



SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD DANIEL KALISH

Congratulations for **Daniel Kalish** for being honored with the 2022 USTA PNW Sportsmanship award. This is a huge achievement...way to go Daniel!

Good sportsmanship is the foundation on which our sport has been built upon. It is players like Daniel who exemplify what it means to be a great sport.

Hear what Daniel has to say about what good sportsmanship means to him and what players have to say about him:

Where are you from?

I grew up in Lincoln, Nebraska and I currently live in Mercer Island, Washington

How long have you been playing tennis?

I played on and off until about the 7th grade, then started up again about 5 years ago.

What do you love most about tennis?

I love the camaraderie with other tennis players.

What is a tennis-related accomplishment you're most proud of?

Getting a single set from my longtime playing partner. He's won something like 499 of 500 sets we've played, but I did get a set off him once (granted, he was unable to use his injured playing arm - but I'll take it!).

What are your tennis goals for the future?

To continue playing, having fun and developing relationships with my team!

What does sportsmanship mean to you?

To me, sportsmanship means to play fairly. Sportsmanship is crucial for tennis because there are no referees. The game will fall apart unless everyone is a good sport.

What do USTA PNW players have to say about Daniel?

In a match that probably cost us a trip to Nationals, Dan gave the server another first serve when a ball came close to their court...even though the servers said it did not distract him. Dan insisted he take two. Next serve was an ace that won a pivotal game. Later, after winning a very important point, Dan said he "might" have touched the net and gave them the point. Just a few extreme examples, but always plays I like a gentleman.

For being honest to a fault - literally, and voluntarily giving a set tie break point to the other team when he thought he may have touched the net - but wasn't 100% sure!

As his partner, super frustrated in the moment... but the right thing to do, we won the point and he called that his racquet glanced the net. We lost point, set and match. He did the right thing, honesty is best policy.