WELCOME NEW STAFF!

We are excited to add two new instructors to our staff this semester. Abby Sogard is a senior at IU who played collegiately at Drake for one year before transferring to IU. She has experience teaching in her hometown of Indianapolis and is excited to help with junior and adult programs at the TC. Will Piekarsky is former junior standout from our program. He is currently playing on the IU men’s team and is his final year at IU. He is excited to work with our members.

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

We would like to honor those who have done outstanding work here at the Tennis Center over the past few months. Our recent Employees of the Month include Ellyn Mendenhall for November, Emily Witsman for December, and Erin Barrett for January. Thank you all for demonstrating your All Day Effort and Attitude by going beyond your daily tasks. You are all valuable team members and we are lucky to have you!

NOVEMBER
Ellyn Mendenhall
Member Services Associate

DECEMBER
Emily Witsman
Member Services Associate

JANUARY
Erin Barrett
Member Services Associate

SORORITY BID NIGHT

On January 26, we welcomed Panhellenic Sorority women in their conclusion of formal recruitment – Bid Night! Over 1,000 women opened their bid cards at the Tennis Center, finding a home away from home in one of 22 Panhellenic chapters. There were 113 Rho Gammas, or recruitment counselors, who helped facilitate the process and pumped the group up with a “Rho Gamma Reveal.” The evening concluded as the young women boarded buses and headed home to their new chapters.
This past December, players competed in the Junior Club Championships. Like the last couple of years, we grouped players based on level and not gender or age. This facilitated the most competitive matches and showed the players’ willingness to compete and get better regardless of who was on the other side of the net. Below are the champions and second place finishers for each division:

**Singles Group 1**
Champion: Chris Lian  
Runner-Up: Nicholas Shirley

**Singles Group 2**
Champion: Nate Abdullah  
Runner-Up: Alex Busch

**Singles Group 3**
Champion: Brady Murphy  
Runner-Up: Josh Sang

**Singles Group 4**
Champion: Gavin Cook  
Runner-Up: Charles Chen

**Doubles Group A**
Champion: Patrick Fraser and Jeremy Gray  
(offer our “older” juniors)  
Runner-Up: Braden Ward and Brian Murphy

**Doubles Group B**
Champion: Neal and Shaan Jindal  
Runner-Up: Brady Murphy and Alex Busch

**Doubles Group C**
Champion: Charles Chen and Max Foerster  
Runner-Up: Tommy Chopra and Ben Konisky

As players start to play more matches and tournaments, we get asked a lot about cheating since players make their own line calls. Below are some takeaways from the “Compete Like a Champion” podcast (Cheating in Tennis and How to Deal with It, October 28, 2019) by the USTA’s mental skills specialist Larry Lauer where he discusses the issue, as well as some notes on what we at the Tennis Center believe and teach.

1. **A Tip from the Pros:** Pros have some of the best vision and know their shots more than most, however they are successful on less than 30% of their challenges with the replay technology. Reading the ball and making good line calls is tough. We should assume other players are also trying their best to make calls and not always suspect them of cheating.

2. **Expectations vs. Reality:** In our role as a player, coach, or parent, we always want to see the ball land in our favor. We want it so bad that we often convince ourselves of it.

3. **EVERYONE HAS MISSED CALLS.**

4. **Know when to call a Ref:** Many tournaments have no official referees or may only have one. This means referees are not on one court the entire time, and may have 10+ matches to oversee. Players do not want to develop the reputation dominating a referee’s time or having an issue every tournament.

5. **Remember to Play Fair.** Cheating often comes from the pressure and expectations put on by players themselves and by parents and coaches.

6. **Practice Makes Progress:** The more matches a player plays, the more skills they learn for recovering from bad calls and mentally returning to the game. The goal is to not let one bad line call ruin the next few points, games, or the rest of the match.

7. **A Chance to Build Character** Winning and losing are determined by our behavior and development, not the outcome of a match. Too often, players’ initial feedback after a match is about the opponent cheating or the refs having it out for them, and not how they can improve their next game.

8. **A Note to Parents, Lead by Example:** Children learn social behavior from adults. If you show negative emotion on the side of the court, your child is more likely to show that emotion on the court. Lead by example in how you would like to see them handle adverse situations.
ADULT NEWS

ADULT CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

Throughout the semester, adult members compete in our second annual Adult Club Championship Tournament Series. The series includes four tournaments; doubles, singles, mixed doubles, and 1 on 1 doubles. Participants earn points by signing up for a tournament, winning a match, and winning a tournament. At the end of the semester, the person with the highest point total takes home a brand new Wilson Racquet!

Upcoming Tournaments
March 28 • 1 - 5PM, Mixed Doubles
April 18 • 8 - 11AM, 1 on 1 Doubles*
*cross-court only points

Congrats to our winners so far!
January 25 Doubles Tournament Results
• Men’s A: Dan Pieckarsky & Danila Kourjoulin
• Men’s B: Bob Poortinga & Alex Lopes
• Women’s: Jyll Giffin & Mazinha Hauskrecht

February 15 Singles Tournament Results
• Men’s A: Colton Butcher
• Men’s B: Pete DiPrimio
• Women’s A: Beth Fossen
• Women’s B: Jyll Giffin

TRAVEL TEAM UPDATE

A big thank you to all of our Spring Travel Team Captains!
Tara Babcock • Elaine Coghlan
Kevin Coghlan • Debbie Kuratko
Pat Monson • Dan Pieckarsky
Pam Swift • Linda Welty

Competitive travel team leagues are always available at the IURSTC. These leagues are a great way to test your skills against other players across the state. Being a part of a team is a very fun way to meet new people and make lifelong relationships. If you have any interest in joining a league please email Adam for more information. Good luck to all CIWITL and USTA teams that call the IURS Tennis Center home and are competing this Spring.

PERMANENT COURT TIME IS THE EASIEST COURT TIME!

Spring PCT is off to a great start so far! We have 22 groups participating in this 15-week program. Permanent court time is a great way to ensure the court and time you want on a weekly basis as well as offering banked permanent court time up to 24 hours in advance. Keep a look out for our Summer 2020 PCT applications and let us schedule your weekly court reservations.

A special shout out to our PCT Captains for such an amazing turn out this year!
Glenn Burkholder • Mary Burch Ratliff
Ute Coyne • Jamie Emmert
James Ferguson • Lenore Hatfield
Bienke Hatijema • Martha Lenthe
Andrew Lewis • Patricia Marvin
Dan Pieckarsky • Fred Prall
Anita Schneider • David Semmel
George Thompson • James Touloukian
Mary Weeks • Brian Werth
SPRING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

IHSAA TENNIS CONVENTION

Chris Chopra spoke at the 2020 IHSAA Coaches Convention on February 7. His session focused on giving coaches in attendance a simple approach to teaching strategy with various levels of players. Chris’s session was very well attended and we are fortunate to have a true professional representing us at events like this.

PRACTICE UNDER PRESSURE

by Chris Chopra, Head Tennis Professional

In our adult clinics, we are focusing on playing under pressure. For all of us who have competed in matches before we have all experienced nerves and doubts when the match is close. This is normal and those of you that compete more will experience this less. My tip for everyone this month is to alter your scoring in your practice sets with your friends. Next time you go out to play, begin each set at 4-4. This will put more pressure on everyone playing since each point is more crucial to the outcome of the set. The more times you put yourself into pressure situations when you practice the better you will handle those situations in your league matches.

ADULT EVENTS

Half-Price Spring Break Court Rates
March 16-20 – The very popular Half-Price Court Rates are back! Reserve or walk-on.

Spring Break Super Cardio Tennis
March 27, 6 - 7:30PM

ACC Mixed Doubles
March 28, 1 - 5PM

ACC 1 on 1 Doubles
April 18, 8AM - 12PM

Adult Coached Point Play
May 1, 6 - 7:30PM

Super Cardio
May 2, 8 - 9:30AM

JUNIOR EVENTS

Intermediate/Adv. Int. Showdown
March 28, 10AM - 1PM

Red Ball Match Play
May 2, 10 - 11:30 AM

IU HOME VARSITY TENNIS MATCHES

Men’s Tennis:
Friday, February 28
Saturday, February 29
Monday, March 23
Sunday, April 5
Saturday, April 10
Sunday, April 12

Women’s Tennis:
Sunday, March 1
Sunday, March 8
Friday, March 13
Saturday, March 14
Saturday, April 11
Friday, April 17
Sunday, April 19

BIG 10 MEN’S TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

April 22 - 26

During this event, expect to be able to make tentative reservations if the weather is nice. If it rains or we have inclement weather otherwise, the tournament will move indoors.