

PARENT COURTSIDE ETIQUETTE

As a parent sitting at courtside watching your junior compete, you should know the commonly accepted and agreed-upon set of behaviors that **all** spectators are to adhere to.

1. Never applaud when your child's opponent makes a mistake.
2. After an extended rally of six balls or more, no matter who wins the point or makes the mistake, you may applaud. (This encourages both players)
3. If either player makes a "truly exceptional" shot, e.g., between the legs when running back, you may applaud when the point is over.
4. Never cheer, clap, nor encourage players during a point while the ball is in play.
5. Following a point, you are encouraged to cheer for both players any time they have demonstrated exceptional prowess.
6. You may **not** coach nor make suggestions to your child during play, e.g., "Hit to his backhand."
7. You may **not** assist with making line calls, either questioning their accuracy or confirming their vision. Shaking your head or putting your thumbs up is inappropriate.
8. You may not assist with score-keeping, even if you know the score and your child and his/her opponent are confused. You are **not** to intervene.
9. Following the match, parents may want to and shake the hands of both participants when they come off the court.
10. As a parent watching, you should **not** criticize your child **anytime** during play.
11. Try to make it an enjoyable event and remember that life's lessons come from participating, not winning.