

Match etiquette

- Always introduce yourselves at the start of a match, and shake hands at the end.
- When serving: the server should call the score after each point (before serving next point) – loud and clear!
- Serve when your opponent is ready.
- Make sure you always have two balls ready to serve. If you can't keep the second, arrange for your partner to hold it for you.
- Don't return serves that are out.
- Make sure server has sufficient tennis balls, but don't send balls back to them when they are clearly ready to serve.
- Call your own lines, the call is your opponents' if the ball is at their end.
- Call clearly, don't call anything if ball is in! It is worth calling even balls that are well out, because the line/ball may be obscured by another player.
- If your ball goes onto another court, wait until they stop playing until you either ask for the ball, or fetch it.
- At Duffield, if a train is passing, do not serve until it has passed in order to hear a possible 'let'. In doubles, it is also easier for your partner to be ready for the serve.
- Do not make a noise e.g. groan or 'oh no!' when you hit a ball you think will be out, etc, as this is distracting for the opposition.
- Do not walk behind players if they are playing a point. For most Duffield courts there are dedicated gates from the paths, please use these. (Except courts 2 and 4)
- Away team players stay on the court on which they first play, and home pairs rotate on to another court.
- Take time to communicate with your partner, before and during the match.
- There is no need to apologise to your partner for poor shots – you need only apologise if you haven't been trying!
- Please try to stay for team tea after a match and socialise with the opposition. Please help to prepare a home tea, and stay behind if you can to help with clearing up.
- Enjoy your tennis – encourage your partner (and yourself!) and create a friendly, welcoming atmosphere for visitors. Have fun!