



Mornington Peninsula and Frankston City Table Tennis Association Inc (MFTTA)

SPECTATOR BEHAVIOUR POLICY

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Drafted By: Initial draft 2013; Edited by David Griersmith (Secretary MPTTA) and Les Dawson (Treasurer MPTTA) with format standardisation 16 August 2020; Board edits 25 Aug 2020; name change to MFTTA

Approved and endorsed by: MPTTA Board of Directors at its meeting on 25 August 2020

Our commitment

Our association is committed to providing a safe environment for participation. Aggressive, threatening or other inappropriate behaviour by members, their families, their friends, and other sporting personnel while attending a game or event will not be tolerated.

These unacceptable behaviours are outlined in our match rules and regulations and specifically include:

- using bad language
- harassing or ridiculing players, coaches, officials or other spectators
- making racist, religious, sexist or other inappropriate comments to players, coaches, officials or other spectators
- any threatening behaviour or physical altercation between spectators and players, coaches, officials or other spectators
- putting undue pressure on children, berating them or putting down their performance
- drinking alcohol at a game or training or being drunk at an association event
- taking drugs at a game or training or being under the influence of drugs at an Association event
- MFTTA is a smoke-free environment e.g. smoking is prohibited in the stadium under the enclosed workplace smoking provisions in the Tobacco Act 1987 (Vic).

What we will do

- Provide members, their parents and other sporting personnel access to our match rules and regulations and make clear what is expected and the consequences of non-compliance.
- Where possible, bind non-members by prominently displaying conditions of entry to our facilities and by requiring parents to abide by association rules.
- Reinforce messages of fair and respectful behaviour by displaying signs and posters around our facilities and providing information on our website, in our newsletter and through other association communication.
- Encourage our coaches and officials to complete training to develop their skills and confidence.
- Ban bringing alcohol to training, competition, recreational play or no-alcohol association event.
- Consult with our local police and seek their support and advice on how to handle issues involving inappropriate behaviour by spectators prior to, at or after a game.
- Encourage the reporting of incidents and investigate inappropriate behaviours as outlined in this policy and take disciplinary or whatever other actions as are deemed necessary.
- Encourage our players, coaches, officials and spectators to call the police if they are concerned about escalating behaviour and their safety or the safety of others.

What we ask you to do

- Help create a positive atmosphere for players, officials and other spectators by showing respect for players, officials and other spectators.
- Abide by our association's match rules and regulations and refrain from using bad language, harassing or ridiculing others or behaving in a threatening or violent manner.
- If you are aware of inappropriate spectator behaviour and you feel confident to do so, speak with the person and ask them to stop. If there is an official or Board of Directors member present, ask for their assistance.
- Report any inappropriate spectator behaviour to the Association President or someone in a position of authority.
- Call the police or an association official if you are concerned for your safety or the safety of others.

Non-Compliance

Anyone found to have behaved inappropriately, and who is also a member or associate member and has therefore already agreed to abide by our association's Fair Play Code, Match Rules and Regulations, and Codes of Behavior, may face disciplinary action as outlined in our Constitution.