



Coaching Tips – Try to pair the students according to age and level to the best of your ability. This avoids frustration in kids just learning the skill. **Safety** – Make sure balls are cleared away from hitting area to avoid falls. Do a quick ball clean up after each game. **Sportsmanship** - Teach kids to be a gracious winner and loser. Boastful or bragging commentary is not necessary after a match. Each match is a learning process, win or loose. As a coach, praise the effort, don't praise the victory. **Remember you are teaching children first – tennis second!**

Supplies – Red Balls/Foam Balls, Cones, Markers or Poly Spots, Mini Nets or Caution Tape, Painters Tape for Court Lines, Score Cards

Match Play:

It's time to put it all together! Kids will be playing 2 out of 3, four point games. Use 1, 2, 3, 4 scoring to keep it simple. First to win four points, wins. Kids will play on a 36' court with mini nets or caution tape and red balls. Teach players to build a tennis ball pyramid to help keep track of the score. For each point won, a player gets a ball to complete the pyramid. Three balls make the base and one ball on top completes the pyramid and marks the winner. First player with two complete pyramids wins the match. Parent volunteers are helpful to keep players on track. Let kids try and figure out the score and resolve any conflicts on their own.

Options to Start the Point:

Throw the Ball Over the Net: Kids throw the ball to start the point.

Drop By Coach: Ball is dropped in front of player by coach for the kids to hit.

Coach Feed: Coaches toss ball to server.

Drop, Hit: Player drops ball and then hits it to start the point.

Under hand Serve: Ball is dropped from palm of hand onto racquet to hit.

Overhead Serve: Traditional serve hit above player's head. Player can start with racquet touching back.

Focus is on Fun! Tennis is a sport for a lifetime!

