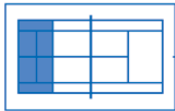
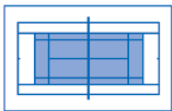
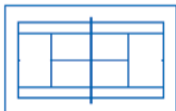


USTA Junior Tennis

USTA Northern Junior Tennis Pathway

Notes on Junior Tennis Pathway:

- The Red Foam ball may be used for indoor gymnasium settings.

STAGE	Red	Orange	Yellow
AGE	5 ñ 8 years	9 ñ 10 years	11+ years
COURT SIZE	 36öx 18ö	 60öx 21ösingles 60öx 27ödobles	 78öx 27ösingles 78öx 36ödobles
NET HEIGHT	2öö	3ö	3ö
BALL	Very Low Compression Red Felt 	Low Compression Orange Felt 	Yellow Felt 
RACQUET	Up to 23ö	23öñ 25ö	25öñ 29ö
SCORING	Maximum scoring is ... 2 out of 3, 7-point tiebreaks	Maximum scoring is... 2 out of 3, 4-game sets using no-ad scoring and a 7-point tiebreak at 4 all. 3 rd set is a 7-point tiebreak	Any scoring system within the Rules of Tennis
DESCRIPTION	Slower balls, smaller courts and shorter racquets enable young players to rally and play much sooner. Players start to play individual and team games and activities, develop good technique and use simple tactics.	The court is larger and the ball is faster than the red ball but continues to provide an optimal striking zone and the ability to implement advanced techniques and tactics. Matches are longer and kids play both team and individual events.	Once players have progressed through the red and orange stages, they will be ready to train and compete with a yellow ball on the full court. To ease the transition to the yellow ball and covering the full court, local programs and players may choose to use the green ball.
SUGGESTED COMPETITION	USTA Jr. Team Tennis Local festivals/events Local and sanctioned non-ranking tournaments	USTA Jr. Team Tennis Local festivals/events Local and sanctioned non-ranking tournaments	USTA Jr. Team Tennis Level 1-7 sanctioned tournaments

USTA Junior Tennis

- The Green Felt ball may be used for local play to ease the transition into competition on the full court with the yellow ball.
- A few players may progress through the above junior tennis pathway faster than their peers.

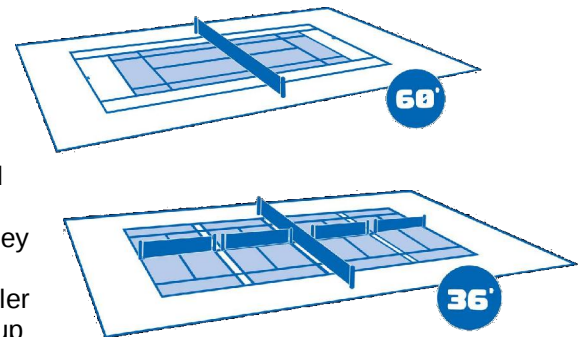
10 and Under Tennis



10 and Under Tennis - In a decision that will fundamentally change the future landscape of tennis in the United States, the USTA passed new rules governing competition for 10 and Under Tennis tournaments. **These rules are currently in effect for USTA**

Northern:

- For kids ages 9 & 10, competition must be played on 60-foot courts using orange low-compression tennis balls.
- Competition for those 8 and Under are to be played on 36-foot courts using red felt balls and nets at a height of 2 feet, 9 inches.



What is 10 and Under Tennis?

10 and Under Tennis, using the QuickStart Tennis play format, is structured for kids to learn tennis and rally and play quickly in a way that is both enjoyable and rewarding. It is tennis scaled to the size of a child, based on six key specifications: court size, net height, age, ball speed and weight, size of racquet and scoring. Balls bounce lower and don't move as fast so they are easier to hit, allowing kids time to get to the ball and promoting optimal swing patterns. Racquets are sized for small hands, and the courts are smaller and easier to cover. Full-sized courts can be reconfigured to accommodate up to six 36-foot practice courts, so instead of waiting in line, kids can spend their time playing.

10 and Under Play Pathway

The Play Pathway shows a potential model of how to get a child excited about tennis and then how to retain that child through levels of play and, ultimately, into competitive play. Kids should be able to move in and out of competitive play opportunities into any of the other three play categories so they can have fun while developing their skills.



Spontaneous Play - An opportunity often overlooked in our highly scheduled society is spontaneous play. This is where kids can learn and play either by themselves or with other kids. It could be hitting balls against a wall or garage door, or by setting up modified courts that fit into smaller or more restricted spaces.

Supervised Play - Supervised play can be offered anywhere in which courts are made available for kids to use under the direction of an adult. The

role of the adult is to serve as the "gatekeeper" and provide a safe area in which everyone has an opportunity to play.

Structured Play - As children develop an interest in tennis, finding an organized program is a great way to improve their skills and provide further development.



USTA Junior Tennis

10 And Under Tennis Play Opportunities

- **Tennis Festival** - An event to attract people with little or no tennis experience to the sport.
- **Kids' Tennis Club** - An opportunity that allows kids to sample tennis through supervised play and interactive activities.
- **Play Days** - Events to introduce competition in a low-pressure setting where results are not documented.
- **USTA Jr. Team Tennis** - A program that is team-based, competitive and open to USTA members only
- **USTA Junior Tournaments** - Events that are competitive, individual and open to USTA members only; results are documented.

Resources for 10 and Under Tennis

In an effort to enhance tennis for the 10 & Under age group at every stage of the game, USTA Northern is offering support to organizers that utilize the QuickStart Tennis play format.

General Support

- Parent QuickStart Tennis Guides ñ educational brochure that explains the rationale behind the format
- Posters displaying specifications for each age group
- Visiting Pro Program for parks, schools, and other community based programs
- USTA Northern Community Tennis Grant (up to \$3,000 award)
- Tennis Warehouse Community Tennis Discount Equipment Program
- QuickStart Tennis Equipment Matching Grant (up to \$300 match)
- Discount t-shirt program for Organizational Members
- Program Registration to be listed in Nationwide searches
- Customizable marketing materials, national marketing campaign to parents
- www.10andundertennis.com ñ info for both organizers and parents
- FREE USTA 1-year Junior Memberships to all new members
- Birthday Club for all 10U members



Facility Assistance

- Permanent QuickStart Lines Grant, covers 75% of cost
- Technical and Advocacy assistance from industry experts
- Grants for 36 Foot Court construction/conversion, covers up to 30% of cost

Training

- Practice Plans and Curriculum Guides
- On-Court Training Workshops

USTA Jr. Team Tennis For 10U Divisions

- Program director guides and best practices
- Prizes for a kick-off event
- Local League Coordinator Stipend/Bonus System
- Up to \$250 for start-up grants
- Priority for the Community Tennis Grant (up to \$3,000)
- Online registration and team management system
- Mentoring program for new providers

USTA 10U Play Days and Tournaments

- Starter Kit & Event Support
- Priority for the Community Tennis Grant (up to \$3,000)
- Sanction fee waived for stand-alone events



USTA Junior Tennis

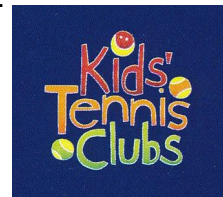
Kids Tennis Clubs

Staff contact: Tony Stingley (stingley@northern.usta.com)

Kids Tennis Clubs allow the "sampling" of the sport in a social and group environment. Offered at schools, parks, youth centers and tennis facilities and similar in structure to organized extracurricular activity, these clubs invite all kids to join in on the fun. This interaction will enhance their social, educational and physical development through tennis.

Supervised and structured play opportunities including the following:

- Recess, lunchtime and open gym formats
- Team matches and ladder play, fun mixers and play rotations
- Field trips to high school and college matches, pro tournaments and events
- Play exchanges with other area Kids Tennis Clubs
- Participation in community tennis Play Days
- Emphasis is on play - with instruction included



Kids Tennis Clubs organizers can be teachers, coaches, parents, and volunteers.

Play Days

Staff contact: Jean Forbes (forbes@northern.usta.com)

Play Days are designed for various levels of players to participate in a fun, low pressure, yet competitive setting. A 2-3 hour Play Day allows kids to have multiple matches with and against a variety of players. Whether the objective is the next step of playing in USTA-sanctioned tournaments and USTA Jr. Team Tennis, or additional playtime for those already competing, Play Days provide an informal yet competitive setting without the threat of elimination. Development and enhancement of skills in a fun atmosphere will enhance their love of the game.



Play Days

- Modified serving for less experienced players
- Low Pressure, non-elimination formats
- Organized by level or flights
- Rotate and play multiple opponents in short, continuous matches
- Play format can vary and include team play
- Provides a fun atmosphere with refreshments, prizes and awards
- Includes a Parent Orientation
- Can be organized by schools, parks, youth centers, colleges, and tennis facilities
- USTA Membership is encouraged but not required
- Good opportunity to promote other programs (e.g., USTA Jr. Team Tennis, USTA Jr. Tournaments, etc.)



Register your Play Day at www.10andundertennis.com/organizer and receive the following items for hosting a Play Day:

- 12 foam balls
- 12 orange balls
- 25 parent guides
- 1 banner
- Starter Manual
- Ability to Access Downloadable Materials (access ends 7 days after event)



USTA Junior Tennis

USTA Jr. Team Tennis

Staff contact: Christine Nickels, nickels@northern.usta.com, 952-358-3290 or 800-536-6982 x 120
www.northern.usta.com/jtt

This is where the net unites us, not divides us.
 This is where friendships lead to championships.
 This is where we teach each other the meaning of honor.
 This is where, win or lose, we play as one.
This Is Our Team ... Play USTA Northern Jr. Team Tennis!



What Is USTA Jr. Team Tennis?

USTA Jr. Team Tennis is the largest junior recreational tennis league in the country. This is "Little League" for tennis. As the players grow in to their skills, the format is adapted to best meet their needs whether using the QuickStart play format or playing traditional tennis.

JTT is a combination of practice and match play with an emphasis on skill development, fun, teamwork and friendly competition. The local season consists of competing against other area teams of similar age and ability level. Teams can then choose to participate in the USTA Northern Championship series with the shot at a National Championship!

Age Divisions

8 and Under	QuickStart Format ñ 36öcourts
10 and Under	QuickStart Format ñ 60öcourts
12 and Under	Novice
	Intermediate
	Advanced
14 and Under	Intermediate
	Advanced
18 and Under	Intermediate
	Advanced

NetKnacks
www.tennisawards.com
 800-374-6153

OFFICIAL USTA LICENSEE

tennis awards • promotional products
 t-shirts • embroidered clothing
 free engraving • quick turn-around



Junior Tennis

Format

- Teams are co-ed and consist of at least six players, three boys and three girls, based on similar age and skill level
- Matches include boys singles, girls singles, boys doubles, girls doubles and mixed doubles
- Scoring format varies depending on the local league
- All matches are determined by total-games won

Minimum Requirements

- At least 3 boys and 3 girls on a team
- A coach or team manager
- A practice component
- Players and teams must be registered on the TennisLink online system

How JTT Benefits Your Program & Players

- Each player receives a one-year USTA Junior Membership
 - Subscription to *Smash* magazine
 - Ability to participate in USTA sanctioned tournaments
 - Access to scholarship opportunities
 - Access to retail discounts
- Access to TennisLink and the online player registration and tracking system
- Team matches
- Equal competition
- Increased program loyalty improving retention
- Opportunities for your team to advance to Area, Section and possibly even National Championships
- \$5 refund for every new USTA member you recruit to your program, if you are an USTA Northern Organizational Member

JTT Price Breakdown

\$5 Section League Fee*

- Local league schedule
- Online schedules, player records and team standings
- Advancement opportunities
- Administrative and marketing support

\$3 Non-refundable online processing fee

- Note: Leagues that charge more than \$33 through TennisLink will pay 7.5% of the league fee + \$.50 in online processing fees.

*** Players MUST be USTA Members to participate.** A \$20 Annual Junior Membership includes a wide variety of benefits. Visit www.northern.usta.com under Membership for a complete list. USTA Northern Organizational Members receive \$5 back for every new USTA member they refer!

Championship Series (Areas: \$10 per player; Sections: \$15 per player)

- At least three matches
- Coach's gift
- Player's gift
- Awards to top finishers and sportsmanship winners
- Travel grants for eligible communities
- Opportunity for advancement



Junior Tennis

USTA Northern Jr. Team Tennis Coordinator Information

Greater Twin Cities:

- Twin Cities Local League Coordinator ñ Christine Nickels ñ nickels@northern.usta.com

North Dakota:

- Grand Forks Local League Coordinator ñ Mike Orr ñ morr@centercourtfitnessclub.com
- Metro Valley (Fargo, W. Fargo, Moorhead) Local League Coordinator ñ TBD
- North Dakota Area League Coordinator ñ Hayley Shibley ñ shibley@northern.usta.com

Northern MN:

- Brainerd Lakes Area Local League Coordinator ñ Lisa Salo ñ wsalo@brainerd.net
- Iron Range/Northern MN Local League Coordinator ñ Gary Conda ñ gconda@yahoo.com
- St. Cloud Local League Coordinator ñ TBD

South Dakota:

- Sioux Falls/Brandon Local League Coordinator ñ Jeff Nelson ñ jeffn@westwardhocountryclub.com
- South Dakota Area League Coordinator ñ Chris Dummermuth ñ dummermuth@northern.usta.com

Southern MN:

- Mankato/St. Peter ñ Local League Coordinator TBD
- Rochester ñ Jennifer O'Hara ñ johara@racmn.com

Western WI:

- Chippewa Valley Local League Coordinator ñ Matt Boughton ñ tennis@eauclaireymca.org

For all other areas, please contact: Christine Nickels ñ nickels@northern.usta.com

2012 Jr. Team Tennis Important Dates

Area Championship Dates/Locations:

- July 9-10 ñ Northern MN Area Championships in Brainerd, MN
- July 12 ñ North Dakota Area Championships in Bismarck/Mandan, ND
- July 12-13 ñ South Dakota Area Championships in Brandon, SD
- July 16-17 ñ Twin Cities Area Championships in five different cities
- July 16-17 ñ Western WI Area Championships in Eau Claire, WI

Section Championship Dates:

- Sunday ñ Monday, July 22-23 ñ 14U/18U Advanced
- Tuesday ñ Wednesday, July 24-25 ñ 14U/18U Intermediate
- Thursday, July 26 ñ 12U Intermediate/Advanced

National Championship Dates:

- October TBA, Surprise, AZ ñ 14U Divisions
- October TBA, Surprise, AZ ñ 18U Divisions

See the 2012 Jr. Team Tennis Regulations Manual and the USTA Northern Program Director's Guide for complete changes/clarifications.

For more information about Jr. Team Tennis, please contact:

Christine Nickels ■ USTA Northern Director of Junior Teams
nickels@northern.usta.com ■ (952) 358-3290 or (800) 536-6982 x 120 ■ www.northern.usta.com/jtt

Proud Sponsors of USTA Northern Jr. Team Tennis





Junior Tennis

USTA Northern Junior Tournament System

Staff contact: Pat Colbert, colbert@northern.usta.com or 952-358-3283

Tournaments are a phenomenal supplement to existing tennis programming, as well as a way to generate interest about tennis in your community. They provide valuable match-play experience that you cannot teach in a lesson or at a practice. If you are interested in hosting a tournament or encouraging your players to participate in nearby tournaments, please visit www.northern.usta.com for tournament director resources. The tournament schedule is constantly being updated and can be viewed at: <http://tournaments.usta.com>.

Levels

- Level 3 ñ (Highest level, 1 tournament ñ USTA Northern Junior Section Event, National & Section points awarded)
- Level 4 ñ (3 tournaments, invitational events (limited draws), National & Section points awarded)
- Level 5 ñ (8 tournaments, National & Section points awarded)
- Level 6 ñ (Approximately 30+ tournaments, only Section points awarded)
- Level 7 ñ (Entry level, approximately 35+ tournaments, only Section points awarded)

Player Eligibility For Sanctioned Events

- Must be a current USTA Junior Member
- Must be a USTA Northern Section resident * (see note below)
- Must meet minimum/maximum ranking point requirements (see below)

Ranking Points

Ranking calculations take into account a player's 6 best results from singles and 6 best results from doubles, making up a player's combined ranking. Tournament entry is restricted based on a player's accumulated point totals. Points from upper-age-group play count down.

The following point guidelines will be in place to gain entry into each level:

LEVEL	POINTS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY			POINTS AWARDED TO WINNER	
	Minimum	Lower Age Group Minimum	Maximum	Sectional	National
3	100	250	n/a	330	200
4	100	n/a	n/a	220	100
5	200	400	n/a	165	50
6	50	100	n/a	88	n/a
7	n/a	n/a	199	49	n/a

Entry into tournaments from September 1 - May 31 (indoor season, Levels 4, 5, 6 & 7) requires a player to have a minimum number of points in the age level of the tournament the player wishes to play in or a minimum number of points in the age level *immediately* below the age level of the tournament the player wishes to play in. Example: If you wish to play a Level 5 tournament in 16's, you would need a minimum of 200 points in 16's to enter if you are 15 or 16 years old (your current age group is 16's). If you are 13 or 14 years old, wishing to play the same tournament in 16's, you would need a minimum of 400 points in 14's (your current age group) or a minimum of 200 points in 16's to play. If you are 11 or 12 years old, wishing to play 16's, but have 0 points in 16's, 0 points in 14's, but 400+ points in 12's, you would not qualify, as 12's is not the *immediate* age group below 16's.

When a player "ages up" (turns 13, 15, or 17), the points from his or her previous age group (12's, 14's, or 16's) disappear and do not count toward gaining entry into a higher age level tournament (14's, 16's, and 18's). For this reason, a player may want to consider playing some tournaments in the next highest age level in the months before he or she "ages up."

From June 1 ñ August 31, **Level 5's and 6's will be "open,"** meaning there will be no point limits on any age group. Anyone will be able to play a Level 5 event as long as they are a Section resident, and anyone, including Non-Section



Junior Tennis

residents will be able play Level 6's. During the months of May and September, there will be no point restrictions for Level 6's, however they will only be open to Sectional residents.

USTA Regional Tournaments

Eligibility: Participants in USTA Regional Tournaments will need to meet the same U.S. citizenship or certain alien eligibility requirements as in all USTA Junior National Championships.

Number of Tournaments, Sanction Periods & Draw Sizes: Four times each year 8 concurrent USTA Regional Tournaments will be held in each age division. Each group of these USTA Regional Tournaments are referred to as "Segments." Tournaments during the traditional school year will last no longer than 3 days and will be sanctioned for a Saturday-Monday date block. Tournaments held during the traditional summer vacation will last no longer than 4 days and will be sanctioned for a Saturday-Tuesday date block. The date blocks for 2012 and draw sizes for each segment are as follows:

- Segment #1 - January 20-22, 2012: 32 singles FIC Draw; 16 single elimination doubles draw
- Segment #2 - July 7-10, 2012: 64 singles FIC Draw; 32 singles elimination doubles draw
- Segment #3 - September 1-3, 2012: 32 singles FIC Draw; 16 single elimination doubles draw
- Segment #4 - October 27-29, 2012: 32 singles FIC Draw; 16 single elimination doubles draw

Feed-in Championship: The singles Feed-in Championship will be played through the semifinals; no finals match will be played.

National Ranking Level: All Segmented USTA Regional Tournaments will be designated as Level 3 National Ranking Tournaments.

Other USTA Regional Tournaments: From time to time, the USTA may sanction other non-Segmented USTA Regional Tournaments. The draw size, date block, ranking level, selection process and other tournament requirements may differ from the Segmented USTA Regional Tournaments. One example is the National Doubles Tournament that will be held in August 2012.

IT'S TOURNAMENT TIME
on the North Shore of Minnesota!

Fisherman's Picnic Tournament
Seniors: Aug 1-2 / Juniors: Aug. 2-3
Adults Open: 3-5

NSFCU Classic Tournament
Juniors & Adults: June 29 - July 1

The Cook County Tennis Association invites tennis players of all ages and ability levels to participate in our summer tournaments on our new tennis courts in Grand Marais, MN.



www.cookcountytennis.org

This activity is supported in part by funds from the Grand Marais Area Tourism Association



Junior Tennis

Tournament Director's Manual

USTA Northern has compiled a manual for individuals that wish to organize and host a tournament. It is available on our website. Click on *Run A Tournament* under the *Community Tennis – Grow the Game* menu.

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Competition Training Centers

Staff contact: Pat Colbert, colbert@northern.usta.com or 952-358-3283

USTA Northern offers each community the opportunity to host a Regional Competition Training Center (CTC). Each CTC is conducted by USTA Northern staff.

What Is A Regional CTC?

The CTC is a six-hour program, generally split between two days. Players receive information on strategy, fitness, technique and match play, as well as the latest information from the USTA national coaching staff.

Participant Requirements

Players must have some competitive play experience. This program is NOT designed for beginning players.

More Information Or To Schedule A CTC

For further information and to schedule a Regional CTC in your area for 2012, please contact **Pat Colbert** at (952) 358-3283 or by e-mail at colbert@northern.usta.com.

USTA Tennis On Campus

Staff contact: Christine Nickels, nickels@northern.usta.com, 952-358-3290 or 800-536-6982 x 120

USTA Tennis On Campus

The USTA's Tennis On Campus program is designed to provide college students with opportunities for team camaraderie, social networking and rivaled competition through tennis without the rigors of a varsity program. Perfect for athletes who have chosen not to make the jump from high school to college varsity, Tennis On Campus offers co-ed team-based play, regional and national championship competition and helps students maintain active and healthy lifestyles through their college years. Currently, the program is offered on over 500 college campuses and services over 30,000 students.



We invite our coaches, recreational professionals, facility directors, physical education directors and athletic directors to join us in our efforts and take advantage of available resources to provide outstanding tennis opportunities for students, staff and community members.



Junior Tennis

Campus Championship Series

USTA Northern sponsors a series of tournaments for intramural players and sport clubs. Six tournaments are offered in the fall with a Section Championship in the spring. The top two finishers at Sections advance to the annual USTA National Campus Championship sponsored by NIRSA, the ITA and the USTA.

Funding And Support

- **Community Tennis Grant** - Grants are available to Sport Clubs, Intramural Departments, Facility Directors and Varsity Coaches to start or expand an ongoing league, team tennis program or sport club that offers play opportunities for the students. Grant recipients must be USTA Organization Members.
- **Campus Championship Series Support**- Colleges that host Campus Championship Series events are awarded a monetary stipend, tennis balls, promotional and administrative support.

Start-Up Resources/Customizable Marketing Materials

Online at www.tennisoncampus.com under resources, there are materials to help with every facet of starting a club program from organizational support to fundraising to new customizable marketing materials. USTA Northern staff would love to help start a club tennis program on a campus near you!

USTA Northern Colleges/Universities With Club Programs

Carleton College, Concordia College ñ Moorhead, Gustavus Adolphus College, Minnesota State University - Mankato, North Dakota State University, SD School of Mines and Technology, University of Minnesota, University of North Dakota, University of South Dakota, UW-Stout, UW-Superior, Valley City State University, and Winona State University with more teams forming all the time!

For more information about Tennis On Campus, please contact:

Christine Nickels ■ USTA Northern Director of Junior Teams
nickels@northern.usta.com ■ 952-358-3290 or 800-536-6982 x 120

Campus Kids Days

Staff contact: Pat Colbert, colbert@northern.usta.com or 952-358-3283

- Campus Kids Days are designed to expose more junior players (and their parents and coaches) to college tennis varsity team matches.
- College coaches will select a team match that junior players and tennis fans in the local community are encouraged to attend.
- Food and refreshments will be provided for all attending.
- Hosts will provide variety of promotional activities such as fast-serve contests, raffles, exhibition matches, autograph signings, etc.
- Attendance, food, refreshments and promotions are free for all attending juniors!

The Role Of USTA Player Development

- Provide staff administrative support to assist with promotional materials, as well as handle questions and paperwork.
- Coordinate dates with USTA Section Staff and volunteer Section collegiate committee.
- Connect College Coaches with Section Staff and Section collegiate committee.
- Promote events on USTA Section Web sites and interact with college team sites and ITA Web site.
- Promote events on the USTA National Web site in the college and junior sections.
- Provide a stipend of \$100 to the varsity program after completion of the event--to defray costs of food, refreshments and promotions.



Junior Tennis

The Role Of The College Coach

- Select varsity team matches for consideration for a Campus Kids Day and submit to the office of Junior & Collegiate Competition.
- Clear event and promotions with compliance office.
- Work with USTA National and Section staff and Section collegiate committee on event promotion.
- Forward promotional flyer, final headcount and receipts to USTA National office upon completion.

Benefits Of These Events

Player Development: Getting more junior players (the future college stars) on college campuses at a young age exposing them to the fun and excitement of college tennis.

- **Increased Fan Base:** Filling stadiums and bleachers with juniors, their parents and coaches.
- **Community Outreach & Advocacy:** Helping build stronger ties between college programs (coach and players), their USTA section, and the local tennis community.

REGISTER TODAY: <http://yourserve.usta.com/campuskidsday>