The 2018 IU Junior Open was our biggest in recent years. Over 120 total players competed in singles and doubles matches. Participants battled 90-degree temperatures, the blazing sun, and high humidity. However, these obstacles did not stop players from playing ALL DAY and getting better.

USTA tournaments can be intimidating and cause players to lose confidence, or they can fuel a player’s passion and provide consistent opportunities to compete. As host, we emphasize providing a friendly, positive environment where players yearn to compete each year. In doing so, we offered the following daily challenges for players after their matches to win Wilson Tennis prizes:

- **Friday**: Shot Challenge (players shoot the balls from their match into our teaching carts)
- **Saturday**: Guess Your Serve (players use our PlaySight court and guess their serve speed)
- **Sunday**: Bags (players toss bean bags onto bags boards trying to accumulate points)

The Tennis Center juniors had some great results, but the highlight of the weekend tournament was how players handled themselves on the court. Not all players and spectators bring positive energy to a tournament, especially when adversity hits them. Win or lose, players in our junior program represented their families and the Tennis Center with appreciation of the game, respect for their opponent, and a true desire to compete. We are proud of all junior members who participated! Way to go ALL DAY!

A very special thank you goes to our 2018 IU Junior Open sponsors listed below! Our sponsors help keep our registration cost lower than other USTA tournaments in the area and allow us to provide a high quality tournament experience for participants.

- Coghlan Orthodontics
- Asplund Family
- St. John Associates
- Jennifer Steinbachs, ND
- Khuong Family
- Karen Hrismosalos, DDS & Elaine Coghlan, DDS
- Scholars Inn Bakehouse
- Sushi King
- Barb Hawkins and Bob Poortinga
- Jim Williams
For juniors, tennis is uniquely situated compared to other sports. Basketball has winter, soccer has fall, but until high school, tennis does not have an official season, as USTA tournaments are spread throughout the year. Once players reach high school, the tennis season is jam-packed with matches, leaving very little time for practice. That means the season is just the tip of the iceberg in a player’s game, and the real work is done in the off months. With the break from school and so much court availability, summer provides juniors with the best opportunity to close “the gap” between their current level and where they want to be.

To begin the summer session, juniors wrote out their short and long-term goals. By doing so, they gave themselves inspiration for success and skill advancement. Each day provides an opportunity for growth as a player and as an individual.

Our summer clinic schedule is set up to optimize player performance. For the most committed juniors, clinics are offered Monday-Thursday for three hours each day. At each clinic, players have fitness, mental training, live ball hitting drills, and set play, where players connect the dots between how they play in a drill and how they play in a match. The schedule also allows players to play matches in the evening and leaves Friday-Sunday open for USTA tournaments.

The summer session lasts for eight weeks. That is thirty-one clinic opportunities to close the gap. We are proud of those players who have made the most of their summer and attacked it with a genuine enthusiasm for personal growth and improvement. Nice work, juniors!

Each summer, our juniors take on players from Purdue’s program in a massive junior team tennis battle. We play doubles and singles and try to get in as many sets as possible. Players can compete against players older, younger, and of the opposite gender. If we think it will be a good match, then we play it. This year, our juniors fell just short and had to relinquish the “Oaken Racket” to Purdue for just the second time in the last seven years. However, Purdue comes to our turf in December where we will play indoors and attempt to take the Oaken Racket back!
We kicked off the summer with our second annual Summer Is Served Tournament. Adult members of all skill levels batted in a round robin mixer doubles tournament. Thanks to all who participated in this fun tournament and congrats to the winners!

First Place: Patrick Fraser
Second Place: Charlie Allen
Third Place: Dick Sanders

Be on the lookout for our next round robin mixer. The famous Turkey Time Tournament in November – one of our favorite traditions.

SUMMER USTA LEAGUES UPDATE

The summer is always the busiest time for travel teams. This year we have seven teams that call the Tennis Center home. Our teams wrap up their season towards the end of July after battling hard in Bloomington and Indianapolis throughout the summer. We want to thank all participants for signing up and playing on a USTA team this year. We hope you had a blast.

Also, a big thanks goes out to all of the captains who take time out of their day to help keep their teams organized and match ready.

Captains: Joe Yonkman, Dan Piekarsky, Linda Davis, Traci Nagle, Diana Nixon, Laurel Bender, Barb Hawkins, and Cheryl Franklin.

LADIES CIWITL LEAGUE RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

Many have competed in CIWITL (Central Indiana Women’s Indoor Tennis League) in past years. The time to organize our teams is now! CIWITL is a great companion league to USTA league play as teams only play one match each month (so not as much travel). Each match consists of six doubles courts with each team playing two matches. Lunch is provided by the home team between matches. Playing in league tennis is a great way to enhance your skills, meet new friends, and stay on a regular exercise schedule by attending weekly drills and competing in matches. Contact Adam for more information. Sign up is fast approaching and spots are limited.

For questions about Travel Team Leagues please contact Adam Struble at astruble@indiana.edu.
**TENNIS CENTER SCRAPBOOK**

We love taking, sharing, and seeing pictures of people playing tennis and/or having fun at the Tennis Center. Here are some recent pictures we thought you’d enjoy too! If you have images you’d like to share, please send them to rebajone@indiana.edu.

**IU Women’s Tennis Assistant Coach Ryan Miller goes All Day in Belgium at the Astrid Bowl Junior Champs.**

**All Day Tennis has never looked cooler than it does on junior players Izzy (left) and her bestie Bennett (right) in Sarasota, FL.**

**One from our #AllDayAnimals giveaway. Look at that face! We couldn’t ask for a better attitude from: All Day Delly!**

**Program Assistant Ian Rolinson couldn’t pass up this All Day photo opp in front of our new photo backdrop.**

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**TENNIS TIP:**

“Help! I keep hitting my serve into the net!”

We have all played a match and had trouble due to hitting our serve into the net. It is important to understand that these errors can be fixed if you can identify what is causing you to hit down on your serve.

1. The most common reason player’s serves go in the net is that they toss too far in front them. This leads them to hitting down on the serve and missing into the net. A great tip to help players locate their toss is to simply toss and then catch the ball with your tossing hand while it is extended.

2. A second reason players miss in the net is that their tossing arm does not stay up long enough. By pulling their tossing arm down early, it does not allow them to hit up on their serve. To help this problem after a toss, players can point the palm of their hand to the sky. This will keep their tossing arm up longer.

3. A third reason players miss in the net is that they move their head down early to look where their serve lands. To fix this problem during a serve practice keep your eyes staring at your contact point and hold them there for two seconds after each serve.

We hope these tips can help you practice avoiding hitting your serve into the net.

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**FALL PROGRAMS**

While we’re all still enjoying summer tennis, the Tennis Center management team is planning for another fun fall semester of programs. Clinics, Drills and Permanent Court Time all begin the week of August 27. Fall Cardio Tennis and Friday Night Freebies begin the week of September 3. Check our programming calendars (on our website or at the Member Services desk) for details on these and other upcoming events. It’s going to be another fun season!

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**FACILITY UPDATES**

Beginning in August, crews begin the installation of brand new backdrops (upper and lower) and divider nets. Following that project, all eight indoor courts are being resurfaced. During both projects, we will have at least four courts operating so you can still take advantage of the air conditioning. We are looking forward to enjoying a refreshing new start with you on the courts this fall!