

TOURNAMENT RULES

Winter Championship 2007
Youth Tennis Academy

1. The tournament registration deadline is February 28th, 2008 (in verbal or written form).
2. There are four age groups: 10 & under, 13 & under, and 14 & up.
3. The tournament will take place between February 23rd and March 2nd.
4. The tournament will be played in double elimination format – you get knocked out of the competition after two losses.
5. After all the applications are received, 4 or 8 players will be seeded. The rest are “thrown in” on a randomly. The criteria for seeding are the player’s result in previous tournaments, such as the ones in summer camp and other previous tournaments, and current group level. The main referee will verify the seeding.
6. The top 3 finalists in each group receive cash prizes. The amount of the prize depends on the money pool set up by participants. First place gets 50% of the total amount, second place finalist gets 30%, and third place gets 20%.
7. All participants pay one-time fee of \$15 into the money pool, if they pass the first round of the tournament. Non-members are required to pay a fee of \$30 upon entering the tournament. The total amount of money to be distributed among winners could be adjusted in case of additional expenses, such as extra court time.
8. All matches are played in best of three sets. Every set begins at 2:2. If the set score is 1:1, a deciding set is played in tie-break format. A tie-break is also played if the score in a set is 6:6. Semifinals and finals are played with all full sets.
9. The matches are played unofficiated – without a judge. If the players aren’t sure about the point, they are to ask the main referee. The main referee’s decision is final to the players.
10. The tournament is conducted in accordance with international rules of tennis. Penalties for unsportsmanlike conduct are: first violation – a warning; second violation – one point fine; third violation – one game fine; fourth violation – the player taken off the match. In that case, the player is considered to be defeated, with no refund.
11. Because of the court availability constraints, matches can be stopped and continued another day (from the score it was stopped on). The day and time will be assigned by the main referee.
12. Players must arrive at least 15 minutes before their matches and notify the main referee of their arrival. If you are more than 5 minutes late, you are taken off the match and considered defeated. No refund.
13. Players must dress appropriately and in tennis code. This means that shorts should be not bright colors and shorts or skirts should have a pocket for a ball or a special ball holder. No basketball shorts. Shoes must be tennis shoes. Players must have warm-up suits. Shirts and socks of dark colors and shirts with non-sport symbols are not allowed. If the player is dressed inappropriately, s/he is taken off the match and considered defeated. No refund.

14. Information about the tournament, the draw, and the day by day match schedule is located at the courts.
15. The award ceremony is conducted immediately after the final and third place matches are played.
16. The finalists and semifinalists of the younger groups are eligible to participate in older group tournaments. In case of their illness or other circumstances, substitutions take place out of the best of 8 of the younger group. The main referee may assign 1 or 2 wildcards for participation in the older age group if any openings are available.
17. Because of the tournament, some changes may be made to regular tennis practices; they can be moved or cancelled. Refunds will not be made.
18. By participating in the tournament, the players and their parents agree to abide by the rules. The players and the parents are required to familiarize themselves with the rules before signing up. The parents are encouraged to participate and be spectators and fans at their child's matches. However, parents shouldn't give advice of any kind to their children while they are playing.

GOOD LUCK!