



“Little Mo” Code of Conduct

The “Little Mo” tournaments are named in memory of Maureen “Little Mo” Connolly Brinker, who was known for her outstanding sportsmanship on and off the court. Your participation in the “Little Mo” tournament should reflect this gold standard of behavior. In registering for any “Little Mo” tournament, we expect all players, parents, and coaches to adhere to its Code of Conduct. That includes exhibiting the following behavior:

- 1. You must be considerate and respectful of the rights of all participants and spectators regardless of their age, gender, ability, race, cultural background, sexual orientation, or religious beliefs.**
- 2. You must play within the rules of tennis and respect the officials and their decisions. There shall be no arguments, no displays of aggressiveness, no cursing or profane behavior, no volatile anger, or similar behavior against the referees, other players, opponents, or members of the tournament committee.**
- 3. You must play fairly and refrain from cheating of any kind, including but not limited to, intentionally and willfully calling the lines incorrectly, calling the score incorrectly, and intentionally delaying the game.**
- 4. You will not receive or offer any form of coaching from the sidelines during match play.**
- 5. You must look presentable on court and pick up after yourself at all times.**
- 6. You are expected to be positive, respectful, and supportive of other players.**
- 7. MCB has a zero-tolerance policy for any person videotaping or capturing the image of opposing players, their family members, or guests with the intent of posting derogatory, offensive, or disparaging comments about them online or on any social media platform. This includes, but is not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, LinkedIn, and TikTok. MCB will not permit this kind of demeaning behavior related to any of its “Little Mo” tournaments. Consequences of this action will include the immediate default of a player from the tournament, the dismissal of a parent, coach or spectator from the tournament, and a 12-month automatic ban from all future “Little Mo” tournaments.**
- 8. Most “Little Mo” tournaments use multiple playing sites during an event. If you have more than one child entered in an event, MCB is not able to guarantee they will be playing at the same site. Therefore, it is highly recommended to bring an additional guardian for each child you bring to a tournament. For safety reasons, a player should not be left alone without a guardian at any time.**

The officials will be watching the matches closely and if there is a breach of the Code of Conduct, players will be given a warning, then a point penalty, and then a game penalty. If the behavior continues after the game penalty, a game penalty will continue to be given until the match is over - unless the situation rises to the level of an immediate default. The behavior of parents, coaches, and spectators can also cause their player to be penalized with a warning, then point, then game, and then continued game penalties (if the behavior continues). Additionally, in extreme cases, a player may be immediately defaulted and not invited back to play in future “Little Mo” tournaments. Any ruling made by an official is final.

Parents / Coaches / Spectators:

- No coaching, hand signals, or any communication with the player when on court. Only English can be spoken when the player is on court.
- No clapping when the opponent double faults or makes an unforced error.
- No loud, excessive or constant cheering/clapping that is disruptive or distracting to players while on court (or distracts other players on adjacent courts).
- No interference with the match or arguing with the officials or Tournament Director. Their decisions are final.

Players:

- No coaching, hand signals, or any communication is allowed during your match. Only English can be spoken when the player is on court.
- No cursing or yelling on court. This includes yelling “come on” or other distracting outbursts that can be heard on other courts.
- No hitting the ball to the back of the fence or the net in anger.
- No hitting the ball away from the player when it is their serve.
- The server must announce the score loudly in English before every point. All players must know how to keep score.
- If a player needs to go to the restroom, they must ask an official for permission. We encourage players to only take a restroom break at a set break to minimize loss of momentum during the set. Players will be accompanied to and from the restroom by an official.
- Play fair! No cheating of any kind will be tolerated. Please make correct line calls – if in doubt about a call, it is IN. After each point, the server should announce the score loudly and correctly. No delay of game.

We would like everyone to have a wonderful and memorable experience at the “Little Mo”. Let the memory of your match be a good one for both you and your opponent, whether you win or lose.

Consequences of Behavior:

If a player, parent, spectator or coach are found in violation of this Code of Conduct, MCB reserves the right to: refuse the entry of any player wanting to register for any “Little Mo” tournament; to default or eject any player, parent, spectator, or coach; to not invite a player to the next round of the “Road to the Little Mo Nationals” circuit; and to revoke any trophies or travel grants from any player. This determination will be based primarily on unsportsmanlike conduct on or off the court by either a player, parent, coach, or anyone connected to the player. (Other instances may also arise that could result in the same outcome.) If there is a repeated violation by the player, parent, coach, or anyone connected to the player, they may be barred from future participation in any events hosted by MCB.