



Youth Tennis San Diego Junior Tennis News

George E. Barnes Family Junior Tennis Center

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Girls Nationals at the Barnes Tennis Center

On August 7–14, 2011, 400 of the top 14-18 year old girls in the United States will be coming to the Barnes Tennis Center to participate in the USTA Girls 16 & 18 National Championships. This is the most prestigious and important tennis event that these girls will probably ever play and we are excited to be hosting the event for the second time in San Diego. This will be the 21st Anniversary of the Girls 16's Championships in San Diego, and the second time ever that both events will be held simultaneously at the same site. Come out and watch the best up and coming players.



MatchPoint Ball 2011

Honoring world renowned sports announcer **DICK ENBERG**

Join us for a night of special stories, celebrities, great food and amazing auction items.

**Saturday, November 12, 2011
at The Grand Del Mar**

The MatchPoint Ball supports the programs and scholarships of Youth Tennis San Diego and the Barnes Tennis Center.

Save the Date!



My Point

By Kerry Blum, Executive Director, YTSD



A tennis match usually means a winner and a loser. However, we have a new program that is a win-win match between YTSD and San Diego schools. This past school year we brought students to the Barnes Center for an innovative Field Trip program.

Over a thousand students participated during our first year. We concentrated on K – 5th grade, and also included a day with High Tech Middle School. YTSD pros coached using USTA Quick Start, 10 and Under Tennis Guidelines, as well as other age appropriate instruction.

The results were extraordinary. Those of us involved in tennis find it hard to imagine a child who has not held a racket or been on a tennis court. However, I would estimate that for every 250 students we brought from the classroom to Barnes, probably 175 of them had never been on a tennis court or held a tennis racket. Finally we are getting the children to the court that would never be brought by their parents. Even better—the kids were asking their parents to bring them to Barnes for more! Tom O'Brien, YTSD Program Director, received wonderful feedback such as the following email:

“Dear Barnes Tennis Center Coaches and Staff, My daughter Lizzy came home from her Field Trip at the Barnes Center with a new found love of TENNIS! We never really considered tennis for her, but are thrilled with the results of the Field Trip. Lizzy said how much she loved the coaches, especially coach Nik! Now, we’re totally looking forward to Summer Tennis Camp! What a pleasant surprise!” —Christine Gelber

While our nationally acclaimed After School Tennis (AST) program reaches over 10,000 students a year, it has always served as an introduction to tennis, especially to students in low-income areas; but it has never been a showcase for transitioning players into our performance programs. There has always been a gap between our community outreach mission and our ability to develop competitive champions. The Field Trip program is proving to be different. Field Trip students are returning to Barnes to sign up for our classes where we hope they will continue to train as well as compete. We had 120 Field Trip students sign up for either summer camp or one of our other programs.

The Field Trip program utilizes the down time on our courts. Every weekend is booked with tournaments. Every



Students from Holmes Elementary School excited to take part in the field trip at the Barnes Tennis Center.

afternoon the courts are completely filled with our classes and clinics. However, in the morning and at mid-day, we can put hundreds of kids on the courts, hoping to grow the game of tennis. In addition to instruction, drills, and hitting for prizes, the students are evaluated using USTA Talent ID. We are able to help identify potentially talented players and help connect them with USTA support programs.

I serve on two USTA National Junior Committees and have been Executive Director for seven years at YTSD. Budgets, maintenance, personnel issues, USTA mandates, fund-raising and grant writing needs take up most of my day. However, the Field Trip program has refueled my passion for what we do at YTSD. There is an unbelievable energy when 250 kids at a time experience success and ask for more! I am excited that we have a program that seems to link the community outreach with our developmental and competitive programs.

I hope that each of you can also see the potential this program has for growing the game of tennis. It costs about \$100 to bring a classroom of students from school to Barnes for the day. It is actually cheaper than running an ad to promote our programs. Perhaps you would like to sponsor your neighborhood school? Perhaps your sponsorship might find the next U.S. Open Champ? Perhaps you will simply put a racket in the hand of a child who has never held one and that child will learn to love the game and grow as a person. It's more than just a Field Trip. It's what we do at YTSD.

Tournament Director's Report

By Anne Podney



Two new tournament sponsors have generously come forward this year to help promote several Open tournaments. Pick Up Stix sponsored the Harper Ink and will sponsor the upcoming Thanksgiving Vacation Tournament. Pick Up Stix also joined the Russ Pearson family in supporting the Esme Pearson Memorial.

Please support Pick Up Stix by dining at the nearby Midway and Rosecrans restaurant location. Jane Lane's Kids, Inc. was the new sponsor of the recent Wilbur Folsom Tournament. This worthy organization is a nonprofit that Jane founded in 2000 to provide free, furnished, vacation-type housing to children and their families undergoing medical treatment at San Diego hospitals.

I am hoping that many of our Open players read this online newsletter. If you do, send an e-mail to me at the address below. All who do will be entered into a drawing for a free tournament entry to the tournament of their choice!

A reminder: when you are registering for a tournament and know that you have an SAT test that Saturday morning, let me know on your entry form (if mailed in) or by e-mail to barnescenter@yahoo.com if you enter online. I can almost always accommodate you if you let me know *before* the draw is made. I will try—but not promise—to help those who have other games. My priorities are: school first, tennis second and other sports conflicts (a distant) third. And remember, letting me know of your time problem after the draw is published is too late!

As you know, at the Barnes Center, the tournament desk and the umpires are connected by walkie-talkies. The proper procedure for players who need a linesperson on court is to



Folsom Boys 16 finalist Aiku Shintani, Jane Lane (sponsor), Christopher Bernhardt (winner) and Anne Podney



Folsom Girls 16 Doubles: Lindsay Brown, Jada Henry, Tony Perez, Erica Nesses, Kelly Shaffer

find an umpire (if they see one nearby) or go to the tournament desk and ask for one to be sent to the court. Players requesting the umpire need to inform their opponent that they are going to get an official and then go directly to the tournament desk or umpire. Please remember, we have roughly one umpire for six courts—our umpires are rovers—and they are instructed *not* to stay on any one court any longer than necessary. Sometimes they can't come to the court immediately, but they will come as soon as they are able. The *only* time parents can ask for an umpire is if they feel the other parent or coach is interfering in the game.

An umpire once told me that the underlying principle of tennis is "fairness." Just as we give our opponents the benefit of the doubt on a line call, we should also do the same for other aspects of the game. Players are so tuned into looking for gamesmanship that they automatically suspect it if, for example, an opponent asks for a bathroom break or calls for an injury timeout. This umpire suggests that players and parents assume the best, rather than the worst, about an opponent. That doesn't mean that players should ignore obvious attempts at gamesmanship, but that players and parents try to be a bit more tolerant and not expect the worst of their opponents. Remember, it's a game of "love!"

Youth Tennis San Diego Board Member, Kathy May Fritz, is inducted into the SCTA Hall of Fame

On August 5th, 2011 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Beverly Hills, the Southern California Tennis Association (SCTA) held a Hall of Fame induction gala. Those honored included Pat Canning Todd, Dorothy Head Knode, Franklin Johnson, Billie Jean King, Dick Leach, Billy Martin, Kathy May Fritz and Hugh Stewart. Congratulations to all the honorees.

Support The Troops Through Tennis!

By Steve Kappes, SDDTA, May 2011



With so many military bases in southern California, it's not surprising that many tennis players

and fans have connections to those who serve or have served our country. Perhaps the connection is through a family member, neighbor, friend or tennis partner . . . or maybe it's yourself! Even if you don't have a direct association, you probably can appreciate the hardships experienced by service members during deployments. And now there is a fast and simple way for you to combine your love of tennis with an opportunity to help these dedicated Americans while they are away.

It's the USTA's "Adopt-A-Unit" program. It's an easy, win-win program that delivers needed personal supplies to the troops, as well as portable tennis equipment that they can use for recreation & stress relief while they are deployed. The effort allows tennis communities to show support, and to introduce service members to a recreational means for reintegrating with family, friends and community upon their return.

Here's how it works: your tennis group (Community Tennis Association, club, league team, group of friends, junior players, etc.) prepares a basic "care package" and mails it to a currently deployed unit. The USTA then sends the same unit portable tennis equipment (racquets, pop-up nets, transition balls, throw-down lines, etc.). The USTA makes it easy—they can identify eligible units, and they have a list of recommended items for the care package. The details are at <http://www.usta.com/military>. So far, dozens of tennis groups in over 10 states have adopted a unit. Some of their stories are available on the USTA's Military Outreach page on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/usta.militaryoutreach>. So, serve up some tennis love and help make a difference in the lives of those who are protecting our freedoms by adopting a unit today!

Youth Tennis San Diego Summer Jr. Satellite Tournament



Sponsored by Jane Lane's Kids Inc.

Girls' 10's	Champion Kathy Wang. Finalist Zoe Coggins.
Girls' 12's	Champion Miroslava Song. Finalist Jasmyn Gordon.
Girls' 14's	Champion Jennifer Richards. Finalist Miyah Jasso.
Girls' 16's	Champion Danielle Sheikholeslami. Finalist Kristen Oeser.
Girls' 18's	Champion Anya Tugucheva. Finalist Kelsey Richer.
Boys' 10's	Champion Ryan Hahn. Finalist Gabriel Jinich.
Boys' 12's	Champion Justin Li. Finalist Jacob Yudiono.
Boys' 14's	Champion Michael Bell. Finalist William Keith.
Boys' 16's	Champion Beau Bressler. Finalist Robert Alexander.
Boys' 18's	Champion Ryan Ray. Finalist Bryce Klabacka.

Spring and Summer Barnes Center Novice and Satellite Tournament Results

Mike Velasquez Memorial Summer Junior Novice Tournament

Girls' 10's	Champion Shelby Smith. Finalist Carmina Migoni.
Girls' 12's	Champion Jessica Nakamoto. Finalist Izabela Zenteno.
Girls' 14's	Champion Samhita Palakodeti. Finalist Alexis Parkhurst.
Girls' 16's	Champion Sydney Nichols. Finalist Katie Xu.
Boys' 10's	Champion Danny Goldin. Finalist Rogerio Alvarez.
Boys' 12's	Champion Brian Farmer. Finalist Luke Johnson.
Boys' 14's	Champion Rodrigo Tajonar. Finalist Dax Johnson.
Boys' 16's	Champion Ruben Gomez. Finalist Ryan Martin.
Boys' 18's	Champion Stephen Celestino. Finalist Shea Sjoberg.

Barnes Cup Novice Tournaments Bring 10-and-Under Tennis to LIFE!!!

Leading the industry, the Barnes Tennis Center has been bringing "10-and-Under Tennis" to San Diego kids all year long with great success! Using lower-compression balls that make tennis easier for kids, "10-and-Under Tennis" is gaining momentum in San Diego, thanks to our efforts and energy.

Our monthly Barnes Cup novice round-robin tournaments use the new balls (green, orange and red) and the smaller courts (60' and 36') in a fun, team-format for kids 10-and under. Kids learn to swing more freely with balls that bounce lower, and travel more slowly.

Barnes Programs Manager, Tom O'Brien, says, "These balls give kids a chance to hit harder, and with greater success. With this technology, kids are learning to play 'real tennis' instead of 'moon-ball tennis'. It's a great thing!"

Help grow the game yourself by promoting these events to your younger future tennis superstars! 2011 Barnes Cup Tournament dates:

September 11, October 2, November 6 and December 4.

23 Years of After School Tennis

Youth Tennis San Diego (YTSD) is proud and excited to kick off our 23rd year of After School Tennis (AST)!!! Over 130,000 juniors have participated in the program since 1989. The AST program is geared towards elementary and middle school age children, however most recently Lincoln High School and Crawford High School have joined in on the fun. AST collaborates with schools and parks/recreation departments throughout San Diego County introducing the basics of tennis while imparting the valuable life skills and experiences which tennis offers, replacing discouragement with dreams, apathy with achievement.



AST at Crawford High School

AST instructor John Betlejewski is enjoying his time on court with the students of Crawford High. John, a former Crawford student himself, says he enjoys being out amongst the juniors and sharing his knowledge of tennis. John says, "When I see the look of joy on a student's face the moment he or she realizes they CAN play the game of tennis, it's fun."

Crawford's AST program is unique due to the fact that many of the students are refugees. With support from Youth Tennis San Diego, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), and the USTA, more than 60 students have participated in the AST program at Crawford High since it started in February. Many of the refugee students participating in our program have gone on to play for Crawford's high school tennis team. This is just another affirmation that our community programs are successfully encouraging youth participation, personal integrity, leadership, and competitive spirit in a friendly environment. Coach John says, "My goal when I became an AST instructor was to help kids by sharing my knowledge of tennis with them. I wanted to give back. What I didn't realize was how much joy and fulfillment I'd be receiving myself from teaching and coaching these young people." YTSD looks forward to continuing its partnership with the IRC and sharing the love of tennis with many more students at Crawford High.



Fall 2011 Programs

From Sports-Skills and Rising Stars to our Elite High Performance Training Programs, the Barnes Tennis Center offers the most comprehensive tennis curriculum anywhere in San Diego County, and beyond.

Our Sports-Skills/Rising Stars bring novice and advanced-beginner classes to kids who are young at heart, and may have dreams of greatness! Utilizing Quickstart tools and methods, we put the "fun" back into fundamentals!

The Competitive Programs are for kids ages 8-14 who are beginning to approach competitive play. Designed for kids who want to play tournaments, this program continues to use low-compression balls to fine-tune rally skills, and develop the techniques and confidence to begin competing.

The Barnes Tennis Academy "HP" High Performance program is designed for players who have already began competing, and who want to take their game to the next level of performance. Focusing on the physical, technical and tactical aspects of the game, the goal is improving tournament performance.

The Barnes Tennis Academy "Elite" Program provides training for future collegiate and professional players. By invitation only, this program challenges the strongest players, and brings goals of collegiate play into focus.

After School Tennis & Education Program

The After School Tennis & Education Program is back at the Barnes Tennis Center!!! Children participating in the low cost program are given a one-hour tennis lesson, followed by 30 minutes of homework assistance in our library. The tennis portion of the program consists of students learning the game, performing drills, and understanding the benefits of physical fitness. The library portion gives children the opportunity to get help with their homework, as well as providing students with a quiet area for reading.

Six week session begins September 19th

\$50 per six week session
Scholarship prices available

For more information regarding our After School Tennis Program, please contact Lindsey Vosburgh, After School Tennis Coordinator at (619) 221-9000 x104 or lvosburgh@ytsd.org.

Thank You!

Brick and Banner Sponsors:

Clairemont Pediatric Dental
Dr. Khuong Nguyen
The Nesses Family
Chrisck Inc.
Rick Robb
The Friedman Family

We appreciate
your support!



Fall Adult Programs at the Barnes Center

The Adult Programs at the Barnes Center will begin four week sessions for all adult classes on September 5th, with a minimum of four signups required for each class in each session. The session fee for each four week session will be \$70. If a class doesn't fill, those signed up will be notified. If a session includes a scheduled holiday, the session fee will be prorated to the number of classes in the session. Students may begin in the middle of a session for a pro-rated fee. One-time drop-ins will still be offered for a \$25 drop-in fee per class.

The new system will ensure a stable student base so the revenues will cover the fixed and variable expenses for the Adult Program classes and will allow the pros to plan curriculums for the registered students. The four Fall sessions planned are: September 5th to October 1st, October 3rd to October 29th, October 31st to November 26th, and November 28th to December 24th.

Please sign up for the class you would like to attend before the end of August. A class schedule can be found at the Barnes Tennis Center front desk. If you would like to have a class offered which is not on the list of classes, please contact Eric Mann (619) 221-9000 or emann@ytsd.org.

WTT National Championships

August 1st Billie Jean King arrived at the Barnes Tennis Center to kick off the Junior World Team Tennis (WTT) National Championships. The WTT Junior Nationals, which is hosted by WTT co-founder Billie Jean King, is an invitational national junior event featuring 16 coed teams from throughout the U.S. The teams use the World Team Tennis format during their three days of non-elimination draw competition. After the teams' practice sessions and a coaches meeting, Billie Jean King opened the festivities on August 1st with a reception for the players, coaches and volunteers. Each day had team matches in the morning and afternoon, culminating with the final play of matches August 4th. The Youth Tennis San Diego 'Riptide' team consists of Romar Hernandez, Dylan Trent, Cameron Bernhardt, Holly Varner, Gabriella De Simone, Bella Genkina, Melinda Chu and coach Eric Mann. It was a great experience that will be remembered by all those who took part in the tournament. Thank you to Billie Jean King, Delaine Mast, Kathy Willette, Larry Willens and all the volunteers who make this such a great annual event. This is the 16th year of WTT held at the Barnes Tennis Center.

The Barnes Center hosted the 2011 USTA Father-Daughter & Mother-Son National Championships June 3-5, 2011

It was another great event, marked by spectacular weather and spirited competition. With a new added non-sanctioned event for parents and children who aren't quite ready for national level play, there really was something for everyone on this beautiful June weekend!

Congratulations to all of our competitors!

Father-Daughter-Ultra Senior (Father 80+)

Champions Carolyn and Graydon Nichols
Finalists Ann Jacobs and Richard Phelps

Father-Daughter-Super Senior (Father 70+)

Champions Krista O'Connor and Herman Ahlers
Finalists Jodi . . Neuman-Rea and Donald Neuman

Father-Daughter-Senior (Father 60+)

Champions Marianne and Al Baker
Finalists Tiffany and Bill Kellogg

Father-Daughter Open

Champions Becky and Jerry Morse-Karzen
Finalists Sabrina and Bruce man-Son-Hing

Mother-Son Open

Champions Diane Fishburne and Matthew Hane
Finalists Lisa and Jordan Rux

Recreational Coach Workshop

The Barnes Tennis Center will host a Recreational Coach Workshop (RCW) on Saturday, October 1st from 9:00 am-3:30 pm. Recreational Coach Workshops are interactive, on-court training programs designed for tennis teachers and coaches working with players at the recreational level. The workshop is six hours in length and is conducted by a certified tennis professional specially trained for the RCW program. The goal of the program is to help all teachers, coaches, and those interested in learning how to become a recreational coach with instruction, fresh and innovative ideas, and easy to follow resources.

Every workshop participant will receive lesson plans and sample equipment in an effort to make the learning process fun and easy. The cost to attend the workshop is \$20, lunch will be included. No RSVP is necessary. Please pay the morning of the workshop. For more information please contact Lindsey Vosburgh, AST Coordinator at (619) 221-9000x104 or lvosburgh@ytsd.org.

USTA Jr. Team Tennis Nets Champions and Finalists in 2011!

Congratulations are in order for every USTA Junior Team Tennis (JTT) team from the Barnes Center this past Spring!

Our Barnes 14's Satellite Team (satellite division) earned a well-deserved Finalist Trophy and Silver medals for their second-place finish in one of the strongest satellite divisions in San Diego JTT history. Only 15 total games separated our squad and the first place finishers. Kudos to our 14's Satellite Team!

Our Barnes 14's Challengers (Intermediate Division) finished in second place in their division and earned an unexpected wildcard berth at the Sectionals at Cal State Northridge. Their trip to sectionals was "the highlight of their season" said Coach Sofia Donlevy.

The Barnes 12's Competitors (novice division) absolutely dominated their division with an undefeated record, proving that the Barnes Center Competitive Program is bringing the best out of kids who choose to work hard on their game! Bravo to the Barnes 12's Competitors!

And lastly, congratulations to our Barnes 12's Satellite Team, 2011 Spring Sectionals Champions!!! After winning their division in San Diego, (and guided by their amazing coach Sofia Donlevy) our squad travelled to Cal State Northridge and avenged a sectionals loss from the prior season. Hat's off to coach Sofia and the Champion Barnes 12's Satellite Team!

2011 Fall teams are playing now on Sunday afternoons. If you know a current or future superstar that would like to participate, please contact Tom O'Brien at 619-221-9000 ext 111.



2011 YTS Summer Satellite (L-R) Boy's 12's Finalist Jacob Yudiono and Champion Justin Li with their fathers on Father's Day.



Barnes 12's Satellite Sectionals Champions from left to right: Talia Mereles, Gabi Armas, Eric Silberman, Coach Sofia Donlevy, William Olson, Alex Schuster, Matthew Mu, Tyler Neal and Alfonso Blancafort.

San Diego Wins CTC Team Cup!

The San Diego Competition Training Center (CTC) team (the top ranked boys and girls 10-13) won the CTC Team Cup at the sectional team tournament for all the Southern California CTC teams. It was held at the Claremont Club and the Bizsantz Tennis Center at Claremont McKenna College on June 11-12. Prior to the Team Cup tournament, the San Diego CTC team had won dual matches over the San Gabriel Valley team on March 13 and over the Orange County team on April 17, but in the Team Cup tournament only the top 10 boys and top 10 girls from each team play so there is a special kind of pressure associated with the two-day tournament.

The San Diego team won matches over Los Angeles/South Bay, Los Angeles/San Fernando Valley, and Orange County. The final match was followed by an awards ceremony, during which each player on the San Diego CTC team received a winner's medal. The names of the players on the San Diego winning team will be inscribed on the CTC Team Cup on display in perpetuity at the Los Angeles Tennis Center.



The successful season was truly a team effort by the players and parents of the San Diego CTC team. The boys who played in the CTC Team Cup were: Timothy Sah, Keegan Smith, Ryan Seggerman, Ivan Thamma, Joey Baldwin, Trevor Faulk, Rae Lan, Jake Williams, Patrick Trhac, and Matthew Sah. Ivan Smith drove down after winning the Santa Barbara tournament to help the team. The girls who played in the Team Cup were: Emily Maxfield, Gillian Parker, Valerie Valencia, Julia

Ronney, Hannah Zhao, Fei Kwan, Alana Andrews, Olia Javidi, Nicole Mossmer, and Sonya Romanenko. The other players on the San Diego CTC team were: Alexander Rushin, Jacob Brumm, Brandon Nakashima, Seth Kim, Nicholas Appel, Sam Hum, Erik Graber, Robert Liu, Simon Yundov, Colton Swingle, Sreeganesh Manoharan, Sean Wheeler, David Ramirez, Logan Baurle, Zachary Brumm, Nik Speshilov, Sheyda Khonji, Frances Cornwall, Isabella Harvison, Alexa Meyer, and Alexandra Kuo. The coaches were: Octavian Popaluca, Nic Izumi, Jose Torres, Oscar Wegner, Vasileos Psyrras and head coach Eric Mann.



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Our Mission:

Youth Tennis San Diego is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote the educational, physical and social development of all youth through organized tennis and educational activities.

Calendar of Events

August

- 2-4 Billie Jean King - WTT Event
- 6-14 USTA Girls 16's and 18's National Championships
- 15-19 Todd Short Memorial
- 20-21 Cyril Press Satellite
- 26-28 Jim Buck So Cal Jr Team Tennis

September

- 3-4 San Diego Junior Doubles Championships
- 5 Labor Day
- 24 AST Field Day

October

- 8-9 YTSD Fall Classic Novice
- 31 Happy Halloween!



Nimitz Clean Up

If you drove by the Barnes Center on June 18th you couldn't miss the huge crowd of volunteers assembling on the corner of Nimitz and W. Point Loma Blvd. The Rock Church, and Barnes Tennis Center began a community project to clean up the outside fences of the Barnes Tennis Center. Over 75 volunteers converged on the site between Nimitz Blvd. and Barnes Tennis Center. The area adjacent to Barnes Tennis Center collects trash, weeds, and overgrown bushes, and was in desperate need of cleaning up. Due to Youth Tennis San Diego budget constraints, this area of need has been tough to fund and we were grateful for the help. As volunteers arrived, their main job was to rake the big piles of donated mulch across the project area. What an incredible difference it has made. **Thank you to our community partners for all their help!**

