PRESENTATION OF THE PLAYER'S PERMIT TO PLAYERS, PARENTS AND COACHES

Tennis Québec announces the adoption of a new concept called the CODE OF CONDUCT, which comes into effect October 27, 2011.

The PLAYER'S PERMIT is derived from the Tennis Canada *Suspension Points system* contained in its rulebook, *The Rules of the Court*, in addition to numerous hours of consultation among Tennis Québec leaders, officials and coaches.

The PLAYER'S PERMIT is an addition to the tools Tennis Québec already employs to better support coaches, players, parents and umpires in their respective roles. This new approach aims to improve the behavior and attitudes of the athletes who play this wonderful sport.

The **PLAYER'S PERMIT** already gives officials latitude to intervene during tournaments with warnings, penalty and game points, and even disqualification or suspension. The Code of Conduct (including a description of the offences) is posted in the *Ethics and Sportsmanship* section on Tennis Québec's website and comes from Tennis Canada's rulebook (pages 81-92).

The PLAYER'S PERMIT will now allow all offences committed from tournament to tournament to be registered and will enable the establishment of a permanent system to monitor player ethics and their respect for the rules. It will make competitors more aware that there are consequences to repeated instances of poor behaviour.

With the new Player's Permit, each violation of the Code of Conduct automatically results in misconduct points based on the severity and frequency of these offences.

Tennis Québec strongly hopes that the adoption of the new Player Licence will encourage competitors to better manage their behavior in a match, and will serve the interests of all those involved in sanctioned tournaments.

PLAYER'S PERMIT : offences and misconduct points

Tennis Québec applies a system of misconduct points that takes into account the seriousness and frequency of the offences. Any offence will result in misconduct points according to the following table. This misconduct- point scale also applies to any significant incident not specifically outlined in the Code of Conduct. In addition to applying on court during matches, the misconduct-points scale also applies at any time and in any place during tournaments, or during Team Quebec tours.

LIST OF INFRACTIONS ➔ ➔ MISCONDUCT POINTS

1. Tournament Entry

Intentionally entering a tournament in an ineligible age group (SA) — 12 points

2. Equipment and Attire

Failure to wear appropriate attire (DV) — 4 points

3. Code of PLAYER'S PERMIT

	WARNING	POINT PENALTY	GAME PENALTY
a. Ball abuse (BA)	0.5 point	1 point	1.5 point
b. Abuse of racquet or equipment (RA)	0.5 point	1 point	1.5 point
c. Physical abuse (PA)	0.5 point	1 point	1.5 point
d. Verbal abuse (LE)	0.5 point	1 point	1.5 point
e. Audible Obscenity (LO)	0.5 point	1 point	1.5 point
f. Visible Obscenity (GO)	0.5 point	1 point	1.5 point
g. Delay of Play (DD)	0.5 point	1 point	1.5 point
h. Best Efforts (FE)	0.5 point	1 point	1.5 point
i. Coaches and parents (CO)	0.5 point	1 point	1.5 point
j. Unsportsmanlike Conduct (CA)	0.5 point	1 point	1.5 point
k. Unsportsmanlike conduct (line calls) (CAI)	1 point	2 points	3.0 points

4. Code of Conduct infractions leading to tournament DISQUALIFICATION

a. Failure to complete match without valid reason (DO)	4 points
b. Default during tournament under the Code of Conduct (DC)	6 points
7 Betting or wagering (or being associated) (DP)	8 points
8 Consumption of alcohol (SA)	From 4 points – suspension
9 Use of illegal drugs (SD)	From 8 points – suspension
10 Aggravated behaviour (SG)	From 8 points – suspension

5. Suspension

Non-payment of entry fees or fines within a 30-day period (SI) — From 6 points – suspension

6. Unreasonable Delay (DI)

Warning	Point Penalty
0,5 point	1 point

PLAYER'S PERMIT : Implementation

- Each offence results in the loss of misconduct points and is automatically added to the player's record.

- Each misconduct point assessed to a player remains in effect for 12 months from the date of the offence and is automatically erased at the end of that period.

- A player who accumulates eight (8) misconduct points will receive a disciplinary warning letter from Tennis Québec including a breakdown of all misconduct points.

- A player who accumulates 12 points will automatically be suspended for three (3) months and cannot participate in any tournament run by Tennis Québec, Tennis Canada or any other provincial, national or international federation. The player will be notified of his or her suspension by disciplinary letter.

- A player who once again accumulates 12 points in the 12 months subsequent to the initial suspension will be suspended a second time – this time for six (6) months, and cannot participate in any tournament run by Tennis Québec, Tennis Canada or any other provincial, national or international federation.

- A player who accumulates 12 more points in the 12 months subsequent to the end of the second suspension will be suspended a third time, this time for one (1) year, and cannot participate in any tournament run by Tennis Québec, Tennis Canada or any other provincial, national or international federation.

Note : An unsportsmanlike conduct (CA) line-call infraction will be assessed to a player who intentionally makes an erroneous line call for their own benefit and to the detriment of their opponent. The misconduct points attributed to this type of unsportsmanlike conduct are doubled. Tennis Québec hopes, with these measures, to encourage the spirit of fair play that must prevail during these matches.

Note : Tennis Québec's disciplinary committee can summon a player at any time, if it deems it necessary.

Note : Within four (4) days of receipt of a disciplinary letter notifying the player that he or she has reached the 12 misconduct-points threshold – and is by that very fact suspended from taking part in any sanctioned tournaments – the player may appeal the suspension to the disciplinary committee in writing.

Note : Only the player involved and the Tennis Québec official assigned to the case have access to the (confidential) information related to misconduct points.

Note : Match defaults will continue to be managed independently of the Player Licence, via the system currently in place [i.e., three (3) defaults entail an automatic suspension of three (3) months.]

Note : Tennis Québec may eventually revise the Player's Permit. In that case, all licensed players will be notified of the changes.