



Watertown Tennis Association

WTA website: www.watertowntennis.com
Information, printable registration forms, news, schedules, and more!

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 for singles or doubles without a parent with approval from the tennis coach.** Please contact your coach before mailing your registration form.

Membership Dues: 2024 dues will be \$35. Individuals may join the league as a “substitute only” for \$15. Please make a note of that on your registration form.

Membership dues are used primarily for the betterment of tennis in the Watertown community. A small amount of the dues money is used to purchase beverages and snacks for social “cooler nights”, to occasionally cover additional costs associated with our season ending awards gathering, and website hosting costs. Primarily, though, dues are used to fund special projects for tennis in our community. We have donated tens of thousands of dollars to the building and resurfacing of the Brandt-Quirk tennis courts. Other past projects have been funding the storage shed, the youth tennis program, benches, picnic tables, wind screens, sunshades, and many, many other things over the course of the association’s almost 50 years of existence. Every member of the organization has a voice in what our funds are used for. Every fall we conduct a business meeting at the awards gathering to give an update on our account balance, what projects funds were used for, and what projects to use funds for in the future. All are welcome to attend all WTA meetings to have a voice in these decisions.

Please return your registration form (last page of this mailing) and dues payment to **Clayton Kratzer by April 15th, 2024. Registration forms received after April 15th, 2024 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: www.watertowntennis.com

Need a Partner?

Players looking for partners can add their name to a list by emailing Clayton Kratzer at wtawebsite@charter.net or writing it somewhere on the registration form. Pairings will be made wherever possible.

League Format

Matches are held at Brandt-Quirk Park. The season kicks off on **May 8** with a social match play event called “**Kick Some Rust**”, which is a social meet and greet event where members can play games/sets against various opponents to get to know their fellow members. There will be beverages, snacks, and door prizes. League match play starts **May 15 and ends August 21**. 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 “Call to Schedule” format. The schedule will list weekly matchups and it is up to each player to contact each other week to week to schedule those matches. Set reminders and make contact each week even if you don’t plan on playing the match during the week scheduled.

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.

Match Results

All players and teams are responsible for reporting match results. The quickest and easiest way to report results is via a Google doc at <http://bit.ly/WTAMatchResults>. There will also 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, **Monique Leija**, can be contacted with match results via her email address monique.terrazas@gmail.com or by phone at 691-6190. **Please use the form (or email) whenever possible!** The deadline for turning in all results is **September 3**. Awards go to 1st and 2nd place winners in each category, at each level of play, during the annual awards gathering.

Tournaments

Riverfest Tournament

There is an annual tennis tournament held during Riverfest. This year, it will be Sunday, August 11 at Brandt-Quirk Park. More details to come.

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 15, June 5, June 26, July 24, August 21.** Cooler items are brought by volunteers/board members. If you are disappointed with the timing of items being brought or how long they are available, feel free to volunteer your time to help. We are always looking for volunteers!

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. Pencil in Monday, September 9 and details will be communicated later!

Tennis Instruction/Junior Tennis Info

This summer will mark the **21st** year for the USTA Youth Tennis Program in Watertown! It is the longest running USTA youth tennis program in Wisconsin! A program flyer will be emailed and posted on the website soon. Planned dates are June 11 through August 6 (Tuesdays).

Registration will open soon at 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!

Contact Lee Cronic at watertownyouthtennis@gmail.com if you can help in any way!

Another junior tennis opportunity that might be offered again this year is USTA Junior Team Tennis team. **WE NEED SOMEONE TO TAKE OVER AND HEAD THIS PROGRAM UP.**

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, if possible. Otherwise match play will be set up among the Watertown team players. The players will sign up for the Midwest Team Tennis program above which will serve as their practice day. 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.

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

ADULT INSTRUCTION – Last year we held our first ever adult tennis instruction program. The program is a beginner tennis program similar to the USTA youth tennis program above, but for adults wanting to learn the game or get back into the game. Beginner players can feel intimidated joining a league and we want to offer those players something to get their feet wet and hopefully get more comfortable to join our league in the future.

The program went great last year, but we are hoping it grows this year. We need help from our WTA members to promote this program.

We are working out the details for this summer and will post it on the website and Team App, and email it out to our membership when things are finalized.

Mailings and Information via Email, Website, and TEAM APP



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. 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 at www.watertowntennis.com.

Last year we started using a mobile app called Team App. The app is free to use and only requires a name and email address to register. We will be able to use the app to quickly blast out weather and court conditions and share all WTA information, including schedules. It will be a much easier way to access the schedules versus going through your emails. Members will also be able to chat amongst themselves and those chats are private between the sender and whoever they send to. This is a great way to contact opponents!

To get started now, go to your app store and search for “Team App” or “Stack Team App”. The logo is the red “T” shield above. Once you register, search for “Watertown Tennis Association” and request to be added to the “General Members Group” (once everyone is registered for the season, we’ll assign the other playing groups). If you have any questions, just let us know!

Calendar

2024 WTA Calendar

First Mailing.....	Early March
Registration due	April 15
Schedules Mailing	Beginning of May
“Kick Some Rust” Event.....	May 8
Match Schedule Begins/Cooler	May 15
Midwest Team Tennis youth program registration...	late May
Cooler	June 5
Midwest Team Tennis youth program starts	June 11
Cooler	June 26
Mid-Season Make-Up Night.....	July 3
Cooler	July 24
Riverfest Tournament.....	August 11
Last night of regular matches/Cooler.....	August 21
Make-Up Night.....	August 28
All scores due.....	September 3
Awards Gathering (tentative)	September 9
WTA Glenn’s Brat Haus	September 13

This year’s Board Members are:

President – Carrie Fredrick
Publicity – Laura Nechkash
Coolers – Chad Fredrick
Awards Gathering – group effort
Schedules – Clayton Kratzer
Website – Clayton Kratzer
Secretary/Treasurer – Lee Cronce
Scorekeeper – Monique Leija
Riverfest Doubles Tournament – Dan Leija

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

2024 WATERTOWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

ONE PERSON PER FORM. Please fill out the form COMPLETELY.

Registration Cost: \$35.00 membership fee per person

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

New for 2024 – digital payments via Venmo! To reduce time and paperwork, please use this method if you can!

WTA Venmo name is @wtawi <https://www.venmo.com/u/wtawi>

Alternatively, you can still pay by cash or check made payable to: **The Watertown Tennis Association**
If paying by cash or check, mail payment AND form to:

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

Sign-up Deadline: April 15th, 2024 - 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 if not submitting digitally!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

If new member, how did you hear about us? ☐ Facebook ☐ Newspaper ☐ Member Referral ☐ Other _____

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 ☐ 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 (Call to Schedule Format)

☐ Women's Singles ☐ Beginner ☐ Intermediate ☐ Advanced

☐ Men's Singles ☐ Beginner ☐ Intermediate ☐ Advanced

⇒ Do you want to be listed as a substitute? ☐ yes Level: _____

⇒ If you would like to play doubles, but do not have a partner, please email Clayton Kratzer at 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 their 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: _____

If paying digitally, fill out your registration form, save a copy, and email to wtawebsite@charter.net