

# ENSURE YOUR CHILD HAS A GREAT JUNIOR TOURNAMENT EXPERIENCE

We want to make sure your child has fun, makes friends and improves by playing USTA Junior Tournaments.

Here are some quick tips to get prepared.

## PRE-TOURNAMENT

- Visit the tournament homepage to get event information.
- Familiarize yourself with tennis fundamentals.

### Match Times

- Keep in mind that you are responsible for knowing the start times of your child's matches; the tournament homepage will have all the information you need.

### What to Bring?

- Tennis racquets
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Towel
- Healthy snacks

## TOURNAMENT DAY

### Match Check-In

- Check in 30 minutes before the first match and make sure your child is ready to play.

### Pre-Match

- Remind your child that being nervous before competing is completely normal and running or basic stretching is a good way to stay calm. Most importantly, remind your child to have fun!
- After checking in and once there is a court opening, your child's name will be called from the tournament desk and your child will be introduced to your opponent.



# TOURNAMENT DAY (CONT)

## Prior to the Start of the Match

- One player spins the racquet and asks the other player to choose “up or down.”
- The player winning the toss has three choices:
  - 1) to serve or receive first;
  - 2) choice of side to begin; or
  - 3) to defer the decision to the opponent.

## Warm Up

- Usually lasts 5 minutes.
- Your child should start from the baseline with ground strokes and then warm up volleys, overheads and serves.

## During the Match

- The server should say the score before every point.
- Please ask a court monitor for help if there are disagreements on court.
- Play should be continuous:
  - 1) 20 seconds between points
  - 2) 90 seconds on changeovers (except the first game, when there is no break)
  - 3) Two-minute break after each set
- Remember that only players are allowed on the court.
- Coaching is allowed before the match or during an official break between sets, but during competition enjoy being a fan!

## Calling the Lines

- Remind your child of the following:
  - Learning to call the lines in tennis takes practice and everyone makes mistakes!
  - A ball that just barely hits the line is in. The benefit of the doubt should be given to the opponent.
  - Try to make line calls right away and in a loud voice.

## Respect Players on Other Courts

- Please avoid walking behind courts during play.
- Any help retrieving balls should wait until play ends.
- If a ball rolls onto your court during a point, play should be stopped immediately and the point should be replayed.

## After the Match

- Your child should run to the net, shake hands and say “good match.”
- All scores should be reported to the tournament desk.
- Remember to inquire about the start time for the next match.
- When the competition is over, remind your child to thank the tournament director, referees and staff.

