



## **POLICIES AND PENALTIES RELATED TO LINE-CALL OVERRULES PRESENTATION TO PLAYERS, PARENTS AND COACHES**

Tennis Québec announces the addition of an infraction to the Player's Licence, and the enforcement of the new rule as of January 2014.

All Tennis Québec officials register any overrules made on incorrect line calls (intentional or not) in a player's conduct file, in addition to any other infractions found to have been committed.

This addition to the Player's Permit was made to better support coaches, players, parents and referees in their respective roles. Its goal is to improve the behavior and attitude of the athletes who play this wonderful sport.

The **CODE OF CONDUCT** already allows officials to intervene during tournaments with warnings, point and game penalties, even going as far as disqualification or suspension. The [Code of Conduct](#) (including a description of the offenses) is posted in the rules and regulations section on Tennis Québec's website and comes from [Tennis Canada's rulebook](#).

**Registering line-call overrules made by the officials will allow us to account for all rules violations committed from tournament to tournament, 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.**

Tennis Québec strongly hopes that the adoption of this new measure will encourage competitors to better manage their in-match behaviour, and will be in the best interests of all involved in sanctioned tournaments.

## **OVERRULE PROCESS: How it works**

- ❖ Each time a tournament official overrules a line call, it is automatically added to the player's record.
- ❖ A player who accumulates more than one (1) overrule (line-call reversal) during the same match will also be penalized with an unsportsmanlike conduct (CA).
  - **2 overrules:** 0.5 point of misconduct (warning);
  - **3 overrules:** 1 point of misconduct (one-point penalty);
  - **4 overrules:** 1.5 point of misconduct (game penalty);
  - **5 overrules:** 1.5 point of misconduct (additional game penalty) or 6 points of misconduct (disqualification), at the discretion of the official.
- ❖ All misconduct points assessed to players remain in effect for twelve (12) months from the date of the offense and are automatically erased at the end of that period.
- ❖ A player who accumulates seven (7) overrules (line-call reversals) will receive a warning letter from Tennis Québec listing all the relevant misconduct points.
- ❖ A player who accumulates eleven (11) overrules will receive a disciplinary warning letter from Tennis Québec listing the instances of misconduct.
- ❖ A player who accumulates fifteen (15) overrules will automatically be suspended for three (3) months and cannot take part in any tournament run by Tennis Québec, Tennis Canada or any other provincial, national and international federation. The player will be notified of his suspension by disciplinary letter.
- ❖ After the suspension is served, the fifteen (15) overrules will be wiped out and the count reset to zero.
- ❖ A player who accumulates eleven (11) overrules in the twelve (12) months subsequent to the initial suspension will be suspended a second time, again for three (3) months, and cannot take part in any tournament run by Tennis Québec, Tennis Canada or any other provincial, national and international federation.
- ❖ A player who persists in making incorrect line calls and accumulates seven (7) overrules in the twelve (12) months subsequent to the end of the second suspension will be suspended a third time, again for a three (3) months, and cannot take part in any tournament run by Tennis Québec, Tennis Canada or any other provincial, national and international federation.

**Note :** Within four (4) days of receipt of a disciplinary letter notifying the player that he or she is 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 the instances of misconduct.

**Note :** Tennis Québec may eventually revise the Code of Conduct. In that case, all licensed players will be notified of the changes.

Current as of November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021