

# THE BULLETIN

*Belterra Community News*

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News for the Residents of Belterra

## GREY ROCK TENNIS CLUB MANAGER & DIRECTOR OF TENNIS GIVES ADVICE ON HOW TO PLAY TENNIS

*Submitted by Fernando M. Velasco*

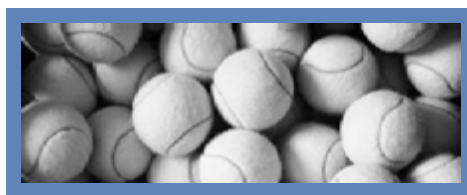
In the previous issues, I answered questions about beginning to play tennis, how to select tennis equipment and clothing, and how to begin playing with friends and family. In this issue, I will offer you some advice on how to start playing competitive tennis.

### **Q: I HAVE YOUNG CHILDREN WHO ARE INTERESTED IN PLAYING AGAINST OTHER PLAYERS. WHAT IS THE BEST WAY?**

A: One way to measure a player's progress is by competing with children of their own age and ability. I suggest that once a player knows how to serve, keep score and the basic tennis rules, he/she is ready to enter special tournaments. Austin offers many opportunities to become involved and has programs for 10 and under and also for children ranging from 12 through 18 years old.

### **Q: MY CHILD IS 10 & UNDER & WANTS TO PLAY TOURNAMENTS. WHERE CAN HE/SHE PLAY?**

A: The Capital Area Tennis Association (CATA) offers many tournaments for children 10 and under. For children ages 5-8, they offer the 36' court playing with a red felt or foam reduced ball. The score is very simple, playing a 7-point tiebreaker. Players, who are 9 and 10 years old, will be playing on a 60" court with an orange felt reduced bounce. They play one 4-game set using the no-ad scoring system (first to win 4 games). These events are usually round robins, so no players get eliminated. For schedules, fees and sites, please contact CATA at 512-443-1342 or visit their website: [www.austintennis.org](http://www.austintennis.org).



### **Q: MY CHILD IS BETWEEN THE AGES 12-18 & WANTS TO START COMPETING. WHO DO I CONTACT?**

A: Again, CATA offers events for players 12-18 years old who are ready to compete. These events are for Non-Qualified USTA players, who are beginning their competition toward becoming State Ranked or move to Championship and Super-Championship level. There are two types of events: Open events, where players are grouped according to their age level (12 and under, 14 and under, 16 and under and 18 and under) and gender. They also can compete in singles and doubles. Usually these events are a one day tournament and they play 8 game pro-sets with no-ad scoring system. They also offer round robin events or first match consolation rounds.

The second type is called the "Grand Slam" events in the same age and gender categories. These events play the best of three sets, with no-ad scoring and if tied one set each, they play a "Super-Tiebreaker" (first one to win 10 points by 2). Play may start on Thursday or Friday nights after 6:00 pm for the larger draws, and continue the rest of the matches on Saturday and Sunday. For schedules, fees and sites, also please contact CATA at 512-443-1342 or visit their website: [www.austintennis.org](http://www.austintennis.org).

### **Q: DO THESE PLAYERS GET POINTS FOR PLAYOFFS?**

A: One incentive to play in these events, are that for every match that is played, they accumulate points. At the end of the season in August, the top players in each division are invited to participate in the "Junior Tour Masters Invitational" with the winners of this event, qualify to participate in the Grand Prix Invitational State Tournament against players from all over the State.

Both private tennis clubs and public facilities host these tournaments all over Austin. Sign up registration can be made either by visiting the USTA website or by visiting the tennis facility. Cost for the 10 and under events is \$18.00 per person; the Grand Prix Open is \$18.00, and for Grand Prix Grand Tour is \$28 per person. Deadlines are usually around 7-10 days prior to the event.

In the next issue, I will answer questions regarding how to encourage players to play the "USTA ZAT" Tournaments and become "Qualified" players. Until then, continue practicing and enjoying the game.

You also may have noticed that we have changed our name from "Circle C Tennis Club" to "Grey Rock Tennis Club". New name, but same service and programs.

***Congratulations to our Grey Rock "10 and under Tournament winners"***

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Rooster Springs Elementary..... 512-465-6200  
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### OTHER

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