

Guidelines for Ngaio Junior Tennis Players & their parents / caregivers



Welcome to a new tennis season. We hope you have fun, enjoy playing, and grow your tennis skills. You may be a new or existing junior club member, have just taken up tennis, or be an experienced player. No matter what level you are at, you should be aware of and familiar with the following areas:

- Ngaio Junior Tennis contacts
- Sunday coaching for beginners
- Ngaio Tennis Club Rules
- Clubroom access
- Booking a Court
- Junior Interclub
- Subs / Membership fees
- Club Champs
- Junior Club nights
- Tennis Etiquette
- Important, but sometimes 'forgotten', tennis rules
- Court Safety
- Some simple Do's and Don'ts for parents / caregivers

Ngaio Junior Tennis contacts

- Email: ngaiojrntennis@gmail.com
- Website: www.ngaiotennis.co.nz
- Dan Tatham 027 208 8499
- Adam Sims 021 145 7179
- Grant Sutherland 021 498 403

Sunday coaching for beginners

We offer Sunday morning coaching in groups of about 10 children in each group (grouped by age usually). Sessions are held every Sunday at the Ngaio Tennis Club during Terms 4 & 1, with each age group having a 1-hour session with a professional coach from Evolve Coaching. This is a great way for kids to be introduced to tennis. Once they get a bit older and more skilled they can move into novice interclub (usually when they're about 10 years old). Note we also have some racquets you can borrow before buying your own.

Ngaio Tennis Club Rules

1. An acceptable standard of behaviour is required at all times, both at the club and when representing the club in other competitions.
2. Only footwear with non-marking soles can be worn on courts.
3. Do not take any food or drink, other than water, on to the courts.
4. No littering on club premises – all rubbish is to be taken home with you.
5. Do not climb on fences surrounding the courts or go on to neighbouring properties to retrieve tennis balls (e.g. do not go on the bank by the stream to retrieve balls. New plants have been planted here by the neighbour and we do not want them to be destroyed).
6. Access to the courts is via the gate at the rear of the courts. The gate combination is changed at the beginning of the season and early in the New Year (and communicated via email to members). The combination is for members only and is not to be given out to non-members.

Clubroom Access

The Clubrooms are only accessible during organised activities such as Sunday coaching, Interclub matches or club days / evenings. However, there is a key in the lights lock box (near the front, sliding door to the clubrooms) if the toilets or defibrillator are required (use the gate combination to open).

Booking a Court

To book a court online you will need to apply for a login via the website:

<http://www.ngaiotennis.co.nz/> Click on the "Booking" link, and then ngaio.skedda.com. Once in the booking site you will need to click on the register link (at bottom left), and follow the instructions.

Once registered you will be able to book courts via the Booking link on the website. Members who have booked a court via the website take precedence over members coming down to play without a booking confirmation.

Please note: If there are 4 or fewer of you wishing to play, out of consideration for others, and bearing in mind there are only two courts, please only book one court. If you arrive & find both courts are empty then by all means use both until others arrive.

Juniors' priority playing (& booking) rights are from 3pm to 6pm weekdays. Junior members (& a parent / caregiver if playing with their child) are therefore free to book and use the courts when not booked out for other activities (eg interclub, coaching, or Club days/nights). Note on some of those days the courts will be booked for junior interclub coaching. Bookings already made will be able to be viewed in the online booking system.

Non-members: Note other than the parent / caregiver of a Junior member (who can hit with their child/ren), then if you wish to bring a non-member along there is a charge of \$10 per session (please contact one of the NTC Junior Committee members to make arrangements for payment). Should the non-member wish to do this more than a couple of times then the non-member is expected to join the club (details on the club website for Seniors). Please respect this policy - the courts and facilities are paid for by members for the benefit of members.

For non-club organised play, (and excluding bookings that have been made online), a 20-minute playing rule applies when the courts are full i.e. if you are playing and others members arrive, invite them to make up a doubles game if you have been playing singles. Otherwise, the first group on court should cease play 20 minutes after the other members arrive.

Junior Interclub

1. All players must be 17 years or younger as of 1 October.
2. All interclub fixtures are organised by Tennis Central.
3. Matches consist of 2 x Doubles matches and 4 x Singles matches.
4. For more information of Interclub match formats, etc, please visit the Tennis Central website – www.tenniscentral.kiwi
5. The Interclub season is held in Terms 4 & 1 (approximately 8 week eachs pre and post Xmas). Matches are held on Saturday mornings (Girls Novice grade only), and Sunday mornings (all other Junior grades).
6. Team practices operate Monday – Thursday afternoons, (approx 3.30-6pm). Ideally players should attend all practices as their commitment to the team. NTC currently employs coaching staff from Evolve Coaching based out of the Khandallah Tennis Club.
7. The Ngaio Tennis Club Junior Committee will select the teams and their decision is final. Where required, some games maybe scheduled to establish the appropriate grade/team for a player. The committee will also take into consideration the previous season's performance of the player and any specific requests.

Subs / Membership fees

Subs (which cover a 12-month period from October-September) are:

- \$110 for up to 11 year olds
- \$125 for 12 year olds and over
- \$100 in addition to the subs listed above for those that participate in Interclub tennis
- Second & subsequent children from the same family receive a \$20 discount on their subs
- Ages are taken from 1 October each year

Registrations are usually taken in August/September each year via the website www.ngaiotennis.co.nz

Club Champs

Every year we hold a Junior Club Champs at the Ngaio courts which is open to all Junior members (albeit this is usually just the Interclub players). We normally hold this towards the end of Term 1 (end of season), and have trophies up for grabs!

Junior Club Nights

From time to time the club may look to hold Junior Club nights (usually on a Friday evening during the summer). This is a chance for the kids (& parents!) to come together in a relaxed social setting and to have some fun! This usually involves cranking up the BBQ with attendance via a gold coin donation to help cover some of the costs.

Tennis Etiquette

1. You must not go behind or on to another court while other players are playing a point (wait until there is a break between points and move quickly across).
2. Introduce yourself to the other player(s) on court before the match.
3. Shake hands and thank the other player(s) for the game at the end of the match.
4. Do not hit the ball back to your opponent if the serve is a fault (hit it into the net or leave it behind your end of the court).
5. The server must call out the score after each point so the opponent can hear it. If you do not hear the score when you are receiving, then ask what it is. This will avoid disputes over the score.
6. Players are responsible for calling all balls on their side of the net. This includes letting your opponent know that they have won the point if:
 - the ball bounces twice before you hit it;
 - you intentionally hit the ball twice;
 - you hit the net while playing a point;
 - you do not play a shot, but touch the ball before it lands inside or outside the court (in doubles this includes touching the ball before your player attempts a shot).
 - Receiver(s) should clearly call any fault served. If you have a problem with an opponent's call then you can ask them to confirm it, but always remember that it is their call and you need to abide by it.
7. Quickly return any ball(s) lying at your end of the court to the server at the end of each point.
8. The server should commence the serve when the receiver is ready and not before.
9. Do not do anything to distract your opponent from playing the point (e.g. calling out, talking).
10. Do not use obscene language, slam balls, or throw your racquet.

Important, but sometimes 'forgotten', tennis rules

1. A ball is good (i.e. "In") unless you are certain that it fell completely outside the court (or service box when receiving). (Note: The lines are part of the court. A ball, which touches the line, even if by the barest of margins, is in.) If you touch the ball in any way before it lands on the ground outside the court, then you cannot call it out irrespective of whether you are standing inside or outside the court.
2. Clear away any balls / other items lying on your end of the court before commencing a point. Any point lost resulting from them interfering with play will stand.
3. When a ball from another court rolls on the court, you may call a "let" as soon as you are aware of it, but will lose the right to do this if there is any delay in doing so.

Court Safety

1. Remove anything on the court that you could trip on (including loose balls) before commencing a point.
2. When serving, do not place the 2nd ball on the baseline. Wear clothing with pockets or a ball holder so you can keep hold of it.
3. Stay hydrated during a game by regularly drinking water. Keep your water bottle by the net post.
4. Use sun-block and wear a cap.

Some simple Do's and Don'ts for parents / caregivers

Parent volunteers run all junior events / activities and you should be prepared to assist when requested.

DO:

- Encourage your child(ren) if they are interested in participating in junior tennis, without forcing them to play.
- Remember children are involved in junior tennis for their own enjoyment, not for that of adults.
- Encourage children to play to the best of their ability but always play by the rules and with a good attitude.
- Praise children for the good things they do rather than criticise them for making mistakes or losing.
- Lead by example and display good sportsmanship for children to copy.
- Acknowledge good performance by both (all) players.
- Be courteous in communication with players and volunteer administrators.
- Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do the same.
- Recognise the value and importance of volunteer administrators and show appreciation and support for the time, effort and resources they put into junior tennis. Without them children could not participate.

DO NOT:

- Coach from the side-line during competitive matches.
- Impede play by standing directly by the court your child is on (the exception to this is Novice and U10 grades where parents may assist with scoring and explaining rules).
- Walk behind courts while a point is being played (wait until there is a break between points and move quickly across).

Please familiarise yourself with these guidelines and encourage your child(ren) to do the same.