

# STOWMARKET TABLE TENNIS CLUB

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Web Page:- [www.stowmarketabletennis.co.uk](http://www.stowmarketabletennis.co.uk)

League players,

It has been some time since the club has put together any kind of communication with regards to what is expected of our league players. There have been a couple of 'incidents' over the past couple of seasons with complaints about teams (not necessarily ours) and some of our players not knowing for example that our start time had changed some seasons ago! It has therefore been decided by the committee that we should put out a communication to league players of basic expectations and things to be mindful of. I would also like to point out that in no way is this aimed at anyone or any team as we are not aware of any specific problem – we just want to keep it that way!

The list below is in no particular order (or indeed any order) and by no means exhaustive and intentionally misses out anything which is particularly obvious.

- Captains to let opponents know in cases of cancellation as soon as possible and the rules now state that you must have confirmation that any message has been received by the opposing captain i.e. an email without response is not enough.
- Home captains should enter their team onto the matchcard first except for the doubles which can be done just before the doubles match is played.
- Use only approved equipment ensuring rubbers are on the latest up to date ITTF list.
- Bats should not be changed during an individual game unless damaged beyond use.
- Acknowledge nets and edges – it's good practice to say sorry even if you don't mean it!
- Shake hands with opponent and umpire at end of match regardless of result
- Players should not be coached during games (i.e. whilst a set is in play) only between sets or between matches.
- Consideration for noise should be given for matches in progress. This includes when arriving/leaving, whilst watching matches and giving consideration to other matches going on to not make unreasonable noise whilst playing in a match
- Fees should be paid promptly and on time – it takes Tony a lot of time to chase fees which is not fair.
- Arrive at 7pm and ensure knocking up done early so opponents may go on ASAP. Our matches are due to start at 7:15 and the equipment needs to be set up and players warmed up before then. We appreciate that some people – for example with work commitments- may not always be able to arrive on time but please try wherever possible and if you know you are going to be late please ensure your captain or another player is aware. It is worth noting that the rules state that any player not present by 8.15pm shall forfeit their games unless agreed before the start of the match.
- Ensure that the match is kept moving by keeping time between games to a minimum and playing on another table (if available) if your match is falling behind.
- Start on time when possible even if not all the team is there.
- With the last three points this will help to keep costs down as we pay by the half hour so the quicker we finish the less we pay. The league nights historically lose money so this will also help keep fees to a minimum and maybe avoid increases.

- There is squash and cups in the store for both sets of players use during matches – please offer some to your opponents.
- Play within the spirit as well as within the letter of the laws of Table Tennis and respect opponents, officials and their decisions
- Recognise fair play and acknowledge good performances as well as good results
- Use appropriate language at all times
- Wear suitable non-marking indoor sports footwear and clothing which complies with the rules of table tennis most notably you should not wear anything with anything but the tiniest amount of white in it.
- Always encourage and support your fellow team members at all times without behaving in an unsporting manner towards their opponents.
- And very importantly ENJOY THE MATCHES.

Many thanks,

Lee Balaam  
(Chairman)