

# INTERNATIONAL TENNIS FEDERATION

## CODE OF ETHICS FOR COACHES

### THE TENNIS COACH WILL

1. Treat all students with respect at all times. Be honest and consistent with them. Honour all promises and commitments, both verbal and written.
2. Provide feedback to students and other participants in a caring manner sensitive to their needs. Avoid overly negative feedback.
3. Recognise students' right to consult with other coaches and advisers. Cooperate fully with other specialists (eg. sports scientists, doctors, physiotherapists etc.).
4. 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. Encourage and facilitate students' independence and responsibility for their own behaviour, performance, decisions and actions.
6. Involve the students in decisions that affect them.
7. Determine, in consultation with students and others, what information is confidential and respect that confidentiality.
8. Encourage a climate of mutual support among your students.
9. Encourage students to respect one another and to expect respect for their worth as individuals regardless of their level of play.
10. At all times use appropriate training methods which in the long term will benefit the students, and avoid those which could be harmful.
11. Ensure that the tasks/training set are suitable for the age, experience, ability and physical and psychological conditions of the students.
12. Be acutely aware of the power that you as a coach develop with your students in the coaching relationships and avoid any sexual intimacy with students that could develop as a result.

13. Avoid situations with your students that could be construed as compromising.
14. Actively discourage the use of performance-enhancing drugs, the use of alcohol and tobacco and any illegal substance.
15. Respect the fact that your goal as a coach for the student may not always be the same as that of the student. Aim for excellence based upon realistic goals and due consideration for the student's growth and development.
16. Recognise individual differences in students and always think of the student's long-term best interests.
17. Set challenges for each student which are both achievable and motivating.
18. 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 of coaching at all times.
19. Do not exploit any coaching relationship to further personal, political, or business interests at the expense of the best interest of your students.
20. Encourage students and other coaches to develop and maintain integrity in their relationships with others.
21. Respect other coaches and always act in a manner characterised by courtesy and good faith.
22. When asked to coach a student, ensure that any previous coach-student relationship has been ended by the student/others in a professional manner.
23. Accept and respect the role of officials in ensuring that competitions are conducted fairly and according to established rules.
24. 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.
25. Be honest and ensure that qualifications are not misrepresented.
26. Be open to other people's opinion and willing to continually learn and develop.



President, ITF

Coach