

Springdale Junior Team Tennis (JTT): Coach and Player Expectations September 26, 2011

As your child's coach, I believe that a successful tennis season begins with communication. This document will outline team expectations that will be reinforced with the players. I believe that if you the parent understand these expectations, you'll know what to expect when you come to watch your child play, and you'll be able to reinforce those expectations at home.

Most importantly, I'm always available and open to your questions and suggestions. Please feel free to contact me on my cell at **919-247-1351**.

1. **Good sportsmanship:** Players will treat teammates and opponents with respect at all times. Players will support teammates with positive encouragement. On the court, players will introduce themselves to his/her opponent and shake hands at the completion of the match.
2. **Match participation:** Players will arrive to matches in time for warm-up, and players should remain at the match to support their teammates until the match is complete (even if they are finished playing).
3. **Lesson, practice, and match dedication:** Players will devote 100% attention to the lesson, practice or match. There should be no socializing, horseplay, etc. We will have fun in the name of tennis, but I expect each player to be fully engaged.
4. **Lineups:** Coach will determine lineups based on previous match performance and, if applicable, lesson/practice participation and dedication. Players (and parents) will not question the coach and/or try to persuade the coach to alter the lineups based on player preference.
5. **Match coaching:** During season and tournament matches, all team coaches are allowed to talk with the players when the players switch sides. Players will understand that coaching will happen occasionally during the match as needed, and the coaching will include positive reinforcement and constructive direction. At no time should any parent talk with his/her child during a match.
6. **Player differences:** As the coach, I recognize that every player is different, and I will make every attempt to recognize these differences and approach the players in the most effective manner. My goal is to help your child achieve his/her potential and maintain constant improvement with firm direction.
7. **Effort versus winning:** I expect 100% effort on the court. Win or lose, if you play your best and you improve, you're a winner.

Within these player expectations, I hope you can also see the expectations I hold for myself (and any supporting coaching staff). Please keep the following in mind:

- A. Occasionally, I have the assistance from other coaches and support staff. Any person hired to interact with your child has passed a background check.
- B. During any season, Springdale may have as many as four youth teams. I will make every effort to be at matches in time for warm-ups. However, many times I will arrive at match time, as I'm traveling to the different court locations in Raleigh. I expect players to arrive at least 20 minutes prior to match time and begin warm-ups as a team. You may also see me leave before the match is complete, as I need to be at another location for the next team's match. In this instance, I will leave a parent or another coach in charge of confirming scores.
- C. English is my third language. I'll make every effort to communicate effectively.
- D. I recognize that you have expectations of me as your child's coach. Please feel free to convey these expectations at any time, with the exception of match time. Please also know that I will always try to balance the expectations of the players, parents, Springdale Board and tennis committee, and the coaches of our competitors.

Coach Michael Oladele

