

Tennis Memphis News & Events

Junior Team Tennis in Memphis starts June 7, 2007. The deadline to register a team is May 31, 2007. Call Carla Brangenberg, Memphis USTA Local Community Coordinator at 901-685-7907 for more information.

Tennis Memphis website goes live

The Tennis Memphis website, www.tennismemphis.org is up and running! Log on and you will find information on all of the public tennis centers, as well as all of the adult, youth, and senior programs. Do you need a summer camp registration form or a Player Card application? They are there. Do you want to know more about Permanent Court Time? It is there. Do you want to send an email to Tennis Memphis? You can do it there. Do you want to book your courts online? Well, you can't do that quite yet, but it will be coming soon. Having the website is part of the Tennis Memphis mission to promote and develop the growth of tennis in the Memphis area. We hope that it will be visited often.

Coaches Workshop

A **Recreational Coaches Workshop** will be held **June 7, 2007** from **9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** at the **Eldon Roark Tennis Center**, 1500 Finley Road, 38116.

The workshop will be led by Rick Grisham from the USTA. The cost is \$25. Topics to be covered include the games-based approach to coaching, teaching large groups and running effective team practices. Anyone interested in learning the basics of coaching and teaching tennis or seeking a refresher on more current methods and effective tools should attend. Call Kent Smith at 901-237-5677 to sign up.

Come to the Tennis Block Party

A Tennis Block Party will be held on **Friday, June 8, 2007** at the **Leftwich Tennis Center** (4145 Southern Avenue) from **6:00 to 9:00 p.m.** It is a chance for Tennis Memphis to say "thank you" to everyone that plays at our public tennis centers and promotes the game of tennis in our community. Bring your racquets and play or just come by and enjoy the food and fellowship.

Mini-size me!

Kids Team Tennis Demonstration

Tennis Memphis will have a special demonstration of a new and exciting program—Kids Team Tennis—from **12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.** on **Saturday, June 9, 2007** at the **Leftwich Tennis Center**.

Think about how difficult it can be to cover a tennis court as an adult player. Now, imagine what the same court might look like through the eyes of a 6-year old child. Coaches in other sports have realized the benefits of bringing the scale of the game down to the children's level, and now tennis offers the same thing.

The kids start out on "courts" measuring 36 feet by 18' set up on a regular tennis court with a lower net in the opposite direction of the regular court. Foam balls and smaller racquets are used. When they get the hang of that, they can move up to the 60' by 21' court, which is set up on the regular court with the regular net, but still has smaller boundaries. A low compression

ball is used. The next step is to play on a regular tennis court with regular racquets and balls.

Tennis coaches in Europe have used this method for years. The USTA fully supports this program as a way to grow the sport of tennis in the United States. Tennis Memphis plans to use it during the 2007 Morgan Keegan Summer Junior Tennis Camps (starting June 11). So, come to the demonstration on June 9 and see for yourself. At least enjoy some refreshments, mingle with other tennis players, and have some fun.

Time for Summer Camp!

The 2007 Morgan Keegan Summer Junior Tennis Camps will be held at all 7 Memphis public tennis centers in one-week sessions beginning June 11 and ending July 27. (No camp will be held the week of July 2). The camps offer children ages 5-14 at the beginner and intermediate levels the opportunity to learn how to play tennis. The focus of the program is to make tennis a fun sport that kids will want to play for a lifetime. Activities include: tennis stroke development/fundamentals, rules, scoring, strategy & court positioning, drills, individual and team competition, and lots of fun.

The cost of the camp is \$60 per week, with a reduced rate available for those who qualify. (Check the registration form for details). Rackets will be provided by Tennis Memphis or the kids can bring their own. Campers will receive a t-shirt and other prizes during the week. For more information on the Morgan Keegan Summer Junior Tennis Camps and the locations of the tennis centers, call Kent Smith at 901-237-5677 or visit our website at www.tennismemphis.org .