



MSITA Earned Advancement 10 and Under Rookie Tour



October 11-12

[Tennislink \(850138314\)](tel:850138314)

Atkins Tennis Center, *Champaign*

- Green Ball
- Orange Ball (one day)

November 1-2

[Tennislink \(850135714\)](tel:850135714)

Atkins Tennis Center, *Champaign*

- Green Ball
- Orange Ball (one day)

November 29-30

[Tennislink \(850132614\)](tel:850132614)

Clubs at River City, *Peoria*

- Green Ball
- Orange Ball (one day)

December 12

[Tennislink \(850110115\)](tel:850110115)

Decatur Athletic Club, *Decatur*

- Orange Ball (one day)

Players Earn Cool Prizes as you Advance through the Rookie Tour

- ◆ **Tournament 1: Certificate**
- ◆ **Tournament 2: Frisbee**
- ◆ **Tournament 3: Backpack**
- ◆ **Tournament 4: T-Shirts**

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[Click here to sign up for a FREE 10 and Under Membership](#)



10ANDUNDERTENNIS

10 AND UNDER TENNIS EARNED ADVANCEMENT

www.midwest.usta.com/EarnedAdvancement

WHAT IS 10 AND UNDER EARNED ADVANCEMENT?

Starting in 2014, the USTA/Midwest Section will implement a revised tournament structure for players under the age of 11. This revised tournament structure allows for players to advance to various stages of the 10 and Under Tennis pathway as they show competency within each stage of play while making sure players compete using the age appropriate ball, racquet, and court size.

WHY EARNED ADVANCEMENT?

Players should advance through the various stages with the understanding that this is not a race to the yellow ball, but a process rich in development opportunities at each stage. All children develop at different paces, whether physically, mentally, or emotionally. This new system is designed to accommodate these variations.

BENEFITS OF EARNED ADVANCEMENT

Along with accommodating the progress of each child, the Earned Advancement system also provides the ancillary benefit of promoting goal setting. Learning to set goals is a beneficial habit for all players to develop at a young age. Earned Advancement encourages players to set quantifiable and achievable goals at each stage of the beginning of their Junior Tournament careers and will equip players with a goal setting mindset to carry throughout their lives.

WHAT ARE THE STAGES OF 10 AND UNDER TENNIS?

10 and Under Tennis recognizes three stages of play based on players age and competency. The stages are Red Ball Tennis, Orange Ball Tennis, and Green Ball Tennis.

RED BALL TENNIS TOURNAMENTS

Red Ball tournaments are played on a 36 foot court with red tennis balls and are a great way for players to begin competing. These non-elimination, single day tournaments focus solely on fun, development, and learning the game while helping players become acclimated with the look and feel of a tournament. There are no points per round associated with red ball tournaments, and no earned advancement required to participate in orange ball tournaments.

ORANGE BALL TENNIS TOURNAMENTS

Orange Ball tournaments are played on a 60 foot court with orange tennis balls. Orange ball tournaments utilize a non-elimination format (e.g. Round Robin, Compass Draw). Players may advance to green ball tournaments by accomplishing any of the following requirements:

1. A player may advance on the first day of the month of the player's 10th birthday.
2. A player wins at least one (1) Designated Advancement Orange Ball Tournament.
3. A player participates in at least four (4) Designated Advancement Orange Ball Tournaments.

GREEN BALL TENNIS TOURNAMENTS

Green Ball tournaments are played on a 78 foot court with green tennis balls. Just as players advance from orange ball tennis to green ball tennis, they must demonstrate their competency in green ball tennis before then can earn entry into yellow ball tournaments. Players may advance to the yellow ball stage of tournaments by any of the following:

1. A player may advance on the first day of the month of the player's 10th birthday.
2. A player wins at least two (2) Designated Advancement Green Ball Tournaments.
3. A player participates in at least four (4) Designated Advancement Green Ball Tournaments.
4. A player reaches the Quarterfinals of the USTA/Midwest Section Outdoor Closed Championship or the Semifinals of any USTA/Midwest Section Level 1 Tournament.

GRANDFATHERED PLAYERS

Players who have competed and earned at least 20 USTA/Midwest Section ranking points as listed on any 2013 USTA/Midwest Final Ranking list are not subject to the rules and regulations detailed in the Earned Advancement system, regardless of their current age. These players are free to play any stage of 10 and Under Tennis Tournaments and may also play in older age divisions as well. A full list of grandfathered players for 2014 will be available in early January, 2014 at www.midwest.usta.com/EarnedAdvancement.