

# Kids' Tennis Clubs

Kids' Tennis Clubs are designed to give children the opportunity to try tennis in a safe, supportive, extracurricular setting. With tennis sized right for age and ability, it is easier and more fun than ever for kids to play — even if they have never picked up a racquet! Organizing Kids' Tennis Clubs is an excellent way for kids to experience camaraderie, cooperation, and individual self-growth.

By using smaller courts, kid-friendly equipment, and simplified scoring, children can experience success immediately. Traditional tennis courts are not required and Kids' Tennis Clubs can be organized in any school or recreational setting.

## KEY POINTS

- Check the school system student activity handbook for appropriate rules and regulations.
- Get required school clearance for all volunteers.
- Decide if the proposed club/league can be a school sponsored and funded event.
- Assess the playing area – tennis can be played in almost any available activity space such as blacktops, gym floors, multipurpose rooms, and even on school fields.
- Obtain insurance to conduct the program as required by school/district.

**Determine the season – consider weather, school terms, and conflicts with other extracurricular activities and sports.**



## EQUIPMENT

- **Foam and/or low compression tennis balls**
  - a. Foam balls are best for beginning players on smaller courts and indoor spaces.
  - b. Low compression/low bounce felt balls are best for the intermediate players on a 60' court.
- **Junior tennis racquets**
  - c. Suggested racquet lengths range from 21"– 23" for 36' courts and 23" – 25" for 60' courts.
- **Lightweight nets and portable standards; or makeshift nets or barriers**
  - d. A lowered badminton net can be used.
  - e. Consider using plastic barrier tape, yellow caution tape, or rope with streamers.
- **An indoor or outdoor play area**
  - f. Most any activity space will do. Existing markings on floors (badminton and volleyball lines) can be utilized.
  - g. Flat rubber lines, chalk or tape can be used for playing surfaces that are not marked.



For more information on and to receive free resources for Kids' Tennis Clubs, visit: [usta.com/kidstennisclubs](http://usta.com/kidstennisclubs)