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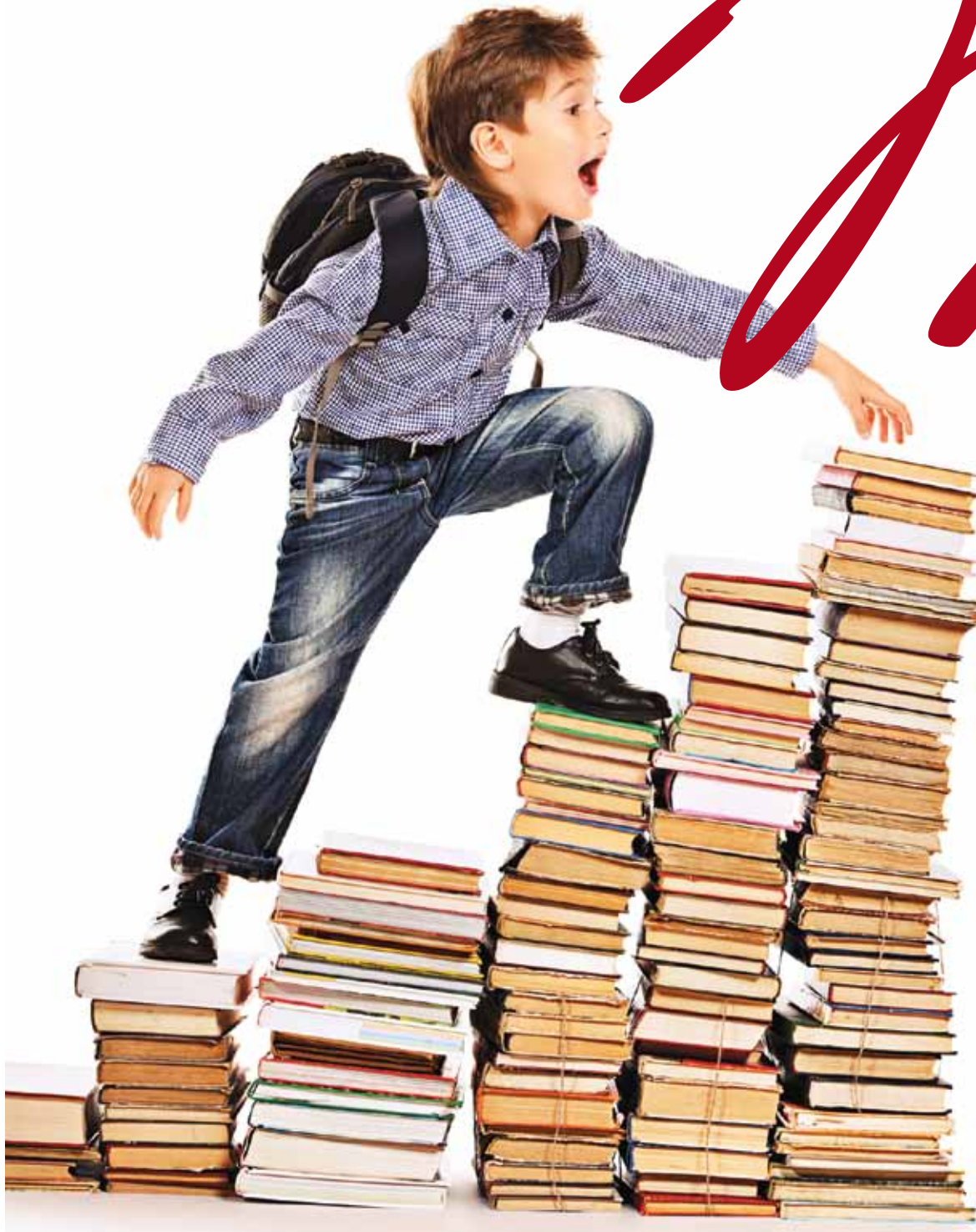
Year 40, Issue 2

The Official Publication of Tennis Lovers

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July 3 - 5	4 th of July Family Camp	Adults 3.5 - 4.0, Juniors Ages 9 - 15
July 10 - 12	Adult "Tennis & Nutrition Camp"	3.0 - 4.0
July 13 - 14	Junior Two-Day Intermediate Camp	Ages 9 - 10
July 24 - 26	Adult Three-Day Camp	4.0
July 27 - 28	Junior Two-Day Advanced Camp	Ages 10 - 13
August 3 - 5	Junior Camp - High School Varsity	Ages 13 - 17
August 21 - 23	Adult Three-Day Camp	2.5 - 3.0
Sept 11 - 13	7th Annual Culinary & Wine-Tasting Camp	3.0 - 4.0
Sept 18 - 20	Adult Mixed Doubles Camp	3.5 - 4.5
Oct 23 - 25	Adult Three-Day Camp	3.0 - 3.5
Oct 30 - Nov 1	Adult Three Day Halloween Camp	3.5 - 4.0
Nov 6 - 8	Adult Three-Day Camp	2.5
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FEATURES

6 CAN SCHOOL TENNIS HELP CHILDREN DEVELOP PHYSICAL LITERACY?



What is physical literacy? Simply put it's a collection of basic movement and sport skills such as running, jumping, skipping, catching, throwing and kicking. The earlier children correctly learn these skills, the more "fluent" and confident they will be in physical activity. That confidence affects every part of their lives, from academic to social. With physical literacy, they'll have more fun in a diversity of sports and they'll be more likely to be active for the rest of their lives. But physical literacy doesn't just happen on its own. It's a "vocabulary" of movement that has to be learned.

And what better place to learn than in school?

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About COLORADO TENNIS

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Let's get

Physical!

Last year, Colorado Tennis ran a series of editorials bemoaning the lamentable state of athletic acumen in our youth.

At the heart of the issue was a simple, basic fact: many of our children aren't developing the basic physical skills necessary to serve them throughout their lifetime.

Physically active and confident kids do better academically and socially, so it is critical that they develop fundamental physical skills, such as running, balancing, jumping, skipping, throwing, striking and catching.

These basic physical skills are the core components of Physical Literacy, a system of physical education that's being implemented in Canada and in certain areas of the United Kingdom.

Physical Literacy is not about excellence in a single sport; it's about competence and confidence in a full range of activities that require strength, flexibility and endurance, the building blocks to all other skills and vital for overall health. More importantly, being physically literate doesn't stop when a child leaves school; the benefits will last a lifetime.

We all believe that tennis is the sport for a lifetime.

More profoundly, can tennis become the sport that helps transform our nation's youth and provide the foundation of physical literacy in our schoolchildren?

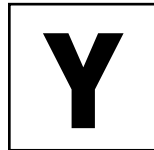


For kids to get physically active, they need to feel confident in activity settings. Just as learning the alphabet is necessary to read, the development of fundamental movement skills and fundamental sport skills is critical if children are to feel good about physical activity.

Physical Literacy is the mastering of fundamental movement skills and fundamental sport skills that permit a child to read their environment and make appropriate decisions, allowing them to move confidently and with control in a wide range of physical activity situations. It supports long-term participation and performance to the best of one's ability.

Although many children develop good physical skills on their own, there are many who do not. Physically skilled children often enjoy vigorous healthy play, while the less skilled are often left out. This can lead to decreased effort and eventual withdrawal from physical activities. Being active can help young kids:

- Maintain a healthy body weight
- Improve movement skills
- Increase fitness
- Build healthy hearts
- Have fun and feel happy
- Develop self-confidence
- Improve learning and attention



ou have probably heard the terms *literacy* and *literate*. We often use these terms when we talk about reading and writing—but there are other ways to be literate (e.g., speech, media, music). Literacy can also involve being educated or cultured and includes having knowledge and competence. In that light, physical literacy is a way to become educated and knowledgeable about movement. A useful analogy of physical literacy is comparing it to effectively writing and presenting a speech:

Speech Literacy

You need to know how to spell, read and organize words to create grammatically correct sentences and paragraphs so that you can communicate your message effectively.

You need to think critically, make wise decisions, consult with others, and adjust your pace, tone, and volume according to your audience, intention and values.

Physical Literacy

You need basic movement skills, like running, jumping, and throwing, to interact with knowledge and motor abilities, like balance, coordination and strength, to perform more complex combinations of skills. You can then use these skills in many movement forms (dance, games, fitness training and activities of daily living) and settings (land, air, snow and water).

You need mental, emotional and social qualities such as understanding, motivation and being able to overcome barriers to participating enjoyably, creatively and cooperatively with others in a variety of settings.

Physical literacy shapes many aspects of our lives. For example, competent movers tend to be successful both academically and socially. They understand and demonstrate healthy-active lifestyles, are able to transfer movement skills into different settings, and are more socially and psychologically resilient. Improving in all the features of physical literacy will promote the development of physical competence; confident participation in a wide variety of purposeful physical pursuits; effective interaction in a wide variety of situations and environments; development of confidence and self-esteem; sensitive interaction with others; knowledge and understanding of the importance of physical activity in maintaining health; commitment to participate in a range of purposeful physical pursuits; ability to reflect realistically on personal strengths and to select appropriate, purposeful physical pursuits in which to take part; appreciation of the value of purposeful physical pursuits in their potential to enhance the quality of life.

Research has shown that being physically active later in life depends on an individual's ability to feel confident in an activity setting.

That confidence most often comes from having learned fundamental movement and sport skills, or physical literacy, as a child.

Research has also shown that without the development of physical literacy, many children and youth withdraw from physical activity and sport and turn to more inactive and/or unhealthy choices during their leisure time.



Physical literacy is just as important as the ability to read and write.

The most important step toward developing physical literacy is mastering fundamental movement skills, such as running, jumping, skipping, catching, throwing and kicking.

The earlier children correctly learn these skills, the more "fluent" and confident they will be in physical activity.

That confidence affects every part of their lives, from academic to social.

But physical literacy doesn't just happen on its own. It's a "vocabulary" of movement that has to be learned.

And what better place to learn than in school?



For a physical educator, nothing can be more satisfying than to give a student the tools that can positively impact a young life....

When you bring tennis into a school — elementary, middle or high school — the benefits to the students transcend the boundaries on the court. Students build self-confidence, learn teamwork and sportsmanship as well as lead healthy lifestyles.



Beyond kickball and tag...

USTA School Tennis is a national program that enriches the lives of elementary, middle and high school youngsters through tennis. By giving students an opportunity to learn the basic skills of tennis in their physical education classes and then developing extracurricular tennis playing programs, students are learning fundamental movement skills and are building confidence in their ability to learn new games. They're getting fit, and having fun doing it.

The program includes a free in-service training workshop for physical education teachers which gives them the skills and materials necessary to teach tennis. Teachers gain access to a comprehensive step by step curriculum, discounted equipment and free student assemblies.

The program's primary goal is to introduce tennis into schools through physical education and after school programs to help increase diversity and provide exposure to the sport on a large scale. Another benefit of the program is that it helps to create a future generation of tennis players who will help to keep the sport strong.

USTA School Tennis History

The USTA Schools Program was developed in 1984 with the leadership of Community Tennis Pioneer, Eve Kraft. Arthur Ashe served as the original spokesperson. The original charge was to "work closely with the tennis community in each participating town and city to assure the development of coordinated programs at school sites or nearby parks after school and in the summer."

An initial curriculum and training program was developed to implement tennis into schools without the need for tennis courts. "Clinicians" were recruited to conduct teacher in-services and assemblies. Additionally, volunteers were utilized at the local level to help contact schools, secure and rotate equipment, as well as coordinate training and assembly dates with the Section offices.

By the early 1990s, most Sections had fulltime Schools Program coordinators that were responsible for conducting teacher trainings, distributing equipment, hosting assemblies, and connecting students to follow up programs through partnerships with parks and recreation, National Junior Tennis League, Community Tennis Associations, youth organizations, and tennis facilities. A national equipment sponsor was also secured that provided equipment at a low cost to the USTA for distribution to schools around the country.

In 2005, an industry think tank was established to maximize the reach and benefit of the USTA Schools Program. Think tank participants included industry leaders, physical education and after school experts, national volunteers and staff. Outcomes from the think tank included:

1. An innovative curriculum developed by leading physical education experts
2. Kid-friendly equipment provided for schools and after school programs
3. A focus on after school program implementation

The program also expanded to include seven major tennis manufacturers to provide discounted equipment to programs nationwide. An online registry for tracking programs was also instituted in 2011 to track progress and assist with follow-up efforts. In 2014, the program experienced it's highest results to date with over 2,000,000 kids impacted in tennis in PE and 250,000 kids in after school programs (Kids' Tennis Clubs).

School Tennis in Colorado

"It was 1985, when USTA National unveiled its plan to expand the USTA Schools pilot program of 5-7 USTA Sections and roll it out to all 17 Sections," recalls USTA Colorado Executive Director, Fritz Garger, who was the Intermountain Section's School Tennis Coordinator at the time.

"In those days, the USTA had its recreational operations wing in Princeton, New Jersey, while all other operations were in New York. So 17 of the inaugural nationwide program staff descended on Princeton to meet with the lead staff from the Recreational Tennis hub for the USTA. The National leaders at the time included: Eve Kraft (Director), Maggie Lawliss and Larry Tabak (Schools Program Directors) and support staff (Lew Brewer, Tessa Doeff, Beth Shetzley and a host of others). The 17 staff hired in these positions were technically employees of both USTA National and their respective Section offices. The obvious goal was simple – although the execution of that goal was anything but – get tennis into the physical education classes of every school in the country."



Educators who are changing lives through tennis

PROFILES BY
TOMFASANO

Thirty years have gone by, and while the framework that National put into place (i.e. materials, training and support) continue to this day, the funding on the direct support of staffing the program at the Section level dried up years ago. Fortunately, Garger knew the importance of the program from his years at the Section and didn't let it die here in Colorado.

"Our District picked up the ball immediately and incorporated budget and staffing components to keep the initiative alive and flourishing for Colorado. We have one of the most successful Schools Programs in the country to this day."

And flourish it has. To date, three-quarters of a million students in Colorado have experienced tennis through their physical education curricula.

Schools and Tennis: the Perfect Match

From a PE provider's perspective, USTA School Tennis is an ideal partner. In addition to providing training, curricula and discounted equipment, School Tennis incorporates many of the national standards that educators must teach to, all while keeping costs to a minimum — a key feature in an era where physical education budgets are being slashed at every level.

Nikki Hola is a teaching professional and USTA School Tennis Clinician. She recognizes the vital importance that School Tennis plays not only to the PE teacher, but also to the children who experience tennis in class.

"School tennis is important because, first, it provides kids with another possibility to be athletic and active. The obesity problem is a challenge in America today and tennis can be another option for kids to exercise. Most PE classes give kids the chance to be active during PE, yet tennis gives kids an introduction to a sport they could play outside of PE for exercise.

Secondly, tennis not only provides kids with exercise, it teaches life skills and a chance for kids to learn about themselves and how to overcome obstacles and challenges. Skills that can be transferred from the tennis court into life."

From USTA Colorado's perspective, School Tennis is the perfect vehicle to help introduce tennis to a diverse audience of kids, a strategic priority for the governing body of tennis in our state. And because many of the schools that have incorporated tennis into their PE programming are located inside of cities, the program also provides a great opportunity to dispel the notion that tennis is complicated, costly and elitist.

"We believe in school tennis because many people have a stigma about tennis that it is only a country club sport and it's too expensive, so they don't think about tennis as a sport for their kids," says Hola. "School tennis brings tennis to the kids and allows kids to experience the sport and hopefully develop an enjoyment of the game and want to continue playing. From there, parents can be educated about places to play tennis (after school tennis or kids clubs) that aren't expensive and fit their budget."

And because kids can grow confident in their new skills in a non-competitive and fun environment, that confidence inspires them to keep learning. The learning process is cyclical — kids are motivated to try new things; the more they try, the more competent they get; each success builds more confidence; confidence inspires them to try more.

Jason Jamison, USTA's National Manager of the School Tennis program, echoes the sentiment that tennis is a great fit for schools: "By making the sport accessible and easy to learn with "kid-friendly" court and equipment modifications, students of all backgrounds and abilities can experience a sport they can enjoy their entire life. It can also provide a platform for introducing basic life skills and sportsmanship traits including honesty, teamwork, caring, respect, and responsibility. This will be of benefit on and off the court."

Furthermore, Jamison cites studies that have found that kids who play tennis get better grades, are less likely to be overweight, are less prone to behavior problems, and are more community minded. "Tennis is one of the healthiest activities for kids and adults alike," says Jamison. "There are physical, emotional, and social benefits that are unique to playing tennis."

Attending a USTA Recreational Coaches Workshop three years ago was probably one of the best things **Tricia Diehl** could do for students at Liberty Common School, a charter school in Fort Collins.

Diehl had many meetings with USTA Colorado Community Youth Tennis Coordinator Cindy MacMaster about getting a middle school program started, and she became instrumental in getting the elementary and high school PE teachers to add tennis to their curricula.

"Cindy was really supportive on the middle school program, which we've now had for three years and has grown every single year. She was my cheerleader," Diehl said. "In addition, that helped generate the interest outside of the middle school program to be able to bring it into the elementary school and the high school. I have close to 30 kids on our team, and I would say close to half of them have never played tennis before and I think that's really exciting."

In the middle school program, Diehl has six parent coaches, none of them are paid.

"We all volunteer our time there. We do sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade, and we have three student coaches, and those are kids that are in high school," Diehl said.

Diehl said the program has been supported by USTA Colorado, as have been the community members.

"That's how I know most of those people. That's how I know to reach out to these other coaches is through that USTA community," she said.

Diehl said the program is different than other sports because it is a no-cut sport so any kid can become a part of the program.

"I love that some of these kids will play year round," Diehl said. "We make it a lot of fun. Those kids love coming to practice."

The one challenge Diehl had was finding courts to play on, but they're using Lee Martinez Park courts. She said the six adult coaches are the key to the program's success. "The experience, the passion, the enthusiasm that they have brought to this ... where do 30 kids get that many coaches? We have somebody on every single court helping those kids every time we practice," Diehl said.

Diehl's recommendation to other parents interested in starting a school tennis program is to have perseverance. "I would say building that group of parents is absolutely the key," Diehl said.

Kenny Webb was the man who brought USTA school tennis to the Aurora Public Schools' students and teachers, but he credits others for assisting him.



"It got started with (USTA Colorado's) Kristy Jenkins and Kristy Harris, and what we tried to do was create a community partnership between the school district and USTA to offer tennis to as many students as we possibly could," said Webb, currently the Aurora Public Schools instructional coordinator for physical education and the arts. "We had them come out and they did a couple of professional developments for us with almost all of our elementary PE teachers, and then there was the matching equipment grants that USTA had for a while. We had several schools take advantage of that."

Webb said future goals are to continue to build that partnership through Aurora Parks and Recreation, USTA Colorado and the school district and increasing the amount of students who know

what tennis is and giving them the resources to go out and find places to play tennis when they're not in school.

Webb said the main focus is to teach tennis to the kindergarten through fifth-grade students.

"I would say that's the most important group in the district because it builds up," Webb said. "Middle school and high school guys don't really get involved as much in things. When they see it working and being successful at the elementary level, they tend to take it on a little bit better."

One of the major benefits that Webb sees in exposing kids to tennis through the school system is that it's not a very expensive sport.

"Especially for our low income students, they have the opportunity to go out and play as long as they have a racquet and ball," Webb said. "A lot of the public parks and most of the middle schools and high schools have tennis courts they can play at if they have that equipment."

Webb said tennis is a good fit when it comes to being accountable to the state and national PE standards.

"No. 1 is movement competency so you're hitting that through all the different strategies on the court to move your body around to get balls," he said. "Standard No. 2 is all about that personal wellness and fitness and finding activities you like to do for a lifetime. Standard No. 3 is all about that personal and social responsibility, and being able to hold yourself accountable. No. 4 is that risk management and safety. You're introducing on how to swing a racquet safely, safety on the court and stuff like that."

<continued>

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Pat Kelly is actively fundraising to implement tennis in all Adams 50 schools, and she seems to be having the time of her life.

"We're talking about 10 (schools). My goal is to get eventually in all of the 20 schools, but it's how you grow the program. You grow it in quantity, but you also grow it in depth at the same time," said Kelly, the president of the District 50 Education Foundation. "Tennis takes some discipline, focus, tenacity, but it builds character and behavior really fast."

Kelly, who credits many people for the program's success, said in 2011 she asked USTA if she could start a National Junior Tennis & Learning chapter locally.

"I immediately went to see if I could find partners. Well, USTA Colorado was a really great partner," said Kelly, who received a three-year capacity building grant from USTA which is a building-block program of sustainability. "(USTA Colorado) worked with me to train 13 out of 15 PE teachers, and they did that for a number of workshops. Then I partnered with the District 50 Education Foundation, and on that Foundation was the chair of the school board as well as the superintendent and a lot of community members along with teachers in the district. It was a great group to be able to support it and get behind it. Then we reached out to Hyland Hills Parks and Recreation, and they agreed to add four new tennis classes to their summer programming, preschool through adults. Another partner, AmeriCorps, was really strategic for us. Through AmeriCorps, we were able to really get access to training and sports management leadership, along with the USTA."

Kelly said the secrets to success are relationship building, trust and results, as well as having a passion and love for what she does. More than 4,100 kids have been introduced to in-school tennis workshops. Not having tennis courts is a challenge, so play is done in the gym where three nets are spread in the gym.

"You create goodwill, you create positive change and you create a future," said Kelly, whose program teaches 350 preschoolers (3-5 years of age) every week and targets kids through fifth grade. "The PE teachers are thinking about those kids coming up and are interested in teaching them those skills. Each school is a little different and they're accommodating it in a different way. The sport is amazing because it is really a lifestyle, and it's also a tool of emotional management and a way to accommodate frustration. It teaches them patience and kindness when they play together. The sport builds honesty and integrity because you have to call your own lines. My goal would be to be able to have tennis racquets and a ball for every kid that's in the program."

Craig Marshall teaches tennis to juniors for Parker Tennis as well as boys and girls at Legend High School in Parker.

The retired PE teacher for Aurora Public Schools, who retired in 2012 after 32 years of teaching, remembers putting on tennis assemblies at Crawford Elementary School in 2003.

"That's when I just totally realized how important it is to get a tennis racquet in these kids' hands," Marshall said. "It's something that they immediately go, 'Oh my, I can do this. This is fun.' A lot of these kids never experienced this."

Marshall started with Parker Tennis in 2011.

"In the process, Kristy Harris and Kristy Jenkins, through USTA Colorado, approached me and said, 'We would love to have you get back into the schools program with this Adopt-a-School Program.'"

Marshall told Harris and Jenkins that he would be all over that.

"But out here in Douglas County, I wanted to think a little bit outside of the box," Marshall said. "Instead of just going to the elementary schools, I said let's go middle schools. It was flat-out awesome. I did this Adopt-a-School Program at Cimarron Middle School which feeds into Legend. I reached 120 sixth-graders in eight days with a long-term vision of establishing a tennis club there. Every kid had a racquet in their hands. You could tell the light bulbs going on. It's such a great way to expose kids to tennis."

Marshall's goal is for the kids to get involved and love the sport for a lifetime.

"That's my whole focus," he said.

Marshall said the Adopt-a-School initiative can be a supportive tool, especially if PE teachers get on board by starting tennis clubs and continuing the sport into the future.

"It's almost like I'm working through USTA Colorado, I'm my own entity in Parker Tennis, but I'm also providing this to a school," he said. "We're adopting a school to continue to play tennis. All of our activities are so in line with tracking and coordination. Tennis isn't new, but it's a great way to achieve different goals that PE teachers have. It's incredible. You have more kids that are exposed to the game."

Marshall said the Cimarron Middle School staff ordered 40 racquets, two nets and a bunch of tennis balls to keep at the school forever.

"Isn't that awesome?" Marshall said.



The Real Diehl: Trisha Diehl started a middle school tennis program at Liberty Common School in Fort Collins which has since expanded to the elementary and high school level. Thirty kids, half of whom never played tennis, joined the middle school program, which is supported by six parent-volunteers and three student coaches.



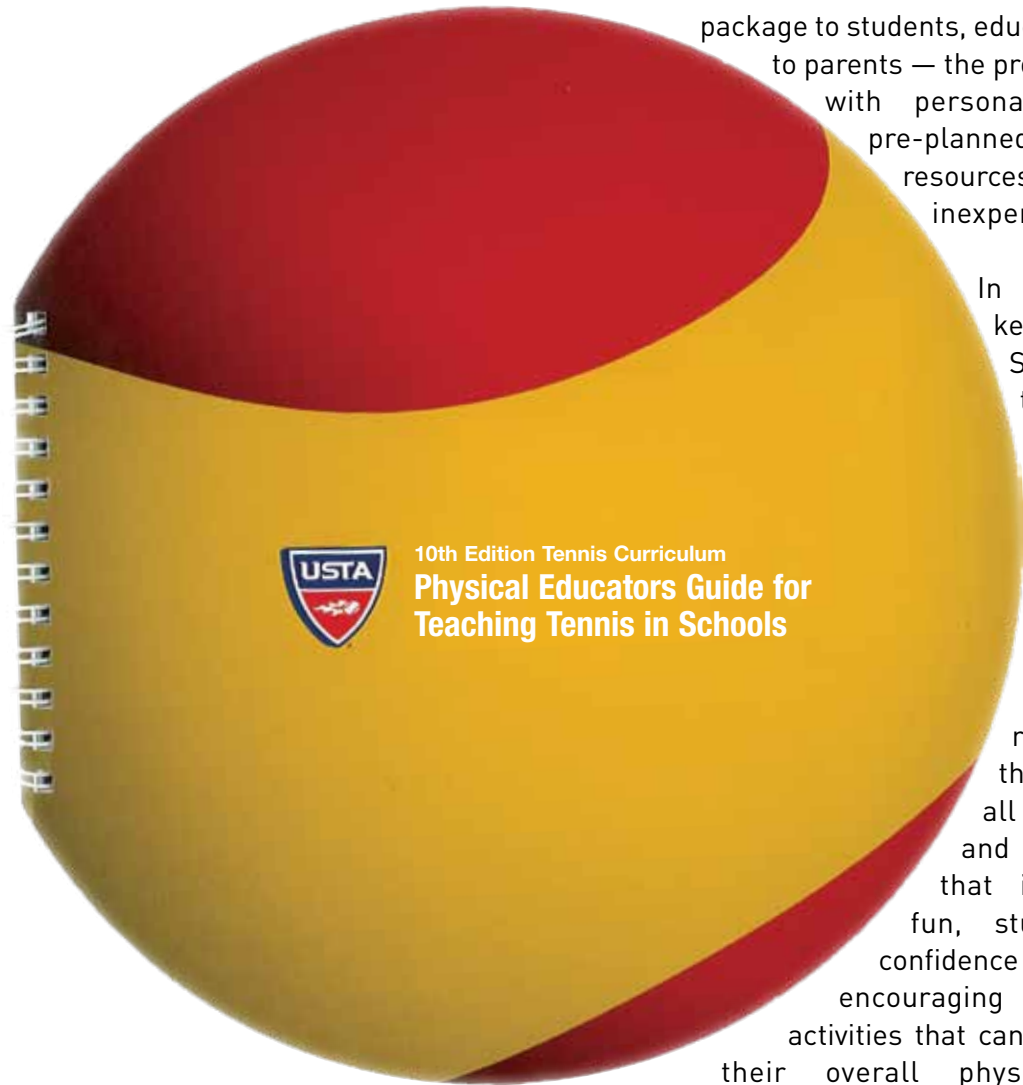
Outreach: Pat Kelly's NJTL tennis program teaches 350 preschoolers every week, thanks in large part to Kelly's tenacity in finding supporters in the community.



Adopt-a-School casts big net: Legend High School tennis coach Craig Marshall adopted Cimarron Middle School, a feeder for Legend, and conducted a series of tennis clinics through its PE program. In eight days, he exposed 120 sixth-graders to the sport. Not only were the students excited, Cimarron staff ordered racquets, nets and balls so that tennis could be a permanent feature at the school.

The easiest (and most complete) way to develop Physical Literacy in students?

Hint: it's all inside the book.



10th Edition Tennis Curriculum
Physical Educators Guide for Teaching Tennis in Schools

USTA School Tennis delivers the whole package to students, educators and to parents — the program comes with personalized training, pre-planned curriculum and resources, making it easy and inexpensive to implement.

Anyone can help bring a USTA School Tennis program to their school or community: PE teachers, administrators, faculty, volunteers and/or after-school providers.

Parental involvement has also proven to be extremely productive in the creation of School Tennis programs.

In addition to the turn-key implementation of the School Tennis curriculum, the program teaches fundamental physical skills while motivating students to participate with fun activities in a tennis environment.

Facilities across the state, including Work Out West (Greeley), Meadow Creek Tennis & Fitness Club (Lakewood), Parker Tennis and the Tennis Center at Steamboat Springs have all adopted schools, giving students the opportunity to continue to learn to play tennis outside of school.

Basic skills such as agility, balance, catching, dribbling, hopping, lifting/lower, running, skipping, striking, throwing and volleying are all incorporated into each and every lesson, meaning that in addition to having fun, students quickly gain confidence as their skills expand,

Schools don't even need to have access to tennis courts! School Tennis can be played on blacktops, cement multi-purpose courts, or gymnasium floors. Courts can also be set up on packed dirt, or even on grass.

encouraging them to try new activities that can further enhance their overall physical literacy. **For additional information, resources or to start a School Tennis program in your community, visit <http://coloradotennis.com>.**

THEBUZZ

NOUNS IN THE NEWS

PEOPLE, PLACES & THINGS DOING THIS, THAT AND THE OTHER.

In Memoriam

Colorado Tennis Hall of Famer **Arnie Brown** passed away on January 31. He was a top junior teaching professional producing numerous tournament players during his 40-year career, many at the National level. He helped bring the only Davis Cup match ever played in Colorado to Cherry Hills Country Club in 1963.

Art Knott, longtime Denver tennis player, passed away on March 30. He played baseball at South High and the University of Denver, and went on to play semi-pro. He then found a new love in the game of tennis, and he and his wife, Sue, enjoyed many years on the courts. Art served as the editor and publisher of the Denver Tennis Club Newsletter, *The Racket*, for 25 years. He worked in media sales and sales management in Denver for 55 years.

Donations in memory of both Arnie and Art can be made to the Colorado Youth Tennis Foundation at <http://cytf.net>.

RFA Girls High School Challenge is On!

Compete against other high school tennis teams off the court and make a difference for kids on the court. The CYTF is challenging girls' tennis teams from around the state to collect gently used racquets that **Racquets for All** will, in turn, refurbish and share with kids and adults who don't have access such equipment. Since 2010, Colorado high school teams have collected close to 500 racquets and given hundreds of people across the state access to the lifetime sport of tennis – including many high school students who

want to play for their school! Bring the racquets to Regionals and/or State Championships for tallying. **The team that collects the most racquets will receive recognition and a cash reward of up to \$200!** Get all the details at <http://coloradotennis.com>.

Upcoming Adaptive Tennis Events Welcome All

Special Olympics Colorado is excited to offer opportunities for new and current players, unified partners, volunteers and coaches to experience and learn more about playing and coaching adaptive tennis. For more information contact Vicky Matarazzo <vickymomof5@hotmail.com> or Jen Anast-Clark <jac@SpecialOlympicsCO.org>.

Saturday, May 16, 9am-2pm

Training for current and interested volunteers and coaches (9am-12pm) followed by a Play Event for current and interested players and unified players (12-2pm)
Mullen High School tennis courts (Denver)

Saturday, June 6, 3-5pm

Special Olympics Summer Classic Tennis Expo/Drop-in tennis play for current and future players, volunteers, coaches, unified partners.
Colorado Mesa University tennis courts (Grand Junction)

10 and Under Tennis Workshops

Two opportunities are coming up to help anyone working

with kids ensure they have a great time and want to keep playing the sport of tennis for a lifetime. Don't miss one of these high-energy, hands-on 10 and Under workshops conducted by USA-certified trainers. Perfect for anyone who wants to work with kids more effectively and develop coaching skills — parks and rec, summer camps, extracurricular programs, parents, grandparents and even more experienced coaches pursuing certification with the USPTA or PTR teaching associations. May 16, 10am-1:30pm at Rolland Moore Racquet Complex in Fort Collins or May 30, 9am-12:30pm at University of Denver Stapleton Tennis Pavilion. Register now at <http://coachyouthtennis.com> for the free on-line courses and the \$15 on-court workshop.

Tennis Mixer to benefit CWTF

Enjoy an "Up/Down" clinic, drill session, match play, dinner and prizes at the second annual **Colorado Wheelchair Tennis Foundation** fundraiser on Saturday, June 6 from 3-8pm at the Arvada Tennis Center. Cost is \$35 for early registration and \$40 day of the event. Playing wheelchair tennis benefits those sustaining a disabling injury or disease with membership outreach, scholarships, defrayed expenses for wheelchair modifications and purchases, and other assistance as needed. For more information or to register <http://fundraiser.cwtf.net>. Several events are coming up in 2015 through the CWTF so check out the newly improved <http://cwtf.net> to keep up on everything taking place for wheelchair players and able-bodied players!

Wanna talk tennis? Join the conversation at [facebook.com/USTACOLORADO](https://www.facebook.com/USTACOLORADO)



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CardioTennis Training Workshops coming to Life Time Fitness

CardioTennis training courses and a consumer event is slated for the weekend of May 15-17, at Life Time Fitness in Centennial, CO. Email Ted Murray <ted@cardiotennis.com> for additional details.

Friday, May 15: CardioTennis Training Course, 9am-4pm

- How to run CardioTennis and increase income. Completion of the course grants access to games, drills, music and promotional materials, plus a 1-year Authorized Provider membership.

Saturday, May 16: TRX CardioTennis Training Course, 9am-5pm

- Open to any tennis or fitness professional who has completed the CT Training Course. TRX CT is a fantastic class that keeps up to 16 players active on one court getting a complete workout (cardio, strength and flexibility) all in a super fun atmosphere. There is a discount for taking both the CT and TRX CT courses back-to-back.
- Registration online at <http://www.cardiotennis.com>. USPTA Professionals receive 3.5 ECUs for the CT Training and 4 for the TRX CT course. PTR Professionals receive MAPs and Fitness Professionals receive CEU's for NASM for taking either the CardioTennis Training Course and/or the TRX training course.

Sunday, May 17: Consumer event

- Expose people to the excitement of CardioTennis as well as a CardioTennis Triples Tournament and a professional CardioTennis exhibition.

USTA Colorado extends grant deadline

USTA Colorado is continuing to accept grants for new or expanding tennis programs reaching adults and/or seniors as well as matching grants to support the renovation and repair of public tennis courts until June 1, 2015. Check out the recorded funding webinar link at <http://coloradotennis.com> for helpful tips in completing the program grant application and consider how your organization can get more adults involved with the lifetime sport of tennis. The Adopt-a-Court grant application is also available on the website. Join communities across the state who have received helpful financial support for crack repair, court resurfacing, new windscreens and improved lighting. Contact Kristy Harris <kristy@coloradotennis.com> 303/695-4116 x300 with questions.

PTR honors HRCA's Adams

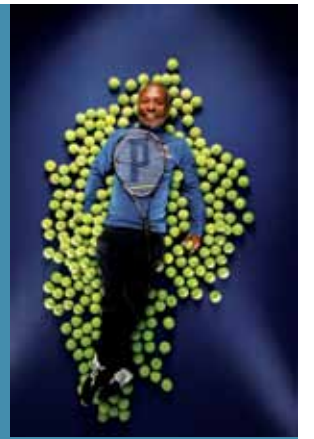
Frank Adams, of Aurora, CO, received the PTR/USTA Service to the Community Award during the 2015 PTR International Tennis Symposium on Hilton Head Island in February. Adams has served the USTA and PTR for more than two decades.

As a PTR Clinician and Tester for 10 & Under and Adult Development, Adams has hosted many PTR workshops in Colorado at the Highlands Ranch Community Association, where he is Head Professional, so others can get certified to teach tennis. He is also a member of the USTA Faculty, and has coached ITA Zonal teams, Special Olympics tennis and wheelchair tennis.

Currently, Adams is on the USTA Nominating Committee and was himself nominated to serve a second term. Former President of both USTA Intermountain and Colorado District, he serves on several national committees, including Diversity and Inclusion, Tennis in the Parks, NJTL, Technical, Innovation and Adaptive Tennis.

At the grassroots level, Adams is a Past President of Denver City Park Racquet Club and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Eastside Tennis Association. For his work with young players, Adams was inducted to the Asian Tennis League Hall of Fame.

He has also been named PTR Colorado Member of the Year, USTA/ITA Volunteer of the Year, and was the CWTF Wheelchair Instructor of the Year twice. In 2014, he received the ITA Youth (10 and Under) Tennis Award. He has also been presented the USTA Colorado Arthur Ashe Award, which is apropos, since Adams was introduced to PTR through the ACE Program, for which Ashe was a proponent and spokesperson.



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USTA breaks ground on the New Home of American Tennis in Lake Nona, FL

The USTA celebrated its arrival in Orlando, FL, with a ground-breaking ceremony for the USTA National Campus, the New Home of American Tennis, in Lake Nona. The model tennis facility, expected to be completed in late 2016, will house the USTA's Community Tennis and Player Development divisions. When completed, the facility will feature more than 100 courts, including red and green clay courts, hard courts, and youth tennis courts. The site, which will be open to the public, also will house a collegiate tennis center capable of hosting a number of college events and will serve as the home for the University of Central Florida's men's and women's varsity teams.

"This is an historic day as the USTA continues to reimagine its future, and redefines how we deliver on our mission of promoting and developing tennis in the United States," said USTA Chairman of the Board and President, Katrina Adams. "By housing our two divisions devoted to growing the game at all levels, and training the next generation of players and coaches, we can have a greater impact on the sport than we ever had before."

The facility is being built in Lake Nona, an integrated, 11-square mile community in Orlando, anchored by clusters of excellence in health, sports, education and technology.

The USTA facility will serve as a cornerstone for Lake Nona's Sports Innovation & Performance District, an emerging athletic district with a focus on research, design, innovation and technology.

The campus will be located on 63-acres of land and will include:

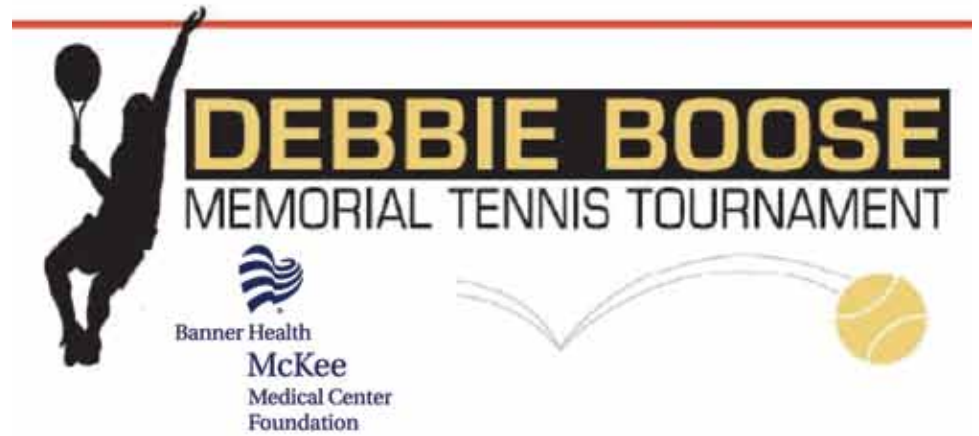
- Tournament & League: 32 Har-Tru green clay courts; 20 Plexicushion hard courts.
- Collegiate Tennis Area: 12 Plexicushion hard courts and one future tournament show court, and will serve as the home of University of Central Florida's tennis programs.
- Team USA: 12 Plexicushion hard courts to be utilized by the 17 USTA Sections to work collaboratively with USTA Player Development.
- High Performance/Player Development: 8 "DecoTurf" hard courts; 8 red clay courts.
- Indoor Tennis Courts: 6 Rebound Ace indoor courts with a viewing area.
- 36/60' Family Tennis: 8 36-foot and 8 60-foot PowerGame courts with a SportsBase that will enable youth and adults to develop their games.
- USTA Office Building: Ground floor will include a tennis pro shop, fitness area, locker rooms, player lounge, and café/restaurant with USTA offices occupying the second floor.
- Technology: The facility will be an epicenter for tennis innovation and education. It will incorporate the latest technology to provide an unparalleled playing, training and educational experience for players, coaches, officials and spectators.

USTA Colorado welcomes back sponsors



USTA Colorado is excited to welcome back **Subaru of America** as official vehicle of the organization for 2015. The partnership helps USTA Colorado promote and grow tennis, specifically in the areas of youth and community tennis development and diversity and inclusion. Subaru's reach also extends to the CYTF through Racquets For All.

KIND has also re-signed as official snack of USTA Colorado. Not only are KIND products delicious and healthy, but the message play hard, play fair, Play KIND created by USTA Colorado and KIND is one that you will see endorsed on the courts again this summer, particularly in the areas of adult and junior league play.



June 8-14, 2015

Loveland, Colorado

*Benefiting Hospice Inpatient Unit and Cancer Center
McKee Medical Center*

Entry Fees

tennislink.usa.com/tournaments (ID#250023415)

\$40 per person and \$15 additional event

Two event limit per person. Fees include gift, food, drink, and Friday Night Dinner by the Cactus Grille!

Special Events

Friday, June 12

Dinner for Players/Guests
Pro & Wheelchair Exhibitions
Debbie Boose Vision Award

Saturday, June 13

Continental Breakfast

Sunday, June 14

Wimbledon-style Breakfast



HIGHFIVE

For the past 39 years, Colorado Tennis (née High Bounce in 1976) has been bringing you profiles of local players, coaches, administrators and anyone else in the Colorado tennis community who shares their passion for the sport with others.

In each issue, we are profiling five individuals who deserve recognition for their efforts and accomplishments. As always, some you will know, while others will be fresh names and faces. We encourage readers to help us recognize others who they think deserve special recognition. Email Kurt Desautels <kurt@coloradotennis.com> with your comments or suggestions.



HIGH FIVE

You can find the complete history of HighFIVEs online at:
<http://colorado.usta.com/cta/news/buzz/highfive>

PROFILES BY
KATIENEWELL

Linda Schley, Tennis Coach at Valor Christian High School, was 10 the first time she picked up a tennis racquet. A well-rounded athlete, she enjoyed basketball and volleyball, she grew up appreciating the gift of sports and how they positively shaped a person's character while teaching them invaluable life lessons.

It is with that background that Linda, a USPTA Certified Professional, has engaged herself in a number of different initiatives that allow her to utilize the sport of tennis as a mechanism to teach our youth, not only the physical aspects of the game, but the important character building aspects as well.

In addition to coaching at the high school level, she has been a school tennis specialist for USTA Colorado since 2009, runs successful summer tennis camps and the Junior Team Tennis program for Valor, and also works with the Tennis Center at Greenwood Athletic Club. This summer Linda will be expanding her involvement with the Junior Team Tennis program by adding the Castle Pines area to the programs under her purview.



LINDASCHLEY

Determined to reach as many individuals as possible, Linda is grateful for her opportunity to coach at Valor. Linda says Valor's willingness to adopt the philosophy of the no-cut program that allows the program to draw new participants to tennis is particularly inspiring to her.

"I've always felt that everyone should have the opportunity to learn how to play any sport they have an interest in," she explains. "In today's competitive world many young athletes are precluded from participating in multiple high school sports robbing them of the opportunity to benefit by all they have to offer."

What is extremely important to Linda is instilling the values of integrity, honesty and self-discipline that young athletes should embrace. "The sport of tennis gives kids the chance to develop their character in a very positive way."

In addition to the youth programs and adult instructional classes she teaches, Linda cherishes the opportunities she has had to work with the disadvantaged. In particular Linda appreciates the work she's doing with Vicky Matarazzo and the Colorado Special Olympics and loves the inspiration she is able to give and receive through that program. She's also been thrilled at the chance to work with wheelchair athletes. "That's been a truly amazing experience for me, they are so remarkably talented!" she explained.

"I just feel incredibly blessed to have the opportunity to be involved in this great sport of tennis in a way that allows me to engage with some really amazing adults and kids and hopefully affect them in a positive way."

For Broomfield Swim & Tennis Club Director of Tennis, Doug Kazarosian, successfully growing tennis in his community is just a natural gift. Born and raised in Wauwatosa, WI, Doug played high school tennis, and began coaching the sport at 18. That early coaching experience would begin a career dedicated to attracting new players to the sport, bringing avid players to the next level, and instilling an understanding of the etiquette for tennis to all those he teaches.

Heading to the University of Colorado as a freshman, Doug lost in the finals in the Walk-On Tournament, stopping his goal of playing for CU. He turned that disappointment into opportunity, becoming a passionate snowboarder, eventually moving to Breckenridge after getting his B.A. in Sociology. It wouldn't be long, however, before the lure of the tennis court and coaching again would bring him back into the sport he loved.

Starting his Colorado teaching career at the Breckenridge Recreation Center, Doug has since taught at the City of Boulder Park and Recreation, The Ranch Country Club, The Meadows, Harvest House, and now in Broomfield, where he also is the Head Boys Tennis Coach. Wherever he's gone, his success in growing both junior and adult programs is impressive. His reputation as an innovative and creative coach follows him to whatever community is lucky enough to have him. He does it all — from the promotion, organization and implementation of all leagues and tournaments, to staffing and curriculum, resulting in not just growth in terms of player participation, but in tennis revenue growth, as well.

With impressive personal court results, including being a five-time Colorado State Champion as well as being ranked No. 1 in Men's 4.5 Singles in 2004, Doug knows personally the work involved in obtaining physical and mental improvement. And while he loves the team tennis format and how that environment teaches camaraderie and teamwork, he acknowledges at its core, it's a sport played individually on one side of the net. "To be really good, you are going to be lonely for a long time," he explains of the dedication it takes to move up.

Crediting mentors such as USTA Intermountain Executive Director Rob Scott for his continued success, Doug said his future goals are to keep growing and building tennis in all ages of netters, simultaneously instilling that tennis is a classy sport, one built on etiquette. Thrilled that he is in an environment that supports his innovation, Doug seeks opportunities to be a trailblazer.

"I am looking for innovative ways to do things, push programs to the next level. I'm very blessed that I have the support around me to be creative with my approach," he said.



DOUGKAZAROSIAN

Being a student athlete in today's hyper-competitive world can sometimes bring out the worst in young people, which is why it is so inspiring to get to know Littleton High School freshmen netter, Zack Fox. Not only is he succeeding on the court where he plays Colorado JTT, tournaments and high school tennis, but he's also committed to making a positive difference off the court, as well.

After dabbling in soccer and baseball, he was introduced to tennis at Ken Caryl Ranch camp. He was so excited about it that he asked if he could start lessons, which he did at Littleton Golf & Tennis, and right away his aptitude for it showed. Zack doesn't come from a tennis family, which comes with challenges as well as benefits, such as having the opportunity to work with a variety of coaches. His unique style of play has come from a blend of all of their styles.

He does feel that Brent Mazza, a coach at High Altitude Tennis in Parker, helped him advance in his approach to the game. "He pushed me to a higher level than I was comfortable with before," Zack explains. Knowing reaching his goals will take physical and mental growth on the court, Zack isn't afraid of the hard work that lies ahead. "My coach told me that the most important thing I could learn was to be honest about where my abilities were at that time." He adds approaching the game in that way made a difference.

Living a healthy lifestyle is at the heart of the Harrington family and no one lives that example better than wife and mother, Tanya Harrington. From running with their family dog, to Insanity Workout classes, volleyball, tennis and basketball, the sports-centered family — husband Todd, 14 year-old son Carter, and 12 year-old daughter Sadie — are committed to an active life.



TANYA HARRINGTON

Tanya is equally committed to tennis, both as a player and a USTA Adult League captain. Her passion for tennis began in 2000 having moved from the mid-west to Louisiana with her husband. Finding joy on the tennis court, she started as a 3.0 and started working her way up and gradually getting more involved.

Describing Tanya as merely involved is actually a bit of an understatement for the tennis enthusiast who in some years has played on as many as nine league teams as well as participated in numerous tournaments. This year so far she is playing on six teams, including three mixed doubles and singles in the 18+, 40+ and Daytime. She is captain of a 4.0 18+ squad, as well as an 8.0 MXd, and co-captain for the 4.0 40+ and 40+ MXd. Getting to play with her husband, Todd, is a bonus, while Carter played on Team Colorado, making tennis a real family affair.

Assuming the role of a league captain takes a unique passion, and strong organization and management skills, all of which Tanya possesses. A manager for the federal government, she is well suited to the responsibilities that are required of a team captain, and doesn't mind the added responsibilities, "I think I gravitate naturally to leadership roles," she explains. She also loves the camaraderie of the women on her teams, having attended an all-girls' college. "It's interesting all of the dynamics. I enjoy what I do."

Jarret Sutphin, NTRP & Flex League Coordinator says Tanya is a unique captain. "She's fun and very strong at organization," he says, "and that tends to help make her teams stronger. People are well informed on her teams, and that makes a big difference."

There are a lucky few who find what they love to do at a very young age and become so good at it that they can build an exciting life around it. For Simona Bruetting, Colorado Athletic Club Inverness Tennis Professional, that passion is tennis and it was the door opener to a new life in the United States and into a career in which she thrives. When asked what tennis has meant to her in her life, she laughs and quickly answers, "Everything!"

Simona, born in Czechoslovakia (now Slovakia), was 8 when it was suggested she try tennis. Coming from a non-tennis family and passionate about violin at the time, she had her doubts but it wasn't too long before she and everyone else knew she was uniquely suited for success on the court.

Winning the 14s, 16s, and 18s singles and doubles titles in Slovakia, her success would propel her to play at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, LA where she earned her Sports Management degree, later completing a Masters of Sports Management from the University of New Orleans. While playing college tennis, she climbed as high as No. 14 in the NCAA rankings. As exciting as the move to the US was for her, it wasn't without challenge. "It was definitely culture shock," she expresses of her first few weeks in the US. "But I also loved it here and knew I would stay."

Simona won the Colorado State Open in 2008 in mixed doubles with partner Peter Richman. She's won nationally at the 5.0 level and the 35s in 2011. In addition, she's won several singles and doubles USTA National gold balls in 35s and 40s divisions. Currently representing the USA at the ITF World Championships, she spends as much as 30 hours a week on the court. Keeping up her own high level of play is a definite priority. "I want to maintain my ability to play in national tournaments and World Team Competitions. I hope to stay healthy so that I can continue at that level."

A Team Colorado coach, Bruetting enjoys working with all levels but has a special passion for introducing brand new players to the game. "It's great working with the 2.5 level because they are so excited by the game." She also enjoys working with the "little ones" just getting started. Working with competitive juniors is another of her passions but she acknowledges it's not the same game it was when she was young. "The game has just gotten so much faster. It's much more physical now with harder hitting."

While those who work with Simona know how giving she is as a coach, she feels that has been the lucky one. "Tennis has given me so much in my life! It's given me the ability to travel the world and the opportunity to meet some of my closest friends."



ZACK FOX

"I can leave the court after a 6-0, 6-0 loss and still find something to be happy about."

Committing his time and energy to the Racquets for All Program as a project for his bar mitzvah, Zack collected over 100 racquets which will go to underserved communities and give others a chance to play. Coordinating the racquet drives and working with other committed community members was a challenging task. It wasn't something he had to do — he chose to do it knowing how much he personally appreciates the opportunity he has to compete.

Wise beyond his years, Zack describes how tennis is a great equalizer. "When you walk onto a tennis court, everyone is equal. Everyone is just a tennis player at that moment." Zack played No. 2 doubles this year, and hopes to play singles next year. Crediting his opportunity to play and strong sportsmanship skills to parents Eileen and Mike, it is his younger brother, Coby, who gave him the belief that he could succeed. "He proved to me that it is possible to reach my highest goals," among which are playing collegiate tennis at Denver University and enjoying a career in the renewable energy resources field, as well as coaching young kids to play tennis.

Next to tennis, Zack said he enjoys skiing and Ultimate Frisbee. When asked to describe himself in one word, a thoughtful Zack replied, "kind." It is that unique introspective grace that will continue to help Zack succeed both on and off a tennis court.



SIMONA BRUETTING

SPOTLIGHT

SHOWING LOVE

THE WORD LOVE HAS FOREVER BEEN CONNECTED TO TENNIS. AND IT'S A WORD NOT LOST ON THE COLORADO TENNIS COMMUNITY AS IT GATHERS TO HELP ONE OF ITS OWN.

DOUGMCPHERSON

Something was very wrong. When Jiana Copeland stepped out of bed one morning about 20 months ago, her legs gave way and she fell to the floor.

"I had tingling sensation — pins and needles in my legs," Copeland says. "I touched them but there was no feeling."

She lay there for 45 minutes slowly building up to panic mode. "I just kept thinking why didn't I have feeling in my legs."

She had played tennis the day before — the first time in seven years. "I thought maybe I'd overdone it, or that it had to do with the altitude."

It was all new — very new — to Copeland who grew up in Denver healthy and active — playing tennis, basketball and soccer — a standout in each. She eventually played soccer in college where she majored in sports management. She then landed a job in upstate New York with IMG, the sports consulting giant, working with professional, collegiate and Olympic athletes on endorsements.

After 13 years with IMG, in 2012 she returned to Denver to start her own athlete consulting firm, Franchiseplayer Management LLC, to help high school students win scholarships.

Now, here she was just a few months back in her hometown on her bedroom floor. She eventually pulled herself up and sat on the edge of the bed and did some circular movements with her feet. After several more minutes she was able to walk but very slowly. "I called the doctor who couldn't see me for a week."

She was diagnosed with fibromyalgia and prescribed Lyrica. "After six weeks I was getting even worse."

Another doctor did a biopsy. Then horrible news: osteosarcoma — a form of bone cancer.

Copeland, 39, a mom with two boys, ages 10 and 15, now gets chemotherapy three days a week. If that doesn't work they'll operate to remove the cancer from her hip and knee. "If that fails, then they'll amputate my leg," Copeland says softly.

So far she says the lowest point has been looking at the medical bills and the faces of her two boys — faces that realize their mom can't do everything they want her to be able to do.

Copeland can only work 20 hours a week now. "That's not enough to keep my bills paid, and some days I have to call in sick because I'm so nauseated from the chemo."

But this is only half of Copeland's story.



Photo courtesy of Marvin Kelly/Marvelous Images Photography

Rallying around their mom

Jiana Copeland's two boys created a way for people to help their mom at www.giveforward.com/fundraiser/yn7.

On the site they write:

We are hoping to help our mom get back to the superwoman she is! The assistance we are asking for is for medical bills, medication, out of pocket living expenses; while she's getting her health back.

Love you mom!

Your sons, Terrance and J'Anthony

The other half is brighter — about partners — doubles and otherwise.

It turns out, the only person Copeland told about her cancer for a while was her doubles partner, Keith Bell, a 4.0 player. They met in May of 2012 and they've played together often ever since in tournaments and recreationally.

"Having Jiana share that with me is really more about being a friend, someone she can trust," Bell says. "I think Jiana's strength is her resolve to understand cancer and its limitations and maximize her mental capabilities to overcome it with positive thinking. Win or lose we always find the positives."

Bell says when he thinks of all the people he's met through tennis, "very few compare to Jiana. I always look forward to seeing her and sharing a laugh and hitting some

balls. She'll always be my most precious friend and eternal mixed doubles partner."

Slowly Copeland opened up more about her diagnosis. One day early in 2015, she mentioned it to another tennis friend, Bob Johnson, a retired minister who has spent much of his life helping kids and the homeless.

"She told me about the cancer and her expenses that were mounting," Johnson said. "I asked her if she'd be okay with doing a fundraiser — and she said she was. I thought that was good — sometimes you have to rely on others when things get bad."

Johnson worked with another tennis friend of his, Barb McMahon, to pull it together with tennis players who played in Denver's City Park. "She's a good organizer with a great heart and not a single person

turned us down."

On March 21, the effort raised \$2,100.

"I'm so grateful the tennis community has been there for me," Copeland says.

Today, despite the pain and anguish, you'll still find Copeland on the tennis court from time to time.

"Every time I step on the court, I leave that baggage at the gate and it seems like nothing can hurt me. I forget about the million dollar medical bills and the pain and instead I feel the rhythm. Tennis for me has always been a moving chess board. You're strategically placing the ball for check mate. I think of tennis when I think about beating cancer. If I'm down a break in a set or in life, I just have to think through what I need to do next."

ADULT LEAGUES

COLORADO LEAGUE PARTICIPATION BUCKS NATIONAL TREND GROWTH STREAK EXTENDS TO A DOZEN YEARS

Aside from the US Open, the largest annually attended sporting event in the world, Adult League Tennis is the crown jewel of the USTA, boasting a quarter million competitors each year. But for the last two years, some of the luster is wearing off this jewel, as national participation has experienced its first-ever back-to-back declines. But even as league play has dropped nationally, participation in Colorado continues to grow, albeit at a slower pace than in years past.



**INTERMOUNTAIN
COLORADO**

Last year, league play grew at a modest 2.5%, fueled primarily by double-digit growth in the 40 & Over division. Two newcomers to the league menu, Mixed 40 & Over and Flex Leagues, also helped push participation above the 36,000 mark for the first time, solidifying Colorado's position as the second largest league area in the country, ranking behind tennis-crazy Atlanta but ahead of other hotbeds, Southern California, Florida and Northern California.

Registration now open for all leagues....

Registration is open for all Colorado adult leagues. Some team deadlines have passed, but players can still be added in all leagues. Please check our league deadline calendar at <http://coloradotennis.com> for specific details.

65 & Over squads compete at USTA National Invitational

Six Colorado teams sent representatives to the inaugural USTA League 65 & Over Tennis Invitational in Surprise, AZ.

- Women's 6.0: Heritage Eagle Bend (Carrie Sharp, captain)
- Women's 7.0: Highlands Ranch Community Association (Carmen Mould, captain)
- Women's 8.0: Gates Tennis Center (Lucy Bennett, captain)
- Men's 6.0: Colorado State University (Roy Marvin, captain)
- Men's 7.0: Anthem Ranch (Gary Sherrer, captain)
- Men's 8.0: Longmont Tennis Association (Terry Balinski, captain)

Congrats to all the teams, and a special acknowledgement to the Men's 8.0 LTA squad that finished in third place. Well done all!



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- * 15 Courts, including 5 Indoor
- * USPTA and USPTR Certified Coaches
- * The Home of the CU Buffs
- * Featured USTA Tournaments
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June 20-25
 - Babolat Boulder Open
July 18-26
 - Summer Master Series
August 13-16
 - 10 RMTc Junior Series
Spring, Summer, Fall

2015

RMTc will again be
hosting Junior Futures,
Challengers and
Open Tournaments



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JUNIORPLAY

THE ROLE OF COMPETITION IN LEARNING AND ENJOYING TENNIS

AT EVERY STAGE OF A JUNIOR PLAYER'S DEVELOPMENT, THERE IS A COMBINATION OF AGE-APPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT AND EVENTS THAT ARE AVAILABLE IN COLORADO

Competition is an essential component of learning and enjoying any sport. Experts at USTA Player Development advocate getting kids playing as quickly and capably as possible in a fun, welcoming environment. Each of these programs are integral development components of a young player's progression in the sport. Kids don't "graduate from one to the other, they should continually use each play opportunity as a way to hone and improve their skills, strategy and tactics.

INTEGRATING PLAY OPPORTUNITIES

The key is to use competition as a tool to grow and develop the game—and the games of youngsters—not to crown champions or turn late developers away from tennis. As children develop an interest in tennis, Play Days, Junior Team Tennis and sanctioned Tournaments are great ways to improve their skills and provide further development through a repetitive combination of non-elimination, team and competitive opportunities.

Play Days, Junior Team Tennis and Tournament play are integral development components of a young player's progression in the sport — each format is a vehicle to help them learn the strategy and tactics of tennis—by playing matches.

PLAY DAYS

A Tennis Play Day is a great way for kids to play tennis in a fun, non-threatening, non-elimination, competitive environment. With equipment sized right and play that is appropriate, kids build confidence, improve their skills and stay active.

Over the duration of a few hours, a Play Day allows kids to experience serve, rally and score in informal competition against opponents of similar skills. These low-key competitions are organized in formats that allow children to play again and again, whether they win or lose, and allows them to improve their skills without focusing on the outcome of a match.



JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS

Tennis is a great team sport, and Colorado Junior Team Tennis provides kids the opportunity to learn and compete on a team and be with their friends. Matches and practices are team-based and fun because kids have the support of teammates and coaches. Colorado JTT has divisions for junior players at a variety of skill levels—Futures (entry-level), Challenger (intermediate) and Championship (advanced). Age divisions begin at 10 and under.

Colorado Junior Team Tennis posted its fourth consecutive year of sustained growth. After a small increase in 2011, and a nice bump of just under 5% in 2012, the last two years have seen an increase in participation in every age division as overall participation has grown by more than 20% in the last four years. Participation in the 10 and Under divisions has exploded over the last three years, growing 47% since the rule change governing ball/court use.

JUNIOR TOURNAMENTS

USTA Colorado Junior Sanctioned Tournaments offer a wide variety of formats to accommodate players of virtually any age and skill level. Events are categorized by age, ranging from 8-18. Level 8 events are entry-level (Futures), Level 7 events are for intermediate play (Challenger), and Levels 3-6 events are for advanced players (Championship) seeking the highest level of competition in the six-state Intermountain Section. Level 1-2 events are for players qualifying for National competition. Colorado's multiple-match, single-day A.C.E format (outlined on page 22) guarantees a player-friendly experience while also helping parents manage their kids' busy schedules.



The deadline to register for the 2015 JTT season is fast approaching.

Visit coloradotennis.com today for more information

Air Force Academy 2015 Tennis Camps

AF

SESSION 1: JUNE 8-12 (AGES 8-18)

SESSION 2: JUNE 15-19 (AGES 12-18)

SESSION 3: JUNE 22-24 (AGES 8-18)



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JUNIOR COMPETITION

A.C.E. FORMAT TRANSFORMS TOURNAMENT EXPERIENCE

FIRST YEAR OF A.C.E. FORMAT LEADS TO DOUBLE-DIGIT SPIKE IN PARTICIPATION

Beginning in 2014, Colorado's entry-level (Futures) tournament offerings looked a bit different than in the past. With the advent of the multiple match A.C.E. format, all entrants in Level 8/Futures events were guaranteed a tournament experience like never before. The A.C.E. format requires all sanctioned entry-level and intermediate events to guarantee multiple matches by instituting modified scoring and scheduling formats.

In 2015, USTA Colorado has extended the format to include all intermediate (Challenger) level events.

The changes are important for both players and parents. With the new formats, coaches can help players recognize mistakes and correct them over the course of a day of matches. This repeated feedback from coaches can greatly benefit young players who are experiencing competitive tennis for the first time.

The A.C.E. format puts Colorado at the forefront of a growing movement across the country that challenges the age-old standard of forcing inexperienced competitors into a lose-one-and-you're-done scenario. A.C.E. is a single-day format (versus the traditional 4-7 day format) featuring either round robin or compass draw formats — guaranteeing players a minimum of three matches — which are perfect for junior players looking to practice the skills they are learning from their coaches.

So how did A.C.E. do? In its first year, the number of Futures participants jumped 12%.



As easy as 1...2...3!

1 day tournament

Playing in a single, all-day event against a variety of opponents provides a much more social atmosphere than a lose-one-and-you're-done experience. In addition, ACE benefits parents by alleviating the challenge of having to reschedule their lives around dropping off their young players for tennis tournaments at various hours of the day for an entire week.

2 player-friendly formats: round robin & compass

Compass draw and round-robin formats are ideal for junior players looking to practice the skills they are learning from their coaches, who can help players recognize mistakes and correct them over the course of a day of matches. This repeated feedback can greatly benefit young players who are experiencing competitive tennis for the first time.

3 guaranteed matches

The ACE format requires all sanctioned entry-level (Level 8/ Futures) and intermediate (Level 7/Challenger) events to guarantee entrants three abbreviated matches, which keeps the competition fresh and player-friendly.

CAC-Monaco Junior Tennis Academy

Session 1: June 15-26

Session 2: June 29-July 10

Session 3: July 13-July 24

Session 4: July 27-Aug 7

Session 5: August 10-21 (One Week Only)

Monday-Friday, 9-11:30AM

Lunch Break: 11:30AM-12:30PM | Match Play: 12:30-3PM

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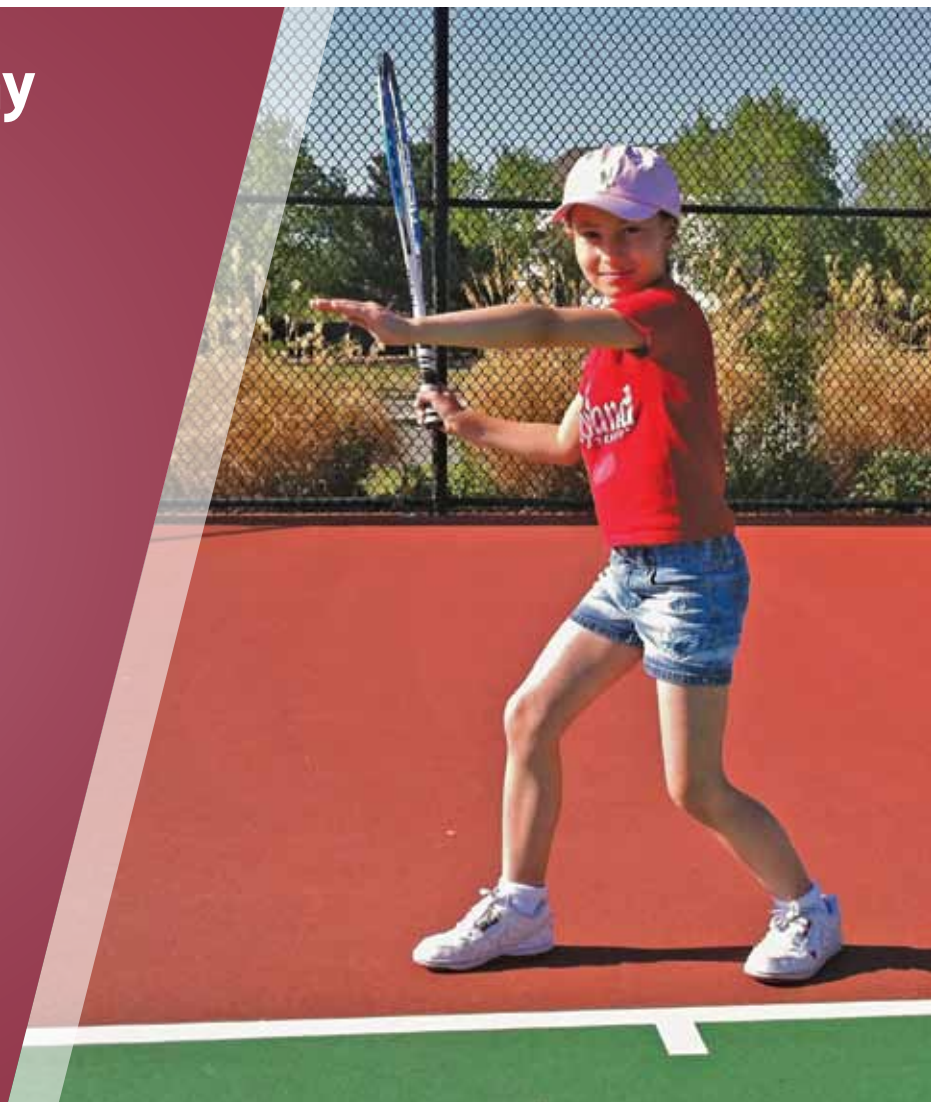
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For more information, call Wendy Donovan or Grigor Arzumanyan at 303.758.7080 today.



Providing a better tournament tennis experience for youth players is vital to helping kids embrace competition. In an effort to make changes that will benefit both players and parents, USTA Colorado adopted the multiple match **A(BBREVIATED) C(OMPETITIVE) E(XPERIENCE)** format, or **ACE**, in 2014.

In 2015, all entry-level (Level 8/Futures) and intermediate (Level 7/Challengers) events have adopted the ACE format.

ACE puts Colorado at the forefront of a growing movement across the country that challenges the age-old standard of forcing inexperienced competitors into week-long single-elimination events: the traditional lose-one-and-you're-done scenario.

UPCOMING LEVEL 8 / FUTURES

DATE	EVENT	TENNISLINK #
APR 19	ROCKY MOUNTAIN TENNIS CENTER SPRING JUNIOR FUTURES #1	250021615
MAY 2-3	AURORA MAY DAY FUTURES	257208415
MAY 9-10	SOUTH SUBURBAN JUNIOR FUTURES #1	257214115
MAY 30	LEWIS TENNIS FUTURES SUMMER KICK-OFF	257202815
JUN 1	THE BROOMFIELD SWIM & TENNIS JUNIOR FUTURES	257219315
JUN 6	ROCKY MOUNTAIN TENNIS CENTER SUMMER FUTURES #2	250021815
JUN 20	LEWIS TENNIS SPECTACULAR FUTURES	257210015
JUL 11-12	AURORA HEAT WAVE FUTURES	257212415
JUL 29-AUG 2	CENTRAL COLORADO JUNIOR FUTURES	250011015
AUG 8	LEWIS TENNIS BACK TO SCHOOL FUTURES	257212715
AUG 8-9	SOUTH SUBURBAN JUNIOR FUTURES #2	257262915
SEP 26	ROCKY MOUNTAIN TENNIS CENTER SUMMER FUTURES #3	250021915

UPCOMING LEVEL 7 / CHALLENGERS

APR 25	LEWIS TENNIS SUMMER SUPER SET CHALLENGER SERIES #1	257226115
APR 27-MAY 4	JCC SPRING JUNIOR CHALLENGER	257235415
MAY 2	LEWIS TENNIS SCHOOL MAY DAY CHALLENGER	250010815
MAY 5-9	COLORADO ATHLETIC CLUB MONACO JR. CHALLENGER #1	257227615
MAY 14-17	MEADOW CREEK JUNIOR CHALLENGER	257212115
MAY 15-17	FOX HILL SPRING CHALLENGER	250008915
MAY 16-17	AURORA SPRING JUNIOR CHALLENGER	257214215
MAY 18-24	15TH ANNUAL HIGHLANDS RANCH JUNIOR CHALLENGER SHOWDOWN	257213715
MAY 31-JUN 1	MEADOWS JUNIOR BOYS CHALLENGER	250007215
JUN 6	JCC ONE DAY CHALLENGER	250007115
JUN 6	LEWIS TENNIS SUMMER SUPER SET CHALLENGER SERIES #2	257226215
JUN 7	MEADOW CREEK ONE DAY JUNIOR CHALLENGER	250010115
JUN 7	MEADOWS JUNIOR GIRLS COMPASS CHALLENGER	250008115
JUN 8	THE BROOMFIELD SWIM & TENNIS JUNIOR CHALLENGER	250009815
JUN 12-18	SOUTH SUBURBAN JUNIOR CHALLENGER #1	257214915
JUN 13-16	SUMMER SWING JUNIOR CHALLENGER	257215915
JUN 17-18	JAYHAWK JUNE CHALLENGER	250006215
JUN 19-23	RANCH ROUND-UP JUNIOR CHALLENGER	257216515
JUN 20	JCC ONE DAY CHALLENGER	250009015
JUN 24-26	KEN CARYL JUNIOR CHALLENGER	257214315
JUN 27	LEWIS TENNIS CHALLENGER FIRECRACKER	257203015
JUL 10-16	SOUTH SUBURBAN JUNIOR CHALLENGER #2	257216915
JUL 11	JCC ONE DAY CHALLENGER	250009215
JUL 11	LEWIS TENNIS SIZZLING SUMMER CHALLENGER	257210515
JUL 15-17	KEN CARYL JUNIOR CHALLENGER	257216015
JUL 17-19	HRCA SOUTHRIDGE JUNIOR CHALLENGER	257200715
JUL 18	LEWIS TENNIS SUPER SET CHALLENGER SERIES #3	257226315
JUL 18-19	AURORA SUMMER CHALLENGER	257217615
JUL 23-26	PARKER JUNIOR CHALLENGER	250005115
JUL 24-26	MEADOWS JUNIOR CHALLENGER	257236515
JUL 25	JCC ONE DAY COMPASS CHALLENGER	250007615
JUL 26-AUG 2	CENTRAL COLORADO JUNIOR CHALLENGER	250007015
AUG 7-9	ELKS LODGE JUNIOR CHALLENGER	250012715
AUG 8-9	ROCKY MOUNTAIN TENNIS CENTER SUMMER JUNIOR CHALLENGER #2	250022015
AUG 11-17	JCC AUTUMN INDOOR/OUTDOOR JUNIOR CHALLENGER	257206815
AUG 14-20	SOUTH SUBURBAN JUNIOR CHALLENGER #3	257211615
AUG 21-23	COLORADO ATHLETIC CLUB INVERNESS JUNIOR CHALLENGER #1	250019915
AUG 22	LEWIS TENNIS FALL CHALLENGER	257222015
AUG 22-23	HIWAN GOLF CLUB JUNIOR CHALLENGER	257212115
AUG 29-31	COLORADO ATHLETIC CLUB INVERNESS JUNIOR CHALLENGER #2	250020115
SEP 7-11	COLORADO ATHLETIC CLUB MONACO JUNIOR CHALLENGER #2	257221615
SEP 12-13	ROCKY MOUNTAIN TENNIS CENTER FALL CHALLENGER #3	250022215
SEP 18-20	SOUTHERN COLORADO CHALLENGER	257209615
OCT 3	LEWIS TENNIS AUTUMN CHALLENGER	257222815
OCT 17-18	ROCKY MOUNTAIN TENNIS CENTER FALL JUNIOR CHALLENGER #4	250022415
OCT 23-25	FLYING HORSE CLAY STABLE CHALLENGER	257232015
DEC 11-13	FLYING HORSE LINKS CHALLENGER	257235915
DEC 18-26	PINERY COUNTRY CLUB HOLIDAY JUNIOR CHALLENGER	257202015

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PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

CHALLENGER INELIGIBILITY LIST, 2015

MOVING ON UP, THESE JUNIOR PLAYERS HAVE GRADUATED FROM CHALLENGER PLAY AT THEIR AGE DIVISION

Each year, under USTA Colorado Junior Challenger Tournament Regulations certain players are identified as "too advanced" for Challenger tournament play in the age division in which they've competed. Players may continue to participate in Challenger level events at a higher age division. Players who fall into these categories are determined from previous year sanctioned tournament play and rankings.

A player is ineligible for Challenger level play if:

- s/he has attained a National or Sectional ranking the previous year;
- s/he has earned 300 or more points in their age division at which they competed at the Championship level.

Players are strongly encouraged to play within their age group in the Championship level rather than playing up an age group in the Challenger level.



BOYS

Caleb Aguirre
Jack Alexander
Ben Antonsen
Galen Arney
Ilijah Bailey
Arjun Barta
Jacob Bendalin
Ben Blea
David Bomgaars
Teague Burger
Riley Burridge
Matthew Chavez
Trace Collins
Cruz Culpepper
William Dale
Nicolas Dietrich
Harshil Dwivedi
Frederick Edwards
Cutter Esson
Jack Ferry
Brett Finan
Charlie Franks
Allen Fu
Kosta Garger

Skyler Gates
Willie Gold
Oliver Greenwald
Austin Gruszczynski
Daniel Guiot
Akhit Gupta
Jeremiah Hansen
Devin Harper
Carter Harrington
Henry Hawk
Jackson Hawk
Niko Hereford
Stefan Hester
Colton Hill
Robby Hill
Ethan Hillis
Carter Holbrook
Christian Holmes
Draden Hoover
Teller Hoskins
Tom Hudson
Joshua Hunt
Alexander Ilic
Matthew Jacobberger
Ryan James
Nico Jamison

Andrew Jeffries
Jackson Johar
Mitchell Johnson
Cade Jones
Paul Jones
Richter Jordaan
Conor Kaczmarczyk
Caden Kammerer
Grigor Karakelyan
Austin Katterhorn
Samuel Keronen
David Kijak
Joshua King
John Koza
Jacob Lapkin
Dillon Leasure
Alec Leddon
Carter Logan
Nick Lorenz
Bradley Ma
Tommy Mason
Lucas Martin
Matthew Matsuyama
McCulloh Mease
Tom Melville
Vinay Merchant

Jett Middleton
David Mitchell
Askel Moe
Max Moe
Jack Moldenhauer
Ben Murray
Sam Nassif
Ryan Neale
Erin Norwood
Erich Nuss
Evan Nuss
Stefan Orton-Urbina
Blake Parsons
Chanon Penvari
Max Petrak
Andrew Pollack
Noah Reiss
Adam Rivera
David Rosencrans
Casey Ross
Patrick Ross
Louie Salfi
Brooks Savage
Patrick Seby
Andrew Seehausen
Luke Silverman

Kai Smith
Kasper Smith
Clark Steinhauer
Laird Stewart
Nicholas Svichar
Zhan Su
Tanner Trace
Ram Vuppala
Jordan Wagner
Luke Whalen
Aaron Weil
Neil Wilcox
Max Weiner
Andy Wu
Dylan Zumar

Julia Berggren
Chloe Brandt
Natalie Bronsdon
Veronika Bruetting
Morgan Bullen
Tatum Burger
Seraphin Castelino
Shelby Cerkovnik
Meghna Chowdhury
Hayley Chirico
Jessee Clauson
Paige Crews
Lela Daszuta
Natalia Dellavalle
Olivia Desso
Ky Ecton
Mavis Edwards
Tara Edwards
Payton Fielding
Sarah Fleming
Madison Gallegos
Leyden Games
Emma Gaydos
Natalie Hagan
Kalyssa Hall
Morgan Hall

Natalie Hamill
Sarah Hamner
Micha Handler
Mariela Hollines
Caroline Jordaan
Kristin Jensen
Nicole Kalhorn
Caroline Kawula
Maeve Kearney
Hana Kimmey
Kristen Kirby
Grace Koza
Clara Larson
Lauren Lindell
Lucy Lu
Rebecca Lynn
Samantha Martinelli
Savanah Meese
Jessica Metz
Samantha Moore-Thomson
Sadie Moseley
Andrea Motley
Natalie Munson
Valerie Negin
Shawnea Pagat
Isabel Pan

Sophie Pearson
Julia Pentz
Alex Pessoa
Josie Schaffer
Rachael Scheper
Amanda Schlatter
Gabrielle Schuck
Tate Schroeder
Amber Shen
Anshika Singh
Bria Smith
Trina Somasundaram
Trisha Somasundaram
Gloria Son
Ellie Strande
Emily Strande
Emily Untermeyer
Alexandra Weil
Anna Weissman
Rebecca Weissman
Madison Wolfe
Casey Zhong

GIRLS

Dilafzo Abdullaeva
Daniela Adamczyk
Madissen Allen
Samantha Anthony
Haley Artis
Annika Bassey
Meghan Beer

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COLLEGE RECRUITING LIST, SPRING 2015
THE LATEST NATIONAL STANDINGS FROM TENNISRECRUITING.NET



BOYS

CLASS RANK	PLAYER	HOMETOWN	CLASS RANK	PLAYER	HOMETOWN	CLASS RANK	PLAYER	HOMETOWN	CLASS RANK	PLAYER	HOMETOWN				
2015	104	David Mitchell	Castle Rock	2016	1038	Jake Becker	Centennial	2018	354	Jack Moldenhauer	Denver	2019	1275	Andrew Seehausen	Lonetree
2015	128	Spencer Lang	Longmont	2016	1137	Chanon Penvari	Aurora	2018	385	Charlie Franks	Denver	2019	1276	Luke Miller	Colorado Springs
2015	209	Luke Sanderson	Colorado Springs	2016	1151	Blake Parsons	Denver	2018	418	Mitchell Johnson	Cherry Hills Village	2019	1376	Mason Lewis	Broomfield
2015	214	Ignatius Castellino	Superior	2016	1161	Andrew Aertker	Denver	2018	481	Jack Alexander	Littleton	2019	1378	Christopher Du	Highlands Ranch
2015	395	Fletcher Kerr	Denver	2016	1199	Joshua Hunt	Castle Rock	2018	489	David Kijak	Aurora	2019	1431	Brenden Arndt	Longmont
2015	417	Tommy Mason	Boulder	2016	1253	Jackson Johar	Fort Collins	2018	497	Dillon Leasure	Carbondale	2019	1483	Riley Black	Niwot
2015	488	Harshil Dwivedi	Greenwood Village	2016	1289	Maxwell Koszowski	Denver	2018	573	Skyler Gates	Littleton	2019	1485	Maxwell Probst	Highlands Ranch
2015	521	Keenan Kaltenbacher	Colorado Springs	2016	1333	Grant Wood	Westminster	2018	590	Vinay Merchant	Centennial	2019	1523	Wyatt Stempel	Steamboat Springs
2015	611	Lucas Martin	Fort Collins	2016	1342	Nathan Lazarus	Boulder	2018	617	Daniel Guiot	Denver				
2015	779	William Hobbs	Boulder	2016	1348	Vamsi Senthilvel	Highlands Ranch	2018	656	Ryan Neale	Parker	2020	147	Quinn Snyder	Steamboat Springs
2015	785	Dakota Burns	Pueblo	2016	1421	Spencer Clauson	Boulder	2018	755	Benjamin Murray	Englewood	2020	179	Jett Middleton	Littleton
2015	825	Dante Alcalá	Pueblo	2016	1429	Gabriel Pagat	Fort Collins	2018	764	Ethan Schacht	Boulder	2020	502	Caden Kammerer	Longmont
2015	874	Colby Jimenez	Denver	2016	1593	Cameron Bergan	Aurora	2018	876	Carter Harrington	Aurora	2020	508	Nicholas Svichar	Greenwood Village
2015	883	Noah Reiss	Littleton	2016	1627	Simon Lupo	Westminster	2018	921	Quinn Birmingham	Denver	2020	559	Cruz Cutpepper	Lafayette
2015	901	Joseph Adducci	Colorado Springs	2016	1629	Troy de Jong	Steamboat Springs	2018	938	Henry Hawk	Boulder	2020	620	John Dick	Highlands Ranch
2015	906	Maxwell Weiner	Fort Collins	2016	1634	Brent Edwards	Littleton	2018	1072	Patrick Seby	Denver	2020	644	Paul Jones	Manitou Springs
2015	943	Garet Davis	Loveland	2016	1681	Kevin Ball	Boulder	2018	1075	Tanner Jones	Colorado Springs	2020	652	Akhil Gupta	Severance
2015	987	Brian Ross	Littleton	2016	1732	James Kasic	Boulder	2018	1105	Bradley Ma	Colorado Springs	2020	735	Stefan Hester	Longmont
2015	988	Cody Carlton	Castle Rock					2018	1160	Evan Nuss	Castle Rock	2020	891	Alex Gordon	Cherry Hills Village
2015	1000	Jacob Fell	Longmont	2017	91	Casey Ross	Littleton	2018	1170	Stone Heyman	Englewood	2020	896	Riley Burrige	Boulder
2015	1015	Andrew Pollack	Louisville	2017	132	Ethan Hillis	Centennial	2018	1189	Connor Larson	Boulder	2020	938	Austin Kattenhorn	Lafayette
2015	1061	Ashwin Vaithianathan	Highlands Ranch	2017	287	Kai Smith	Denver	2018	1293	Jordan Wagner	Littleton	2020	1048	Jean-Loup Auzias	Denver
2015	1069	Ryan Beckstrom	Parker	2017	340	Ben Antonsen	Highlands Ranch	2018	1331	Carter Holbrook	Boulder	2020	1090	Caleb Aguirre	Cherry Hills Village
2015	1078	Aaron Gossage	Grand Junction	2017	461	Draden Hoover	Aurora	2018	1334	Aaron Nguyen	Louisville	2020	1091	Kian Grimison	Boulder
2015	1081	Carter Pentz	Niwot	2017	475	Robby Hill	Greenwood Village	2018	1447	Jack LaBarge	Denver	2020	1119	Alex Baum	Littleton
2015	1082	Nic Hoime	Ft. Collins	2017	595	Ryan James	Denver	2018	1461	Brooks Savage	Boulder	2020	1134	Dario Alcalá	Pueblo
2015	1134	Daniel Crews	Greeley	2017	641	Frederick Edwards	Bayfield	2018	1480	Laird Stewart	Englewood	2020	1156	Michael Conde	Superior
2015	1140	Zachary Fluck	Canon City	2017	663	Niko Hereford	Denver	2018	1520	Arjun Gupta	Severance	2020	1174	Robert Metz	Colorado Springs
2015	1142	Austin Gruszczynski	Highlands Ranch	2017	730	Matthew Lambert	Aspen	2018	1541	Everett Martin	Boulder	2020	1225	Ben Bicknell	Niwot
2015	1145	Jameson Lumpkin	Loveland	2017	731	Matthew Chavez	Mead	2018	1547	Finn Gullickson	Colorado Springs	2020	1233	Blake Blunt	Colorado Springs
2015	1158	Jimmy Amundson	Littleton	2017	806	Devin Harper	Westminster	2018	1557	Iljijah Bailey	Centennial	2020	1276	Zach Scott	Aurora
2015	1187	Joseph Bove	Castle Rock	2017	823	Dylan Zumar	Aurora	2018	1591	Christian Ridings	Aurora	2020	1301	Benjamin Ilder	Golden
2015	1196	Keller Hartline	Lafayette	2017	886	Andrew Gillette	Arvada	2018	1609	Ethan Katz	Boulder	2020	1304	Andre Maltzahn	Fort Collins
2015	1211	Azur Ali	Boulder	2017	904	Tom Hudson	Golden	2018	1627	Tyler Paddor	Centennial	2020	1305	Michael Crum	Denver
2015	1221	Scott Neville	Boulder	2017	1009	Stefan Orton-Urbina	Colorado Springs	2018	1640	Zack Fox	Littleton	2020	1315	Roy Lundeen	Steamboat Springs
2015	1226	Dylan Griffin	Longmont	2017	1048	Aaron Weil	Highlands Ranch	2018	1642	Adam Chehadi	Louisville	2020	1321	Gabe Rabanal	Steamboat Springs
2015	1246	Trace Collins	Parker	2017	1080	Alex Gelevei	Denver	2018	1689	Alexander Wimer	Englewood				
2015	1279	Isaac Ng	Longmont	2017	1145	Romeo Perez	Monclova Coah Mexico	2018	1692	Jonathan Schreiber	Bow Mar	2021	153	Clark Steinhauer	Denver
2015	1296	James Zimmerman	Fort Collins	2017	1192	Samuel Hoelscher	Lakewood	2018	1763	Drew Hill	Greenwood Village	2021	250	Neil Wilcox	Boulder
2015	1305	Alex Dressen-Shiple	Fort Collins	2017	1255	Erich Nuss	Castle Pines	2018	1767	Connor Schott	Highlands Ranch	2021	366	Luke Silverman	Boulder
2015	1324	Colin Brown	Centennial	2017	1289	Jack Ferry	Lafayette					2021	390	Nicholas Dietrich	Golden
2015	1335	Craig Moddelmog	Windsor	2017	1327	Cameron McGregor	Littleton	2019	50	Richter Jordaan	Cherry Hills Village	2021	484	Morgan Schilling	Littleton
				2017	1366	Joshua Fields	Franktown	2019	74	Nicholas Lorenz	Colorado Springs	2021	486	Grigor Karakelyan	Aurora
2016	264	Jacob Lapkin	Grand junction	2017	1381	Bryce Viorst	Denver	2019	154	Brett Finan	Broomfield	2021	529	Louis Salfi	Denver
2016	298	Alec Laddon	Boulder	2017	1450	Xavier Pacheco	Englewood	2019	280	Christian Holmes	Littleton	2021	577	John Austin Dick	Highlands Ranch
2016	329	William Gold	Denver	2017	1464	Connor Clancy	Greeley	2019	529	Kosta Garger	Englewood	2021	602	David Bomgaars	Aurora
2016	493	Jackson Hawk	Boulder	2017	1527	Coulten Davis	Colorado Springs	2019	534	Carter Logan	Denver	2021	727	George Henry Hanzel	Denver
2016	530	McCulloh Mease	Littleton	2017	1597	David Zhao	Superior	2019	627	Sam Nassif	Denver	2021	728	Andy Schulling	Steamboat Springs
2016	595	Jeremiah Hansen	Colorado Springs	2017	1600	Jacob Stringer	Longmont	2019	686	Alexander Ilic	Aspen	2021	767	Arjun Batra	Aurora
2016	702	Ben Blea	Parker	2017	1648	Charles Smith	Steamboat Springs	2019	694	Teague Burger	Steamboat Springs	2021	773	Chase Walters	Highlands Ranch
2016	717	Noah Forman	Golden	2017	1657	Nolan Connell	Steamboat Springs	2019	848	Jackson Klutznick	Denver	2021	809	Christopher Nelson	Castle Rock
2016	745	Cutter Esson	Boulder	2017	1698	Kacey Walisundara	Denver	2019	865	Henry Cox	Parker	2021	858	Dayton Fisher	Arvada
2016	798	Colton Hill	Colorado Springs	2017	1701	Ryan Lahr	Evergreen	2019	870	Andy Wu	Boulder	2021	869	Nico Gonzalez	Denver
2016	808	Thomas Koszowski	Denver	2017	1730	Jonathan Obregon	Denver	2019	992	Jackson Holland	Windsor	2021	871	Chris Swanson	Highlands Ranch
2016	813	Max Petrak	Louisville					2019	1048	Tyler Landen	Centennial	2021	883	Zak Chehadi	Louisville
2016	841	Allen Fu	Longmont	2018	97	Kasper Smith	Boulder	2019	1084	Cat Hegstrom	Grand Junction	2021	886	Jack Larson	Arvada
2016	869	Derek Wright	Superior	2018	244	Joshua King	Englewood	2019	1204	Beck Chrisbens	Boulder	2021	890	Samuel Keronen	Longmont
2016	870	Zhan Su	Louisville	2018	287	Tom Melville	Boulder	2019	1266	Oliver Greenwald	Denver				

GIRLS

CLASS RANK	PLAYER	HOMETOWN	CLASS RANK	PLAYER	HOMETOWN	CLASS RANK	PLAYER	HOMETOWN	CLASS RANK	PLAYER	HOMETOWN				
2015	29	Nicole Kathorn	Colorado Springs	2017	17	Samantha Martinelli	Denver	2018	832	Emma Gaydos	Monument	2020	356	Samantha Moore-Thomson	Denver
2015	36	Gabrielle Schuck	Colorado Springs	2017	104	Madison Gallegos	Aurora	2018	851	Rachel Nguyen	Westminster	2020	362	Emily Untermeyer	Denver
2015	350	Alexandra Weil	Cherry Hills Village	2017	270	Casey Zhong	Highlands Ranch	2018	858	Savannah Mease	Littleton	2020	395	Meghna Chowdhury	Highlands Ranch
2015	591	Isabella Melena	Arvada	2017	285	Alex Pessoa	Denver	2018	922	Alexandra Djoumaliev	Loveland	2020	406	Olivia Desso	Evergreen
2015	605	Emma Jo Wiley	Fort Collins	2017	473	Madison Wolfe	Monument	2018	1222	Tristen VanDeVeer	Colorado Springs	2020	407	Lela Daszuta	Evergreen
2015	618	Chloe Brandt	Denver	2017	496	Sadie Moseley	Denver	2018	1230	Adriana Strode	Denver	2020	479	Natalie Hamill	Fort Collins
2015	707	Kylie Simons	Colorado Springs	2017	519	Shawnea Pagat	Fort Collins	2019	216	Morgan Hall	Colorado Springs	2020	639	Ellie Strande	Centennial
2015	818	Ashley Burnett	Monument	2017	664	Maeve Kearney	Englewood	2019	521	Josephine Schaffer	Greenwood Village	2020	718	Noelle Cerone	Steamboat Springs
2015	819	Emma Schilling	Littleton	2017	678	Grace Koza	Littleton	2019	620	Hana Kimmey	Parker	2020	721	Mattie Kuntzelman	Colorado Springs
				2017	706	Sara Schoenbeck	Pueblo West	2019	693	Trisha Somasundaram	Superior	2020	727	Haley Artis	Aurora
2016	23	Rebecca Weissmann	Loveland	2017	1020	Maleeha Chowdhury	Highlands Ranch	2019	736	Sophie Pearson	Longmont	2020	819	Isabella Pacheco	Englewood
2016	57	Tate Schroeder	Centennial	2017	1105	Morgan Bullen	Denver	2019	790	Amanda Schlatter	Cherry Hills Village	2020	868	Lexie Fisher	Greenwood Village
2016	107	Kalyssa Hall	Colorado Springs	2017	1108	Alyssa Arenson	Colorado Springs	2019	826	Madissen Allen	Centennial	2020	879	Lauren Karaba	Castle Pines
2016	218	Gloria Son	Englewood	2017	1130	Tiffany Parobek	Lone Tree	2019	829	Laura Bobby	Castle Rock	2020	893	Rylee Jones	Castle Pines
2016	400	Kristen Kirby	Thornton	2017	1176	Jamie Smith	Colorado Springs	2019	826	Chloe Schilling	Littleton				
2016	431	Tara Edwards	Littleton	2017	1212	Murphy Harr	Arvada	2019	853	Willow Purvis	Denver	2021	139	Sarah Hamner	Fort Collins
2016	454	Daniela Adamczyk	Colorado Springs	2017	1250	Erinn Hogan	Fort Collins	2019	914	Emma Morrissey	Denver	2021	140	Samantha Anthony	Longmont
2016	488	Caroline Kawula	Cherry Hills Village					2019	932	Mia Oliver	Greenwood Village	2021	173	Leyden Games	Boulder
2016	647	Natalie Munson	Longmont	2018	124	Amber Shen	Broomfield	2019	947	Alexandra Bush	Denver	2021	257	Valerie Negin	Centennial
2016	673	Natalie Hagan	Lone Tree	2018	183	Anshika Singh	Greenwood Village	2019	957	Mia Oliver	Denver	2021	264	Dilazto Abdullaeva	Aurora
2016	745	Kendra Lavallee	Highlands Ranch	2018	257	Annika Bassey	Denver	2019	1026	Samhita Bheemireddy	Highlands Ranch	2021	267	Miranda Kawuta	Cherry Hills Village
2016	909	Gabriella Hesse	Colorado Springs	2018	299	Emily Strande	Centennial	2019	1041	Alexis Stepp	Westminster	2021	363	Lucy Lu	Broomfield
2016	938	Alexandria Bellas	Colorado Springs	2018	302	Seraphin Castellino	Superior	2019	1051	Ashlen Grote	Highlands Ranch	2021	391	Anna Reimers	Highlands Ranch
2016	943	Lauren Petty	Colorado Springs	2018	311	Micha Handler	Englewood	2019	1057	Cassandra Sehic	Highlands Ranch	2021	411	Rachel Swan	Highlands Ranch
2016	946	Hanna Fernley	Greenwood Village	2018	325	Tatum Burger	Steamboat Springs	2019	1101	Julia Trujillo	Colorado Springs	2021	473	Alexis Bernthal	Boulder
2016	1007	Sarah Megilligan	Pueblo West	2018	498	Sarah Fleming	Grand Junction	2019	1135	Trini Somasundaram	Superior	2021	489	Julia Rydel	Denver
2016	1058	Jade Moore	Littleton	2018	510	Ky Ecton	Fort Collins	2019	1152	Isabel Pan	Highlands Ranch	2021	514	Mahima Gurung	Boulder
2016	1072	Sarah Casey	Monument	2018	569	Marielea Hollines	Cherry Hills Village	2019	1208	Allyson Horvath	Broomfield	2021	626	Cassidy Rich	Highlands Ranch
2016	1081	Bailey Koronich	Timnath	2018	571	Heather Volls	Colorado Springs	2019	1323	Olivia Thero	Fort Collins	2021	638	Lauren Manwiller	Evergreen
2016	1094	Mari Dudek	Highlands Ranch	2018	617	Julia Pentz	Niwot					2			

PROFILE

MARTINELLI'S STAR KEEPS RISING

BECOMES ONLY 2ND COLORADAN TO WIN THE EASTER BOWL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

STAFFREPORT
10sBalls.com

Samantha Martinelli of Denver won both the singles and doubles titles at the prestigious ASICS Easter Bowl Championships, an ITF Level 1 and USTA Level 1 National Championships. The Easter Bowl in Palm Springs has been a premier showcase for American junior tennis for decades. Martinelli adds her name to an impressive listing of past champions including Tracy Austin, Pam Shriver, John McEnroe, Andrea Jaeger, Jennifer Capriati, Zina Garrison, Jeff Tarango, Andy Roddick, Sam Querrey, and Donald Young.

The singles victory is Martinelli's first at a national championship, and her second in doubles. In capturing the 16s title, she became just the second Easter Bowl champion from Colorado. Nicole Leimbach won the title back in 2002.

Martinelli credits her strong family support system for the victory, stating, "Thanks to my parents Angelo and Danielle, and my grandparents Edward and Elizabeth Pokorney, who have all supported me since I started this journey at the age of 3, I would not be the player I am today without their financial support and constant belief in me."

Martinelli is coached by former NCAA Doubles Champion Tim Blenkiron at his NO QUIT Tennis Academy in Las Vegas.

Martinelli says, "Coming to the academy has changed me in ways I never thought possible. With help from Tim I have made crucial changes to both my tennis game and mentality that made winning this tournament possible. Without Tim's instruction and emotional support, I would never have accomplished the things I have."

"I'm most proud about the improvement Sam has made in her fitness, mindset and attitude," says Blenkiron. "Over the last two years she has really bought into our philosophy and it's been an incredible thing to see."

Martinelli credits her training and preparation at the NO QUIT Academy in getting her in top shape for the tournament. In addition to tennis training, Martinelli added yoga to her regimen. "Yoga is good for calming your mind and it helps you think and not be so cluttered...it helps during matches."

Martinelli is also part of the Inspiring Children Foundation and their elite TEAM BRYAN program sponsored by Bob and Mike Bryan. Through the foundation she has learned to excel as a student, leader and athlete. Martinelli mentors and coaches countless children each week to give back.

"When a player trusts their mentor and the mentor believes in them, magic can happen," says Foundation manager Trent Alenik. "We've seen that special bond between Tim and Sam and it has helped her go to a whole new level."

In discussing the mentorship between her and coach Blenkiron, Martinelli states, "He's really amazing. We train up to four hours a day and he really has been able to help me, both on and off the court."

With this win, Martinelli may take over the No. 1 national ranking, a first for her, having reached No. 4 in the 12s. This is Martinelli's first singles national championship victory and second in doubles. Martinelli hopes to follow in the footsteps of past foundation and academy alumni by using academic and athletic excellence to gain entry into a top University and to play some professional tennis.



Results from Level 4 Masters/Las Vegas

The 2015 USTA Intermountain Level 4 Spring Masters concluded at the end of March with a strong showing from Colorado players, who captured 7 of the 16 events.

Boys 18 Singles

David Mitchell 1st
Spencer Lang 2nd
Ethan Hillis 4th

Girls 18 Singles

Samantha Martinelli 1st
Nicole Kalhorn 2nd
Kalyssa Hall 4th

Boys 18 Doubles

Lang 1st

Girls 18 Doubles

Kalhorn/Martinelli 1st
Kalyssa Hall 2nd

Boys 16 Singles

Nick Lorenz 3rd
Robby Hill 4th
Kasper Smith 5th

Girls 16 Singles

Anshika Singh 4th

Boys 16 Doubles

Nick Lorenz/
Richter Jordaan 2nd

Girls 16 Doubles

Seraphin Castelino/
Anshika Singh 2nd

Boys 14 Singles

Jett Middleton 4th

Girls 14 Singles

Morgan Hall 6th

Boys 12 Singles

Clark Steinhauser 1st

Girls 14 Doubles

Morgan Hall 2nd

Girls 12 Singles

Leyden Games 1st
Valerie Negin 4th

Girls 12 Doubles

Eliza Hill/Nicole Hill 1st



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TO
WANT
IT



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YOURGAME

PROTECTION FOR YOUR PEEPERS

ARE YOU SAFEGUARDING YOUR MOST VALUABLE ASSET?

Here in Colorado, the sun is simultaneously a tennis player's best friend and worse enemy. We have all heard about the devastating effects the sun's UV rays can have on our skin, and most of us can attest to the pain and discomfort of a sunburn. But while you slather on the SPF 50 sunscreen and put on a hat or visor to help shield your face from the glare, you may be neglecting your most valuable asset this summer. Your naked eyes.

In a 2012 survey, less than half of 10,000 Americans polled recognized the health benefits of sunglasses, and 27 percent of respondents reported never wearing them. According to the American Ophthalmological Society, studies have shown that, in addition to skin cancers, accumulated ultraviolet exposure from the sun can heighten the risk of eye diseases such as eye cancer and cataracts, a leading cause of blindness worldwide. Intense UV exposure can also cause temporary blindness known as photokeratitis, while extended sun exposure is linked to growths such as pterygium, or surfer's eye.

Kyle Ross is an optician at Sports Optical, a boutique eyewear company located in the Highlands neighborhood of north Denver. He's also the Manager of Tennis Rx, the specialty tennis optics branch of Sports Optical. An avid tennis player and fan, Ross is highly focused on serving his clientele.

"If you want to play until you're 80, you should protect your eyes when you're young. If you're 40 it means now, and if you're 10 it also means now," Ross says. "I think most players, whether they wear glasses or not, now recognize the importance of protecting their eyes from sun damage." Fundamentally, whatever your age, UV exposure is proven to accelerate cataracts. "I see mothers rub sunscreen over their kids and then send them into the Colorado sun without eye protection. It's tragic. I sound alarmist, but kids are just so sensitive and they're battling something they don't fully perceive as a threat."

But Ross also notes that over the past few years he's seen more, younger children coming in for sunglasses. "We've responded to this shift. We have smaller-fitting frames, and with the kids it's important to make sure they actually like them. We offer fun colors and styles, but we also try to be a fun place and present eyewear as a cool, positive thing. We have a garden, we have toys in our shop, pets are welcome and we give them tours of our laboratory. It's a dynamic space from which a kid can walk out feeling part of community; it's on us to create this culture of protecting our eyes."

Beyond preserving your vision and keeping your eyes healthy, sunglasses can also be a vital game-improvement tool for players.

"We make very cool, performance-oriented medical devices — which is why they're eligible for insurance/Flex Spending/Health Savings Accounts — with the secondary benefit being the fact that when you see more clearly on court, when you're comfortable and not fidgeting or pushing your glasses back on your face, when you have peripheral vision, and when you feel confident in the way you see and

track the ball, glasses improve your game."

What's more, Ross says, direct sun and glare can fatigue our eyes and make it harder for them to follow the ball. Sometimes, eye fatigue makes our whole body feel fatigued, and that's not a good feeling when you're halfway through a tough match. Hats help, says Ross, but most court surfaces reflect a lot of light, which can still damage your eyes and make you feel tired. What's more, both direct and reflected light causes you to squint to help reduce the amount of glare that your eyes have to filter. Even in low light situations — including indoors — glare, reflections and halos created by artificial lights can distort your vision, making it harder to focus and leading to squinting and fatigue.

Still, some players just can't seem to find the right frame or the right lens. That's Ross' specialty, as his company will fabricate custom prescription lenses to fit any frame. Almost any player can benefit from custom glasses, Ross says, from the novice to the professional. "You can always find the guy who walks out onto the court, wearing the latest and greatest Federer signature Nike kit, with matching head and wrist bands," Ross says. "This guy wears brand new shoes that squeak with every step. He arrives at the court with this massive tennis bag and chooses from four newly-strung racquets. But as he reaches down to pull on his knee brace, he has to constantly adjust his ill-fitting, greasy glasses, which keep sliding down his nose. This happens all the time. Eyewear is such an inexplicably overlooked piece of gear in a game that is so visually precise."

A good chunk of Ross' clientele are former high-level players who can't wear contacts and struggle finding an eyewear set-up that meets their demands. They're older 4.5 or 5.0+ folks who are losing a touch of crispness, which is usually noticed when they're returning serve. They're good players who are looking for a piece of equipment to match their games.

"For these players, I usually steer them towards a lens with less light blockage. I'd say a lot of them just end up going with a clear/AR (anti-reflective) set-up, even for outdoors. If they want a sunglass lens, the move is to go with something on the lighter side rather than dark. A dark lens makes things more comfortable, but for higher-level folks they want light getting into the eye for the best performance. Also, with regards to safety, it's important to note that our clear lenses and our sunglass lenses offer the exact same UV-blocking properties as a dark lens, since they occupy different zones of the light spectrum and can be targeted distinctly."

Whether you fall on the game-improvement side of the fence or are focused on the health benefits of good UV/AR eyewear, Ross is quick to point out the old adage, "You can't hit what you can't see."

Discover the many benefits of custom eyewear for tennis at the TennisRx website <<http://www.prescriptiontennisglasses.com>> or stop by Sports Optical at 4337 Tennyson St. in Denver.



EYEDIOLOGY

DID YOU KNOW THAT EXCESSIVE EXPOSURE TO THE SUN CAN LEAD TO THE FOLLOWING EYE CONDITIONS?

1. Skin Cancer

Up to 10 percent of all skin cancers are found on the eyelid.

2. Cataracts

The World Health Organization reports that, worldwide, approximately 900,000 people are blind because of cataracts—cloudiness in the lens of the eye—triggered by UV exposure.

3. Macular Degeneration

Over time UV light may play a role in damaging the macula lutea (an area of the eye with millions of light-sensing cells, which allow us to see fine details clearly), potentially leading to blurriness and vision loss.

4. Pterygium

This abnormal growth of tissue—also called surfer's eye—may progress slowly from either corner across the white part of the eye, possibly leading to inflammation or disturbance of vision.

5. Photokeratitis

Essentially a sunburn of the eye, it's temporary (healing within 48 hours) but can be painful, causing blurred vision, light sensitivity, and the sensation of having sand in your eye.



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THEBIGCHAIR

STATE OF THE DISTRICT

NEWS FROM USTA COLORADO HEADQUARTERS

FRITZGARGER

USTA COLORADO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Greetings! I'll start off with a big 'thanks' to our past President – **Brett Haberstick!** He completed his two-year term as of our Annual Meeting in March. He brought so much to the table and was at the helm, leading the way, as our organization ushered in any number of new ideas. He also was a staunch supporter of making sure we looked back and recognized those who have been such an integral part of the growth of our game in Colorado communities for decades (i.e. our Breaking the Barriers 2.0 initiative); as well as bringing Hall of Famers together on the night we celebrated the Hall of Fame display here at Gates Tennis Center. Brett has consistently acknowledged all the efforts that have gone into the promotion of the sport and has utilized his critical-thinking skills to have us assess a number of program areas in an effort to look at things with a new and fresh perspective that embraces innovation. He will carry on as a member of the board, and as past president will remain on our executive committee. No doubt his leadership and areas of focus will continue to be a part of how we approach and execute our mission to promote and develop the growth of tennis in Colorado. Many thanks!

His successor is no foreigner to leadership. She has a track record of leading and is in fact the President of another statewide organization – the Colorado Parks and Recreation Association. We are delighted to have **Carolyn**

Peters take the reins for USTA Colorado. A long-standing board member, past chair of our Community Development Committee and avid supporter of tennis in general, Carolyn is a perfect fit for our association. We will look to stay the course regarding the majority of our initiatives and programs, but like Brett, Carolyn is interested in looking at new ways to enhance what we do and how we do it.

We are also bringing on a new member to our leadership (officers). **Ed Anderson** is our new Treasurer and member of the Executive Committee. For many, Ed needs no introduction. He has been involved in the game at so many levels, in a number of communities and he brings with him his impeccable character, passion for the game, drive for excellence and desire to grow the game.

USTA Colorado is fortunate to have the volunteer leaders the Board has chosen. The complete line-up is as follows:

<i>President</i>	Carolyn Peters
<i>Vice President</i>	Angela Finan
<i>Secretary</i>	Laurie Anderson
<i>Treasurer</i>	Ed Anderson

And we also welcome new Board member **Cliff Digby** from Grand Junction, as the representative for the Western Slope. He takes over from Aaron Clay of Delta, who completed his last 3-year term in March. Many thanks to Aaron, who provided consistent input as well as his legal expertise to our operations over the past six years. For a complete listing of Board members see page 30.

We're looking forward to another successful year ahead. It's exciting to see so many providers/facilities offering red ball programming (for ages 5-8)! There's a real need for that and it can be a great way to not only reach the youngsters but also their parents. Many providers are offering adult opportunities while their kids are engaged in the red ball curriculum. USTA Colorado expanded the A.C.E. tournament formats to Challengers, so in 2015 the intermediate player along with the entry-level junior (Futures events) have the opportunity for abbreviated, multiple match tournament play in one-day (extension to two-days only if the draws are large and playoff rounds are needed on day two). Our adult league program shifted some things – specifically the Twilight league – in an effort to make our offerings available to more people throughout the outdoor season. And we're hoping our Flex league offering goes to another level as more learn about the opportunity. We're using a new platform that is even more player friendly. There is a full slate of events, workshops and activities for all interested in getting more involved in the game. Hope everyone takes advantage of all that is out there.

Many thanks to all our sponsors and advertisers! Your support is invaluable and much appreciated.

Best wishes.

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THE LAST WORD

BETWEEN A PICKLE AND A HARD PLACE

COMPETING FOR SAME DOLLARS WILL HELP NEITHER TENNIS NOR PICKLEBALL

KURT DESAUTELS
EDITOR, COLORADO TENNIS

Pickleball. Just typing the word makes my fingers chuckle. But despite its rather whimsical name, these days pickleball has become a serious topic for tennis players, providers and governing bodies. If you aren't familiar with pickleball, here's a quick primer...

Pickleball is a racquet sport that combines elements of badminton, tennis, and table tennis. It's played on a badminton-sized court with a modified tennis net using paddles and a whiffle ball. And it's growing. Fast. Pickleball is growing so fast that it's been dubbed by pickleball enthusiasts to be the fastest growing sport in America.

It's that pace of growth that has led pickleball enthusiasts into numerous confrontations with tennis players and providers. For years, pickleball was a niche game played wherever and whenever players could erect or modify a court, usually with taped lines and low nets. Catering to a predominantly aging demographic, pickleball has grown in popularity to the point where it made sense to have its own infrastructure.

Around the state, passionate pickleballers have successfully lobbied to convert tennis courts to pickleball use, as well as divert money to the construction of pickleball-specific courts that could have helped build and/or upgrade existing tennis facilities. Other facilities have opted to paint permanent pickleball lines on existing tennis courts in an effort to accommodate all users, but that practice renders the courts "unsuitable" for USTA sanctioned play. This push to put pickleball on the map has, in some areas, pushed tennis to the very sidelines it originally created. Facilities and homeowners' associations across the state are embarking on various ways to accommodate both sides, but with some problematic consequences.

Obviously, all players — pickleball, tennis and otherwise — are competing for the same investment dollars. Building tennis courts that cannot accommodate pickleball denies the fastest growing alternative sport an opportunity to continue to grow, whereas converting old tennis courts or building pickleball-exclusive courts deprives tennis, the fastest-growing traditional sport, of badly needed infrastructure improvements.

One reason behind the competition for dollars is that the Official Rules of Tennis prohibit sanctioned play on tennis courts with permanent lines unrelated to tennis (36-foot and 60-foot blended lines are acceptable). A sanctioned league or tournament match cannot be played on courts with permanent basketball, volleyball, four-square or badminton lines. Permanent pickleball lines are similarly forbidden.

The situation will only continue to escalate so long as tennis and pickleball are at odds over the same funding. If they two could muster their support for the same projects, imagine how powerful their positions would be. Pickleball play is dominated by older players, as more than 70% of pickleball players are over the age of 60, with another 24% between the ages of 40-59. Tennis, on the other hand, skews younger. Kids play is growing, especially here in Colorado, with a quarter of all sanctioned play opportunities happening among juniors (both Junior Team Tennis and sanctioned junior tournament participation are at all-time highs in Colorado).

So how to appease both the vocal pickleball community and the still-thriving tennis community?

The answer, I believe, resides in one simple pickleball modification that would successfully merge the pickleball cause and the tennis cause not just here in Colorado, but across the country.

A pickleball court measures 20x44 feet, and includes a 7-foot non-volley zone in front

REGULATION TENNIS COURT

60' / ORANGE BALL COURT
at SERVICE LINES

PICKLEBALL

KITCHEN

KITCHEN

60' / ORANGE BALL COURT
at SERVICE LINES

12" shorter vs pickleball court 6" wider vs pickleball court

The BEST way to play pickleball on a tennis court

Played on a badminton court, standard pickleball court dimensions are 20-feet x 44-feet. The 60-foot/orange ball court that is mandated for all 10 and Under sanctioned tennis play (leagues and tournaments) across the country is 21-feet x 42-feet, net to service line.

The blended 60-foot lines (which are already painted on hundreds of courts across the state, and thousands across the country) are 6" wider on each side, while the service line is 12" shorter than current pickleball dimensions. The 60-foot court (service line to service line) is just 2% larger than a standard pickleball court...2 square feet to be precise (880 sq ft vs 882 sq ft).

Moreover, in order to convert a traditional tennis court to pickleball dimensions, 168 feet of tape must be used. If pickleball adopted the 60-foot court & service line as its foundation, only 42 feet of tape would be necessary (for the "kitchen" line).

of the net (referred to as the "kitchen"). By comparison, a 60-foot court measures 21x42 feet (net to service line). Overall, a pickleball court is just 2 sq ft smaller than the 60-foot court (service line to service line). If pickleball adopted this new standard for court size, the collective power of both sports' efforts to create additional infrastructure could be harnessed. With more than 500 60-foot courts already painted in Colorado (thousands nationwide), pickleball would more than double its current reach.

For those pickleball enthusiasts that argue that tennis should accommodate pickleball by changing the rules and allowing for an additional set of blended lines, once you've accommodate one sport, others will follow. What's more, rules can change. Tennis once employed an hour-glass shaped court but has evolved to the current shape/size. If pickleball embraced the 60-foot court dimensions, both sports would feed on the growth of the other. Older players interested in pickleball would push their local communities to add infrastructure that would simultaneously benefit youth tennis, rather than deprive it.

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photo by Kurt Desautels

ABOUT USTA COLORADO

Founded in 1955, USTA Colorado is a district affiliate of the United States Tennis Association, and the governing body of tennis in Colorado. Its mission is to promote and develop the growth of tennis in Colorado, coordinating recreational and competitive tennis opportunities for players of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. A not-for-profit organization, USTA Colorado invests 100% of its resources into growing the game.

We provide grants to organizations that want to introduce tennis to their communities and we offer scholarships to junior players who seek to take their game to the next level. We coordinate adult league play for more than 33,000 players across the state, and offer programs for junior players of all ages and abilities. Our sanctioned tournament schedule offers more than 170 events this year, including opportunities for wheelchair athletes.

We are in the parks. We are in recreation centers and in private clubs. We are in schools helping physical education teachers introduce our kids to a game that they can play for a lifetime, keeping them fit and healthy. We believe that fundamental tennis principles like sportsmanship, hard work and personal responsibility translate into every area of life. Through tennis we are helping people realize their potential both on and off the court.

We are more than 23,000 members strong, but our scope is not confined to those players alone. We represent the half-million tennis players in our state, providing information and opportunities to play for each and every one of them. We reach out to all players, including those of diverse cultural backgrounds, mentally and physically challenged athletes, and under-served communities. Diversity & Inclusion are core values and strategic priorities for USTA Colorado.

We invite you to find out more about the lifetime sport of tennis. We will help you find a court, find a program, find a league or find a team. We will help you put the FUN back in FITNESS. So whether you want to learn to play tennis, get back into the sport, or just find more opportunities to play the game, we're here to help.

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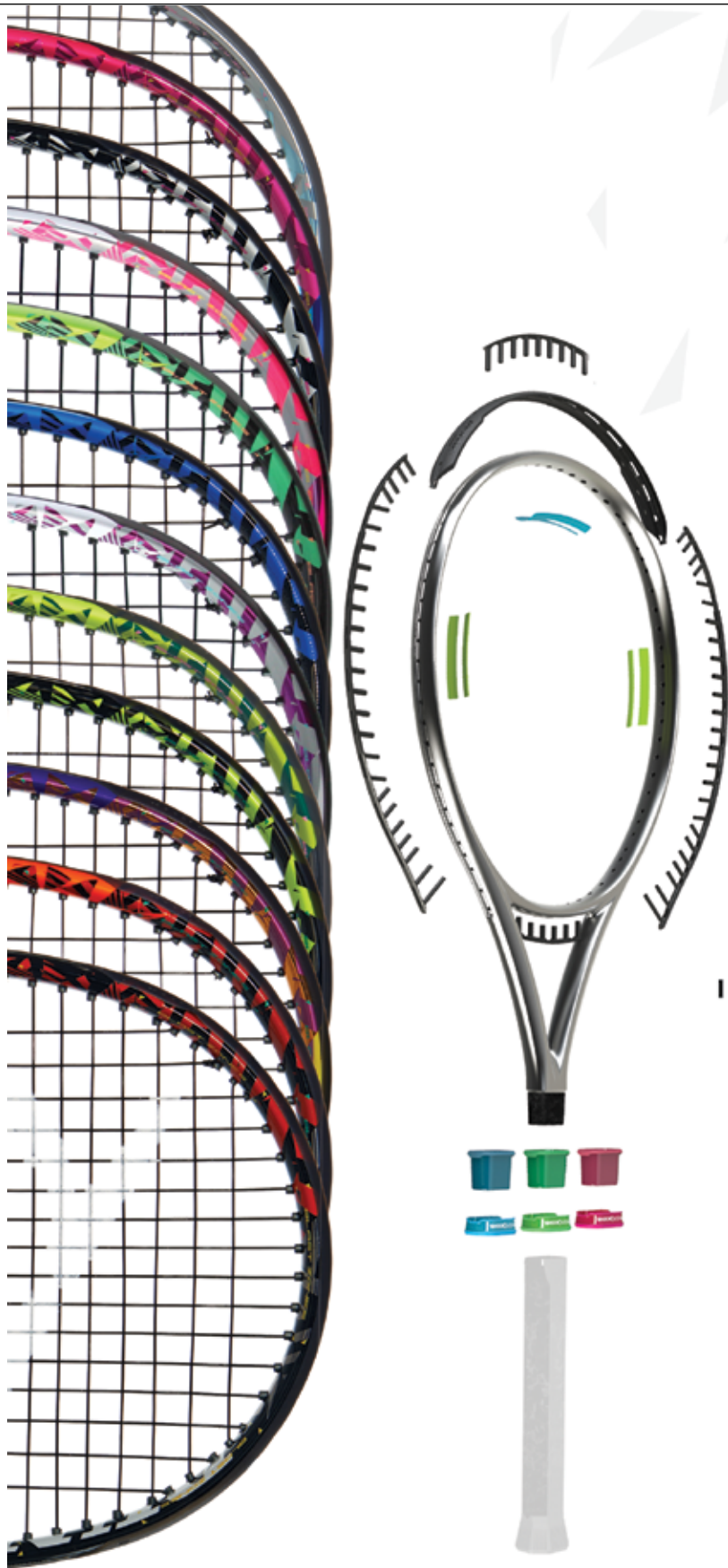


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