

COMPETITIVE JUNIOR TENNIS IN THE UNITED STATES

The United States Tennis Association (USTA) divides competitive junior tennis into **Junior Tournament Tennis** and **Junior Team Tennis**. To participate a junior must register at www.usta.com.

Step by step sign-up for Junior Team Tennis (It may vary slightly from year to year)

1. Get a USTA Junior Membership/Ask the coach for the team number
2. Click on TennisLink at the usta.com website
3. Click on Junior Team Tennis.
4. As of 2017, if your child is 14 or under a parent profile account must be set up and your child must be linked to the account.. (Click on Login)
5. Click on Register To Play (This registering will work for both fall and winter seasons)
6. Proceed to check-out
7. If you go to USTA Junior Team Tennis homepage and type in the team name your child should appear on the team roster list.
8. The match schedule will be posted online but the coach will determine when your child plays. The age categories are 10's, 12's, 14's and 18's. The three skill levels are: 1) beginner; 2) intermediate and 3) advanced. A junior rating system helps determine tennis skill.

Step by step sign-up for USTA Junior Tournament Tennis

1. Get a USTA Junior Membership
2. Click on TennisLink at usta.com website
3. Click on Tournaments
4. Under the Find A Tournament Heading click on Tournament Adv. Search
5. Put in the year and month. Scroll down and put in the section (**Midwest**) and the district (**S.E.Michigan**) click search

Note: **BG** stands for boys and girls. The competitive age categories are: **10's, 12's, 14's, 16's** and **18's**. The month you reach 11, 13, 15 and 17 you must play the next higher age category.

Important - Juniors in the 7-10 age range must go through Youth Progression to play USTA yellow ball 12 tournaments. The 7-9's must play **orange** then **green dot ball** while the 10 year old junior may start at **green dot**.

The age 7-9 requirements

- * Must start playing tournaments with orange balls.
- * Must accumulate 20 points to play tournaments with green dot balls.
- * Playing one tournament is worth 4 points (called stars)
- * Winning a tournament adds a bonus 4 points (called trophies)
- * A finalist at a tournament adds a bonus 3 points (called trophies)
- * Playing a season of USTA Junior Team Tennis is worth 5 points (called stars)

Requirements for the 10 year old player

- * May start playing tournaments with green dot
- * Must earn 20 points (called stars) to play yellow ball 12's.

Finding The Appropriate Level of Competition

1. Novice Player - practice matches, summer Friday afternoon interclub matches, beginner or Intermediate Junior Team Tennis, USTA NET or level five tournaments, HVTC summer novice tournaments, match play and tennis camp play.
2. Intermediate Skill Player - practice matches, USTA Intermediate Junior Team Tennis, USTA level four tournaments, summer interclubs, match play, novice tournaments and tennis camp play. Play both singles and doubles in tournaments.
3. Advance Skill Player - match play, USTA tournaments higher levels, practice matches and advance USTA Junior Team Tennis. Play both singles and doubles in tournaments.