



DORSET TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS/CARERS



In order to gain the best experience from their involvement in sport young people generally rely on their parents/carers for both emotional and financial support. This influence can be critical as they become involved in training squads and competitive play. Parents/carers should be aware that Table Tennis England expects that everyone involved with table tennis will: respect the rights, dignity and worth of anyone they meet within our sport; treat everyone equally regardless of age, ability, gender, race, religion, ethnic origin, social status or sexual orientation; accept it is all of our responsibility to challenge any injustice that may occur within our sport; accept that everyone has the right to be protected from abuse. It is hoped that the following will prove useful to parents/carers to play a positive part in their child's career in table tennis:

1. Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy all that table tennis has to offer.
2. Ensure that your child reads and understands the Code of Conduct for Players.
3. Encourage respect for the laws of table tennis, support and promote fair play at all times and the acceptance of umpires and officials' decisions and also do not condone the use of prohibited substances.
4. Encourage recognition of good performances in others as well as themselves.
5. Uphold high standards of behaviour, appearance, punctuality and the importance of being a good team member.
6. Always use appropriate language and ensure your child does the same.
7. Encourage your child to take responsibility for their own actions on and off the table e.g. not blaming others or seeking excuses for their own shortcomings or mistakes, and encourage their greater independence.
8. Never exert undue pressure on your child to compete or get results; be realistic about your child's ability.
9. Establish a positive partnership with the coach to help provide the best possible balance between the demands of table tennis, education and home.
10. Show respect and trust the coach working with your child. If you have any questions or queries communicate directly with the coach, but do not compromise the relationship between the coach and player.
11. Ensure that your child is aware of all the arrangements for any trips, including the correct equipment and clothing.
12. Encourage your child to take responsibility for their own safety.
13. When at a competition or event please always remember that your role is as a supporter and allow the coach the space to work with your child.