



USTA Junior Team Tennis is a national program that is played throughout the country. It is not about the individual. It is about kids getting together to play singles and doubles against other teams. It promotes values you would expect from any sport by fostering a spirit of cooperation, unity and individual self-growth. It is a fun environment for kids where they learn that succeeding is really more about how you play the game -- win or lose.

## Expectations of Individuals Associated with USTA Junior Team Tennis Matches

### **Expectations of Players:**

- Be at matches you commit to. Remember that there is another player from the other team waiting for you to show up to play. Try to attend matches even if you are not in the lineup - extra matches can often be arranged.
- Be prepared. Come with your racquet, tennis shoes and appropriate tennis attire.
- Display sportsmanship, good manners and a gracious attitude, win or lose.
- Be fair and honest with your line calls. Remember that tennis is one of the only sports where you call your own lines. This is a great test of your integrity at an early age.
- Give your best effort, regardless of the score, or the level of your opponent or teammate.
- Be your own player. Look to parents, coaches or court monitors only when you must.
- Do not interrupt play on other courts. Wait for points to end before retrieving balls that may have gone into another court.
- When finished, immediately report your scores to your team coach/manager. Before leaving the court, make sure you have picked up any items you brought with you including balls, water bottles, wrappers and clothing items.
- If you finish early, stay and watch your teammates. This is Junior Team Tennis; you would want your teammates to stay and support you.
- For home matches, if applicable, help your team coach/manager set up and break down nets, lines and equipment.

### **Expectations of Parents:**

- Get your children to the matches. The other team has committed to these matches and is turning up expecting to play. If something comes up and your child cannot play, please communicate this to the team coach/parent as soon as you can so that they can find a substitute player. Do not wait until Sunday morning.
- Support your children, but do so from afar. Tennis is a great sport that can teach kids a lot about self-worth, confidence and integrity. Let them learn while on the court then discuss the matches with them after they have finished playing. It is exciting to see what they learn from match to match.
- Do not make line calls, correct scores or tell players where to serve or receive from. Again, this is part of the learning process that can be discussed after the match has completed. For younger divisions, court monitors will be on hand to assist players with any issues that arise. Players, not parents, may call court monitors if they feel it is absolutely necessary.
- Support all players on both teams, not just your own child. All players need to feel like they are important, and need to be having fun. Junior Team Tennis is about promoting collaboration as a team.
- Be prepared to commit to the entire match. Not all matches will finish at the same time, but your child is part of a team and should stay until all matches have been completed.



### **Expectations of Volunteer Team Coaches/Managers:**

- Communicate, communicate, communicate! Use email or phone calls to communicate information about practices, schedules, match line ups, who is to bring snacks (if any) and any other important information. By noon on Friday preceding the match, please confirm with the opposing team coach via email or phone that you will be bringing a full line-up.
- Arrive for practices and matches at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start time in order to welcome players and parents.
- Have the kids assist you in setting up the courts. You do not need to do this all by yourself. Assign tasks to the players and they will have fun getting things ready.
- Organize and run team practices/clinics.
- Organize healthy drinks and/or snacks for matches. Again, you do not necessarily have to do this, but if you feel snacks are appropriate, designate someone to do this each week. Please do not bring candy, cookies or overly-sugared drinks.
- Set team line-ups for weekly matches and communicate these to your players and parents, ideally at team practice/clinic each week.
- Exchange printed team line-ups with the other team coach/manager before every match.
- Gather all of your players before each match and impress upon them the importance of the Team. Win or lose, the goal is to go out and have fun. Make sure they understand that they are encouraged to root for their teammates until the last match is finished. Instruct them on how to do so properly.
- When all matches have completed, gather your team and reinforce the idea of the Team. Congratulate them, win or lose, and get them excited for next week's practice and match.
- Enter all scores within 48 hours of the completion of the match.

### **Expectations of 8&U and 10&U Court Monitors:**

- Before and after matches, help set up and break down court equipment.
- As needed, provide one court monitor for every two 8 & under Beginner and 10 & under Beginner court.
- A person may not monitor his or her child's match.
- Encourage all players and help add to the FUN of Junior Team Tennis.
- Assist players with court positioning and determining serving order.
- Help kids maintain focus and ensure they are playing safely.
- Assist with scoring when necessary, but first try to let the players do this themselves.
- Do not make line calls, but assist with them when asked by the players.
- Court monitors are there for support and assistance when needed. Please allow the players to play and officiate matches themselves, and step in only when necessary.