

Summer Tennis Options / Program Overview

Thanks for another successful year. It's fun to watch the success everyone is having. A quick "state of the program" overview before we dig into summer details:

Summer: Last year's WOcademy drew about 150 campers aged K-8....WOW!!!

Fall: Varsity Men: 5-4
Junior Varsity Men: 7-6-1
Middle School Black Girls: 9-2
Middle School White Girls: 5-7
Fall Record: 26-19-1

Winter: WinterWO drew 130 campers aged K-5...Let's go!!!

Spring: Varsity Women: 8-3 in duels, qualified for State Finals, finished 12th in Michigan
Junior Varsity Women: 10-2
Middle School Black Boys: 8-4
Middle School White Boys: 12-0
Spring Record: 38-9

Total Record for the 2015-2016 School year: 64-28-1

Ok, below are some summer tennis options. This is not a comprehensive list, as there are opportunities everywhere, but it covers most of the bases. Good luck!!!

Middle School Summer Hitting Through West Ottawa– Six Nights

When: Thursdays (6/16, 6/23, 6/30, 7/14, 7/21, 7/28) from 6-8pm

Where: High School South Courts off 152nd

Who's invited: All middle school players (boys and girls) plus incoming freshman.

Who's in charge: Alex Coy, a team Captain for the Varsity Women (but an adult will always be there, and sometimes me).

Extra Bonus: I would encourage players to use these nights to share contact info and set up informal matches and hitting throughout the week.

High School Summer Hitting Through West Ottawa – Six Nights

When: Tuesdays (6/14, 6/21, 6/28, 7/12, 7/19, 7/26) from 6-8pm

Where: High School South Courts off 152nd

Who's invited: All high school players (boys and girls) plus incoming freshman.

Who's in charge: Coach Pete Schwallier (me) ☺.

Extra Bonus: I would encourage players to use these nights to share contact info and set up informal matches and hitting throughout the week.

WOcademy – For players who want to play 4 days a week and two hours per day, mornings are a good option. For those who'd prefer to play twice a week, evenings might be better. Sign up at www.wotennis.com. This is a West Ottawa program.

Train at a Tennis Club: It is more expensive to play at the clubs than at WOcademy, but you get some big advantages by doing so. First off, you get far more hours of play. The academies play 5 days a week, for about 4½ hours a day. There are more instructors per kid, so you get more individual instruction. Finally, the clubs draw the to players from all the nearby towns, so you are hitting with higher level players. So, more time on court, more instruction, and more competition. Pretty much all of the varsity and aspiring varsity players train at one of the local clubs. Here are a few clubs that I think are doing a high quality job right now:

MVP Athletic Club – Their Academy is right at West Ottawa’s courts from Monday through Friday, so the location is perfect. www.mvpsportsclubs.com

Dewitt Tennis Center – This club is run by Hope College, and the academy takes place right at their facility. <http://www.hope.edu/resources/tennis/>

Premier Athletic and Tennis Club – This one is in Grandville, but I’m including it because it is a lower priced option for the summer, yet the quality is still very high. www.premieratclub.com

USTA June 14– Single Day Showdowns are a new USTA format tournament where no one is eliminated. There are still champions, runner-up, etc, but you are guaranteed several matches. Park Township is running the first one on June 14, and you should all consider signing up. This will be the first of many of these tournaments this summer. They are typically around \$20. The link below is for the Holland Showdown, and there is one in Grandville nearly every week. <http://tennislink.usta.com/Tournaments/TournamentHome/Tournament.aspx?T=187913>

USTA Level 5 events. If you go to www.wotennis.com and click on the “Get Better” tabs, you’ll see links to USTA tournaments and explanations of how the system works. If you are training seriously and feel like you are among the better players in your peer group, consider signing up for USTA Level 5 events to see how you stack up against the best players in West Michigan!

If you EVER, EVER, have questions, just shoot me an email at schwallierp@westottawa.net. We are going to do everything we can to make it easy for you to stay organized in the offseason. Good luck! - Coach Schwallier