

Youth tennis players and parents.

I know it seems like the summer will NEVER get here, but nonetheless, your Junior Team Tennis committee has been hard at work planning a full summer's worth of team tennis opportunities for you. Dig in, this is a LONG email but FULL of information you will need. **There are important differences to the program for the 2019 season.**

We have made some changes this year to our tennis programming. In an effort to provide more playing opportunities for youth tennis, this year the Etown Tennis Commission will offer two different Junior Team Tennis Leagues: a Championship League and a Recreational League.

Championship League

The Championship League is intended for players and teams who wish to attend the state JTT Championship to be held July 19-21 in Owensboro, KY. **Team formation will be led by Team Managers, parents, or players, not the JTT committee.** Players will not be guaranteed spots on teams, but the JTT committee will do its best to put interested players in contact with Team Managers. Teams must consist of at least three boys and three girls, with each team required to play three matches, and each player required to play two matches to qualify for the state tournament. Players on Championship League teams should have prior playing experience and anticipate a high level of competition at the local league level. To play in an age division, the player must remain his/her age until September 1. In other words, a 14 year old must remain 14 through September 1 to play in the 14U division. USTA Membership through 9/1/2019 is required.

The Championship league season will start the last week of May and run for five weeks through the end of June. Matches will be played at University Drive courts. 18U will play Mondays starting at 6:15pm. 14U matches will be played Thursdays at 5:30, and 12U matches will be played Tuesdays at 5:30pm. State Championship is July 19-21 in Owensboro. Sectional Championship is August 9-11 in Rome, Georgia.

18U Match Dates: Mondays: May 27, June 3, June 10, June 17, June 24 6:15PM

14U Match Dates: Thursdays: May 30, June 6, June 13, June 20, June 27 5:30PM

12U Match Dates: Tuesdays: May 28, June 4, June 11, June 18, June 25 (will be played with green dot ball) 5:30PM

If there are not at least two teams formed in each division, the JTT committee will reach out to other areas to find teams to play to qualify for state. **Travel may be required in this case.**

If you are a team manager or parent that would like to form a championship team, please contact Teri Christensen at tlc516@gmail.com or 502-386-1034 for next steps.

Recreational League

The Recreational League is intended to provide team-based playing opportunities for players ages 11 and up, although younger players who wish to “play up” may do so. Teams will be gender neutral, meaning any combination of boys and/or girls. Teams will form along 15U and 18U groupings, but again, younger players, such as 14 year olds, may play in the 18U division. The JTT committee will form the teams, but teams will still need Team Managers. USTA membership is not mandatory, but registration with a USTA account is required. Recreational League teams will not participate in the State JTT Championships in July.

The Recreational League season will be played at American Legion courts and will last for five weeks starting the first week of July. 18U will play Tuesdays starting at 5:30. 15U will play Thursdays starting at 5:30. Depending on the number of teams, matches will be timed matches and last for one hour, with two matches played each night. The format will change each week depending on how many players for each team can play, but will be some combination of singles and doubles. Boys and girls may play each other for matches, as players will try to be matched for play by ability. Players in the Recreational League should anticipate a relaxed, fun, tennis environment!

18U Match Dates: Tuesdays, July 2, July 9, July 16, July 23, July 30, August 6

14U Match Dates: Thursdays, July 4, July 11, July 18, July 25, August 1, August 8

The JTT Committee is offering two leagues to try to serve the needs of both our competitive players and our players who just want to have fun but still play as part of a team. Players may play on BOTH leagues!

Please complete the below survey so that we may get a better idea of interest level for planning purposes.

[2019 Junior Team Tennis Interest Survey](#)