

To empower young people by providing local tennis facilities and schools with a life skills program that promotes positive values, healthy habits, and education through the game of tennis

First Serve News



Kids from First Serve of the Palm Beaches enjoying an on-court clinic hosted by Fidelity Investments at the Delray Beach International Tennis Championships

First Serve National Office

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Chapter Spotlight



Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation
Milwaukee, WI

The newest First Serve Chapter is the Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation (**MTEF**), a non-profit 501 (c) (3) umbrella **Community Tennis Association (CTA)** and **National Junior Tennis League (NJTL)** chapter that assists in the delivery, support and integration of tennis programs in the Milwaukee community. Over the past five years, MTEF has offered meaningful programs and activities which are open and accessible to everyone. Through our NJTL TEAM youth outreach program, Adult/Senior lesson and league program, Junior Team Tennis, School Tennis, NJTL Rally, and Recreational Coach Workshops, our goal is to offer activities that facilitate an increased interest in the sport of tennis and to nurture new program sites in facilities that otherwise would not have the opportunity to offer tennis.

MTEF's **TEAM** program is a neighborhood-based, year-round **free** program that combines education, leadership, teamwork, mentoring, and **First Serve Life Skills** with the sport of tennis. Since our inception in 2002, MTEF has collaborated with numerous area youth-serving organizations and schools, and strengthened our affiliation with the **Milwaukee Area Boy & Girls Clubs**, offering TEAM as "core" activity year-round at two of their area-wide clubs. As a result, TEAM has positively affected over 3,000 youth annually, and we reached the milestone of serving our ten-thousandth child in October of 2006.

"MTEF is proud to be the first new chapter brought into the First Serve Network since April 2004, and only the eighteenth chapter in the United States. Our affiliation with First Serve takes MTEF to a whole new level", stated MTEF President, Dave Pelisek.



Around the Network....



First Serve of the Palm Beaches

On January 29, 2007, **Fidelity Investments** hosted a wonderful event for 25 children from **First Serve of the Palm Beaches**... on center court at the **Delray Beach ITC**! Fidelity Investments provided 300 tennis racquets for the children in the program. The kids' on-court activities included an opportunity to work with two of the Delray teaching professionals, hitting tennis balls at the net. In addition, Fidelity Investments provided aerobic on-court activities... that made the children breathless, both from the aerobic exercise, as well as from the wonderful fun time at the event !



First Serve Lee County

Lee County Community Tennis Association's First Serve instructors, **Charles and Andrea Nelson**, arranged for 13 kids from **Shandler Hall Community Center's** after-school tennis program to participate in a TV video photo shoot at **Colonial Country Club** in Fort Myers, FL. Charles stated, **"Our kids not only rose to the occasion, but they took it on as a team challenge to demonstrate their tennis skills and First Serve Life Skills training"**. Andrea with tears in her eyes stated, **"I was never so proud of them, they were absolute angels both on and off the tennis courts."**

Coach Wayne Keeler from Virginia Beach – **Owl Creek Tennis Center** is in the process of producing a DVD centered on teaching the principles of tennis to younger athletes and the family as a fun, memorable and positive experience.

The success of Shandler Hall's after-school tennis program can best be summed up by the remarks of **Bennie Henry**, who, when asked to share one thing about his experience stated, **"I just want everyone to know that I worked hard to remember my First Serve Life Skills so that I could represent Schandler Hall in a great way"**. Way to go Bennie!

Look for the instructional DVD titled **"The Family Tennis DVD"**.



1st: Emily Velez, Jose Mijangos, Shai Wiley 2nd: Bennie Henry, Tyler Brown, Manual & Consuelo Duarte 3rd: Felix Hickman, Ryan Brown, Julian Rodgers, Christian Flores Top: Coaches: Andrea Nelson, Wayne Keeler, Anna Pena, Charles Nelson & Pam Henry

First Serve Fort Collins USTA Schools Stringing Program



Laura and Quinton string the first USTA Program racquet

In addition to life skills education, all **First Serve Fort Collins** participants learn to string tennis racquets. They chose the **USTA Schools Program** in Colorado as an on-going community service project and provide all the stringing for PE teachers involved in the USTA Schools Program – at no cost! A really cool community project for kids, by kids!

"The racquet stringing program that the First Serve Fort Collins kids started is a win-win for all. Not only do schools involved with the USTA Schools program receive newly strung racquets for their students to use during PE class, but the stringers have an opportunity to refine their skills. As far as I'm aware, this is the only such program in the country and we are thrilled to be working closely with First Serve to make it happen." Kristy Harris, Community Development Director, Colorado Tennis Association

The First Serve Network News

[January and February 2007 happenings]

Participants from **First Serve of the Palm Beaches** attended the **Delray Beach International Tennis Championships**. *"We deeply appreciate the National office's role in introducing us to the Delray tournament. The relationship is proving to be a boon to our program and affords our students a range of very special opportunities",* said **Executive Director Henry Guignet**.

The **Sony Ericsson WTA Tour**, via the **First Serve National Office**, established a relationship between **Malivai Washington Kids Foundation (First Serve of Jacksonville)** and **The Bausch & Lomb Championships at Amelia Island** where First Serve kids will attend the tournament in April and participate in a clinic led by Sony Ericsson WTA tour players.

Combined **ATP** and **Sony Ericsson WTA Tour** events, **Pacific Life Open** and **Sony Ericsson Open** will again run public service announcements on national television to promote the First Serve Network.

Footage of various ATP and Sony Ericsson WTA Tour players was filmed for new public service announcements to promote the First Serve Network.

Special thanks to the tours, tournaments, and tour players!!!



First Serve of the Palm Beaches

2 students from **First Serve of the Palm Beaches** have been invited to participate in the **Ambassador Games** in Vienna, Austria this summer. The **"People to People Sports Ambassador Program"** was founded in 1956 by Dwight D. Eisenhower and the mission is to promote world peace through increased understanding between citizens of the world.

Sean Gordon and **Kevin Patterson** were nominated for this prestigious assignment on the basis of **good character** and **playing ability**. They underwent a formal interview process before being selected. As People to People Sports Ambassadors, these young men will achieve personal growth, interact with coaches and athletes from around the world, experience different cultures and famous places in Austria, and compete internationally.



Congratulations Kevin and Sean!!



Upcoming events:

Pacific Life Open, Indian Wells, CA, 3/5-18

First Serve Pro-Am Miami, Miami, FL, 3/19-21

Sony Ericsson Open, Key Biscayne, FL, 3/21-4/1

First Serve Network National Retreat, Miami, FL 5/4-5

www.firstserve.org

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The First Serve Network - We Are One!

Tennis • Education • Life Skills

First Serve Chapters

Ashe Buchholz Tennis Center/GMTF/FOCAL - **Miami, FL**
Arthur Ashe Youth Tennis & Education - **Philadelphia, PA**
East Palo Alto Tennis & Tutoring - **East Palo Alto, CA**
First Serve Broward - **Fort Lauderdale, FL**
First Serve Fort Collins - **Fort Collins, CO**
Fred Wells Education Center - **Minneapolis / St Paul, MN**
Future Stars 2000s - **Manteca, CA**
Lee County Community Tennis Association & Parks and Recreation - **Fort Myers, FL**
Long Island Tennis & Sports Foundation - **Port Jefferson, NY**
Love to Serve - **Chicago, IL**
Malivai Washington Kids Foundation - **Jacksonville, FL**
Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation - **Milwaukee, WI**
First Serve of the Palm Beaches - **West Palm Beach, FL**
Tallahassee Tennis Association - **Tallahassee, FL**
Tennis Foundation of St. Petersburg - **St. Petersburg, FL**
Youth Tennis Advantage Bear Trax - **Berkeley, CA**
Youth Tennis Advantage Hunters Point - **San Francisco, CA**
Zina Garrison All Court Tennis Academy - **Houston, TX**

Current and Retired Tour Players helping First Serve Kids

Andre Agassi	Justin Gimelstob	Mike Bryan	Serena Williams
Andy Ram	Kevin Ullyett	Mike Davies	Steve Meister
Andy Roddick	Kim Clijsters	Monica Seles	Simon Aspelin
Anna Kournikova	Kim Sands	Nicholas Pereira	Tatiana Golovin
Barry MacKay	Leslie Allen	Nicole Vaidisova	Taylor Dent
Betsy McCormack	Lindsay Davenport	Owen Davidson	Tim Henman
Bob Bryan	Mal Washington	Pablo Araya	Todd Perry
Butch Buchholz	Mark Knowles	Pam Shriver	Tommy Haas
Charlie Pasarell	Maria Kirlenko	Paul Hanley	Tony Trabert
Cliff Drysdale	Maria Sharapova	Pete Sampras	Travis Parrott
Daniel Nestor	Martin Damm	Robbie Ginepri	Venus Williams
Daniela Hantuchova	Mary Jo Fernandez	Rod Laver	Wes Moody
Francisco Montana	Mashiska Washington	Rodney Harmon	Xavier Malisse
Fred Stolle	Miguel Nido	Roger Federer	Zina Garrison
Gabriela Sabatini			
Gilles Muller			
Harold Solomon			
Jamea Jackson			
James Blake			
Jana Novotna			
Jay Berger			
Jeff Salzenstein			
Jennifer Capriati			
Jim Courier			
John McEnroe			
Jose Decrmas			

Tournaments supporting First Serve

Bank of the West Classic
COPA TELMEX ATP Buenos Aires
Sony Ericsson Open
Delray Beach International Tennis Championships
Bausch & Lomb Championships
Pacific Life Open
Pilot Pen Tennis
Tennis Canada's Rogers Cup
Tennis Canada's Rogers Masters
World Team Tennis

Strategic Alliance Partners



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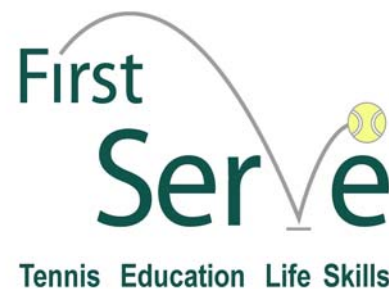
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