPENSION POINTS TABLE:

Late Withdrawal from tournament after deadline (after second occasion – medical or no medical reason)	4 Suspension Points
On-Site Withdrawal – No Medical Certificate Provided	1 Suspension Point
No Show - Player is scratched due to punctuality. No contact from the player. Player is a No-Show for their First Match or Play-Off event (failed to complete the On-Site Player Release Form) or submit On-Site Medical, No communication/contact from player.	5 Suspension Points
Parent, Coach or Supporter Conduct - Parent, Coach or Supporter associated with a player breaches the code of conduct i.e. Verbal Abuse, Physical Abuse, Audible Obscenity or Unsportsmanlike Conduct. The player remains accountable for the behaviour of all associated persons	3 Suspension Points
Each Warning awarded	1 Suspension Points
Each Point Penalty awarded	3 Suspension Points
Each Game Penalty awarded	5 Suspension Points
Any Default (Immediate or via Code of Conduct)	10 Suspension Points
Punctuality – Player scratched due to being late for match, but confirms is playing play-off matches or other events (contact between player and Referee)	2 Suspension Points
Player Off Court Offences / Incidents	4 Suspension Points

Suspension Points will be awarded by the Tournament Supervisor/Referee on-site and submitted to TSA.

Suspension Points will be accumulative. Incidents occurring during a match will be penalised by the highest amount of Suspension Points being awarded based on the final stage attained during a match. E.g. a player receives a Warning, Point Penalty and Game Penalty during a match, a total of 5 Suspension Points will be awarded over and above whatever else the player may already have accumulated prior to the match.

Suspension points are awarded for On-Site offences that occur during a match in relation to the Point Penalty Schedule.

In cases where incidents occur off court, these may still be penalized in accordance to the Off Court Actions, with a player receiving an additional 4 Suspension points, these will be in addition to any that may already have been earned / awarded for On Site offences during a match or matches within the tournament.

2.25 FINES TABLE:

The following fines have been implemented based on the respective sections of the Code of Conduct and Penalties awarded for On-Site Offences.

CODE SECTION	SENIOR FINE GUIDE
PLAYER ON SITE OFFENCES - Article II	
B Punctuality (15 Minutes) / Late Withdrawal from Tournament	200
PLAYER ON SITE OFFENCES (Cont.)- Article II	W / P / G
E Best Efforts	50 / 70 / 100
H Audible Obscenity	50 / 75 / 100
I Coaching and Coaches	50 / 80 / 100
J Visible Obscenity	50 / 75 / 100
K Ball Abuse	30 / 50 / 70
L Racket Abuse	50 - 75 (P / G)
M Verbal Abuse	50 / 75 / 100
N Physical Abuse	Default
O Unsportsmanlike Conduct	50 / 75 / 90
P Parent Interference	100
R Defaults (Immediate or via Code of Conduct)	600

The above fines are general guideline. However, in the case of an incident deemed to be severe and the Supervisor / Referee wanting to levy a more severe fine, this may be done up until a maximum of R200 per offence, save for the exception of the R600 fine for a Default.

ARTICLE 3 – MAJOR OFFENCES

3.1 WAGERS:

No player or Related Person (defined hereinafter as including, but not limited to coaches, therapists, trainers, management representatives, family and business associates) shall wager anything of value in connection with any TSA sanctioned Tournament.

Violation of this section by a player, directly or indirectly through a Related Person or others, may subject the player to a maximum penalty of permanent suspension from play at TSA Sanctioned Tournaments or as otherwise determined by TSA Disciplinary Committee.

Violation of this Section shall subject a Related Person to a maximum of permanent denial of access to all TSA Sanctioned Tournaments.

3.2 BRIBES OR OTHER PAYMENTS:

No player or Related Person shall offer, give, solicit or accept, or agree to offer, give, solicit or accept, anything of value to or from any person with the intent to influence any player's efforts or participation in any TSA Sanctioned Tournament.

Violation of this section by a player, directly or indirectly through a Related Person or others, may subject the player to a maximum penalty of permanent suspension from play at TSA Sanctioned Tournaments or as otherwise determined by TSA Disciplinary Committee.

Violation of this Section shall subject a Related Person to a maximum of permanent denial of access to all TSA Sanctioned Tournaments.

3.3 AGGRAVATED BEHAVIOR:

No player or Related Person at any TSA Sanctioned Tournament shall engage in "Aggravated Behavior" which is defined as follows:

One or more incidents of behavior designated in this Code as constituting "Aggravated Behavior".

Being "Defaulted" from a Tournament for a single violation or via the steps within the Code of Conduct.

One incident of behavior that is flagrant and particularly injurious to the success of a TSA Sanctioned Tournament, or is singularly egregious.

A series of two (2) or more violations of this Code within a twelve (12) month period which singularly do not constitute "Aggravated Behavior", but when viewed together establish a pattern of conduct that is collectively egregious and is detrimental or injurious to TSA Sanctioned Tournaments.

Notwithstanding any ruling by WADA in the event of a player being found guilty of using a "banned substance as set out in the ITF guidelines available on the TSA website, under Rules and Regulations section", TSA, in addition to whatever penalty may be imposed on such player by that body, shall impose a tournament playing ban on such player that shall not be less than two (2) years.

Violation of this section by a player, directly or indirectly through a Related Person or others, may subject the player to a maximum penalty of permanent suspension from play at TSA Sanctioned Tournaments or as otherwise determined by TSA Disciplinary Committee.

Violation of this Section shall subject a Related Person to a maximum of permanent denial of access to all TSA Sanctioned Tournaments.

3.4 CONDUCT CONTRARY TO THE INTEGRITY OF THE GAME:

No player or Related Person shall engage in conduct contrary to the integrity of the Game of Tennis. If a player is convicted of a violation of a criminal law of any country, the punishment of which includes possible imprisonment for more than one (1) year, he/she may be deemed by virtue of such conviction to have engaged in conduct contrary to the integrity of the Game of Tennis. In addition, if a player has at any time behaved in a manner severely damaging to the reputation of the sport, he/she may be deemed by virtue of such behavior to have engaged on conduct contrary to the integrity of the Game of Tennis and be in violation of this section.

Violation of this section by a player, directly or indirectly through a Related Person or others, may subject the player to a maximum penalty of permanent suspension from play at TSA Sanctioned Tournaments or as otherwise determined by TSA Disciplinary Committee.

Violation of this Section shall subject a Related Person to a maximum of permanent denial of access to all TSA Sanctioned Tournaments.

3.5 DETERMINATION AND PENALTY:

The TSA Manager responsible for Technical and Officiating shall cause an investigation to be made of all the facts concerning any alleged Major Offence and shall provide written notice of such investigation to the player involved within seven (7) calendar days after the completion of the tournament at which the alleged offence has occurred.

The player shall be given seven (7) calendar days to provide to the TSA Manager responsible for Technical and Officiating, directly or through counsel, such evidence as the player deems to be relevant to the investigation. The player may elect not to provide any statement and exercise his right to remain silent. In this latter instance the player should notify the Manager of his decision to remain silent.

Upon the completion of his investigation, which must be within a maximum of seven (7) working days after receipt of the statement by the player concerned, the TSA Manager responsible for Technical and Officiating shall recommend either the innocence or guilt of the player involved, and, in the latter case, shall state in writing the facts as found by him, the reasons for his conclusions and the substantiation for his recommendations for the fixing of the penalty to be imposed to the TSA Board Member responsible for Discipline.

The TSA Board Member responsible for Discipline shall consider all the facts presented to him and shall in his judgment agree or disagree with all or some of the Technical and Officiating Manager's submissions. The Board Member shall, within three (3) days submit his judgment to the Technical and Officiating Manager who shall inform the player concerned in writing of the decision, and where applicable, any punishment imposed. The Board Member may, notwithstanding the aforementioned, call for the convening of a Disciplinary Hearing in order to hear oral evidence. The procedures applicable for this Hearing are as set out here in under.

TSA reserves the right to contact the player's Provincial Association in terms of acquiring a statement or representation in terms of any history that may be deemed to be valid in terms of the player's behavior.

The TSA Board member responsible for Discipline may determine that a Disciplinary Hearing needs to be convened, in such case this hearing may be conducted in person or via tele-conference.

Once the verdict is finalized a copy of the decision shall be promptly delivered to the player, the player's Provincial Association and the TSA Board.

3.6 DISCRETIONARY REVIEW:

Any player found to have committed a Player Major Offence may petition the TSA Disciplinary Committee for a discretionary review of either the determination and/or penalty imposed respectively. The petition shall be in writing and must be filed with the TSA Manager responsible for Technical and Officiating within seven (7) calendar days after notice of the decision being mailed to the player.

The TSA Manager responsible for Technical and Officiating shall thereafter promptly forward the said petition to the TSA Disciplinary Committee. Said petition shall state in detail the basis for such appeal. Within seven (7) calendar days thereafter the TSA Disciplinary Committee shall designate the time and place, or format for such hearing of such appeal and shall so notify the player and TSA Manager responsible for Technical and Officiating.

At such hearing the player and the TSA Manager responsible for Technical and Officiating shall present to the Disciplinary Committee the relevant evidence on the matter. The Disciplinary Committee may affirm, reverse or modify the decision on appeal.

If the appeal is decided against the player, then the TSA Disciplinary Committee shall tax the reasonable costs of the appeal against the player, which costs include, but not be limited to, the reasonable travel and living expenses incurred by witnesses and members of the Disciplinary Committee with respect thereto, if the same is not at a regular scheduled meeting.

3.7 INAPPROPRIATE BENHAVIOR REPORTED AT INTERNATIONAL EVENTS:

In cases where a player is participating in an International event (outside of South Africa) and is reported to TSA for serious breach of the ITF Code of Conduct, TSA reserves the right, following a report from the ITF Referee to withdraw any further sanction of the player from competing in any further ITF sanctioned tournament(s). In addition, TSA also reserves the right to conduct it's own independent investigation and impose necessary sanctions/suspensions.

ARTICLE 4 – CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFFICIALS

As with the high standard and professionalism and conduct required of players, TSA, ITF, ATP and the WTA Tour requires a high standard of professionalism and conduct from its Certified Officials and all officials who officiate at such sanctioned and recognized events. These standards are as follows:

- 4.1 Officials must be in good physical condition
- 4.2 Officials must have natural or corrected vision of 20/20 and normal hearing
- 4.3 Officials must be on time for all matches assigned to them and reporting times
- 4.4 Officials must study, understand and master the Rules of Tennis, Duties and Procedures for Officials and all Tournament Regulations as well as the Code of Conduct for events in which they are officiating
- 4.5 Officials should maintain personal hygiene and should maintain a professional image at all times
- 4.6 Officials must not drink any alcoholic drinks before any match on the day they are to officiate, or at any time on-site while play is in progress, or while in uniform. As a guideline, officials should not drink alcoholic drinks for twelve (12) hours before officiating
- 4.7 Officials must maintain complete impartiality with respect to all players at all times. An official must not officiate in any match in which he/she has a relationship with one of the players that might be considered a conflict of interest. The perception of a conflict shall render an official unsuitable for such an assignment. Officials shall not socialize with or become intimate with players, or enter into any relationship or take any action that casts doubt on his/her impartiality as a tennis official. However, officials are not prohibited from staying in the same hotels as players nor from attending social functions at which players may be present
- 4.8 Officials should not criticize or attempt to explain calls or decisions by other officials to anyone other than those officials or to co-officials
- 4.9 Officials may not bet anything in any manner in connection with any tennis event. Officials must not induce or encourage any other person to gamble or enter into any other form of financial speculation on any match or occurrence at any tennis event. Officials must not receive any money, benefit or other reward (whether financial or otherwise) for the provision of any information concerning the weather, the players, the courts, the status of, or the outcome of any match or occurrence at any tennis event
- 4.10 Officials shall not have conversations with the crowd, except in the ordinary course of controlling the crowd during a match

- 4.11 Officials shall not participate in a media interview or meeting with a journalist where his/her statements relating to tennis officiating can be printed or broadcast without the approval of the Referee or Technical Manager
- 4.12 Officials shall at all times conduct themselves in a professional manner and ethical manner and give due regard to the authority of TSA staff, Referee, Court Officials, Tournament Personnel, Players and Public. International and senior officials must also set a good example in their conduct to other officials
- 4.13 Officials must make all tournament related requests to the Supervisor/Referee, TSA Technical Manager or Chief of Officials, rather than making requests directly to the Tournament Director or Staff
- 4.14 Officials shall commit to each event he/she works until released by the Supervisor/Referee, Chief of Officials or TSA Technical Manager. If an official has accepted a tournament selection, he/she shall not withdraw from that tournament to officiate in another tournament at the same time, without the permission from the respective officiating representative
- 4.15 Violations of the Code of Officials must be reported by the Supervisor/Referee to TSA Technical Manager. The Supervisor/Referee has the authority to release an official from a tournament for a violation of the Code for Officials, but where practical this decision should be taken with the TSA Technical Manager
- 4.16 National Certified officials shall consult their respective Provincial Committees concerning matters relating to overseas travel, ITF schools and the talent identification group. The Provincial Committee will consult with the TSA Technical Manager. ITF Certified Officials shall consult with the TSA Technical Manager concerning overseas applications and communications between National Associations.
- 4.17 Officials shall follow the TSA protocol document concerning the assignment procedures and shall not accept assignments other than those from the Provincial Umpires Committee of the said officials Province or the TSA Technical Manager. This applies to all categories of tournaments and all officiating capacities.
- Officials who violate any of the required standards may have their certification withdrawn
 - Officials will be subject to the disciplinary code as approved and endorsed by TSA

ARTICLE 5 – COACHES CODE OF ETHICS

- 5.1 Treat all students with respect, be honest & consistent and honour all promises both verbal and written
- 5.2 Recognise student's right to consult with other coaches and/ or advisors for example: Doctors, Physiotherapists and Scientists etc
- 5.3 Treat all Students fairly within the context of their sporting activities, regardless of gender, race, place of origin, athletic potential, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political beliefs, socio –economic status and any other condition
- 5.4 Encourage students to be independent, responsible for their own behaviour, performance, decisions and actions.
- 5.5 Involve students in decisions that involve them.
- 5.6 Determine in consultation with students and others, what information is confidential and respect confidentiality.
- 5.7 Encourage mutual support among young students. Also encourage students to respect one another and to expect respect for their worth as individuals regardless of their level of play.
- 5.8 Use appropriate training methods which in long term will benefit the students and avoid those which could be harmful. (LTPD*)
- 5.9 Ensure that training/task/lessons are suitable for the age, experience, ability physical and psychological conditions of the students. (LTPD*)
- 5.10 Be acutely aware of the power that you as a coach develop with your students in a coaching relationship and avoid any sexual intimacy with students that could develop as a result. Also avoid situations that could be construed as compromising.
- 5.11 Discourage the use of performance enhancing drug, the use of alcohol and tobacco and any illegal substance.
- 5.12 Respect the fact that your goal as a coach may not always be the same as that of the student. Aim for excellence based on realistic goals and consider the students phase of growth and development

- 5.13 Recognise individual differences in students and always think of the student's long term best interest. Set challenges for each student which is both achievable and motivating.
- 5.14 At all times act as a role model that promotes the positive aspects of sport and of tennis by maintaining the highest standards of personal conduct and projecting a favourable image of tennis and coaching at all times.
- 5.15 Do not exploit any coaching relationship to further personal, political or business interests at the expense of your students.
- 5.16 Encourage students and coaches to develop and maintain integrity in their relationship with others.
- 5.17 Honour all professional relationships with your colleagues, and treat colleagues with dignity and respect.
- 5.18 When asked to coach a student, ensure that any coach-student relationship has been ended by the student/others in a professional manner.
- 5.19 Act in full accordance with institutional (SASCOC, ITF etc.), Provincial/Regional and national governing body (TSA) rules, and report any violation of any governing body rules.
- 5.20 Accept and respect the role of official in ensuring that competitions are conducted fairly and according to established rules. Know and abide by tennis rules, regulations and standards, and encourage students to do likewise. Accept both the letter and the spirit of the rules.
- 5.21 Be honest and ensure that qualifications are not misrepresented.
- 5.22 Be open to other people's opinion and willing to continually learn and develop.
- 5.23 Constantly strive to improve your knowledge and understanding of tennis and actively involve yourself in continuous education.
- 5.24 Active TSA licenced coaches agree to pay their yearly membership fee in a timely manner

***Long Term Player Development**

ARTICLE 6 – DISCIPLINARY PROTOCOLS & PROCEDURES FOR HEARINGS

6.1 LODGING OF COMPLAINT:

Complaints can come from any and many sources. Nobody can stop anyone lodging a complaint against a parent, coach or official.

Only complaints lodged in writing can and will be entertained.

Complaints may be handed/delivered/posted/faxed and/or emailed to the Provincial Association where the Tournament took place, with a copy being sent to the Tournament Director and TSA. In the event of a complaint not receiving the necessary attention, the complainant may forward the complaint to TSA for investigation. Provided that the initial complaint was lodged within the set time frames as below.

It is inherent in this process that the complainant bears the responsibility to both ensure that his/her complaint made timeously and the complaint is received by the required recipients.

Complaints must be received within five (5) calendar days of the completion of the event in which the incident occurred.

6.2 PROCEDURE ON RECEIPT OF COMPLAINT:

Incidents pertaining to player/parent suspension have been discussed in points X and Y above. The following procedures will be followed when setting up such tribunals, and include procedures for conducting hearings. This includes coaches and officials.

6.2.1 In the event of a complaint being directed to TSA

- TSA to inform appropriate Executive Committee
- All members of the appropriate Executive Committee shall be informed of the receipt of the complaint by email;
- Decision shall be made by return email from the Executive Committee members (by majority decision within twenty-four hours) as to whether: -
- Appoint a disciplinary tribunal to hear the case;
- Appoint the Provincial Committee (PC) to convene a DH and hear the case;
- Reject the complaint totally and decide no further action of any form will take place;
- Appropriate Executive Committee shall acknowledge in writing receipt of the complaint and advise the complainant of which procedure in 2 above is being followed;
- Appropriate Executive Committee shall advise the official/coach and his/her PC concerned of which course of action in 2 above is being followed.

6.2.2 In the event of a complaint being directed to a Provincial Committee: -

- TSA shall be immediately advised of such complaint;
- Procedures as in 4.2.1 above shall be followed.

6.2.3 In the event of the complaint being linked to a Criminal Proceedings: -

- Such complaint shall be handled by TSA or the appropriate Executive Committee as decided upon by TSA;
- Executive Committee shall have the right to hold the matter over until such Criminal Proceedings are finalized;
- Member shall be automatically suspended until all criminal proceedings are finalized. The member must be informed in writing of this suspension;
- The responsible Executive Committee shall inform the member, within fourteen (14) days of the finalization of criminal proceedings, whether it intends proceeding with any DH and whether the suspension remains in force or is lifted.

It is imperative that the above actions are taken within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of a complaint.

6.3 PROCEDURE PRIOR TO HOLDING OF DISCIPLINARY HEARING:

The procedures prior to the holding of a DH will be the same no matter which body is responsible for the convening of such Hearing.

These are: -

- The member/party shall be informed in writing (preferably at the same time as being informed of the complaint) of the date, time and place of the DH;
- The member/party shall be informed of who the chairperson of the DH is;
- The member/party will be supplied with a copy of the complaint;
- The member/party will be advised of which the Codes of Conduct the complaint/s are applicable too;
- The member/party will be informed that he/she may cross-examine witnesses called by the DH convenors and may call witnesses in his/her defence. In instances where the member/party wishes to call such witnesses, such witnesses must be available on the day of the DH;
- The member/party must inform the Chairperson at least one week in advance whether witnesses are to be called and if so, their names so as to enable the chairperson to determine the length of time needed to conduct the DH.

6.4 PROCEDURE AT A DISCIPLINARY HEARING:

A DH shall be convened by a chairperson and be assisted by at least two assessors, one of whom shall be from the PC of the Province where the member/party is registered. A further person may, at the discretion of the Chairperson, be present to take the minutes of the DH. This person, however, will not participate in any way to the proceedings of the DH.

The following procedures shall take place: -

- The chairperson shall read both the complaint and the sections of the Code of Conduct pertaining to the complaint to the member/party;
- The Chairperson shall seek confirmation from the member/party that all the necessary notifications necessary for the convening of the DH have been received, that the member/party is aware of his rights at the DH and that the member/party is conversant with the procedures to be followed for the conduct of the DH;

- The Chairperson shall ask the member/party whether he/she is guilty of the contraventions and ask the member/party to plead. In the event of there being no audible and/or reasonable rational response, the plea shall be taken as “not guilty”;
- The Chairperson shall call witnesses, if any, and these witnesses shall be questioned in an orderly manner as determined by the Chairperson by the chairperson, assessors and the member/party. Order of questioning important. The Chairperson and assessors are entitled to redirect questions to their witness at the conclusion of the defendant member’s/parties questions;
- Member/party thereafter calls his/her witnesses, and in this instance member/party questions witnesses first followed by chairperson. As in 4 above, the defendant member/party is entitled to redirect questions to his witness at the conclusion of the Chairperson’s and assessors questions;
- The member/party cannot be forced to give evidence and has the right at all times to remain silent;
- After the conclusion of the leading of evidence the Chairperson and assessors shall pass judgment and the member/party informed of their decision;
- The Chairperson and Assessors will consider and take into account any aggravating circumstances in deciding the sentence;
- The member/party shall be asked whether there is any circumstance/s in mitigation of sentence that the tribunal should take into account in deciding the sentence;
- Sentence will then follow.

6.5 PROCEDURE AFTER DISCIPLINARY HEARING:

After the conclusion of DH, the following procedures will follow: -

- Copy of minutes of the DH, judgment and sentence must be forwarded to Executive Committee and TSA within fifteen days of the DH;
- Executive Committee retains the right, in the event of the DH being convened by the PC, to reduce the sentence imposed on an official if considered too harsh;
- Member/party has the right to appeal to the appropriate Executive Committee. Such appeal shall be writing, shall be made within fourteen (14) days of the DH and shall state the reasons for such appeal;
- In the event of there being no appeal, the DH sentence is then binding on the member/party and all PCs;

In the event of an appeal, the Executive Committee’s decision shall be final. Note that in the event of Executive Committee’s decision being that to reconvene the DH with either the Regional Chairperson or a member of the appropriate Executive as the Chairperson; the member/party shall be liable for all costs (travelling by air, hotel, transport, and time) incurred by that person in the event of the first DH decisions being upheld.

The appropriate Executive Committee has the right to request that the defendant member/party to provide security for such costs prior to agreeing to reconvene the DH; The complainant shall be advised in writing that Disciplinary Procedure in terms of TSA’s Procedures and Protocols have been enforced.