

Columbia Tennis League for Kids
In conjunction with USA Team Tennis
General Guidelines for Fall 2007

This is Columbia Tennis League for Kids. Our goal is to promote and support kids as they begin on a lifetime of playing tennis.

There are six divisions: 12 & Under Intermediates; 12 & Under Advanced; 14 & Under Intermediate; 14 & Under Advanced; 18 & Under Intermediate; and 18 & Under Advanced. Eligibility for State and Sectional events is based on participant's age at the time of the tournament. Contact Christy or Debbie for questions or clarification.

There are two levels of play based on JNTRP guidelines. The **Intermediate** division will have players with skill levels 1.0 – 3.0. The Advanced division should have skill levels 3.5 – 5.0. **A player with a high State Ranking must obtain permission from the CTL Coordinator in order to play in the Intermediate divisions.**

All players on teams proceeding to state, must have a minimum of 3 matches in Tennislink.

Each team will determine a clinic/practice schedule.

Team Rosters are due on Tennislink by Sept. 5th 2007 and must have a minimum of 8 players.

The season will begin Friday, Sept. 28th. Players may be added to the roster until October 26th.

Play day will be Fridays at **4:30**, with Rain makeup on Thursdays @ 4:30. (Coaches can BOTH agree to play makeup match at alternate date, time, & location)

Scores will be accumulative. For example: After the all matches played, the score might be 18-12. Please post your scores on Tennislink within 48 hours of the match. Either team can post results but please discuss who is going to do so, and post them within 48 hours of the match. A paper scorecard must be exchanged prior to the match and both coaches must sign the scorecard at the end of the match. There is no need to mail this card in, but please try to save these scorecards in case a dispute arises.

Coaching is allowed during changeovers but only by the coach or substitute coach. **Coaching by parents is NOT ALLOWED!** Coaches/Spectators should not assist in making line calls or keeping score. We suggest prior to the start of each match, both coach's address the parents and tell them that coaching is permissible by the coach or substitute coach ONLY. In the beginner divisions, both coaches may agree to ask a parent to help on the court with scoring or different aspects of the game.

General Guidelines

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Teams should have a roster of 10-14 players. Please try to keep the numbers in that range. If you have too many kids for one team, let's discuss a second team. Any teams that win at the state level and qualify for Sectionals will only be allowed to have ten (10) players on the roster.

League fee is twenty (\$24.00) dollars per player plus a \$2 Tennislink fee. All players must be a member of USTA. A junior membership is available for \$15.00 for one year and \$40.00 for three years. This includes the USTA magazines and allows the player to play in sanctioned tournaments. Another option is to add the player on with the parents. A family membership for one year is \$55.00 or for three years is \$150.00. If the parents currently have individual memberships, they can get a pro-rated refund. The number for USTA is 1(800) 990-8782.

The League provides T-shirts (with the club/team name), balls for home matches, a USTA gift, and the administration services.

If necessary, after the fall 2007 season, we will have city playoffs to determine the winning team from each division and they will proceed to the State Tournament to be held Summer 2008.

Awards will be given to the division winners.

Columbia Tennis League for Kids
League Coordinator - Sandra Grooms 781-0606
Kids League Coordinator - Kathy Foster 479-5465

August 2007

Dear Parents:

Welcome to the Columbia Tennis League's KIDS LEAGUE. Thank you for allowing your child to participate this fall. With the best interest of our children in mind, we are asking that parents refrain from coaching or commenting to players while on court and participating in a match. If intervention is necessary, we must insist that it be handled by the coaches only. An exception may be made if the coach requests a parent to supervise a match, particularly at the beginner level when the players made need extra help.

We understand that it is very exciting to watch your child engage in an organized sport, but we have found that it is best to leave it to the coaches to handle the situations that may arise during match play.

We also know how hard it is to have your child WINNING the match and then give away the next four games and possibly the match because they did not keep up with the score. This is part of the learning process for our young players and a pain that most parents must endure.

Congratulate your child after a match whether they win or loose and save the critiquing for later. A child walking off the court after a hard fought match doesn't need to hear everything they did wrong but words of encouragement and praise.

Please feel free to contact me if you have concerns or questions about the CTL Kid's League. Thank you for your cooperation this season and I hope that your child develops a love for this great sport.

COACH!

Thank you for coaching this 2007 fall season. Kathy Foster has agreed to take over the CTL Kids League Program. I will still be available and helping Kathy for this season. Please email me or Kathy with any questions, problems, or great suggestions. Kathy and I look forward to working with you and your team and appreciate all you do for the Columbia Tennis League's Kids League.

If you have "retired" but found another great coach, please pass this information on to him/her. If you are unable to find a replacement, please give me a call asap.

Please remember, the t-shirt order should be emailed, faxed or called to me by September 5th .

Ktf1963@bellsouth.net

Phone numbers: 479-5465 or 738-3792

THANKS again for coaching!
Christy Britt & Kathy Foster

Columbia Tennis League for Kids

League Coordinator - Sandra Grooms 781-0606

Kids Coordinators -Kathy Foster 479-5465

August 2007

Dear Coaches:

The mission for this league is *to promote the game of tennis as a lifetime sport and to provide a competitive arena for children ages 7 to 18 from the beginner to the advanced player.* We need to remember that this league is for the children and our goal is to make decisions with their best interest in mind.

Please plan to pick up your schedules, tennis balls, gifts and t-shirts on Friday, September 21st at Rockbridge Club. Call Kathy at 479-5465.

You will receive the following:

- Your schedule and enough copies to give out to your team;
- A copy of all the other divisions schedules;
- Instructions for posting scores on Tennislink;
- Balls for home matches; (use 4 cans per home match)
- Shirts, and
- USTA gift

Thanks for working with the kids this fall and we hope your team has a great season.

Kathy Foster

Columbia Tennis League for Kids
League Coordinator - Sandra Grooms 781-0606
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August 2007

Six Divisions for the fall 2007 season

The six divisions this fall are:

1. 12 & under Intermediate -- levels 1.0 through 3.0
(This division is for beginners to intermediates)
2. 12 & under Advanced -- levels 3.5 through 5.0
(This division is for intermediates to advanced)
3. 14 & under Intermediate -- levels 1.0 through 3.0
(This division is for beginners to intermediates)
4. 14 & under Advanced -- levels 3.5 through 5.0
(This division is for intermediates to advanced)
5. 18 & under Intermediate - levels 1.0 through 3.0
(This division is for beginners to intermediates)
6. 18 & under Advanced - levels 3.5 through 5.0)

For all divisions

- Players must have a minimum of three (3) matches to advance to the State Competition.

For all divisions EXCEPT 18 & under

- The format for all divisions except for 18 & under will be: a girl's singles, a boy's singles, a girl's doubles, a boy's doubles, and a mixed doubles. Please match up any players after these matches in order for all to play. If your team does not have as many players as the opposing team, please ask your kids to play a second match.
- A team with five or less girls or five or less boys on the roster is allowed to play a player more than once in order to prevent a forfeit.
- This is to be used ONLY to avoid a forfeit and not to strengthen a match. A player cannot play more than twice during a team match. If you have four

girls or four boys at a match, one player cannot play twice while one girl or boy sits out.

- Boys may not be substituted for girls and girls may not be substituted for boys in the 12-under Intermediate division.
- If the teams are tied at the conclusion of a match, the mixed doubles team goes back on court to play a twelve-point tiebreaker.

As to the 12 & Under (Intermediate & Advanced) and 14 & Under (Intermediate) Divisions

- Match play will be one set, no-add scoring with a twelve-point tiebreaker at 5 all.
- Due to some teams that have a disproportion number of boys or girls this season, we are going to allow substitutions in these divisions except in the 12-under Intermediate. Coaches are allowed to sub girls for boys or boys for girls in order to expedite the match. Please be considerate and talk this over with the opposing coach and try to match skill level whenever possible. THIS RULE IS NOT INTENDED TO STRENGTHEN THE MATCH.
- If a player has not learned to serve, they can either move up to the service line and/or drop to hit it over.

As to the 14 & Under (Advanced) and 18 & Under Divisions

- These divisions will play one pro set with regular scoring and a twelve-point tiebreaker at 7 all.

ALL DIVISIONS

- Matches played on Fridays at 4:30 pm;
- Rain makeup is Thursdays at 4:30 pm unless both coaches agree to an alternate date, time, and place;
- Coaching is allowed during the changeovers by the coach or alternate coach only. Parents are not allowed to coach, call lines, or help with the score;
- The home team provides the balls;
- Proper tennis shoes must be worn and this will be enforced.
- If two teams both have a home match, they need to equally share the available courts. If there are an odd number of courts, you can flip a coin.

Tennislink Instructions

USA Team Tennis Registration

Fall 2007

For **Coaches** to create teams:

- Tennislink can be found by going to www.columbiatennisleague.org and then click on the Tennislink icon (top left)
- Click on USA Team Tennis under Tennislink
- Click on Team Tennis (enter now)
- Click on Become a Coach or Captain
- Fill in the questions including a password (**please remember this password!**)
- After filling in questions, you will be given an ID log in number and your password
- Click okay to create team
- Type of Program will be Youth
- Section will be Southern
- District is South Carolina
- Area is Columbia CTL
- Click GO
- Fill in division and other required fields
- After creating a team, you will give your players the team ID number for them to sign up themselves

Tennislink Instructions

For **Players** to register on teams:

- Tennislink can be found by going to www.columbiatennisleague.org and then click on the Tennislink icon (top left)
- Click on USA Team Tennis under Tennislink
- Click on Team Tennis (enter now)
- Click on Register for a Team (top right)
- If you have a USTA # enter it here
- If you do not have a USTA #, click on don't have a number
- Fill out your information and click save
- Make sure you note your team number is different from your registration number
- Enter your team number (given to you by your coach or captain)
- Click on search to enter School
- Enter name of school, State & School and then click search
- Click on school name
- If you don't see your school, you may add it
- Click "Proceed to Checkout" after you entered in your number, your team number, and school name
- Pay with a credit card

Columbia Tennis League for Kids

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Kid's League Coordinator - Kathy Foster 479-5465

Fall Rosters will be on Tennislink and
Deadline for team registration is September 5th
Fall Season begins Friday, September 28th
Players may be added until October 26th

Coaches must email t-shirt sizes for all players signed up in tennislink by Wednesday, Sept. 5th to Ktf1963@bellsouth.net. Coaches and assistant coaches will also receive shirts so please include those sizes. You may also call your t-shirt order in at 479-5465.

Enclosed is information regarding the Columbia Tennis League's USA Team Tennis for Kids. We had a great 2007 spring season and hope you will participate in the upcoming falls season.

Congratulations to the winning teams who advanced to the State Tournament this summer!!

14- under Intermediate - Gregg Park
Coached by Melissa Prickett

12-under Beginner - Spring Valley
Coached by Heather McGuirt

14-under Advanced - Rockbridge Stars
Coached by Sunny Reeves

18- under Advanced - Wildewood Strung Out
Coached by Doug Snyder

18-under Intermediate - Wildewood Crush
Coached Gary Kocher

Congratulations to Wildewood Crush & Wildewood Strung Out for winning State and advancing to Sectionals

Kathy Foster

THE JUNIOR NATIONAL TENNIS RATING PROGRAM
(JNTRP)
2007 - 2008

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF VARIOUS PLAYING LEVELS

- 1.0 - PLAYER IS JUST STARTING TO PLAY TENNIS AND IS LEARNING THE BASIC SKILLS AT SERVING, FOREHANDS, BACKHANDS AND VOLLEYS.
- 1.5 - PLAYER IS ONLY SLIGHTLY MORE ADVANCED THAN A 1.0 PLAYER
PLAYER NEEDS TO COORDINATE MOVING WHEN HITTING THE BALL. IN FACT PLAYER IS STILL CONCENTRATING ON GETTING THE BALL OVER THE NET FROM A STATIONARY POSITION. PLAYER IS LEARNING TO SERVE AND KEEP SCORE.
- 2.0 - PLAYER IS NOW BEGINNING TO COORDINATE FOOTWORK WHEN CONTACTING THE BALL BUT IS NOT CONSISTENT IN HITTING THE BALL OVER THE NET. PLAYER CAN SERVE TO SOME DEGREE BUT DOUBLE FAULTS FREQUENTLY. PLAYER UNDERSTANDS SCORING AS WELL AS CORRECT POSITIONS FOR SERVING AND RECEIVING. PLAYER HAS LIMITED SUCCESS WITH VOLLEYS BUT HAS KNOWLEDGE OF COURT POSITIONING IN BOTH SINGLES AND DOUBLES PLAY.
- 2.5 - PLAYER IS ABLE TO JUDGE WHERE THE BALL IS GOING. PLAYER CAN SUSTAIN A SLOW PACED RALLY OF SEVERAL SHOTS WITH SOMEONE OF THE SAME ABILITY USING BOTH FOREHAND AND BACKHAND SIDES AND CAN VOLLEY WITH MODERATE SUCCESS. PLAYER CAN KEEP SCORE UNASSISTED, CAN CALL OWN LINES, CAN SERVE OVERHAND FROM THE BASELINE AND HAS AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE BASIC RULES.
- 3.0 - PLAYER IS GETTING BETTER AT MOVING TO THE BALL AND IS IMPROVING COURT COVERAGE; CAN SUSTAIN A RALLY WITH CONSISTENCY ON SLOW TO MODERATE PACED SHOTS. PLAYER SERVES WITH FAIR CONSISTENCY WITH FEW DOUBLE FAULTS. ON GROUND STROKES, PLAYER NEEDS TO IMPROVE CONTROL OF HEIGHT, DEPTH, DIRECTION AND SPEED CONTROL. PLAYER ATTEMPTS TO MOVE OPPONENT FROM SIDE TO SIDE AND HIT TO THE OPPONENT'S WEAKNESS.
- 3.5 - PLAYER CAN SUSTAIN A RALLY AND IS BEGINNING TO DEVELOP DIRECTIONAL CONTROL AND DEPTH OF GROUND STROKES. PLAYER IS STARTING TO RECOGNIZE OPPORTUNITIES TO ATTACK SHORT BALLS COMING TO THE NET. PLAYER IS DEVELOPING MORE SPIN AND POWER ON THE SERVE AND SELDOM DOUBLE FAULTS. PLAYER IS BECOMING MORE AGGRESSIVE AND APPLYING BASIC STRATEGY IN SINGLES AND USING TEAMWORK IN DOUBLES.

- 4.0 - PLAYER HAS DEPENDABLE STROKES, INCLUDING DIRECTIONAL CONTROL AND DEPTH ON HIGHER- PACED SHOTS AND HAS GOOD COURT COVERAGE. PLAYER HAS ADDED VARIETY IN SHOT SELECTION BY USING LOBS, OVERHEADS, VOLLEYS AND APPROACH SHOTS WITH SOME SUCCESS. PLAYER IS DEVELOPING A GAME PLAN, IS SERVING WITH GOOD CONSISTENCY AND IS NOW FORCING SOME ERRORS WITH POWER AND/OR SPIN. PLAYER DEMONSTRATES GOOD TEAMWORK IN DOUBLES.
- 4.5 - PLAYER HAS A VERY DEPENDABLE GAME AND EXECUTES MOST SHOTS CONSISTENTLY ON HIGHER- PACED SHOTS. PLAYER'S COURT COVERAGE AND FOOTWORK ARE SOUND AND HAS BEGUN TO MASTER THE USE OF POWER AND SPINS. PLAYER CAN VARY DEPTH OF SHOTS AND GAME PLAN ACCORDING TO OPPONENTS. PLAYER'S FIRST SERVE MAY PRODUCE SOME WINNERS AND SECOND SERVES ARE HIT WITH GOOD SPIN AND PLACEMENT. PLAYER CAN BE AGGRESSIVE IN BOTH SINGLES AND DOUBLES AND COVERS WEAKNESSES WELL. PLAYER IS DEVELOPING AN OFFENSIVE WEAPON.
- 5.0 - PLAYER HAS GOOD SHOT ANTICIPATION AND FREQUENTLY HAS AN OUTSTANDING SHOT OR WEAPON AROUND WHICH A GAME MAY BE STRUCTURED. PLAYER CAN REGULARLY HIT WINNERS OR FORCE ERRORS ON SHORT BALLS AND IS CAPABLE OF ALL SHOTS. PLAYER'S FIRST SERVE IS AN OFFENSIVE WEAPON AND OFTEN ALLOWS RUSHING THE NET AFTER THE FIRST OR SECOND SERVE. VOLLEYS AND OVERHEAD SMASHES ARE TYPICALLY WINNING SHOTS. PLAYER IS MATCH WISE AND USES SHOTS THAT HAVE A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF SUCCESS IN BOTH SINGLES AND DOUBLES.

(LISA MCCARTHY 1999-2000)