



# **Watertown Tennis Association**

WTA website: [www.watertowntennis.com](http://www.watertowntennis.com)  
Information, printable registration forms, news, schedules, and more!

A Letter to WTA Members from Dan Olejniczak, President of the Watertown Tennis Association

All members who have provided their email addresses have been informed that I was elected by the WTA Board of Directors to serve as President for the 2018 tennis season, after informing the board that I was willing to step into that role for this year. I will also serve as acting Treasurer until a new candidate comes forward to take on the responsibility for managing our finances. I feel honored to serve as President of the WTA, an organization I have been a member of for nearly 2 decades. The future of our Association depends on members like myself who are willing to take on various responsibilities that help us in our efforts to promote the WTA to potential new members, both in Watertown and surrounding communities. We are a non-profit organization whose members are part of a broader effort to improve the health and well-being of people and families through charitable giving. I would personally like to thank past President Dan Leija for initiating efforts to support the Watertown Food Pantry and other social service organizations, which extends our presence in the local area as a partner in community development. I will continue to support and expand these types of initiatives as we go through the 2018 season.

I have set out to accomplish 3 modest goals this season:

1. To speak to each member of the WTA, either in person or by telephone, and thank them for their support for the programs we sponsor, particularly the USTA Youth Tennis program. There are more opportunities to attract new members, and I encourage those of you who have ideas along those lines to bring them to members of the WTA board so that we can develop innovative approaches to attracting newcomers to this wonderful sport.
2. To strengthen our ties to the Parks and Recreation department, and to provide them with resources that will help keep our courts maintained for ALL tennis players to enjoy. As part of that effort, I would also like to work as a partner with the Watertown Unified School District to encourage participation in their tennis programming and sharing ideas and resources whenever possible to encourage a positive relationship going into the future.
3. Finally, to encourage members to keep tennis etiquette in mind, particularly in making sure to give at least 24 hours notice if cancelling a match due to a conflict. Along the same line, I hope that members will make every effort to play all of their matches, if possible. Personally, I promise to try to reschedule make-up matches, whether I have to cancel or my opponent needs to cancel. I want to enjoy every moment on the courts that I can in 2018.

LET THE GAMES BEGIN (Soon)!

Dan Olejniczak, WTA Member and President

## Registration and Membership Eligibility

- **Members must be 18 years old, or a graduating high school senior who will turn 18 this year.**
- **High school students** of any age may also join the league if they will be playing doubles **with an adult family member.** We hope this will encourage families to get out and play tennis together.
- **Members of the high school tennis team may join the league with approval from the tennis coach.** Please contact your coach before mailing your registration form.

**Membership Dues:** If you live and/or work in Watertown, dues will be \$30. If you live and work outside Watertown, dues will be \$35.

Individuals may join the league as a “substitute only” for a discounted amount. If you are planning to join just to be a sub, the cost will be \$15. Please make a note of that on your registration form.

Return your form and dues to Clayton Kratzer by April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Registration forms received after April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 will NOT be accepted. If no payment is received, you will NOT be added to the schedule.

Additional membership forms can be printed from the website and will also be available at:

- Watertown Public Library ..... 100 S. Water St.
- Park & Recreation Office ..... Senior Center – S. First St.

### **Need a Partner?**

Players looking for partners can add their name to a list by calling or emailing Clayton Kratzer at 262-0056/ [wtawebsite@charter.net](mailto:wtawebsite@charter.net) or writing it somewhere on the registration form.

## League Format

Matches are held at Brandt-Quirk Park. The season starts **May 9 and ends August 23.** Women’s Doubles, Mixed Doubles, and Men’s Doubles are played Wednesday nights. Women’s doubles play at 6pm (7pm if needed), mixed doubles play at 7pm (8pm if needed), and men’s doubles play at 8pm (9pm if needed). **When all registration forms are in, teams will be counted to determine if there will be a need for overlap on times (since there are only 10 courts available per hour). You MUST be available to play at these times on a weekly basis.** Singles matches are played Thursday nights. Women’s singles play at 6:30pm and Men’s singles play at 8pm.

**In recent years, there has been a growing number of cancelations and rescheduling. You must make every effort to be available for every scheduled match. If circumstances are beyond your control, you must try to find a sub from the sub list. Everyone joins the league to play, not to be canceled on so their opponent can make other plans. By joining the league, you are committing to the responsibility of playing every week. Thank you for your understanding!**

## Levels of Play

There are three divisions:

Beginner: Able to sustain a rally, place some shots and get a serve into play.

Intermediate: Improved stroke dependability with directional control on moderate shots, but not as consistent as advanced. First serve has good pace.

Advanced: Good shot placement, consistent forehand and backhand rally, and consistent serve. Ability to use volleys and overheads effectively.

If you need advice on placement, feel free to contact the board at [watertowntennis@gmail.com](mailto:watertowntennis@gmail.com).

## Match Results

All players and teams are responsible for recording/reporting match results. There will be sheets available at the Brandt-Quirk courts where you can circle the winning person or team and cross out the losing person or team. Our scorekeeper, **Vicki Larsen**, can be contacted with match results via her email address [vickilarsen@charter.net](mailto:vickilarsen@charter.net) or by phone at **261-7243**. The deadline for turning in all results is **September 2**.

Awards go to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners in each category, at each level of play, during the annual awards gathering.

## Tournaments

Tournament participation has dwindled over the years and we have done a lot of experimentation with the formats, dates, etc. to try and see what people like for us to be able to hold tournaments. At this time, we are not planning on scheduling any tournaments this year. We would like to send out a survey to everyone to get an idea of what people like or don't like in a tournament experience. We'd appreciate it if everyone could respond to that survey once it is sent out. Based on those results, we would look to hold at least one tournament in 2019.

### Riverfest Mixed Doubles Tournament

There is an annual mixed doubles tournament held during Riverfest in August. We were unable to hold the tournament last year due to just one team signing up. If we are able to host this tournament this year, the date would be **Saturday, August 11**.

## Substitutes

Sign up on the registration form if you want to be designated as a substitute. Consider being a sub even if you have regular matches on Wednesday or only play singles. The larger the sub list, the less cancelations we will have (hopefully!). If you need a substitute for a doubles match, refer to the membership list. Subs shouldn't play at a level lower than their designated level (unless agreed upon by all parties). **Substitutes MUST be WTA members. If you would like to join the league as a substitute only, the registration fee is reduced to \$15.**

## Coolers

On opening night and various weeks of each month (weather permitting), beverages and snacks are provided at the courts. This provides an opportunity for everyone to socialize and get to know fellow members. Dates of the coolers: **May 9, May 30, June 27, July 25, and August 15**.

## Awards Gathering & Annual Meeting

We have an awards gathering for our end of the season socialization and meeting. It is a casual gathering as a way to close the season, give out awards, and hold our annual meeting. Plans are still being determined, but the date of the gathering will be Wednesday, September 12. Please keep the date in mind and on your calendars! Details will be communicated later!

## Mailings and Information via Email and Website

If possible, please list an email address on your registration. If you prefer not to have your email address published on the member list in the schedules mailing, please check the appropriate box on the registration form.

The schedules mailing will be sent via email to those who agree. You can then print a copy of the whole mailing, only your specific schedule(s), or simply access it digitally as needed. All the information in this mailing and the schedules, when completed, can also be viewed and printed out from the website.

We hope most of you will choose digital communication. It really saves time, money, and the environment. Please indicate on the registration form using the check box, whether you agree to have the next mailing sent to you electronically and if you do not want your email address printed in the mailing. All information can also be accessed on the website at [www.watertowntennis.com](http://www.watertowntennis.com) and printed from there. Please print your email address clearly being sure to differentiate numbers and letters (for example, the number "1" vs. the letter "L").

## Tennis Instruction/Junior Tennis Info

This summer will mark the 15<sup>th</sup> year for the USTA Youth Tennis Program in Watertown! It is the longest running USTA youth tennis program in Wisconsin! Please see the following page for the program flyer with all the details. Registration is OPEN at [www.midwestteamtennis.com](http://www.midwestteamtennis.com).

**The program is always in need of coaches and volunteers and tennis experience is NOT required!** Please consider volunteering your time and love of the game – you will LOVE working with these kids!

Please contact Clayton at [watertownyouthtennis@gmail.com](mailto:watertownyouthtennis@gmail.com) if you can help in any way!

Another junior tennis opportunity offered again this year will be a USTA Junior Team Tennis team. This is the next step for older players, ages 11-14 (9-10 if skills are ready for match play), who are ready for actual match play. This program organizes a team to play matches against other area community teams. The players will sign up for the Midwest Team Tennis program which will serve as their practice day. Matches will be organized against other area teams. Match days and times will be determined, but should be Thursday evenings. If you would like more information about this program, please email [watertownyouthtennis@gmail.com](mailto:watertownyouthtennis@gmail.com).

Please forward this youth tennis information along to anyone you know with children ages 5-14. Thank you!

Sign up today at [MidwestTeamTennis.com](http://MidwestTeamTennis.com)



# WATERTOWN YOUTH TEAM TENNIS

*This material and/or activity is not sponsored or endorsed by the school district or its personnel*

Midwest Youth Team Tennis is a beginner tennis program that uses the concepts of fun, friends and play to help build the foundation for future success in tennis and in life. Using the USTA Youth Tennis play format, participants use modified equipment and courts, tailored to their age and size, making it easier to play, rally and succeed right from the start! Team based games will be set up to help players further develop their tennis skills.

-  Kids ages 5-14 years old
-  Tuesdays (Rain Date - August 7th)  
June 12 - July 31, 2018
-  6:00 - 6:45 p.m. (Ages 5-8)  
7:00 - 8:00 p.m. (Ages 9-10 & 11-14)
-  Brandt/Quirk Park  
800 Carriage Hill Dr. | Watertown, WI 53098
-  \$60 per player (no refunds after May 20th)  
All players receive a team t-shirt, age appropriate tennis racquet and goodie bag.



**Registration closes May 20th**

**Additional Info:** Equipment pick-up on Monday, June 11th from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at Brandt/Quirk Park.

**Program Contact:** Clayton Kratzer  
[WatertownYouthTennis@gmail.com](mailto:WatertownYouthTennis@gmail.com)



## **WED. MAY 9, 2018** **WTA “KICK SOME RUST”** **KICK-OFF NIGHT**

This year, the WTA will host a “Kick Some Rust” season kick-off event. How many times have you heard on league opening nights “This is the first time I’ve touched my racket since August” or “I’m a little rusty”? Well, now we all have a chance to get some practice in with our partners and against our usual opponents before jumping right into league match play.

We will kick-off our 2018 summer season with a cooler, practice matches, giveaways, and a food drive! Come and have a drink and some snacks, socialize with people you haven’t seen since last summer (maybe including your own partner!), get some practice in, donate to a good cause, and win some great prizes!

The event will take place Wednesday, May 9 (one week before matches start counting!) from 6pm-9pm at the BQ tennis courts. Mixed doubles will practice from 6-7:30pm. Men’s and women’s doubles will practice from 7:30pm-9pm (or until lights out!).

There will be door prize drawings, including a chance to win a new tennis bag with a \$50 gift card inside! Donating non-perishable food items for the Watertown Food Pantry will earn you additional chances to win!

**PRACTICE  
MATCHES! KICK  
OFF THAT RUST!**

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**WATERTOWN  
FOOD PANTRY  
FOOD DRIVE!**

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**COOLER NIGHT  
WITH DRINKS AND  
SNACKS!**

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**WIN PRIZES!  
TENNIS BAGS WITH  
\$50 GIFT CARD  
INSIDE!**

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**SOCIALIZE AND  
HAVE FUN!**

**WATERTOWN TENNIS  
ASSOCIATION**



Brandt/Quirk Park  
Watertown, WI

[watertowntennis.com](http://watertowntennis.com)

## Calendar

### 2018 WTA Calendar

First Mailing.....	Beginning of March
Registration due .....	April 15
Schedules Mailing .....	Beginning of May
“Kick Some Rust” Kick-Off Event/Cooler ...	May 9
Match Schedule Begins/Cooler .....	May 16
Midwest Team Tennis youth program registration...	May 20
Cooler .....	May 30
Midwest Team Tennis youth program starts .....	June 12
Cooler .....	June 27
Cooler .....	July 25
Riverfest Mixed Doubles Tournament.....	August 11
Last night of regular matches/Cooler.....	August 15-16
Make-up Matches.....	August 22-23
All scores due.....	September 2
<b>Awards Gathering.....</b>	<b>September 12</b>
<b>WTA Glenn’s Brat Haus fundraiser .....</b>	<b>September 21</b>

### This year’s Board Members are:

President – Dan Olejniczak

Publicity – Laura Nechkash

Coolers – Chad Fredrick

Awards Gathering – volunteers

Schedules – Clayton Kratzer

Website – Clayton Kratzer

Secretary/Treasurer – VACANT

Scorekeeper – Vicki Larsen

Riverfest Mixed Doubles Tournament – VACANT

*A big thank you to everyone who volunteers their time to make this league great!*

# 2018 WATERTOWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

**ONE person per form. Please fill out the form COMPLETELY.**

## Registration Cost:

If you live and/or work in Watertown - \$30.00 membership fee per person

If you live and work outside Watertown - \$35.00 membership fee per person

If are signing up just to be on the sub list - \$15 membership fee per person

Cash or check made payable to: **The Watertown Tennis Association**

Return payment and form to:

**Clayton Kratzer - 708 Mary Knoll Lane, Watertown, WI 53098**

**Sign-up Deadline: April 15th, 2018 - No forms accepted after April 15th, NO EXCEPTIONS! Please include payment with registration. If no payment is received by the due date, you will not be put on the schedule!!**

*Please Print Clearly!*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, City, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Referred/Referred By: \_\_\_\_\_

**May we send the schedules mailing to you via email? [ ] yes [ ] no**

**Check here if you do not want your email address printed in the mailing. [ ]**

## **Doubles - Wednesday Night**

One-hour matches will be scheduled for the time slots within each category. **Make sure each partner specifies the same league, level, and their respective partner's name.**

[ ] Women's doubles -- 6pm (overflow 7pm) { } Beginner { } Intermediate { } Advanced

**Partner's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Mixed Doubles – 7pm & 8pm { } Beginner { } Intermediate { } Advanced

**Partner's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Men's Doubles – 8pm & 9pm { } Beginner { } Intermediate { } Advanced

**Partner's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Singles - Thursday Night**

[ ] Women's Singles (6:30pm) { } Beginner { } Intermediate { } Advanced

[ ] Men's Singles (8pm) { } Beginner { } Intermediate { } Advanced

⇒ Do you want to be listed as a substitute? [ ] yes Level: \_\_\_\_\_

⇒ Are you interested in a Senior League (50 and over)? [ ] yes Level: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate doubles or singles. This would depend on the number of interested members. Please be sure to still indicate above what you are signing up for. A senior group being formed would be dependent on how many players/teams are interested.**

⇒ If you would like to play doubles, but do not have a partner, please email Clayton Kratzer at [wtawebsite@charter.net](mailto:wtawebsite@charter.net) or write it in on this form. A list will be made and people paired up when possible.

Please read and sign:

League rules require anyone who is unable to play when scheduled to notify his/her opponent not less than 24 hours prior to play. I understand the importance of this rule and all other league rules and I will fulfill the expectation.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_