



Now Open!
Spring 2020 Junior Team Tennis Registration

Early Team Registration Incentive

Team registration is open and LNTA is offering an Early Team Registration incentive of \$25! In order to receive this bonus, teams must be registered with a minimum of 4 players by the deadline of **March 1 at midnight** (no exceptions). The bonus will be paid to the person who registers the team and will be paid out after the first match is played.

If you miss the deadline for early registration you may still register teams (minimum of 4 players) by March 8. If a team is not registered with 4 players by either deadline it is not considered a qualified team and will not be given a schedule. Recommended team size is 6 - 8 players depending on player availability. A match can be played with as few as 3 players and as many as 6.

SafePlay Background Screen

Anyone registering a team must pass the Safe Play background screen (at no cost to them). **This process can take up to 10 days so please start it now.** The video portion must be completed each year and the background screen every two years. To start the process, or to check your status, click here:

<https://www.usta.com/en/home/about-usta/who-we-are/national/safe-play-process-for-junior-team-tennis.html>.

For more information on how to become a Junior Team Tennis manager please click here: http://activesupport.force.com/usta/articles/en_US/Manual_User_Guide/Net-Generation-HELP-Guide

The league coordinator will not be registering teams for managers with incomplete background screens. No exceptions.

New JTT Match Structure and Centralized Play Sites

LNTA has made some exciting new changes this year to our Junior Team Tennis match structure. In order to provide a more exciting match experience for players and a more inclusive experience for parents and families, all JTT matches will be played at two match locations centrally located in Lake Norman. Each site will have a site desk and designated Site Coordinator that will be responsible for ensuring match play runs in a smooth manner to include: court assignments, rules assistance, appropriate player/spectator conduct and same day match score entry. Local League Coordinator, Randall Blade, will share his time between both sites to ensure everyone is having an enjoyable experience. No more HOME and AWAY matches all over Lake Norman! However, the "home team" for the match will still need to provide 2 cans of balls each week. **Each team must still have a pro or parent-in-charge on site.**

Our match sites will be North Mecklenburg Park (16131 Old Statesville Road, Huntersville) and Community School of Davidson Spartan Park (13828 Beatties Ford Road, Huntersville). Matches will be played on Sundays at 12:30, 2 or 3:30pm (no more age specific start times).

Individual teams can still be formed by clubs, parks and parent managers (team parents) but **LNTA will now be able to assign individual players to teams since all matches will be played at central locations.**

A rain text line will be set up prior to the season and all team managers, coaches and parents will be asked to "sign up". In the event of inclement weather this text line and social media will be used to notify teams of court conditions.

Team Tournament and JTT Sign Up Day

(Flyer attached)

Feb 23rd, 1pm-4pm

Fun and competitive team match play for players 8 - 18 years of age

Enrollment for JTT teams and individual players

\$10 participation Fee

LNTA will provide Pizza, Drinks, and Snacks

LNTA JTT League Coordinator Randall Blade will be on site, in addition to other LNTA representatives and USTA NC staff to provide a parent information session and Q & A (Location TBD....check our website and social media channels for updates)

Guidelines for JTT Teams and Players

Junior Team Tennis WILL NOT be using player ratings this year. However, we are including them below so you may see what division your child falls into if rated.

Recreational (Beginner):

Please do not be fooled by this term. A recreational player is considered to be able to overhead serve into a designated box, sustain a rally and keep score. These players are not necessarily "new to the sport", they are just newer to match play. This is not the division for those that have participated in tournaments or higher courts on school teams. (Rating 1.0 - 2.7, if rated)

Intermediate:

Intermediate players will be more skilled and have more match play experience. Intermediate players must do all recreational players are able to do in addition to having more dependable strokes, being able to construct points, sustain longer rallies and strategize. These players have a better overall understanding of both singles and doubles. Tournament players and players that play on upper courts of school teams are better suited for this division. (Rating 2.8 - 3.4, if rated)

Site coordinators will be monitoring match play to ensure that players are competing at appropriate levels. Our main priority is to make sure all players have a good experience. Level competition is more fun for all players involved and helps to promote proper development.

****As stated above, we will now be able to register individual players on teams since all matches will be played in centralized locations. Teams have been created in all divisions offered in order to place these players. Please notify Randall Blade if you are creating a team and are in need of players, or if you are a player in need of a team.**

Age Divisions and Match Format

10U, 12U, 14U and 18U Recreational and Intermediate. Players must not "age out" of the division they sign up for before July 13. For example, a player signing up for 10U must still be 10 on July 13.

10U recreational match format will consist of a 6 game pro set with 7 point tie break at 5-5, win by 2. Court monitors will be on court each week to assist players when needed. Court monitors do not keep score or call lines. They are strictly there for player support.

10U Int, 12U Rec & Int, 14U Rec & Int, and 18U Rec and Int will all play an 8 game pro set with 7 point tiebreak at 7-7, win by 2.

All matches will consist of two rounds of a singles and doubles court. #1 singles and #2 doubles will play first, followed by #2 singles and #1 doubles. This is non-gender specific.

Division winners will advance to the JTT State Championships in Wilmington, NC July 10 - 12. Players must play 2 matches in the regular season to qualify.

Useful Information and Dates

Step #1: Please print off the attached Team Format sheet. This will be a helpful tool as you begin to put your team together.

Step #2: Register your team at:

<https://tennislink.usta.com/TeamTennis/Main/Homepage.aspx>.

If you need additional assistance please be sure to visit our Juniors page on our website:

<https://www.lnta.org/youth-tennis/usta-junior-tt/usta-jtt-managers-parents-corner/>

Step #3: Once registered, send your team number and Tennislink link to team members for individual registration.

If you or your players have any trouble or need help, please contact Ran Blade, JTT League Coordinator: Text/Cell: 704.975.3083, Email: Juniors@lnta.org.

Key Dates to Remember

- **February 23:** JTT Team Tournament
- **March 1:** Early team registration closes. To qualify teams must have 4 players registered by midnight. Cash bonuses will be paid out after the first JTT match
- **March 8:** Last day to register a team with 4 players
- **March 15:** Season starts
- **April 5:** Last day to add players to teams
- **April 12 and May 10:** No matches (although may be used for rain make ups)
- **May 17:** Season officially ends
- **July 10 - 12:** JTT State Championship in Wilmington, NC

Additional information can be found on the LNTA website at www.lnta.org.