Dallas Tennis Association Junior Team Tennis

Rules and Regulations





Dallas Tennis Association

13747 Montfort Drive, Suite 110

Dallas, TX 75240

972-387-1538

972-763-0781 fax

www.dta.org

We Serve. Everyone Wins.

Junior Team Tennis Objectives

- To provide leveled competition in a team atmosphere for boys and girls from beginner to advanced ability levels.
- To serve as a "bridge the gap" program to the USTA Schools Program, NJTL, Hot Shots, and other community based programs bringing youth from entry-level tennis to competitive play in USTA tournaments.
- To provide a "safe" team environment where entry level/novice players can fully understand the rules of tennis and develop habits of good sportsmanship.
- To provide a "competitive" team environment where experienced players can seek advancement through competition at the local level and sectional level.
- To encourage volunteer participation from parents as team captains/managers and possibly assist in program administration.
- To provide a fair program across all local leagues and "to the best of our abilities" across all Junior Team Tennis programs under the umbrella of USTA.

The "Local" and "Sectional" Junior Team Tennis seasons are designed to introduce kids to team competition in a setting that focuses on play opportunities, developing skills, and FUN.

The three priorities of local JTT are to:

- 1. Make it easy to form teams.
- 2. Increase play opportunities for every child.
- 3. Promote level-based play

Local areas are given as much flexibility as possible to meet the needs of their community, while sectional seasons provide some structure to create consistency amongst the divisions that advance to sectional championship.

The regulations in this document apply to USTA Texas "Sectional" Junior Team Tennis and the requirement for teams to advance to any sectional tournament.

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2025 Spring Dallas Tennis Junior Team Tennis (JTT)

Local League Rules (aka CAPTAIN'S HANDBOOK)

I. GENERAL

- A. All players must have some prior knowledge of the rules, scoring and techniques of tennis.
- B. <u>Team Captains/Managers</u>: Each USTA Junior Team Tennis Team shall have a Team Captain responsible for the team and its administrative affairs during the season. **Each Team Captain must comply with the USTA Youth Protection Polices and Procedures for USTA Junior Team Tennis.** Complete the Team USTA training module and acknowledge and accept the USTA Safe Play Conduct, Policies, and Guidelines with a greenlit through the NCSI background check process.
- C. The USTA Youth Protection Polices and Procedures apply to USTA Texas Junior Team Tennis and can be found at www.usta.com/safeplay. All Captains and Managers MUST be safe play approved.
- D. The team manager/captain is responsible for:
 - a. Communicating and filtering information from the league to parents and players.
 - b. Determining the eligibility of the players.
 - c. The make-up and placement of players and teams according to Dallas Tennis Association (DTA) Junior Team Tennis (JTT) rules, and for submitting team rosters and dues through Tennis Link. No refunds will be made after registration is submitted, unless the entire division does not make. Addition of players to existing rosters may be made through Tennis Link prior to April 20th, 2025! (Players cannot be added to a roster after this date)
 - d. Monitoring that players (and players parents) under his/her jurisdiction are in compliance with the league rules at all times.

- e. Report any exceptions to DTA JTT in writing.
- f. Must be present, to oversee the matches, ensure that players observe all rules, and see that there is no outside interference in matches.

II. ORGANIZATION

- A. All teams must meet minimum player requirements as follows:
 - 1. JTT Sectional Track teams 4 players
 - 2. JTT Local Track teams (participating in orange ball) 4 players
- B. Teams (10U Novice & Above through 18U Novice & Above) must have a minimum of 4 (four) players; on their roster.
- C. Team Composition: 18U Intermediate must have a minimum of one girl. All other divisions may be any combination of boys and girls.
- D. Players must play a minimum of 2 (two) regular season matches to be eligible for sectional play. **Defaults are not counted as a match** towards sectional eligibility.
- E. Qualifying lines for each team match are: 4 lines singles & 2 lines doubles.
- F. The number of team matches, is dependent on the number of teams in the Division. Divisions containing 10 or more teams may be divided into flights.

III. FORMAT, SCORING, & REPORTING SCORES

- A. **10U Orange Ball** Will play on 60' court and use "orange" balls and a maximum racket length of 25in.
- B. 10U Orange Ball teams will play 3 lines of singles per round, no-ad scoring. Each team match will consist of 3 (THREE) 20 minute timed rounds with a 7 (SEVEN) minute break between rounds. Players will play unlimited games within the 20 minutes and the number of games won will be recorded on the score sheet.
- C. **10U Green Ball through 12U Intermediate** (10U **green** will play on 78' court and use "green" balls with no racket restrictions). Gender neutral. Each match consists of **4 singles** (in order of strength) and **2 doubles** (in order of strength) Players may play a maximum of one singles match, and one doubles match per dual team match. If a team has only 3 players, it must default line 4 singles and line 2 doubles. If a team has only 2 players, it must default line 3 & 4 singles and line 2 doubles. Match play is 1 (ONE) 6 game pro set with a 7-point tie breaker at 5-5.

TENNISLINK: REPORTING SCORES

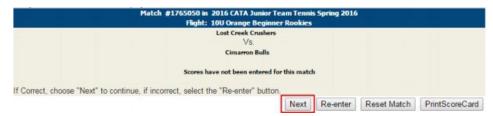
- 1. Login to TennisLink Team Tennis Homepage
- 2. Click Junior Team Tennis tab
- 3. Click Score Entry under My Options



4. Enter Match Number, click Next



5. Confirm match details are correct, click Next



- 6. Enter Date Match Played (mm/dd/yyyy)
- 7. Select match players from dropdown list
- 8. Enter Winning Team Score
 - a. Note: Score must be entered from the winner's perspective, ex. 8-4
- 9. Select winning team into Winner dropdown
- 10. Repeat steps 7-9 for each line



11. Click Next to confirm scores. If a score needs to be updated after scorecard is confirmed, reach out to your JTT Coordinator.

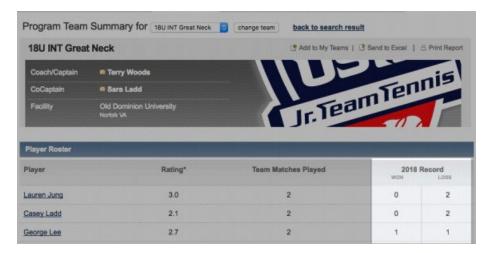
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JTT Stats and Standing Record

On the Program Team Summary page, there is a column under Player Roster for Wins and Losses. This column has been causing some confusion for players and coordinators. To clarify, this column does not represent individual wins-losses but rather represents the team win/loss record. This column is calculated by using the number of Team Matches Played minus the Won number. This functionality decision was made years ago to only show Team matches on the Roster report as the player team match count is used to determine player eligibility for championships. Please know there is an enhancement feature request to get this renamed since it does cause quite a bit of confusion for TennisLink users.



IV. ELIGIBILITY & DESCRIPTIONS OF PLAYER DIVISIONS

- A. Players cannot have a rating higher than the team tennis level at which they are playing, at time of player registration.
- B. Player rating at time of registration is the rating the player may play for the season through the Sectional Championship.
- c. **Age Eligibility** Spring Season Age Eligibility for 2025 will be May 19th (player must remain age eligible through May 19th. *(Example: Player is 14 yrs of age, they turn 15 on May 20th, they are good! However, if they turn 15 on May 28th, that is an issue)

DIVISION DESCRIPTIONS

ITF World Tennis Number rating bands are used to determine the divisions (novice, intermediate, tournament, and advanced)

Division	WTN Rating Band	The average player is:
10U Orange	N/A	A Confident and regular at Orange Ball Player
10 & Under Green Ball	N/A	A Confident and regular at Green Ball Player
12 & Under Green Ball	40-no max	Novice level competitor
12 & Beginner Yellow Ball	40-29	Novice level competitor
12 & Under Intermediate	40-19	Intermediate level competitor
12 & Under Advanced	40-1	Advanced level player
14 & Under Beginner	40-29	Novice level competitor
14 & Under Intermediate	40-19	Intermediate level competitor
14 & Under Advanced	40-1	Advanced level player
18 & Under Beginner	40-29	Novice level competitor
18 & Under Intermediate	40-19	Intermediate level competitor
18 & Under Advanced	40-1	Advanced level player

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V. Weekly league match days

- A. League play will be primarily on Sundays 2:00pm. The entire Play Day draw will be played on the scheduled day with the exception of a rain out.
- B. A player must be available to begin his/her match at the scheduled start time. If the player is not available within 15 minutes of scheduled match time, the opposing Coach/Captain will be awarded a default.
- C. A player may not play more than 2 (TWO) times per team match with the exception of 10 and under orange.

VI. SUBSTITUTES

- A. Substitute players may be used (prior to start of a match) in the event of illness or injury
- B. A substitute should be no stronger than the player for whom he or she is substituting.
- C. Any substitute of a player not registered on said team, within 24 hours of match completion, will result in an automatic default of that line

VII. TEAM DEFAULT/DEFAULTS/INJURIES

- A. A team default occurs when a **team shows up with less than 50%** of the players needed to complete a team match. **If a team receives 2 (TWO) team defaults they will be removed from the league standings and will not be allowed to participate in Sectionals.**
- B. A default occurs when a player is scheduled to play and is unable to find a sub; thus, having to forfeit.
 - a. If a player defaults 2 (two) times during a season, regardless of reason, the player will not be eligible to play for the remainder of the season. These defaults do not have to be consecutive. The player may not be eligible to participate in sectional play.
 - b. Defaults are a form of questionable sportsmanship.
 - c. A default will be scored as 6-0.
- C. A withdraw occurs if a player is unable to finish a match that has been started, because of illness or injury.
 - a. If a player is injured or becomes ill, the player may request a 5-minute time out from the Coach/Captain. At the end of 5 minutes, play must resume.
 - b. If player cannot continue the match is declared completed and both players will keep any already earned games in the match.

VIII. INTERFERENCE

- A. Teammates, spectators, or parents may not volunteer assistance with line calls, scoring or coaching.
- B. Coach/Captains ONLY, may speak to players on the court, should an issue arise.
- C. If a player needs assistance, he/she is to place his/her racquet down to signal to sideline to get a Coach/Captain.
- D. **No <u>coaching</u> is allowed at any time**. Should parental interference occur the JTT Grievance Committee may take action.

IX. RESCHEDULED MATCHES/WEATHER

- A. Coach/Captains will be responsible for determining delays, postponements and cancellations due to weather issues.
- B. Coach/Captains will be responsible for the rescheduling of the match.
- C. If a match has begun and becomes delayed due to weather, the teams must wait 1 hour for courts to be playable. If the courts do not become playable, the match will be rescheduled.
- D. The Coach/Captains will determine if a match is a complete rainout, or delayed, at least 1 hour prior to start time.
- E. The rescheduled match will be played within 14 days from original scheduled date. If the rescheduled match is rained out, the process continues. If a player is not available for rescheduled time and date, that player is required to get a substitute. Exception: If the last match of the season must be rescheduled, it must be played within 7 days from the original scheduled date.
- F. Extreme Weather Conditions: The following weather conditions may subject a match to be rescheduled:
 - 1. If the actual temperature is 40 degrees or below OR the wind chill factor is 32 degrees or below.
 - 2. The actual temperature is 105 degrees or higher.
 - 3. If sustained winds are 30 mph or higher.
 - 4. No match may be cancelled before 12 hours to match time.

X. SPORTSMANSHIP

- A. Ethical and sportsmanlike conduct is expected of all players and coaches/captains. The use of profanity, obscene gestures, slamming balls, throwing a racquet purposely, and habitual bad line calls **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**.
- B. The offending player's Coach/Captain should immediately issue a warning to the player.
- C. The JTT Committee will review both violations and determine if the player will be ineligible to play the remainder of the season, as well as any end of season play. Any special cases will be reviewed and ruled upon by the JTT Committee.

XI. PROTESTS/GRIEVANCES

- A. Problems arising at a match are to be resolved by the Coach/Captains. If a problem arises that cannot be resolved by the Coach/Captains, either may file a protest after the match.
- B. The Coach/Captain must notify the opposing Coach/Captain and the JTT Coordinator as soon as possible that they are filing a grievance.
- C. All protests/grievances must be submitted in writing to the JTT Coordinator within 4 days of the match protested. The JTT Coordinator will notify and copy the DTA executive director and appropriate DTA board member who will then form a Grievance Committee.
- D. The Grievance Committee will review both sides and decide on appropriate action. Grievance Committee rulings are final.
- E. The JTT Coordinator will not take part in any Grievance ruling

XII. DISIPLENARY ACTION

- A. Violation of any DTA Junior Team Tennis rule/guideline will result in a penalty toward the team that the violator represents and/or is affiliated with as (but not limited to) captain, co-captain, player, family member.
 - 1. First violation will result in team warning all captains; co-captains; players/parents; facility managers and USTA Texas Section will be informed of the violation and the warning via email.
 - Second violation will result in team disqualification from any/all post season play. All captains; co-captains; players/parents; facility managers and USTA Texas Section will be informed of the violation and the disqualification via email.
 - 3. Third violation will result in team expulsion from league and all remaining matches will be recorded as defaults. all captains; co-captains; players/parents; facility managers and USTA Texas Section will be informed of the violation and the team expulsion via email.

CAPTAINS' RESPONSIBILITIES and

MATCH GUIDELINES FOR ALL CAPTAINS/PLAYERS/SPECTATORS:

- It is the CAPTAIN'S responsibility to confirm their HOME Courts with Facility Managers.
- The HOME team captain should determine the time courts and available and contact the VISITING team captain at least seven (7) days prior to the match with the scheduled match time and directions to the site. Reserve the appropriate number of courts for two hours. HOME team provides the appropriate number of cans of new USTA approved yellow balls.
- Start with Doubles first (2 lines), then play Singles (4 lines).
- Blank Scorecards are available through TennisLink (See Tennislink reporting scores). CAPTAINS
 go into TennisLink and print out blank scorecards prior to match. Enter Scores utilizing
 Tennislink instructions provided within 24 hours of a completed match. Either captain may
 enter match results on to TENNIS LINK.
- Coaching players by a parent is not allowed during matches.
- Coaching is ALLOWED from OUTSIDE THE FENCE only during change-over, and is limited to 90 seconds, by registered coaches who have completed all requirements by the USTA.
 - o **NOTE FOR ORANGE BALL:** Coaching by designated Captain is ALLOWED, by registered coaches who have completed all requirements by the USTA. We want the kids to enjoy playing and most are here to learn and get better.
- Parents/Spectators coaching from the stands during matches is prohibited.
- Parents/Spectators should not confront opposing coaches/players, before, during or after a match.
- Only team coaches should communicate concerns between each other
- All Eligible coaches must have successfully completed: USTA play-safe program, and background check.
- Each player is responsible for their own match when it comes to line calls and scoring.
- Players should try to work out scoring disputes on court first before asking for help.
- If players need additional help, only their team coaches should get involved to find a solution.
- When a coach disagrees with a call by the opposing players, he/she must bring it to the attention of the opposing coach and should NOT over-rule the opposing players.
- All parents and spectators must stay off the court during team matches.
- Do not sit/go on court during any team match.

•	If you need to give something to a player during a match, only the coach can go on court a give it to the player (during the changeover)

BECOMING A JTT COACH/TEAM CAPTAIN

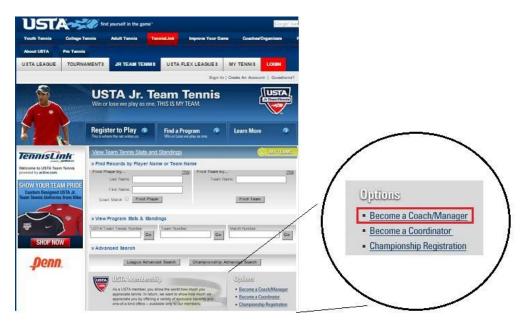
Below are instructions for a volunteer or parent to add the role of coach/captain to your Junior Team Tennis account in TennisLink (note that this MUST be done for a captain to be added in TennisLink)

Note: If you do not have a USTA account, please follow the steps in Non Member Account Creation to create an account before proceeding to the steps below

Note: USTA requires that all Coach/Captains comply with the Youth Protection Policies and Procedures for USTA Junior Team Tennis by going through the Safe Play process. This will require completing a background screening through NCSI (National Center for Safety Initiatives). To start the process please start here with this

Net Generation and Safe Play Help Guide. For FAQs please visit Net Generation/Safe Play FAQ

- 1. Navigate to TennisLink Team Tennis homepage
- 2. Scroll down to bottom of page, click Become a Coach/Manager



- 3. Input USTA Account Number
- 4. Click Submit
- 5. Login with Email Address/Password (should be same Safe Play login)
- 6. Click Login
- 7. Click Submit

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PLAYER 14-18 AND PARENT ACCOUNT CREATION

If you do not have an existing USTA account and need to create a new account, please follow the steps below to create an account:

- 1. Navigate to USTA.COM
- 2. Click JOIN button



- 3. Click CHOOSE for path that best describes you: Players & Parents or Teachers, Organizers & Facility Operators
- 4. To create an account, fill out all *required fields
- 5. Check box to confirm age and agree to USTA terms of use and privacy policy
- Click CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT
- 7. Go through remaining account setup screens

Note: After filling out the information and creating your account you will be automatically logged into your USTA profile. Your USTA Number will be visible on the PROFILE tab. Please write down this number for future reference

If you have an existing or old USTA account in the system but do not know your information or how to login to TennisLink, you can use the Search for Your Account feature outlined below. If you still need additional help please contact USTA Customer Care at 800-990-8782. They will be able to assist you with locating your existing account and check to see what email address is associated with your account as email login in now required to access TennisLink.

- 1. Go to USTA.COM
- 2. Click LOGIN
- 3. At bottom of page, click Unsure if you have a USTA Account? Search for your account link

Unsure if you have a USTA Account? Search for your account.

- 4. Enter in all *required information
- 5. Click SEARCH

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ADD A CHILD ACCOUNT ON USTA.COM

USTA has rolled out a new update on USTA.com that will allow parents to add a child to their account. To do this, please follow the steps below:

NOTE: If you do not have an account in the system, please go to USTA Account Creation before following the steps below. If your child already has an existing USTA account please contact USTA Customer Care directly to get your child linked to your account. They can be reached at 800-990-8782. Please make sure to provide them with your USTA # along with your child's USTA #

NOTE: If your child is in your family membership, please manage your child on the membership page

NOTE: If you have any issues or difficulties, please contact USTA Customer Care at 1-800-990-8782 to get your child's account linked

- 1. Parent navigates to USTA.com
- 2. In upper right corner, click LOGIN

TENNISLINK: PLAYER REGISTRATION

In order to register for Junior Team Tennis team, the parent will need to have their child's USTA account linked to their USTA account. You can do this on USTA.COM by following the steps over on Add Child Account on USTA.com. If you have any issues please reach out to Customer Care at 800-990-8782 or customercare@usta.com to get your account linked to your child.

With the new registration flow, you also have the option to add a child/member of family during the registration process. In order to register for a team, you will need to obtain the team # from your coach/captain or program coordinator. If you do not have this information please go to Contact Junior Team Tennis Coordinator. To complete your JTT registration, please follow the steps below:

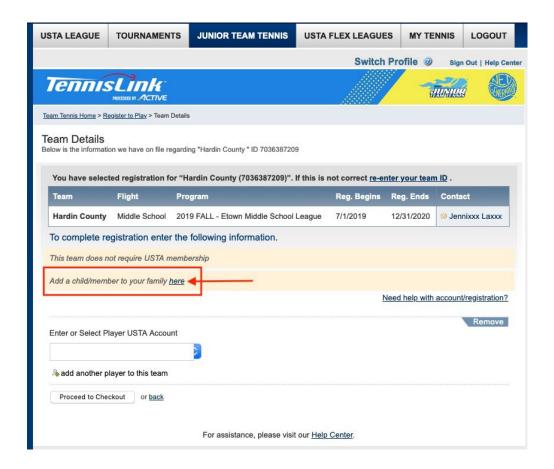
- 1. Login to My Tennis page with Email and Password
- 2. Click JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS tab

JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS

3. Click Have a Team ID? Button



- 4. On Register to Play page, enter Team ID #
- 5. Click Enter
- 6. To Add a child/member to your family click link to be re-directed to USTA.com



7. On Team Details page, Enter or Select Player USTA Account from dropdown



- 8. Click Proceed to Checkout
- 9. Confirm player registration details
- 10. Enter in all *required details
- 11. Enter Payment Information
- 12. Click Register Player to complete registration

DIVISIONS DESCRIPTIONS

ITF World Tennis Number rating bands are used to determine the divisions (Beginner, intermediate, and advanced)

DIVISION	MINIMUM WTN	MAXIMUM WTN
10U and 8U Red Ball	N/A	N/A
10U Orange Ball	N/A	N/A
10U/12U Green Ball	No minimum (40)	No maximum
12 & Under Beginner (Yellow Ball)	No minimum (40)	29
12 & Under Intermediate (Yellow Ball)	No minimum (40)	19
12 & Under Advanced	No minimum (40)	No maximum
14 & Under Beginner	No minimum (40)	29
14 & Under Intermediate	No minimum (40)	19
14 & Under Advanced	No minimum (40)	No maximum
18 & Under Beginner	No minimum (40)	29
18 & Under Intermediate	No minimum (40)	19
18 & Under Advanced	No minimum (40)	No maximum

<u>NOTE</u>: For any Red, Orange, or Green Ball divisions in local or sectional seasons please refer to the playtracker rules and regulations.

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FIND WTN/JUNIOR RATING LEVEL

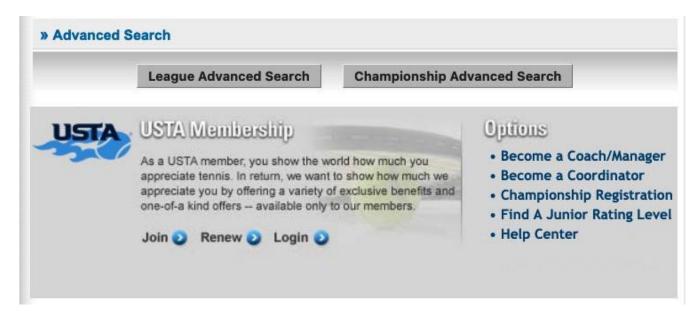
Starting in the 2024 season, Junior Team Tennis players will be using their new WTN (World Tennis Number) ratings The WTN ratings are calculated by the ITF (International Tennis Federation) and updated weekly.

Each player has a singles and a doubles WTN. For Junior Team Tennis, the players SINGLES WTN rating will be used to determine the players level. You will also notice that WTN rating values range from 1 to 40.0 with 1 being the highest.

To locate a player's **WTN** or **Junior Rating Level** for Junior Team Tennis, please follow the steps below:

Note: JNTRP ratings can still be searched through the end of 2022. WTN ratings will be replacing JNTRP rating for 2023 programs

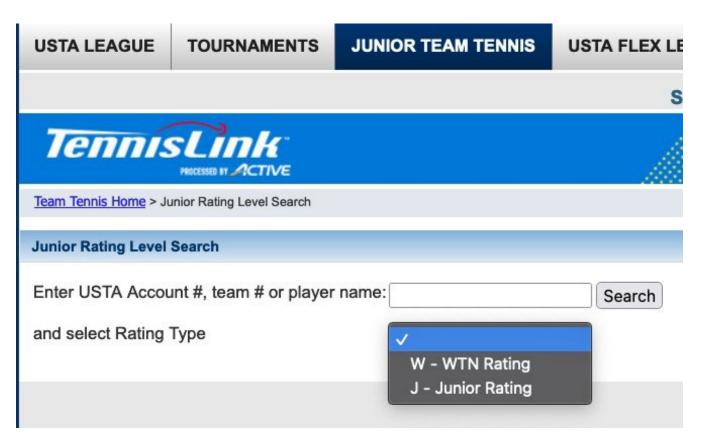
- 1. Login to <u>TennisLink JTT Homepage</u> with email/password
- 2. Scroll down to Options Area



3. Click Find A Junior Rating Level



- 4. Enter USTA Account # or Player Name
- 5. Select Rating Type from dropdown



6. Click Search

This feature allows for National Administrators, Section/District/Area Coordinators, Program We Serve. Everyone Wins.

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TENNISLINK: COMMUNICATION CENTER

Coordinators and Coach/Captains to send messages to participants who have subscribed to receive team tennis messages. To send messages through the Communication Center for Team Tennis, go to Send Message to JTT Participants or Send JTT Message to Players/Captains. To access Communication Center for Team Tennis, please review the following access points based on your role:

Captain/Co-Captain

- 1. Login to TennisLink Team Tennis homepage
- 2. Under My Options, click Teams



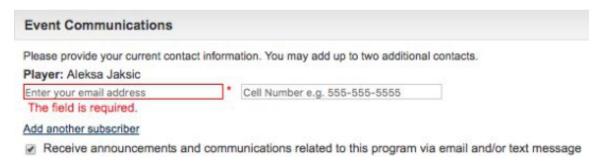
- 3. Click team number
- 4. Under Administration, click Communication Center



Subscribe Team Tennis Messages

There are two ways players and parents can subscribe to receive Junior Team Tennis messages: during the registration process on the checkout page and after registration in their My Tennis area. Follow the steps below to manage message subscriptions through My Tennis page:

Note: While registering, players will want to opt in to receive Junior Team Tennis messages by inputting their contact information in the Event Communications area. This area is located on the checkout page



- 1. Login to TennisLink My Tennis homepage
- 2. Scroll down to USTA Junior Team Tennis area
- 3. Find team, click Manage Subscription



- 4. In Event Communications box, input email address
- 5. Input cell number
- 6. Check box to Receive announcements and communications related to this program via email and/or text message
- 7. Click Subscribe

Event Communications Please provide your current contact information. You may add up to two additional contacts. Player: Paulina Aguilar Enter your email address * Cell Number e.g. 555-555 Add another subscriber * Receive announcements and communications related to this program via email and/or text message SUBSCRIBE CANCEL Manage All Subscriptions

Send Message to JTT Participants

Section/District/Area Junior Team Tennis Coordinators along with Program Coordinators now have the ability to send team tennis messages through Communication Center to participants who have subscribed to receive team tennis communications. Coordinators have access to four different message templates: Custom Message, Good Sportsmanship, Post Event

Survey and Rain Delay. They can also choose to send messages to specific flights, teams, coach/captains or players. Follow the steps below to send a message to your participants through Communication Center:

Note: If you batch registered your teams, these players are not automatically opted in to receive messages. In order to opt-in, parents/players will need to go to Subscribe Team Tennis Messages

- 1. Login to TennisLink Team Tennis homepage
- 2. Under My Options, click CommunicationCenter
 - a. Note: If you have multiple roles, select your role to determine your message recipients

Select your event or role to determine your message recipients.

IUNIOR TEAM TENNIS

Section Coordinator - Southwest
District Coordinator - Southern Arizona
Area Coordinator - 2017-Southern Arizona - area

- 3. Select Program
- 4. Select Message Template



- 5. Input message
- 6. Select Recipients



- a. Note: If no flight/teams/captains/players appear in CommCenter, this means the individuals have not subscribed to receive JTT messages
- 7. Click Send