



Minnetonka Tennis Club

Top Ten Questions/Issues Regarding Our Junior Program

By the Minnetonka Tennis Club Teaching Staff

1. *How can my child improve?* **Play! Play! We can count the number of hours in a month on one hand where kids are renting open court time to just hit with other kids. This is true even in the summer!! Encourage your child to play some unstructured tennis-no parents or teaching pros around. Even though we are busy, we have some open times.**
2. *How can my child most benefit from tennis lessons?*
**Be on time- many valuable things occur during the warm up session
Be open to new ideas to improve his/her game
Get a good nights rest before a lesson
Have the child prepared to play--having eaten something and taking necessary medication (even if it's the weekend)
Be well-equipped (racquet, tennis attire, water etc)**
3. *"My kid is signed up for the junior program. Why can't I just sign him up for the whole year and be done with it?"*
Kids enter & exit based on fall, winter and spring sports seasons. We have 5 sessions plus an 8-week summer session over the course of a year. We attempt to give flexibility to accommodate many players.
4. *"How does my child move up to the next level?"* **Instructors evaluate the students in the classes and put them in the level that will most benefit everyone involved. Many parents have remarked that "Their child plays better when (s)he is around better players." Players must play at their particular skill level regardless of the desire to be around better players. If they want to be surrounded by better players that needs to occur during non-teaching times such as open time or competitive play.**
5. *Should my child take private lessons?* **Privates can be beneficial to those students who are on the verge of moving up a level or who would like more specialized attention.**
6. *What should be the parent's role during tennis lessons?* **Be attentive but give the child his/her space. Kids always enjoy the eye contact but never coach your child during a lesson! If you see a behavioral issue that needs to be addressed, contact the coach. More importantly, monitor the activities of the non-tennis playing siblings. We get complaints regarding the noise level when the junior program is being run however most of the noise is from the siblings.**
7. *My child has been in the junior program for a long time but I cannot get him/her in the class I want.*
Again, members have priority registration; there are members that do not get signed up each session because of delaying their registration by a couple of days.
8. *My child has signed up for tennis class but does not have a racquet. What should I do?* **Demo racquets are available for all students to who need to purchase their first racquet or event of an upgrade. Once a selection has been made, it is strongly recommended that your child purchase his or her own racquet.**
9. *In event a child needs some discipline, what happens?* **We attempt to curtail any discipline issues with fast-paced active drills. I have to say that we have fewer problems than most programs. Everyone on staff enjoys working with children of all ages but like anyone, we will have our good and bad days. If event occurs we may sit a child down for a while or have them do so additional exercises. If the situation does not improve we may contact the parents. On rare cases we have recommended that a child takes a break or maybe find another program.**
10. *My child wants to be in different class, what can I do?* **With the classes being at capacity, there is very little room to switch classes. Our recommendation is to sign up with a friend together for classes.**