



## Notes for Umpires

**Thankyou for offering to umpire at the tournament. We suggest you take a couple of minutes to read through the following notes before you start to umpire a match.**

### Before the match

Stand by the side of the net where you can see the lines and the players can hear your voice.

Tell the players how long they can warm up for. For the first match this will be 2 or 3 minutes, for subsequent matches 1 or 2 minutes or not at all if the court is running late.

When they have warmed up, ask them to come to the net to spin for service/end.

Tell them how many games they are playing altogether (this is clearly marked on the scoresheet) and that they will playing sudden death deuce (1 deuce then the next point wins the game).

### During the match

Start the match by stating who will serve.

Encourage the server to start with 2 balls (1 in hand, 1 in pocket). You may need to help the players to stand in the correct places for play. They usually need help switching sides for service and receiving.

You need to ascertain whether they are able to call the lines themselves; this will become evident during the first couple of points.

Ask the players to collect the balls between points and either give them to you or the server.

Call the score clearly between points, before the player serves. Remember there will be 1 deuce and the next point will decide who wins the game (sudden death deuce).

If you need to call the lines for them call 'OUT' confidently and decisively when necessary. If you are unsure you can ask them to play a let. **Your decision is final.**

Any time they continue when the ball was out or a double bounce, stop the point and tell them what happened before telling them the score.

### After the match

At the end of the match go to the middle of the court, congratulate the players and tell them the score. Shake hands with them and check they shake hands with each other.

Ask the players to return the 4 balls to you.

Bring the score to the Court Supervisor who will be sitting at a desk near the court.

Thankyou! We rely on parents like you to help out with the umpiring and it makes the day more enjoyable for all concerned.