

Junior Team Tennis (JTT) Update
Report to ATC Board
December 19, 2014

Spring 2014

- 95 players (14 advanced, 34 intermediate, 47 beginners)
- 16 Teams (8 beginners, 6 intermediate, 2 advanced)
- All teams were kept no larger than 6 players, with advanced being the exception but two advanced players didn't play much.
- 25 Coaches when you include assistants.
- Six match season, practices started 2-3 weeks prior
- Format change: went to orange balls for intermediate (50% compression)
- Benita/Bill provided team pictures for every player/coach. Dave Tearpak took the pics.
- Organized red ball play in December of 2013 for 8 red ball players. Eight sessions scheduled (6 were done)
- Promoted a USTA 10 and Under coaches workshop with National Trainer Dave Boone at Calaveras High School. Had five coaches/parents attend from JTT including myself.

Fall 2014

- 78 players (20 advanced, 19 intermediate, 39 beginners)
- 15 Teams (8 beginners, 4 intermediate, 3 advanced)
- Largest group of advanced players we have had. Largest fall season we have had.
- Beginning and intermediate teams of no more than 5
- 22 Coaches when you include assistants.
- Six match season, practices started 3 weeks prior
- Format change: extended length of play for intermediate (70 min) and advanced (90 min). Practices for advanced and intermediate were also lengthened by several coaches to 75 & 90 minutes.
- Advanced played three 30 minute matches within 90 minutes with opportunity for singles and doubles play.
- Played some singles in intermediate due to small team size/absences. Positive feedback on singles opportunities for intermediate players.
- Continued partnership with USTA Norcal. Cost increased to \$17/player, however we earned a \$2200 stipend for on-line score reporting. This resulted in overall cost reduction for the season.
- Benita/Bill provided team pictures for every player/coach
- On Nov 15 & 16, one week after the fall season concluded, 24 players (16 intermediate & 8 advanced) played in a two day tournament. Round robin format the first day and semi-finals and finals 2nd day.

USTA Norcal Information

- \$17/player per season cost includes: T-shirt, certificates, end of the year freebies, two balls per player, partnership with USTA Norcal
- \$20/player annual cost includes: 1 year USTA membership for every child (new players under 10 get a free membership)
- Additional benefits of working with USTA Norcal: free volunteer t-shirts, extra shirts if changes are needed, information on a variety of Jr. tennis opportunities.
- USTA Norcal Contacts:
 - Darren Wenger (Jr. Team Tennis USTA Norcal Section Specialist)
 - Beth Workeneh (Jr. Team Tennis USTA Norcal Section Coordinator)
 - Sofia Donlevy (Red/Orange/Green/Yellow Player Development Coordinator)
 - Summer Verhoeven (Manager of Junior Play)
 - Jennifer Castle (USTA Norcal Area Field Service Representative)
- Recommendation is to continue relationship with USTA Norcal

Some Current Challenges

- Future challenge of volunteer coaches going through USTA screening/safety process
- Logistics/communication challenges as numbers continue to grow
- Some kids dropping from season causing difficulty with team size and match format
- A few coach/parent issues
- Capacity/scheduling issues based on the number of courts
- Player/Coach absences from matches/practices

Looking ahead...

- Spring 2015 dates set and on the web site. Expecting a big turn-out (possibly over 100, will reach capacity). We can stagger match times and lengthen match play time but with during the week practice times there will be limits due to courts and HS teams.
- Find ways to give both intermediate and advanced players opportunity for singles and doubles play. Continue to experiment/offer different formats for play to make the format most effective for kids and practical.
- From a league director stand-point, try to delegate out more tasks to share the work-load and overall tasks.
- Continue to offer Jr. tennis tournament and singles competition opportunities.
- Continue to promote Junior tennis workshop opportunities for coaches.
- Develop possible guidelines for parents and line call protocol for advanced players
- Potentially offer/help promote summer opportunities that build player development at all levels.
- Link players/parents with coaches that can help build skill level
- Recreational vs. Competitive. Providing opportunities for both types of players.
- Two more courts at Argonaut HS would be great!

Amador Junior Team Tennis (JTT)
Participation Data

Season	Number of Players
Fall 2012	46
Fall 2013	58
Fall 2014	78
Spring 2013	82
Spring 2014	95
Spring 2015	?