



SUMMARY – ROVING UMPIRE PROCEDURES

Ten Tips on Roving:

1. Get **specific instructions** from your referee or Tournament Desk (warm-up times, ball changes, etc.) and carry a stopwatch, scorecards, rulebook, draw sheet, match schedule, pencils and extra balls.
2. Make yourself a **visible** presence on your courts. Don't spy from the stands or from behind a windscreen. Get in a position where you can hear and see everything on your assigned courts, near the net post when possible.
3. When briefing the players, keep it **short** and to the point. Discuss only relevant rules and procedures, such as playing under The Code. Coin toss is not mandatory by an official.
4. **Anticipate problems** and stand near the court. Your presence can defuse potential problems. Notify the referee of situations that may keep you on one particular court. Communicate situations with other rovers when rotating. (Codes, foot faults, slow play, questionable calls).
5. **Beware of casual overrules**. If you see a call that is blatantly wrong, you should overrule. When making overrules, calling foot faults or giving code violations, be courtside in plain view and watch both players from the best position to make a call. Be 100% sure.
6. **Know the rules that govern the event** and apply them fairly. Keep in mind the level of the event you are officiating when resolving issues.
7. **Don't be officious**. Interfere with play as little as possible. Allow players reasonable time to sort out a situation. Be available to take charge when you see no resolution.
8. Don't call a shot from off court, even if asked. Confirm close, or **overrule bad calls quickly**. Remind players that they make the calls.
9. While roving, **don't fraternize** with players, coaches, parents or spectators. It's unprofessional and you might miss something on court.
10. **Look sharp and be alert**. Move briskly between your assigned courts.

Tips on what **NOT** to do when Roving:

1. Do NOT shorten the warm-up.
2. Do NOT walk across the court while ball is in play.
3. Do NOT call across courts in play, and do NOT talk loudly next to a match court.
4. Do NOT issue penalties without using each step – CORN (Code, Offense, Result, Name)
5. Do NOT forget to issue a "caution" for borderline behavior.
6. Do NOT forget to stay to watch for foot faults on second player when you have called them on first player.
7. Do NOT make negative remarks of any kind in presence of players, parents, relatives or spectators.
8. Do NOT overrule upon appeal.