



## IndyTennis Code of Conduct

Board approved and effective date: 03/2021

The following policy is applicable to any and all IndyTennis members; guests of members; Board of Director members and officers (the board); guest players and supporters; volunteers; event directors, managers, and staff; and any representative (all these individuals who fall into these groups are collectively known within this policy as **participants**) during any IndyTennis sponsored/sanctioned event or activity, including online actions.

**IndyTennis participants are expected to conduct themselves in a positive manner that demonstrates good sportsmanship. It is an expectation that participants demonstrate the highest level of respect towards other members, non-members, and for the game of tennis itself.**

**It is expected**, that whenever representing or conducting official or unofficial business on behalf of IndyTennis, i.e. when one may interact with non-participants or non-members, or participate in any non-IndyTennis activity as a representative of IndyTennis; participants are under an obligation to realize that their actions may impact the reputation of the IndyTennis organization, **thus to conduct oneself in a courteous and professional manner, as well as to the highest ethical standards.**

The following is more information about detailed examples of what IndyTennis and the board expects from its participants:

Since Indy Tennis is primarily a tennis organization and partners with USTA, members and guest players, while playing, are expected to conduct themselves during all events according to the publication [Friend at Court](#) found at the [USTA website](#). This publication outlines what is expected of players regarding good sportsmanship. Since the *2021 Friend at Court* document is 190 pages long the most important part of the document is found on pages 52-59 and can be read in addendum A.

If the above general expectations and standards are not met and are subsequently reported (see reporting process below) to the IndyTennis Board of Directors; after a gathering of facts, the board reserves the right to take appropriate corrective and/or punitive actions it deems necessary. Those actions may include, but are not limited to: issuing formal or informal warnings; revoking or suspending membership; restricting suspended members or participants from joining the organization or participating in any and all sponsored or sanctioned activities or events for any period of time the board deems appropriate.



### **Self-Resolution**

If you see something, and the situation is safe for you to say something, then do so. You should remind those who may be associated with IndyTennis and covered under this code, that they may be violating the spirit of this code, should reflect on their current actions, and it could resolve the situation. Then reporting the incident may or may not be necessary.

If a situation or problem arises during any match play sanctioned by IndyTennis, it is paramount that the players try to work through their differences. Keep in mind no one is perfect, mistakes happen, and everyone has mis-seen, made a bad call, or miss remembered a score at one time or another. However, if the differences between the players cannot be resolved, then the match can be suspended or ended at the score when the disagreement occurred. If play is unable to be resumed then or at an agreed upon date, then both players may walk away with the points acquired at the time of the disagreement.

### **Reporting and Decision process**

If self-resolution of the situation, or anything similar, is not possible, then reporting the details is the next step. One or both of the parties involved should report ASAP (preferably within 48 hours) a detailed report/complaint with all the pertinent information about the incident or situation. The report should describe what happened, who was involved, where the incident occurred, and any other pertinent details to the following email address: [indytennis317@gmail.com](mailto:indytennis317@gmail.com). The board will establish processes that will keep incident reports and subsequent investigations are confidential and fair.

The board, after investigating the situation and gathering all pertinent facts, will either have an update about the investigation or a final decision about the situation within two weeks. The board will make all efforts to have a final decision within a month after the complaint is submitted.

The final decision could include something as simple as a sincere apology from one or both parties or the punishment can range from a verbal warning up to expulsion from ladder play for the season depending on the severity of the complaint and subsequent investigation.

Any illegal activity uncovered during an investigation will be turned over to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

The IndyTennis Board of Directors reserves the right to take appropriate corrective and/or punitive actions it deems necessary for any violation, past or present. Those actions may include, but are not limited to: issuing formal or informal warnings; revoking or suspending membership; restricting suspended members or participants from joining the organization or participating in any and all sponsored/sanctioned activities or events for any period of time the board deems appropriate.

Appeals may be submitted to the IndyTennis Board of Directors for reconsideration.