

2018 Kennedy Tennis Club

The 2018 middle school tennis season is just around the corner. Come join this co-ed team for a great team tennis experience!

The Kennedy Tennis Club is a team that plays in the local MTP middle school tennis league. Our 2017 Team A players were the league champions! We are looking for all players interested in fun, competition and sportsmanship to come tryout for the 2018 season.

There are 3 divisions which are divided based on skill and experience level.

- **Kennedy A** – Highest skill level, plays the MTP flight A schedule
- **Kennedy B** - Plays the MTP flight B schedule
- **Kennedy USTA division** – A USTA sanctioned weekend league that is comprised of players from Kennedy, Cupertino Middle and other schools in the area.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PLAY?

Boys and girls enrolled in Kennedy middle from all grades and welcome to tryout.

WHAT IS TEAM TENNIS?

Team tennis means that players participate in singles and doubles matches that count toward a total team score. The team with the most points wins. Doubles is a big part of team tennis. The majority of players on the team will play doubles.

TRYOUT INFORMATION:

Tryouts will be held at the Cupertino Sport Center: 21111 Stevens Creek Blvd

6th & 7th Grade tryout – Monday, March 12th from 4 - 6pm

8th Grade tryout – Tuesday, March 13th from 4 - 6pm

Call backs (if necessary) – Wednesday, March 14th from 4 – 6pm

DOES EVERYONE MAKE THE TEAM? There will be 18 players selected for Kennedy A, 18 for Kennedy B and all other interested players may compete in the USTA league. Players must be able to serve, rally, and understand how to score in order to play in any division.

MATCH AND PRACTICE INFORMATION

There will typically be one match and one practice per week during the season. Rain and playoff weeks may affect this schedule. Kennedy A & B matches are typically on Wednesday but subject to change based on the opposing school's availability. Practices will typically be on Tuesday or Thursday from 4-6pm. Kennedy USTA matches are typically on Sunday afternoon at 4pm. There are no practices for Kennedy USTA. Additional information about this league will be given to those players who are selected to participate.

Kennedy A & B matches begin March 28th, 2018. The season is expected to last 7 weeks

COST - Kennedy A & B: **\$175**/player – includes a minimum of 6 league matches and a weekly practice during the season. Team t-shirts and a season ending team party are also included *Kennedy USTA division fees will be outlined in team information once available

TRANSPORTATION – Transportation is not provided to or from any practices or matches. Carpools will be setup for parents to participate in if desired.

COACHES: **Don Le** – Lifetime Lead Professional & **Kevin Vu** – Tennis Professional with over 10yrs of coaching experience

CONTACT – school officials do not manage or schedule the league. Please contact Tom Uyehara at Lifetime Activities with any questions about participating tomu@lifetimeactivities.com



FAQ

I heard last year you did not have courts to practice or play matches. Will that be the same this year?

No, this year we have court facilities at the Cupertino Sport Center that will be available for 1 practice/week and some home matches. We are sharing this facility with 2 other teams, so most matches will be scheduled away. Practices will be 2 hours in length from 4-6pm

I only want to play if I can play singles, is that ok?

No, the majority of team tennis matches are doubles so most players on the team will be doubles players. Doubles is a great game and a requirement if you want to succeed at the high school or college level.

Are the practices meant to replace my tennis lesson?

No, this is a team practice and we will be focusing on learning to play together as a group in a variety of point and rally-based exercises. Doubles play will be a major focus of practice.

Do I have to come to practice? I already go to a tennis academy.

Remember that this is a team activity and not an individual one. If you do not wish to come to practice or attend all matches, this may not be the right activity for you. With that being said, team tennis is extremely fun and a great way to gain valuable experience while having a fun time with your friends.

How do you select players for the team?

Players are selected for the team based on their performance during the tryout. Preference is also given to players with seniority or previous team experience. The league requires that at least 3 girls are on the team in each division. Preference is also given to players who demonstrate sportsmanship and a great team attitude during the tryout process.

I'm nervous about tryouts. What can I expect?

Relax! Tryouts can make even the most experienced player a bit nervous. That is completely normal. We try to make the experience as easy as possible. You will be demonstrating your skills by rallying and playing points with other players. Coaches are looking at all aspects of your skill, effort and experience. Since we have 3 divisions, there will be a playing opportunity for all players that are skilled enough to play a match.

Is this an official school sport?

No, the Kennedy Tennis Club is not an official school sport. The team was established over 20 years ago by the Mid-Peninsula Tennis League to give middle school players a chance to compete against one another and learn the fun of team tennis. The team is comprised of players from the school but is not sponsored by Kennedy Middle. Kennedy has been very gracious in helping us provide information to players about the league but they do not manage the team or the league.

Why does it cost \$175?

It is very expensive to run the tennis team. Your fee pays for all things including: courts, coaches, balls, insurance, league fees, t-shirts, team party and administration. The league has been hosted by Lifetime Tennis for over 20 years and is done so as a service to the middle school players in the area.

How do the coaches set the line-up?

The coaches will set the lineup based on skill level. UTR ratings if available may be used to help set an initial lineup. It is important to remember that since you are part of a team, no one player is more important than another. All matches contribute equally to the team's score. The number one player's match does not count any more than the last ranked player's match. Players must attend the majority of matches in order to be eligible for playoffs.