To: Southeastern Michigan Tennis Players, Parents & Coaches

Welcome to the world of tennis! This Junior Handbook has been prepared in an effort to provide you with general information as you start down the path of recreational and competitive tennis in Southeastern Michigan—and possibly beyond. It is intended to give you a basic foundation of the United States Tennis Association and its programs, and also to provide you with the groundwork for junior recreational and competitive tennis specific to the Southeastern Michigan District. While our district specific information is extensive, we will also give you some general information on competitive tennis within the Midwest Section and touch on National information, where applicable.

While every effort has been made to give you the most up-to-date information, you should always visit our district website for the most current tournament schedules, etc. (www.semich.usta.com). If you have additional questions regarding either recreational or competitive tennis that were not covered in this handbook, please call our district office at (734) 421-1025.

Wishing you the best in tennis,

Zori Duda,
Executive Director
United States Tennis Association
Southeastern Michigan District
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The United States Tennis Association (USTA) is a non-profit organization formed in 1881 as the world’s first national governing body for tennis. The idea was to standardize the rules and regulations of tennis to help develop the sport. The USTA owns and operates the US Open, which is one of four international Grand Slam tennis tournaments (the others being the Australian Open, Roland Garros [the French Open] and Wimbledon). The US Open, held in New York City at the end of August, is the highest attended annual sporting event in the world and generates most of the money used by the USTA to help complete our mission, which is to promote and grow the game of tennis in the United States.

Our organization encompasses all 50 states and Puerto Rico, and is broken down into 17 sections. Our Section—Midwest, encompasses the states of Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. The Midwest Section is further broken down into 14 Districts. Our District—Southeastern Michigan, encompasses the counties of Hillsdale, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw and Wayne. Over 10,000 youth and adults are members of our District. While we are not the largest district in population, we do boast two of the largest programs in the Midwest Section—our Adult League and Junior Team Tennis Programs. During the past several years, we have enlarged our focus of tennis to be all-encompassing. From grassroots tennis programs, including wheelchair and special population, physical education in-services, after-school tennis in the gym, and assisting with community-based tennis program funding; to USTA Jr. Team Tennis, Junior Tournaments, Competitive Training Centers, Tennis on Campus; and finally to Adult Leagues, which include programs for players ages 19-90; we truly have a way to involve you in tennis regardless of your age or ability—for the fun of it! Tennis truly is “the sport of a lifetime”!
Junior Tennis Pathway

Try Component

USTA School Tennis Program

Learn & Play Component

National Junior Tennis League (NJTL)

USTA Jr. Team Tennis 10 & Under Tennis Pathway

Play & Compete Component

USTA Jr. Team Tennis
Advanced Division
Intermediate Division

Middle School, High School & Collegiate Tennis

Junior Tournament Structure

Tennis On Campus
USTA 10 & UNDER TENNIS

10 and Under Tennis using the QuickStart Tennis play format takes a new and better approach to introducing kids to the game. 10 and Under Tennis follows almost every other youth sport and uses racquets, balls and courts that are sized right for kids so that they enjoy the game right from the start. Balls are lower in compression; they bounce lower and don't move as fast so they are easier to hit. This allows kids time to get to the ball and helps them develop optimal swing patterns. Racquets are sized for small hands, and the courts are smaller and easier to cover. Even the scoring format is simplified. All that equals more fun and less frustration. Once they begin to rally, they start developing the skills and tactics they'll use as they grow bigger and stronger and move up to longer racquets and larger courts. For a more detailed description of the 10 & Under Pathway, see page 9. For more information on 10 & Under Tennis, including Tennis Festivals, Kids Tennis Clubs, Play Days, Court Layouts, Workshops and Equipment Suppliers, visit: www.10andundertennis.com.

USTA SCHOOL TENNIS

Arthur Ashe's philosophy at the inception of the USTA School Tennis program in 1985 remains unchanged today, “USTA School Tennis is meant to introduce the sport to kids who would not ordinarily belong to clubs and may not be able to afford lessons.” USTA School Tennis is dedicated to introducing children and youth to our great sport in the schools. With increased resources, and the full support of the USTA Southeastern Michigan District, USTA School Tennis is reaching out to more kids, in more schools, than ever before.

USTA Southeastern Michigan District staff can show physical education teachers how to transform a school gym or playground into a tennis court, where students take part in a progressive series of drills and activities designed to develop basic tennis skills. By providing easy-to-use curriculum materials and equipment (including racquets and balls), we make adding tennis in your gym class simple and fun!

The critical element of USTA School Tennis is to introduce students to the basic skills of tennis during physical education class. The next step is to encourage them to join an after school program and then join a local USTA Jr. Team Tennis program.

USTA COMMUNITY TENNIS

♦ Recreational Coach and 10 & Under Workshops

Our Recreational Workshops are interactive, on-court training programs designed for tennis teachers and coaches working with players at the recreational level. Taught by a specially trained, certified teaching professional, these active 3.5 to 6-hour sessions are excellent primers for new coaches as well as a valuable refresher courses for those with teaching experience but who seek more current methods and effective tools, such as: parents seeking the basics in coaching and organizing team tennis, Park and Recreation instructors, high school, and seasonal coaches, coaches teaching kids and adults who
are new to the game, or current players seeking part-time teaching jobs. In Southeastern Michigan, we host a variety of Recreational and High Performance Workshops annually for little or no cost to nationally awarded number of participants.

- **Wheelchair and Special Populations Tennis**
  Tennis is a sport without boundaries. Yes, there are lines on the court, but they aren't there to exclude anyone, regardless of disability. The Southeastern Michigan District constantly strives to work with both Wheelchair and Special Populations to introduce the sport of tennis. Wheelchair tennis provides people with disabilities the opportunity to share in activities with their peers and family, whether able-bodied or disabled. Playing wheelchair tennis adds to socialization and the normalization of life after sustaining a disabling injury. Proficient wheelchair users can play and actively compete against stand-up players. The enjoyment, physical well-being and contact shared by participants has proven to be positive sources of self-esteem, helping open doors to a more positive lifestyle.

**USTA NJTL Tennis**

USTA NJTL (National Junior Tennis Learning League) is a low-cost, grassroots junior program. It allows children exposure to tennis who may not otherwise have this opportunity. NJTL’s combine tennis instruction with an educational component, such as literacy or drug prevention, to enhance the lives of these young players.

**USTA Junior Team Tennis**

USTA Jr. Team Tennis is the largest youth tennis program in the country, helping girls and boys ages 10 to 18 get in the game, get on the court, and have a good time. Teams are coed and are made up of at least six players, three boys and three girls, based on similar ages and skill levels. The emphasis is on skill development, fun, teamwork and friendly competition. Southeast Michigan offers three age divisions: 10 & Under, 12 & Under, 14 & Under and 18 & Under. The 12, 14 and 18 & Under divisions have three levels – Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced. The Beginner Level consists of entry level players (2.0 JNTRP or below*), the Intermediate Level consists mainly of non-tournament players (3.0 JNTRP or below*); The Advanced Level is mostly for tournament players that have a higher level of play (3.5 JNTRP or higher*). Matches are played once a week (players do not have to play every match) from October to March, and consist of both singles and doubles play in a timed two-hour format. There is a nominal fee for matches, which includes pizza and beverage for the participants. The TennisLink on-line website keeps track of team stats and standings as well as individual player records for convenient at-home browsing. Teams have the opportunity to advance to District, Sectional and National Championships. With 4,000 participants annually, Southeast Michigan boasts the largest Jr. Team Tennis program in the Midwest and the largest indoor league in the country!

(*See JNTRP Chart on page 19 for full description of levels)
USTA JR. COMPETITION

♦ Junior Tournaments
   If your junior is ready for tournament play, Southeastern Michigan offers a variety of
tournaments. From our new 10 & Under Novice and N.E.T. (Non-Elimination Tourna-
ments) for the beginning tournament players to more advanced tournament play.
Please refer to page 9 of this handbook for extensive information on every aspect of
Junior Tournament play.

♦ Tournament Data Manager Software
   Available only to USTA Sanctioned Tournament Directors, this software program
improves the way Tournament Directors build a draw, report match results, register
players and more. TDM is the one program that will interface with TennisLink found at
USTA.com.

USTA TENNIS ON CAMPUS

The USTA's Tennis on Campus Program was developed by the United States Tennis
Association to help college campuses create and expand recreational opportunities for their
student population through team-based coed league play. The Tennis On Campus program
provides a variety of benefits, including: turnkey intramural program that is fun, easy to run
and popular with students; complimentary start-up kits, complete with customized marketing
materials to promote your campus program; increased use of campus tennis courts; ad-
vancement opportunities to both sectional and national USTA Campus Championships;
increased social and networking opportunities for the student population—all promoting a
healthy physical workout.

USTA LEAGUE TENNIS

USTA League Tennis offers men and women ages 18 & up competitive team match play in
the world’s largest recreational tennis league. Players compete against others of similar
ability levels using the National Tennis Rating Program. USTA League Tennis features
advancement to State, Sectional and National Championships. In Southeastern Michigan,
USTA League Tennis offers a variety of team formats and calendar play, such as: Adult
Leagues (ages 18+), Senior Leagues (ages 49+), Super Senior Leagues (ages 59+), 65s
League (ages 69+), Summer & Winter Mixed Doubles (ages 18+), Fall & Winter Singles
League, Combo Doubles (ages 18+), Senior Mixed Doubles (ages 49+), Winter Mixed Dou-
bles (ages 18+). With over 11,000 participants annually, Southeastern Michigan boasts
one of the largest leagues in the Midwest Section.
10 & UNDER NOVICE TOURNAMENTS, USING THE QUICKSTART PROGRESSION.
Beginning in 2011, new rules for 10 and under tournaments were set in place. 10 and Under Tennis follows almost every other youth sport and uses racquets, balls and courts that are sized right for kids so they enjoy the game right from the start. Even the scoring is simplified. Full sized courts are reconfigured to a smaller size (either 60' for 9 & 10 year olds, or 36' for players under 8). Please refer to the chart below for complete details on each progression level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAGE</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>BALL</th>
<th>COURT</th>
<th>NET HEIGHT</th>
<th>RACQUETS*</th>
<th>SCORING</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RED</td>
<td>5-8</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>7' x 7'</td>
<td>Up to 23&quot;</td>
<td>Two out of three, 7 point Tie-Break. Default: 15, 30, 45 for 3 set tournament.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREEN</td>
<td>9-11</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>8' x 8'</td>
<td>29&quot; and below</td>
<td>2 out of 3, 3 point Tie-Break. 2 point deciding at 40 - 40. Tie set to a 7 point breaker.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLUE</td>
<td>11 &amp; under</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>10' x 10'</td>
<td>25&quot; - 26&quot;</td>
<td>Two out of three sets with no tie break. Fixed clock.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YELLOW</td>
<td>11 &amp; over</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>12' x 12'</td>
<td>25&quot; - 26&quot;</td>
<td>Any scoring system in the Rules of Tennis.</td>
<td>One or players have progressed through the Red, Orange and Blue stages, they will be ready to transition to a Venusta ball on the full court.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AFTER GROUP LESSONS, IT COULD BE TIME TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP.
In general, a time comes when you should put those drills into practice by starting to play out points, games and even sets. Learning to sustain a rally back and forth over the net, how to score a game, and the overall strategy of how to play against another player are essential elements of competitive tennis. USTA Jr. Team Tennis was created to be your young players next step. Because of the team atmosphere, there is less pressure on the individual player to win. And because of the beginner, intermediate and advanced levels, there is a place for every ability to get their “feet wet” in competitive play (please see page 7 for a
detailed description of USTA Jr. Team Tennis is Southeastern Michigan. USTA Jr. Team Tennis is also more affordable than entering traditional USTA tournaments. Even though USTA Jr. Team Tennis offers advancement up to the National level, only District and Sectional Championships count towards any ranking points (see Ranking Points described below).

**IS MY CHILD READY TO PLAY TOURNAMENTS?**

This is a tough one. Parents know their children and can best decide whether their child has the interest, demeanor and maturity to play tournaments. Consultation with your child’s tennis coach is also a good idea. If your child wants to play a tournament, has a basic understanding of the game (including keeping score and being able to hit the three fundamentals strokes: serve, forehand and backhand, and sustain rallies over the net), then the time may be right to play. Southeastern Michigan has tournaments for every age and skill level. Our hope is that your child enjoys the experience and will want to play more and more tennis as he/she gets older. Therefore, it is important that the tournament experience is fun and rewarding regardless of wins or losses.

**UNITED STATES TENNIS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED.**

In order to enter USTA Sanctioned Tournaments (see paragraph below for an explanation of a Sanctioned Tournament) or to participate in USTA Jr. Team Tennis, you must have a Junior USTA Membership. USTA membership provides many benefits, including a variety of discounts, entry to special events and early access to professional tournament tickets. You will also receive a USTA membership card, SMASH Tennis Magazine and Southeastern Michigan District Newsletter as well as District Office support. You can become a member by calling 1-800-990-USTA (8782) or by visiting the National USTA Website: www.usta.com. USTA is offering a FREE 10 & Under 1 Year Membership ($20 value) for new members. Use promotion code “JR10UFREE”. For paid memberships, receive a FREE US Open Hat ($22 value) with your paid membership by using promotion code “MW2012”.

**SANCTIONED VS. NON-SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS.**

A sanctioned tournament is one that is approved by the USTA. The club, organization, or person running the tournament has paid a sanctioning “fee” to the USTA and has agreed that it will be run in accordance with USTA rules and regulations (including having certified officials roving from court-to-court). Sanctioned tournaments are used for Southeastern Michigan District Ranking (and also Midwest Section Ranking, depending on the level of the tournament). Non-sanctioned tournaments are not used for ranking and do not have to follow USTA rules and regulations.

**CERTIFIED TENNIS OFFICIALS.**

A Roving Official (also known as Umpire) is an official who exercises jurisdiction over more than one court. He/she has passed a provisional certification course, and is responsible for assuring that the competition is fair and played under the ITF (International Tennis Federation) and the USTA Regulations. This is typically the kind of official you will see at a Sanctioned Tournament in Southeastern Michigan. Depending on the size of the tournament, you may also notice a Referee. A Referee is generally responsible for supervising all aspects of play at a sanctioned tournament. There are other kinds of officials as well, depending on the event (i.e. college, professional, etc.). Each must pass certification for their specific level. The people who become officials are doing the best job possible and are trying to be fair to all sides. If you are interested in ensuring fair play in tennis and would like to become an official, please contact the District Office (734) 421-1025 or email tennis@semich.usta.com.
FINDING A LIST OF SANCTIONED TENNIS TOURNAMENTS.

A complete list of all sanctioned tournaments in the United States is available on the USTA national website (www.usta.com), under “TennisLink”. The TennisLink system allows you to search in as broad or specific a range as you’d like—by geography and/or date. Once on the www.usta.com home page, you will see “TennisLink” in a series of tabs running across the webpage. Clicking on this link and entering the “tournament” section will allow you to view all the drop down menus specific to finding the tournament (or tournaments) you are looking for. You can search TennisLink by a tournament ID# (a number specific to each individual tournament), by Section or District, a Keyword from a tournament, month, year, division, and more.

WHAT TYPE OF TOURNAMENT TO REGISTER FOR.

There are six levels of sanctioned tournament competition in Southeastern Michigan. In general, the lower the level (Level 1 being the highest), the less points are associated with each winning round you play (refer to Points Per Round on page 19). For the novice player (players with little or no tournament experience), we recommend playing our N.E.T. Championship Series (District Level 6 event). These tournaments are non-elimination, take place within a four hour time block in one day, have reduced entry fees, and are closed to Southeastern Michigan District residents. There are also a variety of novice tournaments held each year. All district level tournaments are described in more detail on page 18. Be aware that tournament levels are different at the Sectional level (i.e. a District Level 1 Tournament could be a Midwest Section Level 4 Tournament).

TOURNAMENT LEVELS.

District Level: This level is for local competition and players, but events are normally open to players outside the Southeast Michigan District boundaries.

Sectional Level: This level includes the following states in our Midwest Section: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin, as well as parts of Kentucky and West Virginia. These events include players from each District within our Section and may be open to players from outside the Section.

National Level: Encompasses the United States. These events include players from each section within the United States. USTA National Championships have restrictions on the participation of players who are not U.S. citizens or permanent resident aliens.

International Level: Encompasses the world. These events include players from all around the world.

HOW TO REGISTER FOR A USTA SANCTIONED TOURNAMENT.

Registering for USTA sanctioned tournaments is all done on-line within our national website (www.usta.com) using a credit card (although a few sanctioned tournaments still accept entries by mail or phone). Follow the same instructions on finding a list of sanctioned tournaments (Page 10). Once you find the tournament you’d like to enter, click on the tournament name. This will take you to the tournament home page, which will give you more detailed information such as date, location, gender, available age groups, entry fee, entry deadline, District and Section level of tournament, and other details specific to this tournament (i.e. how many players in each age group will be taken into the tournament, players already registered in the tournament, etc.). It will also offer you a link to enter the tournament. In order to register for the tournament, you will need both the players USTA
membership number and a valid credit card. Once you enter the player’s USTA membership number, the registration system will validate the player’s eligibility and membership status, and will only allow entry into the appropriate events/divisions. In Southeastern Michigan, you may only enter one age division (this does not apply to entering a doubles division, if offered). Once you have entered the correct division, you may “proceed to check out”. This is where the system will ask you for your credit card information. Once the charge is processed, you will receive a confirmation number that you should either print out or write down. You will need to use this confirmation number to withdraw or change your entry. Please be advised, that just because you enter a tournament on-line, does not mean you automatically get into the tournaments (see Limited vs. Non-Limited Draw below). Once the tournament’s entry deadline has passed, the tournament home page will show the players taken into the tournament (you should also get a confirmation email), the alternate players (players who entered, but were not taken into the tournament) and the draws (pairings) for the tournament with first match start time and location. Remember to give your email address and phone when prompted so Tournament Directors have some way to get a hold of you should they need to.

When registering for a tournament, it is best to make sure your calendar is clear for that entire weekend. Tournament Directors, in general, will not work around your personal calendar. And knowing ahead of time when you will play is almost impossible, since it depends on whether a player wins or loses the match they currently have a time for.

In 2010, the Southeast Michigan District instituted a rule which forbids parents/players from entering a tournament after the deadline. This rule was put in place by the District Jr. Competition Committee to ensure complete transparency of those players signed up for a tournament at the tournament deadline. Adult Tournament, Jr. Tournaments, Jr. Doubles Divisions and any Tournament Division without enough entrants to run a proper draw (3 or less) are exempt from this rule.

**TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEES.**

It depends on the tournament, but entry fees in Southeastern Michigan range from approximately $35 (Novice Tournaments) to as much as $45-70 (most other District Tournaments). Sectional and National Tournaments can be more. Your entry fee covers the cost of court time for all of your matches (the fee may not include matches that have to be moved indoors due to inclement weather), new balls for each match (and another set if you split sets, and are playing out an entire third set), umpires/referees/tournament administrators, trophies and sometimes include t-shirts and other tournament mementos for the player.

**AGE DIVISION ELIGIBILITY.**

A player may play his/her age group until the month of his/her birthday. Example: If a player turns 15 in August, he/she may play 14s until July 31. Beginning in August, the junior must play in the 16s. Tournament age divisions are offered in even ages (i.e. 10s, 12s, 14s, 16s and 18s).

The starting date of a tournament determines the player’s eligibility to participate in that tournament. Example: If a players turns 13 in March and a tournament is scheduled for February 22-23 & March 1-2, the player may play in the 12 & under division since the starting date of the tournament is in February.

**LIMITED VS. NON-LIMITED DRAW.**

The number of players a tournament will take in any age division, is referred to as the size of the draw. Tournaments taking place in an indoor facility have limited space, therefore these
tournaments “limit” the size of their draw. Most of the tournaments held in Southeastern Michigan during the summer (or outdoor playing) months are “non-limited” draws, taking all players who apply into the tournament.

**SELECTION OF PLAYERS FOR A LIMITED DRAW.**

After the tournament entry deadline, players are selected based on the most current Standing List (see explanation of Standing List on Page 21) until the draw is filled. For example, if the draw is limited to 32 players and 40 players register before the entry deadline, then the current standing list is used to determine the 32 who will be selected. In Southeastern Michigan, Tournament Directors have some flexibility in determining their entrants (i.e. District or Section Standing List only, or a blend of District and Sectional Standing List or even a blend with a National Standing List). In any case, they will be using Standing Lists last published before the entry deadline of their tournament and must be consistent with their selection process. Remaining players (if any) will be randomly drawn from a hat. Selection is never based on a first come, first served basis or taking players only from one area or facility.

**WITHDRAWING FROM A TOURNAMENT (REFUND OF ENTRY FEES)**

After you’ve registered for a tournament and your entry is accepted, you are expected to participate in the tournament and play every match. If you need to withdraw from the tournament for illness, injury or personal emergency, you may withdraw online prior to the deadline (changing age divisions is also done online prior to the deadline). Once the deadline has past, you will need to contact the tournament director immediately and notify him that you cannot play! This is a courtesy you owe the tournament and your opponent. (A tournament director is not obligated to refund your entry fee after the tournament has closed.)

**“NO EXCUSES” WITHDRAWALS.**

All players who withdraw from a Southeast Michigan tournament FOR ANY REASON will be subject to penalty according to the Point Penalty System (PPS) and issued two Suspension Points for that withdrawal. Defaults (with the exception of a default for lateness) will incur five suspension points.

**YOU MAY NOT REGISTER FOR TWO TOURNAMENTS THAT OVERLAP ON ANY DATE.**

In Southeastern Michigan, a player may not be entered in two or more sanctioned tournaments if any part of the tournaments overlap, unless all tournament directors / committees understand the situation and agree in writing. That written consent must be submitted to the Southeast Michigan District Office before the entry deadline of either tournament. Failure to adhere to this rule may result in suspension points levied against the player (see page 14).

**OPEN V. CLOSED TOURNAMENTS.**

An “Open” Tournament is one that is open for any USTA member that meets the age and gender requirements for that tournament. Entries into “closed” tournaments are restricted, normally by a requirement of residency within a specified geographic area. Some tournaments also require that a player be “endorsed” for participation by the player’s District or Section.
**Point Penalty System.**

The Point Penalty System is a series of penalties designed to deter unsportsmanlike behavior during matches. The first penalty results in a loss of a point; the second penalty results in the loss of the game in progress, and the third penalty results in a Default of the match in progress. These Point Penalties are levied by the Official working the tournament.

Examples of conduct that constitute a penalty to the player (and anyone associated with the player):
- Unreasonable delays after the warm-up period, between points and when changing ends, and otherwise unreasonably delaying a match
- Visible or audible obscenity of profanity
- Violently, or with anger, hitting, kicking or throwing a tennis ball or other equipment
- Verbal or physical abuse of any official, opponent, spectator or other person by the player or anyone associated with the player
- Retaliatory calls (obviously bad calls made in retaliation for the opponent’s calls)
- Coaching by a parent, coach, or any other accompanying person
- Any player overruled by an official three (3) times during a match and each subsequent overrule during a match.
- Any other unsportsmanlike behavior.

REMEMBER: Your player is not a professional. He/she is young and will make mistakes, and that is part of growing up. This is serious for them, so do not put added undue pressure on them. **Be a sport and support good sportsmanship!**

Please see Guidelines For Parents Watching a Match (page 28).

**Suspension Points.**

When you enter a USTA-sanctioned tournament, you and anyone associated with you is under an obligation to maintain high standards of proper conduct, fair play and good sportsmanship. **Any player who receives 10 or more suspension points during a continuous 12-month period shall be suspended for 12 consecutive weeks from competing in any USTA sanctioned event within the Southeastern Michigan District.** The player shall also be suspended from participation in any District Team event (i.e. Jr. David Cup, Jr. Wightman Cup, USTA Jr. Team Tennis, etc.), and endorsement into a Midwest event (i.e. Midwest Closed, etc.). These Suspension Points are levied by the Roving Umpire or Referee working the tournament. The Midwest Section and other Districts within the Midwest Section may also uphold the suspension and restrict you from participation.

**Suspension Points:**

**Defaults:**
- Default for a flagrantly unsportsmanlike act on or off the court .................... 8
- Default for refusal to play or continue to play for any reason other than illness, injury, or personal emergency ......................................................... 5
- Default because of an adult decision .................................................................. 5
- Default for no-show ........................................................................................... 5
- Default due to late arrival for a match ............................................................... 1
- Disqualification for ineligibility ......................................................................... 3

**Inappropriate Entry or Withdrawal:**
- Being entered in two or more sanctioned tournaments, matches or competitions scheduled to take place at the same time (when either entry closes), in whole
or part, unless each Tournament Committee approves the multiple entries in writing prior to deadline. ................................................................. 5
Withdrawal from a tournament (singles or doubles) after entries have closed for any reason other than injury, illness or personal emergency. .................. 4
Withdrawal from a tournament (singles or doubles) after entries have closed for injury, illness of personal emergency........................................ 2
Unsportsmanlike Conduct:
Unsportsmanlike or inappropriate conduct on court after a match or off court at locations, such as the tournament site, hotel, housing or tournament sponsored event. ................................................................. 5
Not using best efforts to win. .................................................................. 2
Gross Misconduct:
Physical act of violence against another person on or off the court by a player, parent, relative, coach or other person associated with a player................. 10
Possession or use of illegal drugs............................................................... 8
Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages.................................. 8
Gambling activity..................................................................................... 8
Destruction of property.......................................................................... 8
Playing under Suspension:
Playing in any sanctioned tournament while suspended by the USTA or one of its Sectional or District Associations........................................... 10

When point penalties or suspension points are filed against you, you will receive a copy of the penalty through regular mail. Should you accrue 10 or more suspension points within a 12 month period, you will be notified of your suspension via certified mail and be allowed a fixed appeal period.

**WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU TO THE TOURNAMENT.**

In addition to tennis racquets, you should bring your USTA card, a water bottle, sunscreen (if playing outdoors), a towel and extra t-shirts/tops. If you think you will be playing more than one match in a day, you might want to bring some fruit, food and a sports drink. Some tournaments also require players to adhere to a certain dress code. The tournament home page will list these requirements, if any.

**FINDING OUT THE TIME OF YOUR FIRST MATCH IN A TOURNAMENT.**

Your first match time is usually posted on the TennisLink Tournament Home Page, either on the posted draw or within a “future match info report” link 48 hours before play is set to begin. You may also call the Tournament Director to obtain this information.

**CHECKING IN FOR YOUR FIRST MATCH.**

Players should check in at the Tournament Desk 15 minutes prior to their first match time. Once you have checked in, you are indicating that you are ready to play. If courts are available, you may play earlier than your scheduled time. First match times are given by the Tournament Director. Make sure you know the directions to the tournament site ahead of time, allowing for traffic and any “uncontrollable” situation. We have direct MapQuest links to all of the Southeastern Michigan facilities on our website: www.semich.usta.com. Any outdoor sites used must have a director and roving umpire on site as well as having access to water and restrooms.
Penalties for being late to your first scheduled match.

Under USTA rules you can be penalized for lateness. If you show up more than 15 minutes late, you may be defaulted out of the tournament. That means because you were absent at the beginning of the match, the victory will be awarded to your opponent. Penalties for lateness, according to the Point Penalty System*, are as follows:

5 Minutes or Less—
  Loss of Toss (Opponent decides whether to serve, return or pick their side), plus loss of one game.

5:01-10 Minutes Late—
  Loss of Toss (Opponent decides whether to serve, return or pick their side), plus loss of two games.

10:01-15 Minutes or Less—
  Loss of Toss (Opponent decides whether to serve, return or pick their side), plus loss of three games.

15:01 Minutes or More—Loss of Match.

*can also be at the discretion of the Tournament Referee.

The Draw.

Once the Tournament Director selects the tournament participants, a draw is produced. A Tournament starts play with their “Main Draw”, original pairings of the first round matches of a tournament. Main Draw pairings are made within the tournament software program, and are totally random with the exception of placement of the “seeded” players of a tournament (see the explanation of “seeds” on page 16). “Byes” are placed in a specific spot(s) on the draw (a “Bye” spot occurs only in the first round of the tournament and means the player moves on to the next round of the tournament without having to play a match). After the first round match is played, the winner advances to the second round (next set of brackets—see illustration below) for their next match. If the tournament is “single elimination”, the loser of the first round match is finished in the tournament. If the tournament has a FMLC (First Match Losers Consolation) or FIC (Feed In Consolation), the loser of the first match enters the “Back (or Consolation) Draw”, which is another set of brackets set up just like the Main Draw, where the player will continue to advance to the next round as long as they keep winning their matches. Once the player loses in the Back Draw (two total losses in the tournament), they are then finished playing in the tournament.

Example of a Draw:

10/11 6:30PM F
SMITH, JOSEPH
JOHNSON, ERIC (2)
BYE
10/12 9:00AM F
SMITH, JOSEPH
JOHNSON, ERIC (2)
JOHNSON, ERIC (2)

First Round of Tournament “Bye Spot” (notice Eric Johnson, moves into next round with no-score reported).

Indicates date, time and location of this match. “F” refers to match location if more than one location is being used.

Bold type (sometimes shown in red ink) with a number beside it, shows Eric Johnson is the number 2 “Seed” a (has the second best record of players entered in his division).

JONES, JEFFREY
6-4, 6-2

Indicates Joseph Smith’s Winning 2-set Score over Opponent Jones.

Joseph Smith’s Winning 2-set Score over opponent Jones.

Eric Johnson’s Winning Score over Opponent Johnson. Score indicates Joseph won first set, lost second, and won a third set tie-break 7-2.
THE NUMBER OF MATCHES A PLAYER CAN EXPECT TO PLAY AT A TOURNAMENT.

It depends in part on how many players are entered in the tournament, how many matches are won, and whether the tournament has a “double elimination” feature. Most tournaments have a first match losers consolation (FMLC*), so that if your child loses his or her first match, they enter the Back (Consolation) Draw to continue play until they lose again. Some of the higher level tournaments (such as our Muthig Jr. District Qualifier) have a full feed-in consolation (FIC*), so that if your child loses a match in the main draw (even if it is after the first round), your child will feed into the Back (Consolation) Draw. The nice thing about FMLC, FIC and MFIC (modified feed-in consolation) tournaments is that your child will be guaranteed at least two matches. Some tournaments (such as our N.E.T. Championship Series) have a “compass” draw that guarantees players continuous match play even if they lose all of their matches.

If the match format is two out of three full sets, players may play a maximum of two singles matches per day in the same division. If a tie-break is used in lieu of a third set (see below), players may play a maximum of three singles matches per day. There is a minimum one-hour rest period between matches.

*These are the abbreviations you will see when registering for a team on TennisLink.

MATCH (OR THIRD SET) TIE BREAK.

Most Southeastern Michigan Tournaments have a “Tie Break in Lieu of a Third Set”. This means that if you win one set, and your opponent wins one set, you will play a Tie Break instead of an entire third set. A third set (or match) tie-break is the first player to get 10 points, winning by a margin of 2 points (this is slightly different than a tie-break to determine the winner of a set, played at six-games each, which is played to 7 points—winning by a margin of 2). All age divisions receive a mandatory 3-minute rest period before the tiebreak set, where they may receive coaching. When playing a third set to completion, all age divisions receive a mandatory 10-minute rest period where they may receive coaching and do receive a new set of tennis balls.

HOW EARLY (OR LATE) COULD A MATCH BE STARTED?

In the Midwest Section, a player will not be required to start the day’s matches before 8am and will not be placed on the court after 8pm in the 10 & under age division, 9pm in the 12 and 14 age divisions; 10pm in the 16 and 18 age divisions. Additionally, any junior player involved in a match commencing at 8pm or later must be allowed a minimum of 12 hours between the beginning of that evening’s match and the beginning of the first match scheduled for the following day.

SEEDS.

To ensure that the best players in a tournament do not meet each other in the first round, they become “seeds”. The Tournament Director determines a seeded player based on the most current Standing List available before the tournament deadline. This seeded player is also more likely to receive a bye than players who are not seeded. The number of players seeded is a formula of 1 seed for every 3 players to the power of 2. Seeded players are placed in a specific spot on the draw and usually shown in a bold font or another color. There is always a number next to their name which designates what number seed they are
(please refer to the draw example shown on page 16). Once seeded players are determined, the remaining players are placed randomly by the computer with no weight given to strength of player.

**Block Seeding.**

Block Seeding refers to the practice of taking the seeded players and advancing them several rounds into the tournament. The unseeded players play matches to reach the round where the seeded players have already been stationed. The purpose of block seeding is to allow all the unseeded players to play several matches before facing a seeded player.

**You Must Play and Complete a Tournament.**

All scheduled matches (including any consolation or playoff matches) in a tournament must be played to completion without default in order for that tournament to count toward ranking and endorsement purposes. Defaults include: not showing up for a match, unsportsmanlike conduct and warnings, which culminate in the match being defaulted. A retirement due to injury or illness, once the match has started, is NOT considered a default.

**Problems with Line Calls during a Match.**

Tennis is one of the few sports in which the amateur participants umpire themselves. Your child will need to call whether balls on his/her side of the court are in or out. If the ball hits any part of the line, it must be called “good.” A player only makes calls on their own side of the court. If you feel that your opponent is not making calls correctly, you may warn them; and only when necessary, request a line judge (player should go to the net and raise their racquet above their head to get the Roving Umpire’s attention). Parents never act as line judges, nor call the Umpire to the court themselves—this is the player’s responsibility.

**Coaching during a Match.**

Coaching is NOT allowed by ANYONE once a match has begun. You (or anyone) may coach a player before a match, or during the either 3- or 10-minute break between the second and third sets. Otherwise, coaching is prohibited and the player will be subject to the Point Penalty System (see page 14). Coaching (according to “The Friend at Court”) is defined as “communication, advice or instruction of any kind, audible or visible, to a player.” A Friend at Court (the USTA handbook of Tennis Rules and Regulations) is available for download or purchase through the USTA (visit www.usta.com) website.

**Other Issues That Arise during Match Play.**

If at any time during a match you have any issue (i.e. bathroom break, water, etc.), or a potential conflict that requires a resolution that you and your opponent cannot agree on (i.e. score, etc.), you should summon an Umpire. Player(s) should walk to the net and raise their racquet(s) above their head to get the Umpire’s attention.

**Tournament Sportsmanship.**

In 2006, the Southeastern Michigan District began recognizing tournament players who exhibit fair play and good behavior. At every district tournament, a sportsmanship winner is chosen for each division and gender offered by the Referee. That player is sent a Sportsmanship Tennis Bag Tag to display proudly.
**Points Per Round Ranking System.**

In January of 2006, both Southeastern Michigan and the Midwest Section adopted the Points Per Round Ranking System. Points are accrued by a player depending on what round they achieve in any tournament. The level of the tournament determines the amount of points accrued (referred to as the “weight” of the tournament). Byes do not qualify as wins; however, defaults, retirements, walkovers and withdrawals do (for the advancing player). Please see the Southeastern Michigan District Point Table below. Please note that tournaments carry different “weights” at the Section level (i.e. a District Level 1 Tournament [Muthig Qualifier] is a Midwest Section Level 4 Tournament) and have a different Point Table (refer to appendix 2 and 3 for information on the Midwest Points Per Round or visit their website: midwest.usta.com).

### 2012 Southeastern Michigan District Points Per Round Singles & Doubles Table

Main Draw with Modified Consolation Tournament Points Per Round,
Including First Match Losers Consolation,
First Round Losers Consolation, Modified FIC and Compass Draw*:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player Results</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 4</th>
<th>Level 5</th>
<th>Level 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Champion</td>
<td>860</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Place</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Place/SF²</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarterfinalist</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reached R16</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reached R32</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reached R64</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reached R128</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reached R256</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Points Earned for Each Consolation Round Won³ | 30 | 25 | 20 | 15 | 8 | 4 |

* In Compass Draw events, the East Draw earns main draw Points Per Round; all other directions earn consolation Points Per Round.

**If there is no playoff for 3rd and 4th place, the semifinalists will receive points in this row.

SEE APPENDIX 2 for Points Per Round Feed In Consolation Tables.

### Southeastern Michigan Doubles Rankings.

Each player’s doubles ranking will be individually based on the accumulation of points for winning rounds at any designated junior tournament (please refer to event levels on page 19) during the calendar year in the boys’ and girls’ 18, 16, 14, 12 and 10 year old age divisions. This ranking will be based on points a player earns playing with various partners.
Southeast Michigan Points Per Round
Event Levels for 2011

Level 1
SEMTA Muthig District Jr. Qualifier (12s-18s)*
SEMTA Future Qualifier (10s)*

Level 2
USTA/Midwest Section: Junior Closed Outdoor Championships*
USTA/Midwest Section: Junior Closed Indoor Championships
USTA/Midwest Section: Junior Designated January Series
USTA/Midwest Section: Junior Designated March Series
USTA/Midwest Section: Midwest Junior Cup Team Events*
USTA/Midwest Section: Junior Open Championships
USTA/Midwest Section: Junior Fall Closed Championships
USTA/Midwest Section: Junior Indoor Open Championships
USTA/Midwest Section: All USTA National Schedule Events
USTA/Midwest Section Level 3 & 4 Events

Level 3
SEMTA Elevated Midwest Level 5
SEMTA Elevated Events (Dr. Joe Morris)
SEMTA District Future Qualifier*

Level 4
SEMTA District Events

Level 5
All other sanctioned tournaments in the USTA/Midwest Section
All sanctioned Junior Team Tennis Advanced Level Events

Level 6
N.E.T. Championship Series Events
& SEMTA Novice Events (including 8 & Under 36’ Court, Red Ball; and 10 & Under 60’ Court, Orange Ball Tournaments)*

All sanctioned Junior Team Tennis Intermediate Level Events

*see page 20 for more detailed information on these Tournaments.

Viewing your Tournament Results on-line.
The TennisLink system allows you to view your past tournament results (referred to as your “Player Record”). In order to view your Player Record follow the instructions to TennisLink from page 11. Once on the Tournament Page of the TennisLink system, there is a link on the lower center of the page for “Rankings Search”. This takes you to the Ranking/Standing Home Page where you can search by your District, Section or Nation, then by age group, gender, singles or doubles, etc. Your name will either appear in the “eligible” or “ineligible” list (see explanation of Ineligible List on page 22) in the age group you are currently playing. Click on your name to see your Player Record. How quickly Tournament results are posted depends on how soon after an event the Tournament Director posts the results on TennisLink; however, usually within a week or two of the completion of the tournament.

Corrections to your Player Record.
Please submit any corrections (including your name and USTA number, the name and date of the tournament, the division you played in, and your opponent’s name) to the Southeastern Michigan District Office via mail or email (semta@aol.com). Please note that corrections to your player record will not be reflected in the Standing List until the next Standing List is published.
RANKING LIST VS. STANDING LIST

Although these terms are sometimes used interchangeable, rankings are not the same as standings. Rankings are final, calendar year-end computations of a player’s performance for that period of time in one specific age group. Standings, on the other hand, refer to a player’s current position within his/her division based on his/her previous 12 months of tournament results received to date in the player’s actual age group and any older age groups played. Standings can and do fluctuate throughout the year depending on players’ match results.

CAN A PLAYER BE RANKED OR HAVE A STANDING POSITION IN MORE THAN ONE AGE GROUP?

Yes, as long as they have earned the required number of points in each age division. Match results in higher age divisions will count down in the younger age divisions.

HOW YOU APPEAR ON THE SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN STANDING LIST.

A standing list is a tentative strength listing of players within a particular age group and gender. The standing list includes match results from the previous 12 months that have been entered into the ranking database at the time of publishing. A player must earn 8 points in an age division in order to appear on the Southeastern Michigan Standing List. Points are accrued by a player winning at least one round in any tournament. The player receives a pre-determined number of points for the round in which they last played and is also dictated by the level of the tournament played (see Points Per Round on Page 19). A player’s best 6 tournaments will be used. Matches played in a player’s actual age division as well as any higher age division(s) will be included in the calculation of the Standings. Standings for Southeastern Michigan are generated at the Midwest Section and are posted once a week.

Standing lists are not ranking lists. The requirements for being included on standings lists are substantially less rigorous than for an actual ranking.

HOW YOU GET A SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN RANKING.

A player’s final singles ranking will be based on the best six (6) tournaments. A player must have earned a minimum of 32 points in an age division in order to be included in the Southeast Michigan District Final Singles Rankings.

SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN DOUBLES RANKINGS.

A player’s final doubles ranking will be based on the best three (3) tournaments, played and completed, in the age division being calculated. A player must have earned a minimum of 8 points in an age division in order to be included in the Southeastern Michigan District Final Doubles Rankings (Note—eligibility requirements must be met for a player to receive a ranking.)

WHERE TO FIND THE STANDING AND RANKING LISTS.

In order to view either the Southeastern Michigan District or Midwest Section Standing and Ranking Lists, follow the instructions to TennisLink from page 11. Once on the Tournament
Page of the TennisLink system, there is a link in the lower center of the webpage for “Ranking” Search. This takes you to the Ranking/Standing Home Page where you can search by your District, Section or Nation, then by age group, gender, singles or doubles, etc. Your name will either appear in the “eligible” or “ineligible” list (see explanation of Ineligible below) in the age group you are currently playing.

**WHY YOU MAY BE ON A “INELIGIBLE” STANDING LIST.**

There are a number of reasons you may be on the ineligible list, including: not having accrued the minimum number of points through tournament play, you have “aged up” into another division, or you are living out of either the District or Section list you are viewing.

**DISTRICT VS. SECTION STANDINGS AND RANKINGS.**

Standings and Rankings have different requirements in the Midwest Section. Please refer to Appendix 1 for the Midwest Section Ranking Information.

**SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS**

**8 & UNDER “QUICKSTART” NOVICE TOURNAMENTS.**

Utilizing modified court size, balls and scoring, these novice tournaments are targeted to the younger, smaller player. Tournaments are run on modified 36’ Courts, using the “red stage” ball. Scoring is two out of three 7-point tiebreak sets. Overall draw format is either Compass Draw or Round Robin, ensuring maximum play time. Winners are not recognized; instead, participation awards are given.

**10 & UNDER “QUICKSTART” NOVICE TOURNAMENTS.**

Utilizing modified court size, balls and scoring, these novice tournaments are targeted to the younger, smaller player. Tournaments are run on modified 60’ Courts, using the “orange stage” ball. Scoring is two out of three 4-game (short) sets using no-ad scoring. Overall draw format is either Compass Draw or Round Robin, ensuring maximum play time. Winners are not recognized; instead, participation awards are given.

**N.E.T. CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES NOVICE TOURNAMENTS.**

The N.E.T. (Non-Elimination Tournament) Championship Series was designed by our district’s Junior Competition Committee to specifically target the lower ranked Southeastern Michigan tournament player. These District Level 6 compass draw tournaments are held in one day and count toward Southeastern Michigan District standing points only. Player must be below 60 on the current standing list in any age group for entry. Please see our district website for complete details (including schedule of events): www.semich.usta.com.

**NOVICE (BEGINNER) TOURNAMENTS.**

Southeastern Michigan has some novice tournaments that take place throughout the year. While novice tournaments carry less points per round (Novice tournaments carry District Level 6 Points Per Round), they run much the same in draw set up, seeding, back draw, etc. They are targeted at the beginning tournament player, where the definition “Novice” is determined by each Tournament Director (and included on their tournament home page). The most common definition is “for those who have never appeared on a District or Section Standing List.”
**OUR “STANDARD” - THE DISTRICT LEVEL 4 TOURNAMENT.**

Most of the district tournaments that run throughout the year in Southeastern Michigan are District Level 4 tournaments. These tournaments are held at various facilities (both indoor and out) in a variety of different age groups (10* to 18 years). Starting in January of 2011, all 10 & Under Level 4 Tournaments are playing using the “Green Dot” stage tennis ball (25% less compression than a regulation tennis ball) on a regulation size court.

**“ELEVATED” DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS.**

Elevated Tournaments refer to tournaments that carry a higher Points Per Round Level. Currently, we have a few higher level tournaments that include:

**THE SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN FUTURE QUALIFIER.**

This District Level 1 tournament, is our premier tournament for the 10 and under players in Southeastern Michigan. It is held in between the two Southeastern Michigan Muthig Jr. Qualifier weekends to allow players to participate in both tournaments.

**THE SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN JUNIOR DISTRICT QUALIFIER.**

The Southeastern Michigan Muthig District Qualifier is a two-weekend tournament (beginning on Memorial Day weekend) for ages 12-18 that determines entry into the USTA-Midwest Closed Outdoor Championships. The USTA-Midwest Closed Outdoor Championships are a requirement for entry consideration to the USTA National Championships. It is our district’s premier tournament. It is a District Level 1 tournament with a non-limited draw and full feed-in consolation. Block Seeding is used to carry the stronger players to the second weekend of the tournament. Entry into the Midwest Closed Outdoor Championships is determined by a player’s finishing position in the District Qualifier. Sixteen players from each age group are endorsed into the USTA-Midwest Closed Outdoor Championships. For more detailed information (including entry form) on the Southeastern Michigan Muthig Qualifier, refer to our website: www.semich.usta.com.

**SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN ELEVATED MIDWEST LEVEL 5 (June) District Level 3**

**THE DR. JOE MORRIS (June) District Level 3**

**ENDORSEMENT.**

Endorsement refers to the process used by both District and Sectional Associations to list their players in the order in which they want the players accepted into tournaments such as the USTA-Midwest Closed or National Championships. In Southeastern Michigan, we have both a Boys’ and Girls’ Endorser named before the Muthig Jr. Qualifier Tournament begins.

**MIDWEST SECTION TOURNAMENTS.**

For complete information on Midwest Section tournaments, please visit the Section’s website at: www.midwest.usta.com. See appendix 1 & 2 on page 25 of this handbook for Midwest Section Points Per Round Ranking and Point Levels.
**Midwest Junior Team Cup Events.**

The Junior Davis and Wightman Cup Team Events are round robin team competitions in which the top juniors from each District compete against each other in the boys’ & girls’ 12, 14, and 18 age divisions. The 12 & Under and 14 & Under teams are co-ed, while the 18 & U division is separated into male and female teams. To be considered for one of Southeast Michigan’s Cup Teams, sign up on TennisLink at www.usta.com. Team members will be chosen from the top players registered after the deadline using the most current Midwest Standing List available from the appropriate age group. Entry fees include Team Warm Up Jacket. Cup competitions are held in June.

**Midwest 10 & Under Invitational.**

Held in July, Southeast Michigan’s top two boys and girls from the 10 and Under Division are invited to participate against the other top 10 and under players in the Midwest Section.

**USTA Zone Team Championships for 16-, 14-, and 12-and-Under Players**

The USTA Zone Team Championships (commonly referred to as “Zonals”) are non-elimination team events providing intersectional competition for players selected to the Zonal teams. The USTA/Midwest Section will endorse players in the 12, 14 and 16 age divisions. Players may be endorsed to ANY or ALL USTA Zone Team Championships. The emphasis of the team event is on a combination of competition and development. Limited coaching by designated coaches during play will be permitted. Team matches include singles, doubles and mixed doubles. Instructional, information and social activities are an important part of the USTA Zone Team Championships. The teams will be selected by using the most current Midwest Standing List in the age division being endorsed. Sign up is on TennisLink at www.usta.com.

**USTA National Ranking & Tournament Levels.**

In 2008, the USTA National office moved to a combined ranking system for junior players. This will be applied to all tournaments on the National Junior Tournament Schedule. The purpose of a combined ranking system is to promote doubles. Rankings will be based on 100 percent of a player’s singles ranking plus 15 percent of a player’s double ranking. In addition, tournaments will be allowed to start the doubles competition before the singles.

**USTA National Championships.**

The USTA National Championships are the highest level of USTA national junior competition. For complete information on USTA National tournaments including the National Ranking Point Table, please visit the National USTA website at: www.usta.com. For Midwest Section Tournaments that count toward National Points, please visit the Midwest Section website at: www.midwest.usta.com.

**ITF Junior Circuit.**

The ITF Junior Circuit is a series of 18 and under events. ITF Junior Circuit tournaments only accept entries through National Associations (USTA). Tournaments are graded according to the strength of entry, with the most ranking points being awarded to the eight major championships (Group A), which include the four Grand Slam events. Tournaments are divided into the following grades:

- Group A (Super Series, including four Grand Slams)
- Group B (Regional Championships)
Group C (International Team Championships)
Group 1-5 (Level 1 events are the strongest and level 5 are the weakest events in this group)

For more information about ITF Junior Circuit and ITF Junior Rankings, visit www.itftennis.com.

**USTA Regional Training Centers.**

The USTA Player Development program was created to identify and develop the next generation of American champions by surrounding the top junior players and young pros with the resources, facilities and coaching they need to reach their maximum potential. The Player Development program is based at the USTA Training Center Headquarters in Boca Raton, Florida and also utilizes the USTA Training Center-West in Carson, California and the USTA Training Center-East in Flushing, New York.

To deepen their reach into the Country’s talent pool, in 2009 the USTA began implementing its Certified Regional Training Center program. The establishment of Regional Training Centers (RTC’s) will enable the USTA to partner with the best Regional programs in the country, building relationships between our best coaches, and raising the level of training for our best 8-14 year old juniors. Why 8-14 year olds? Because the most critical coaching phase is 8-12 (girls) and 10-14 (boys). These Regional partnerships will also make the transition to the very best juniors in the country (ages 14-16) into the USTA National program more seamless. As the USTA establishes more and more RTC’s (they will name approximately 15 over the next five years), they will be able to train hundreds of our juniors (ages 10-14) close to home where they can attend school and live with their families; while facilitating relationships between their parents and coaches, as well as between the coaches on the Regional and National level. They will also provide these young players with supplementary coaching that doesn’t threaten their private coach, or break their budget. The RTCs will provide players in the Section subsidized programming to enhance the recruitment of very young players (ages 6-10) using the 10 and Under (QuickStart) format, and age-specific equipment—creating an opportunity to grow the talent pool with better athletes than ever before.

The Indianapolis Tennis Center in the Midwest Section has been named a Regional Training Center by USTA Player Development. This Regional Training Center will be the cornerstone of a network of associated programs which will be called the “USTA Midwest Training Center” and includes the Libertyville Tennis and Fitness Club in Libertyville, IL; Midtown Tennis Club and Score Tennis & Fitness Clubs in Chicago. Along with these facilities, the Section has created “The Midwest Coaches Commission” encompassing top coaches from the Midwest Section who will oversee training and coaching education opportunities as well as a focus on coaching education from the state to the regional level. The main concept behind the plan will be to identify talented players from local areas and move them up to the State, Regional and National level by providing both 10 and Under (QuickStart) and High Performance camps for players 8-14 years old. This bottom up approach is a much different model than USTA has had in the past.

For more information on the RTCs and Midwest Coaches Commission, please visit www.midwest.usta.com.
PLAYER SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS.

In 1989, Bert and June Kaspers created a scholarship fund to provide up to $10,000 of financial assistance for college tuition and expenses to graduating high school senior tennis players in the Southeastern Michigan District. Deadline is June 30th. For further information on the Kaspers’ Scholarship, including application and deadline, visit our district website: www.semich.usta.com.

There are many other opportunities for both Scholarships and Grants throughout the USTA. Please visit our District, Section and National websites for details (including applications and entry deadlines).

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN DISTRICT AWARDS.

HOXIE MEMORIAL AWARD*:
The late Jean and Jerry Hoxie, through their belief in children and a love for the game of tennis, made Hamtramck and Southeast Michigan one of the tennis capitals of the country from the 1940s to the 1960s. Their demand for excellence was coupled with their desire to teach good sportsmanship. Together, they developed more national champions than any other tennis instructors in the history of tennis in the United States.

The Jean and Jerry Hoxie Memorial Award is given to a junior male and female player in Southeast Michigan, who have made a great contribution to the game of tennis through their good sportsmanship and their achievements both on and off the tennis court.

WILLIAM F. BEYER AWARD*:
The late William F. Beyer was one of the first presidents of the Southeast Michigan District (then known as SEMTA). He was instrumental in setting the foundation of the district. His contributions as a volunteer were unsurpassed. Mr. Beyer was elected President in November of 1946 and served for two years. He also served on numerous committees including the Junior Development Committee (Chairman), Junior Ranking Committee, Junior Davis Cup Committee, Public Parks Committee (Chairman), and Nominating Committee to name a few.

The William F. Beyer Memorial Award is given to an adult individual who is felt to have contributed immeasurably and unselfishly to the game of tennis.

TOWLER MEMORIAL AWARD*:
A true ambassador for the USTA League program, Darlee Towler used the USTA leagues not only to compete, but also to build friendships that went well beyond tennis. Darlee was diagnosed with cancer in December of 2007. Despite a life changing diagnosis, she played on three USTA teams the following summer, and was set to captain a team in the fall of 2008 when the disease progressed to the point where she could not continue to participate.

The Darlee Towler Memorial Award is given to a USTA League player in the Southeast Michigan District who best reflects the qualities that Darlee exhibited as a captain, player and supporter of the USTA League program: honesty, sincerity, loyalty, good sportsmanship and leadership with a commitment to growing tennis.
Southeast Michigan District Awards are presented at our Annual Awards Banquet held in November of each year.

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF ALL PREVIOUS AWARD WINNERS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.semich.usta.com

TOURNAMENT EVALUATIONS.
You are our eyes and ears for Southeastern Michigan Tournament play. We are constantly striving to improve the quality of all sanctioned tournaments within our district. Please email us (semta@aol.com) with any tournament praises or problems that you incur.

Thank you for your support of USTA programming!
Please call the District Office with any questions
(734) 421-1025
REMEMBER, YOUR ROLE IS TO OBSERVE!

You have no part in the match.

The match is between your player and the opponent.

Your player could be penalized if you do not follow the rules.

- Know the basic rules of tennis.
- Parents and coaches are not allowed on the court for any reason, at any time.
- Do not speak with your player while they are on the court. Communication of any kind (audible or visible) is considered coaching, and your player will be penalized.
- Never assist your player with line calls.
- Your player is the only one who can request an official.
- Abusive behavior towards another player, tournament director or official in language (or body language) will not be tolerated.
- Be supportive, interested and encouraging—regardless of the outcome of the match.
- Please remember to keep the game of tennis in perspective.
- Acknowledge good shots by all players—and never applaud errors.

REMEMBER—You have a duty to encourage and maintain high standards of proper conduct, fair play and good sportsmanship!
TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES FOR PLAYERS

♦ Always be aware of your on court conduct.
♦ Call the lines fair and when in doubt, give it to the opponent. A ball that is 99% out is 100% in.
♦ Do not excessively question line calls. The first question of a call is “are you sure?” the second is “are you sure? Because that looked in to me” the third is “I’m going to get an official so we can both play our best tennis and not worry about the lines”.
♦ Take responsibility for losses.
♦ No profanity or screaming at a level that distracts other courts or brings attention to yourself.
♦ Make a point to thank tournament director for the event, when possible.
♦ No trash talking opponent.
♦ Make the handshake at the end a good one, win or lose, and congratulate your opponent.
♦ Give a good warm-up to your opponent – nobody wins the warm-up.
♦ Manage your emotions during the match – nobody likes a whiner.
♦ No fist pumps for an error by the opponent.
♦ Abide by the rules of the game. Play fair.
♦ Do not win at all cost and win without rubbing it in.
♦ Respect your opponent/s and the game.
♦ Accept the call of the opponent or official. Show the officials respect.
♦ Avoid arguing. Work out disagreements in a calm manner.
♦ Lose without complaining or making excuses.
♦ Leave the court on good terms each time.
♦ Always give 100%.
♦ Be humble.
♦ Do not make excuses, especially in front of others after a match. Give credit to your opponent after a match.
♦ Keep your racquet in your hand; respect the court and the racquet.
♦ Don’t say anything you wouldn’t want your grandmother to hear.
♦ Acknowledge good shots by your opponents verbally or clapping your racquet and hand.
♦ Take allotted time between points and on changeovers. Do not stall.
♦ Play within yourself.
♦ Treat others as you want to be treated on and off of the court. FOLLOW the GOLDEN RULE.
♦ Be cordial to all.
♦ Follow tournament guidelines.
♦ Demonstrate the love of the game and life.
♦ Introduce yourself to the other player.
♦ Show positive body language throughout the match.
♦ Call the score out loudly and clearly when serving.
♦ Call the ball out vocally and physically.
♦ Be polite and respectful by listening and giving eye contact when coach and parent is talking.
♦ Say “hi” and “bye” to coaches at beginning and end of practice.
♦ Shake hands at end of match/competition.
♦ Always say “thank you” after people compliment you as well as to your coaches after practices.
APPENDIX 1:
MIDWEST STANDINGS AND RANKING REQUIREMENTS

STANDINGS: A player must earn 50 points in an age division in order to be included in the USTA/Midwest Standings. Points earned in a player's best six tournaments will be used. If points earned at other events are not one of the "best" six for the player, those points will not be included in the calculation. Matches played in your natural age division, as well as the higher age divisions will be included in the calculation of the standing list. The USTA/Midwest Section Standings will use 12-months of data.

RANKINGS: A player must have earned a minimum of 200 points in an age division in order to be included in the USTA/Midwest Section Final Rankings. A player's final ranking will be based only on the best six tournaments. If points earned at other events are not one of the "best" six for the player, those points will not be included in the calculation. The USTA/Midwest Section Rankings will include match results from January 1st to December 31st of each year.

APPENDIX 2:
MIDWEST SECTION POINTS PER ROUND TABLE

Main Draw with Modified Consolation Tournament Points Per Round, Including First Match Losers Consolation, First Round Losers Consolation, Modified FIC and Compass Draw:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player Results</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 4</th>
<th>Level 5</th>
<th>Level 6</th>
<th>Level 7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Champion</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Place</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Place/SF²</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarterfinalist</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reached R16</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reached R32</td>
<td>180</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>45</td>
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<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reached R64</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reached R128</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reached R255</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Points Earned for Each Consolation Round Won³</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ In Compass Draw events, the First Draw earns main draw Points Per Round; all other directions and Gold Draw gain consolation Points Per Round.
² If there is no playoff for 3rd and 4th place, the semifinalists will receive points in this row.
³ If there is no playoff for 3rd and 4th place, the semifinalists will receive points in this row.
### Main Draw with a Feed-in Championship through Quarterfinals Points Per Round:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player Results</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 4</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Place/SF²</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIC Champion</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIC Finalist</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>90</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>FIC SF</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIC QF</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIC QF Qualifying (Consolation)</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIC R16</td>
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<td>95</td>
<td>80</td>
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<td>32</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIC R32</td>
<td>180</td>
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<td>24</td>
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<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIC R64</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIC R128 Qualifying (Consolation)</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Players who lose their first Main Draw match are fed into the following round of a Feed-in Championship:
2. Draw Size: FIC QF Qualifying; 32 Draw Size: FIC R16 Qualifying; 64 Draw Size: FIC R32 Qualifying;
128 Draw Size: FIC R64 Qualifying; 256 Draw Size: FIC R128 Qualifying.

### Main Draw with a Feed-in Championship through Semifinals Points Per Round:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player Results</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>38</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIC R128 Qualifying (Consolation)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
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</table>

1. Players who lose their first Main Draw match are fed into the following round of a Feed-in Championship:
2. Draw Size: FIC QF Qualifying; 32 Draw Size: FIC R16 Qualifying; 64 Draw Size: FIC R32 Qualifying;
128 Draw Size: FIC R64 Qualifying; 256 Draw Size: FIC R128 Qualifying.

If there is no playoff for 3rd and 4th place, the semifinalists will receive points in this row.
APPENDIX 3:
MIDWEST SECTION POINTS PER ROUND TOURNAMENT LEVELS FOR 2012

The USTA/Midwest Section Junior Competition Committee shall evaluate and recommend annually the appropriate levels of the events considered for USTA/Midwest Section Junior Standings and Rankings.

The event levels for 2012 are as follows:

**USTA/Midwest Section Level 1 Tournaments:**
- **USTA/Midwest Section Indoor Closed Championships**
- **USTA/Midwest Section Closed Outdoor Championships**
  - BG12-18: June 23-28, 2012; BG10: July 14-16, 32
- **USTA/Midwest Section Fall Closed Championships**
  - BG10 November 3-5, 2012; BG 12-18: November 10-12, 2012

**USTA/Midwest Section Level 2 Tournaments:**
- **USTA/Midwest Section January Designated Series**
  - BG14, 18: January 7-9, 2012; BG 12, 16: January 14-16, 2012
- **USTA/Midwest Section March Designated Series**
  - BG14, 18: March 3-5, 2012; BG 12, 16: March 10-12, 2012
- **USTA/Midwest Section District Team Cup**
  - BG12,14, B18: June 15-17, 2012
- **USTA/Midwest Section Marian Wood Baird Cup**
  - G18: June 15-17, 2012
- **USTA/Midwest Section Open Championships**
- **USTA/Midwest Section December Designated Series**
  - BG12-18: December 8-10, 2012

**USTA/Midwest Section Level 3 Tournaments:**
- **USTA/Midwest Section Level 3 Tournament**
- **Memorial Day Weekend**
- **USTA/Midwest Section Winter Championships**
- **USTA/Midwest Section Level 4 East & West Championships**

**USTA/Midwest Section Level 4 Tournaments:**
- BG 14, 18: January 7-8, 2012
- BG 12, 16: January 14-15, 2012
- BG12-18: February 4-5, 2012
- BG14-18: March 3-4, 2012
- BG12-16: March 10-11, 2012
- BG12-18: District Qualifiers (May-June. Check with District Associations for Dates)
- BG 12-18: August 4-8, 2012
BG10: USTA/Midwest Section Level 4 East & West Championships
- April 28-29, 2012; August 11-12, 2012; September 1-3, 2012; November 23-25, 2012
- BG12-18: December 8-9, 2012

USTA/Midwest Section Level 5 Tournaments:
- BG 12-18: March 24-25, 2012
- BG 12-18: May 5-6, 2012
- BG 12-18: June 16-18, 2012
- BG 12-18: July 7-9, 2012
- BG 12-18: July 14-16, 2012

BG10,12,14,18 USTA Jr. Team Tennis Sectional Championships-Advanced Divisions
- BG 12-18: September 1-3, 2012
- BG 12-18: September 15-17, 2012
- BG 12-18: October 6-8, 2012
- BG 12-18: December 14-16, 2012

All other USTA National Scheduled Events BG 12,14,16,18

USTA/Midwest Section Level 6 Tournaments:
- BG10,12,14,18 USTA Jr. Team Tennis Sectional Championships-Intermediate Divisions
- All other sanctioned tournaments in the USTA/Midwest Section

USTA/Midwest Section USTA Level 7 Tournaments:
- All USTA/Midwest Section-Sanctioned QuickStart Formatted Tournaments-BG8 and BG10
- All USTA/Midwest Section-Sanctioned Level 7 Tournaments-BG12,14,16,18

FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON MIDWEST SECTION POINTS PER ROUND AND TOURNAMENTS, VISIT THEIR WEBSITE:
www.midwest.usta.com
THE JNTRP - General Characteristic of Various Playing Levels

1.0 Player is just starting to play tennis and is learning the basic skills of 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 volley but has knowledge of court positioning in both singles and doubles.

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. 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 by coming to the net. Player is developing more spin and power on the serve and seldom double faults. Player is becoming more aggressive, is applying basic strategy in singles, and is 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 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 the player has begun to master the use of power and spins. Player can vary depth of shots and game plan according to his or her opponent's play. 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 matchwise and uses shots that have a high percentage of success in both singles and doubles.