

HCPA

Code of Conduct

Updated 6/15/2020

Objective

It is important that Howard County Pickleball Association (HCPA), its members and Board Members maintain an ethical standard. The purpose of the code of conduct is to set forth the organizations values and to make clear that everyone involved in the organization is expected to act in accordance with those values.

Code of Conduct

The HCPA, in its continuing effort to improve the enjoyment of pickleball, institutes a policy along with a code of conduct for all parties involved with HCPA. Above all else remember that this is an association where the emphasis is placed on learning, developing, and socializing with other players. By participating in HCPA activities in any capacity you agree to the code of conduct set forth in this document and will conduct yourself in a sportsmanlike manner.

All HCPA Association members, Board members, guests and spectators of any HCPA sponsored activity are expected to uphold this policy and respect others regardless of their sex, age or experience. Inappropriate remarks or actions of a negative nature, and bullying will not be tolerated. Report ANY policy violations to a HCPA Board Member or Event Coordinator. Violations to this policy will be taken seriously by HCPA and may result in warnings, suspensions or termination.

Policy

- Know and play by the USAPA/IFP Official rules as best as possible
- Be a good sport and be respectful to others
- Help to create a positive and fun environment
- Respect the rights of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
- Share courts on a rotating basis with those waiting to play
- Control temperament. Verbal or physical abuse of other players will not be tolerated
- Do not take unfair advantage of another competitor in order to win
- Show concern and caution towards any injured players
- If a ball from another court enters the court or has the potential to interfere with play, stop play immediately, call "Ball on Court" to notify fellow players and wait until ball is returned or retrieved to resume play

- If possible, avoid going on to a court if you are not part of the game
- Wait for point to end before walking behind, beside or across a court
- It is everyone's responsibility to make new players feel welcome and to help them learn the game
- Do not criticize your partner or other players nor fault them for their mistakes
- Members will accept responsibility for non-member guests and family members in attendance at events
- Cordial and collegial behavior is expected of all players at all times