

3.3.1 Code of Practice for Parents and Guardians

Statement:

ATC is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of all its members. The club believes that it is important that members, coaches, administrators and parents/guardians associated with the club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others. Therefore, parents/guardians are encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of the club with:

Robert Wedlake (Head Coach) or Mike Buck (Chairman)

Agreed at Meeting dated 26/08/09

Signed

**Mike Buck
Chairman**

Policy:

This code of practice will be made available to parents/guardians of junior members in the following ways:

1. A current version will be placed on the junior notice board of the Clubhouse.
2. The code will be placed on the website under the section labelled 'junior section'
3. The code will be sent out to all new junior members as part of the welcome pack which includes the junior welcome letter.
4. The code will be sent out as part of the e-mail circular regularly circulated by the Head Coach.
5. Reference to the code will be made in the Autumn 2009 newsletter to bring all current members up to date.

The Code:

Parents/guardians of junior members of ATC should follow the following code of practice:

- Encourage your child to learn the rules of tennis and play within them.
- Encourage fair play and respect for officials.
- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.
- Never force your child to take part in sport.
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding the good performances of all.
- Never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes.
- Publicly accept judgements made by officials.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport.
- Use correct and proper language at all times.
- Allow your child to play in the Mini Tennis colour stage that is appropriate to ensure he/she enjoys playing the game, develops skills and gains confidence.
- Purchase balls and rackets that match your child's ability
- Be patient. Peaks and plateaus are common.
- Your first question following any match should be: "Did you enjoy it?" not "Did you win?"
- At no stage should you communicate with your child or interfere with the on-court helpers and referees during a match – just enjoy the game and let officials take care of the rules!