

# Aston Park Tennis Club

## Playing Etiquette.

We are VERY fortunate at Aston Park to have a playing membership of people who bend over backwards to make newcomers feel welcome and to ensure that their time spent on court with us is enjoyable and productive. However we're all human and when involved in a close fought match there are some things that might get forgotten, so a gentle reminder.....

- ROLL balls to opponents when their turn to serve.
- Loose balls on court are dangerous. Pick them up, roll in to net, or roll to back of court.
- Do not walk across a match in progress walk around the PERIMETER of the court but only when a rally has ended.
- Do not run on to an adjoining court when play in progress to retrieve your stray ball.
- Shake hands after a game.

## Mix-Ins

We generally do not lay down hard and fast rules as to how these should be conducted and on the whole things are worked out democratically and to the satisfaction of all but the following guidelines might be worth thinking about:

If all courts are occupied with four players on each there is no reason why a mix-in should not last for a set. However if someone is playing singles or a three on another court, or sitting out, it is more courteous to cut the playing period down to four games, then mix in the other players.

When involved in a close encounter of the tennis kind don't just prolong it because you're having a great time, take note of what's happening around you. Are people waiting to play, playing a desultory threesome, gasping for breath in a doubles match which they're desperate to end. If so, end your session and invite them to join in the fun.

Mixed mix-ins are meant to be that and on the whole the mixer-in should try to pair up couples like this. It is not always possible and there is no doubt that some of our women are stronger than some of our men (sorry chaps but it's true) and achieving a 'balanced' four is the most important aspect of successful mixing. Now that we are growing there is a strong case for having an identifiable mixer for each session even though it did not prove very successful the last time it was tried. We should discuss this at the captains' meeting.

Worse-case scenario to my mind is having players stand around while someone dithers about how to arrange the next mix. Think about it and let the captains have your ideas.

Most important point:

# ENJOY YOUR TENNIS