

June 2018



Coming Soon

6/23 NY Beach Tennis Tournament @Crest Hollow Country Club

7/10 LI Kids Day @Crest Hollow Country Club

7/14 NY Beach Tennis Tournament @Crest Hollow Country Club

7/30 LI Kids Day @Shinnecock Tennis Club

8/2 LI Kids Day @Hamlet at Com-mack

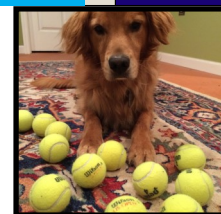
visit www.longisland.usta.com

for details on all events

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On The Ball: News From LI



RECAP: 28th ANNUAL LI AWARDS

The USTA Long Island Region honored its own at its 28th Annual Awards Dinner on May 2nd.

More than 300 tennis fans and friends attended to honor their peers and hear from tennis greats Liezel Huber and Emilio Sanchez. Former WTA world #1 doubles star and seven-time Grand Slam doubles champ Huber is the Director of Tennis and Development at the NYJTL Cary Leeds Center. Born in South Africa, she competed internationally for that country, later becoming an American citizen and going on to represent the United States internationally. Sanchez, a former professional tennis player from Spain, won three Grand Slam doubles titles and the men's doubles silver medal at the 1988 Olympic Games. He won 15 singles titles and 50 men's doubles titles, including three at Grand Slam events. He is the director of the ASC Sanchez-Casal Tennis Academy in Naples, Fla.

Awards were given in several categories, with Prestigious Awards presented to **Peter Kaplan** (Hy Zausner Lifetime Achievement), **David McKean** (Vitas Gerulaitis "For the Love of Tennis"), **Fabiana Rezak** (Arthur Ashe Multi-Cultural) and the **Morales Family** (Rose Buck Scalamandre Tennis Family of the Year). Michael Haltman received

the Good Samaritan Award for his work coordinating the first [Heroes to Heroes](#) Round Robin tennis tournament. The event, at World Gym Setauket, raised \$3,000.

Haltman, an avid tennis player, said, "It was a great honor to be presented with the USTA Long Island Good Samaritan Award! In my role as Board Chair for Heroes To Heroes,



this award provided the opportunity to highlight the great work that this organization does saving our American heroes who are at risk for suicide. Through a program based in spirituality we have saved 200 men and women to date, and our mission plan is to ultimately save 100 a year.

"That night it was fantastic to be around so many great athletes as well as those who give back in so many different ways," Haltman said.

The Corporate Service Award was presented to Josh Ripple, Executive Vice President of GF Sports, in recognition of the organization's bringing professional tennis back to Long Island in the form of the NY Open Tournament at NYCB Live-The Nassau Vet-

erans Memorial Coliseum. The very successful pro tournament will be back at the Coliseum in February 2019.

Sportsmanship awards were given to two adults and two juniors. The two League Captain Sportsmanship Awards were given to Dawn Schosberg (Birdie Tarulli Award) and Darren Scheinberg (Blane Magee Award). The Junior Sportsmanship Awards went to Pieter Alexander Wernink, Jr. (Anuj Agarwal Award) and Sophia Schutte (Jennifer Sherry Award).

"As ambassadors to the sport here on Long Island, we want



to emphasize that tennis is also about sportsmanship and giving back," said Jonathan Klee, USTA LI president (volunteer). "Our Board sees it as an honor and privilege to recognize those players and volunteers who spend countless hours giving back to their communities through tennis oriented-programming such as clinics that help the less fortunate or those in need and fundraisers for charitable causes."

Please Support Our Sponsors!

We are grateful to our sponsors and supporters for helping to make the 28th Annual Awards dinner a success. Special thanks to:

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All photos from the 28th Annual USTA LI Awards Dinner can be found online by clicking [here](#). Feel free to download, print and share your favorites! You can also find the complete slide presentation from the evening [here](#). If you share your own photos or ours on your social media, please use the hashtag #ustaliawards

Summer Kids Days On the Horizon

Attention kids and parents!!

USTA Long Island's Annual Summer Kids' Days are coming! These FREE



events will give you a fun day of tennis lessons and play – for everyone from those who have never played before to advanced juniors under

age 18 – plus a variety of activities including a DJ and dancing, face painting, lunch and more! Hosted with *Long Island Tennis Magazine*, there are three Kids Days on the summer calendar, all 10am-2pm:

- Tuesday, July 10th (rain date 7/17) at the Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury
- Monday, July 30 (rain date 7/31) at the Shinnecock Tennis Club in Southampton
- Thursday, August 2 (rain date 8/7) at the Hamlet at Commack

Advance registration is requested by emailing ustaonlongisland@gmail.com for the July 10 and July 30 dates and suffolkcountykidsday@gmail.com for August 2nd.



New Hamptons Club On the Scene

Heading out East this summer? **27tennis** is now open to the public, offering tennis for the whole family at affordable rates. Unlike private membership clubs, 27tennis is open to all. Located on the site of a former private club at 2145 Montauk Hwy. in Amagansett, the new club features five tennis courts (4 Har Tru and 1 Astroturf), two basketball courts and a newly renovated clubhouse with snack bar.



Launched by owner and head pro Neal Feinberg, 27tennis offers private and group lessons for all ages, video analysis, USTA tournaments and the brand-new USTA Summer Hamptons Tennis League for adults and juniors offering weekly matches against other area tennis clubs. "We are most excited to offer an affordable club in the Hamptons for anyone to play on any budget," Feinberg said, adding that the club's location offers key benefits. "We're located right next to the beach so you can finish playing tennis and then jump into the ocean." Also, "there's a jitney stop right in front."

Feinberg is a USPTA Certified Pro who has coached high school tennis for private schools in New York City. He was the head pro and club manager at Yorkville Tennis Club on the Upper East Side, one of a group of three clubs for which he says he created the most affordable tennis program in Manhattan with 18,000 participants and growing. Audiences may also recognize Feinberg's voice from his TV and video game character work over the past 20 years including *American Dad*, *Grand Theft Auto* and *Celebrity Death Match*, and his stint announcing World Team Tennis.

"We are offering lots of USTA junior tournaments at all levels this summer, from beginner round robins and level 3 events starting Memorial Day weekend to L1Bs for ages 12-18," Feinberg said. "We have a Father's Day tournament scheduled, with two separate draws – father-son and father-daughter, and a junior camp for ages 5-17. We're also the 1st tennis club to be part of Class Pass, which allows members to take classes at various exercise facilities for one monthly fee. Feinberg said the club also offers the first adult sleepaway tennis camp in Hamptons, and discounts are available on Groupon and Gilt. He adds that the club's pros are also available to provide lessons on members' home courts.

For more information, visit 27tennis.com, email neal@27tennis.com or call (631) 260-1480.

(photo at right, from left: Neal Thakur, USTA Eastern Tennis Service Representative for LI, Neal Feinberg, and Gustavo Loza Padilla, USTA Eastern Tennis Service Representative Metro)



USTA Eastern's Battle Tennis Challenge Series Comes To Long Island



Though its name sounds like a Survivor-esque reality-TV scheme, Battle of the Island is a battle of a completely different sort. After many successful

years offering the Battle of the Boroughs Tennis Challenge at various New York City parks, USTA Eastern will host its first adult recreational tournament on Long Island on Saturday, July 14, at Eisenhower Park in East Meadow.

The 1st Annual Battle of the Island Tennis Challenge will feature the best of team competition and neighbor-

hood pride and is hosted with the support of Nassau County. Adult players will have the chance to compete in a friendly atmosphere and proudly represent their local neighborhoods and parks.

“We are thrilled to bring the highly-successful Battle Tennis Challenge series to Long Island,” said Jenny Schnitzer, Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of USTA Eastern. “The event promises to be a competitive tournament where the best adult tennis players on Long Island can enjoy play in one of the most beautiful parks in Nassau County.”

New This Year - The Battle

The Battle of the Island is one of many “battles” in a tournament series that

the USTA Eastern Section will host this summer. Battle of the Parks (New Jersey Region), Battle of the Burbs (Southern Region) and Battle of the Boroughs (Metro Region) tournaments round out the series.

The winners of each region's Battle event will be invited to participate in the Battle Championships, on Saturday, July 21st, at Flushing Meadows - Corona Park in Queens, N.Y.

Click [here](#) to register for the July 14 Battle of the Island and use Tournament ID 100116118

- o 4.0 & Above: Flight A
- o 3.5 and Under: Flight B

And visit USTA.com/EasternIsland for more information.

LI's Junior Team Tennis 2018-2019 Season Promises to be Best Yet

The USTA Long Island Region will kick off its 2018-2019 Junior Team Tennis (JTT) season this September and USTA Eastern is banking on the Island's junior tennis stars to show the rest of the section how they got the name “Strong Island.”

“More than a thousand kids are participating in tennis programs across the Island,” said Kristina Desimone, USTA Eastern's Manager of Youth Programs. “Long Island clubs and tennis providers will be encouraging their juniors to go beyond their lessons and give competitive tennis a try in the very supportive, low-pressure environment.”

JTT is a junior league in which kids learn about unity, sportsmanship and how to work together to achieve success...all through tennis. Kids play with children of similar skill level while being introduced to team competition in a setting that focuses on developing skills, offering play opportunities and promoting fun. JTT is available for boys and girls, ages 6 to 18; co-ed teams are organized by age, and give junior players a chance to engage in match play in spirited and supportive team setting.

An ideal complement for kids who plan to play on middle or high school teams, JTT players play singles, doubles and mixed doubles matches against other teams, providing the structure to practice and get additional match experience outside of the school season.

USTA Eastern offers incredible, one-of-a-kind experiences exclusively to JTT players including invitations to meet touring tennis players like Christina McHale and John Isner, as well as opportunities to play on stadium courts and help with pre-match World Team Tennis and US Open coin tosses. Long Island JTT players enjoyed meeting some of the leading ATP players at the inaugural New York Open at NYCB Live's Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum. More exclusive player access and play opportunities are in the works for next year's tournament.

Contact [Neil Thakur](#), the Long Island Region's Tennis Service Representative and JTT Coordinator, to learn more about the program and connect with JTT league providers.



Long Island Schools Love Net Generation

Acquainting schools with the USTA's new innovative youth tennis brand, Net Generation, has been a major priority of Neil Thakur, Eastern's Tennis Service Representative on Long Island, who has been delighted by how fast many Long Island schools are considering and embracing tennis as tool for early childhood physical literacy.

For the past nine months, USTA Eastern's Community Tennis and Marketing staff have been concentrating on helping teachers introduce tennis in physical education classes and after-school programs.

"Tennis is a whole body sport and is an excellent tool for teaching hand/eye and foot/eye coordination, which is an important skill we aim to develop through our physical education classwork," said Chris MacDonald, a phys ed teacher at Deasy Elementary School in Glen Cove "Coupled with the agility and short bursts of speed that are fundamental parts of tennis play, tennis offers a fun way for us to teach these important skills that kids will need as they get older and want to play competitive sports."

The Net Generation curriculum is a great tool for bringing tennis into school settings. With shorter racquets and lower-bouncing balls, tennis can easily be taught in smaller open spaces. A full court and a net are no longer needed to effectively teach the sport's fundamentals. In fact, school gyms are a perfect and safe venue for teaching tennis to beginners.

Neil and several LI tennis programs have collaborated to offer PE teacher trainings and in- and after-school programs in towns across the Island, including Freeport, Franklin Square, Baldwin, Glen Cove, Hauppauge, Hempstead, Oyster Bay, Rocky Point

and, most recently, Port Washington. As part of the Net Generation school program, Neil and local Net Generation providers facilitate free training to all districts' elementary PE teachers, and partner them with a local provider or club who can assist them with their class and offer after-school programming as well. Currently USTA Eastern

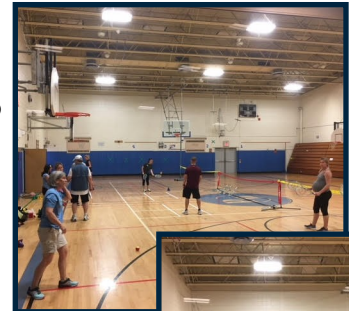


provides this service to elementary schools but will soon be expanding to middle and high school later this year and in 2019.

USTA offers a big incentive to schools that want to incorporate tennis into their PE curriculum: through Net Generation, schools can receive FREE equipment and easy-to-follow lesson plans that make offering school tennis seamlessly easy for teachers and volunteers. The equipment starter kits include:

The kits include: 1 tennis rolling bag, 30 youth racquets, 45 tennis balls, net tape and chalk.

If you think the elementary school in your district is a good candidate for Net Generation's tennis equipment grant or would like learn more about how easy it is to bring tennis into your community's school(s), please contact please contact [Neil Thakur](mailto:Neil.Thakur@usta.com) and be sure to visit NetGeneration.com.



Photos from Net Generation training sessions in Port Washington and Rocky Point.

Farmingdale Ladder Seeks Tennis Players

Now starting its 43rd season, the Tennis Association of Farmingdale (TAF), familiarly known as the Farmingdale Ladder, is an 18-and-over league that enables its members to play outdoor competitive tennis from May through September.

A member of the USTA Community Tennis Association, the TAF is currently seeking new members to join the fun this summer, in the following categories: men's and women's singles and doubles, mixed doubles and men's and women's senior (55+) singles. Operating under a ladder format, the league offers a wide variety of people to play at all times, and, with over 200 members, participants have plenty of opportunities to get out and play tennis.

According to longtime participant Joan Deissler, "Those of us who were involved in organizing TAF take great pride in the fact that our goal of bringing tennis players together in the enjoyment of the sport was achieved. However, that goal was exceeded by a more significant benefit. As members

became acquainted, they discovered shared interests in other areas, and as a result, formed long term friendships with people they otherwise might never have met," she said.

Matches are played on courts across Long Island. Some seasonal highlights include the annual tournament against the Huntington Tennis Association, the annual awards presentation meeting and a yearly membership tennis picnic.

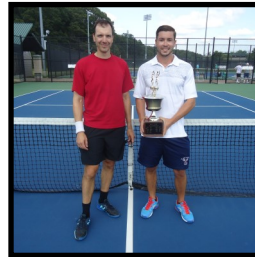
The organization's web site is updated daily to reflect current standing; the vast majority of matches are played outdoors on public courts.

Longtime member Lori D'Antonio

said, "I love that we're making use of the tennis courts provided at our local town, county and state parks, with some of the courts like Marjorie Post Park filled with familiar faces on the weekends, providing a social game of tennis with players you might not meet in USTA inter-club play.

"It's also nice to pause and reflect at Syosset-Woodbury Park at the memorial bench that was placed in memory of longtime TAF member Susan Foehrenbach," D'Antonio said. "I have many fond memories of Sue playing, organizing ladder parties, coordinating TAF attendance at the Hamlet Cup, and much more involvement. Neil, her husband, has stayed actively involved throughout all the years as well as website administrator and board member."

For more information on the Tennis Association of Farmingdale, please visit www.taftennis.org or email Rich Hume, President, at Rhume71@gmail.com.



Serving the Community

Carefree Racquet Club: "Tennis for ALL Community Days" took place during Spring Break. More than 250 children participated, including many new faces to the courts. Carefree raised \$2,500 and collected more than 100 non-perishable food items to donate to the Community Cupboard. Located just around the corner from the club, the Community Cupboard is a partnership between the Bellmore-Merrick School District and student volunteers to provide much-needed support to families. (top photo: Carefree Head Pro Ben Marks presents donation to district staff)

Robbie Wagner's Tournament Training Center: The club held its 2nd Annual Sunrise Day Camp Tennis Benefit, with proceeds purchasing a ping pong table for Sunrise, a free summer camp for children with cancer and their siblings. (Middle photo: Sunrise Day Camp Benefit event)

World Gym Setauket: The club hosted a junior tournament and a weekend of activities to raise funds for the "Help a Diabetic Child Foundation," which purchases lifesaving medical supplies and insulin for children with diabetes who are in financial distress. This event is part of a series coordinated by the Foundation and the Fundacion Emilio Sanchez Vicario, a non-profit institution that promotes personal development and social integration through sports and education.

13th Annual Robbie's Run: USTA LI Region volunteers provided junior tennis lessons to children at the 13th Annual Robbie's Run. The 5k run and community event raises money to help [Forever 9-The Robbie Levine Foundation](http://Forever9-TheRobbieLevineFoundation.org) to place Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in locations where children play sports and also to provide CPR and AED training programs. (Bottom photo: Robbie's Run participants)



On the Road to Sectionals

Several USTA League teams won their Regional titles and will represent Long Island at Eastern Sectionals. Congratulations to:

18 & Over Mixed (Sectionals are June 1-3 in Schenectady)

6.0: Christopher Morley, captain Adam Moramarco

7.0: Deer Park Indoor, captain Suresh Patel

8.0: Eastern Athletic Melville, captain Gabe Moreira (photo, left)

9.0: Point Set, captain, Paul Schnabel

10.0: Sportime Lynbrook, captains Shanon Blue & Danny Casasa

40 & Over Mixed (Sectionals are in September-location TBD)

6.0: Sportime Bethpage, captain Mark Mascolo

7.0: Sportime Syosset, captain Dawn Schosberg (photo, below right)

8.0: Long Beach, captain Andrew Camacho (photo, below middle)

9.0: Deer Park, captain Roslyn Chua-Mcalonie



LI-er Competes in *Four* Nationals

59-year-old Wyn Mintz of Dix Hills accomplished something last year that few USTA League players do even once, and he did it FOUR times! Mintz, who has been playing USTA League tennis since age 18, competed in four National Tournaments in the 2017-18 season.

Mintz reached his first National Tournament in 2009, after 33 years of competing and, six years later, his second. This past year, though, he reached four national tournaments with four different teams in four different divisions. They were:

#1 (10/19/17 in Mobile, Ala.): Men's 40s 4.5, captain Andrew Ross, Sportime Syosset (photo below, Mintz laying down in front)

#2 (10/26/17 in Orlando, Fla.: Men's 55s 8.0, captain Raj Nagdev, Sportime Syosset

#3 (11/16/17 in Orlando): Men's 55s 9.0, captain John Hoffman, Armonk Tennis, Armonk, N.Y. The team reached the semi-finals.

#4 (3/15/18 in Indian Wells, Calif.): Men's tri-level, captain Ian Schapiro, Sportime Syosset

Mintz grew up in Bethpage where he spent his childhood Sundays playing tennis with his father and using a wooden racquet. He played varsity tennis for Island Trees High School and after high school began to play in USTA leagues.



“Tennis has been a great sport for me,” Mintz says. “I knew 50 years ago that I would be able to play forever and meet new and exciting people along the way. You can play tennis anywhere! All you need is a tennis racquet and the will to meet new people. For me, tennis is for a life time!”

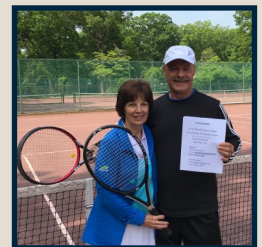
65-and-over 8.0 Mixed League Teams Now Forming

Are you 65 years or older and love playing tennis? Want to have fun competing locally with other like-minded men and women?

USTA Mixed Tennis League 65+ 8.0 teams are now forming and offer the opportunity for mature tennis players to play and compete. For information and to register, visit Tennislink and look for team #1003353588. Cost to register is \$10.

Practices take place at Hempstead Lake State Park.

For more information, please contact captains Susan Dalessandro (top photo, left), suedaless10is@optonline.net, 516-647-6362, or Allan Silverstein (top photo, right), asilver1118@aol.com, 516-551-4319.



\$\$ for Autism

The South Side HS boys' varsity tennis team in Rockville Centre hosted "AN ACE FOR AUTISM," a special-needs kids tennis clinic,



coordinated by Christopher A. Colesanti, South Side History Teacher & Varsity Tennis Coach.

In Suffolk County, 38 boys tennis players

played round robin matches to raise \$600 for autism awareness.

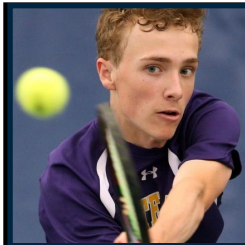


Players came from: Longwood, Harborfields, Miller Place, Port Jefferson, Stony Brook and Ward Melville.

The Port Washington varsity boys' tennis team held a "Play with the Teachers" autism awareness tournament. Boys paired with a teacher or administrator for this event organized by Coach Shane Helfner. Gabriele Brancatelli teamed up with science teacher Mr. Fish to win. In all, the event raised \$1,300, which will be donated to Autism Speaks.



Boys' Season Recap: LI-er Wins States



Long Island has the reigning New York State Boys' Singles Champion for the third year in a row, with Oyster Bay's Patrick Maloney (left) winning the Boys' singles title at the New York State Championships, played at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Flushing. The USTA Long Island Region was proud to support both the Nassau (top photo right) and Suffolk competitors at States by giving each boy a sweatshirt.



Maloney also was Nassau Singles champion, having defeated Matthew Cashin of Cold Spring Harbor, who won second place in Nassau. Gabriel Brancatelli of Port Washington won third place while Michael Medvedev of Wheatley took fourth. Maloney, Cashin and Brancatelli all represented Nassau County at the State Tournament at the USTA National Tennis Center in Flushing. In Suffolk County, the Singles Champion was Huntington's Jack Flores, who defeated Abhinav Srivastava of Half Hollow Hills East. The two were joined at



States by third place finisher Cameron Klepper of Hills West. (Photo at left depicts Nassau singles champions.)

Syosset's doubles team of Eli Grossman & Preet Rajpal repeated as Nassau champions, defeating Alexander Roti & Samir Singh of Friends Academy, while Syosset's Justin Oresky & Zach Chan won third place, defeating Nicholas DeChiaro & Josh Cohen of Plainview. The top three finishers competed at States. In an all-Commack Suffolk County doubles final, Andrew Lin & Sol Yoon defeated Ryan Schoenfeld & Alec Sydney for the title. Both duos competed at States along with third place finisher Aidan Campbell & Felix Shi of Hills East. (Photo above depicts Nassau doubles champions.)



In team action, Syosset (bottom photo) defeated Roslyn to win the Nassau championship and Commack (photo at left) defeated Hills East for the Suffolk title. At the Long Island Championship held on June 4th at Eisenhower Park, Syosset won the Long Island title.





Around the Region...

Katzman Orthopedics, USTA LI



Awards Dinner Cocktail Hour Sponsor for the past two years, provides orthopedic services for all of Long Island. Dr. Barry Katzman has been playing tennis

for over 20 years and says his "passion for the sport continues to grow as my level of tennis improves within the USTA and club team tennis. "Standing on the sidelines is not what we do," Dr. Katzman says. "Katzman Orthopedics will continue to be a major sponsor of this annual event. I am proud to do my part in support of the amazing work done by the USTA. Their tireless efforts to promote tennis with our youth is helping to build a foundation for tennis on Long Island." For information on Katzman Orthopedics, please call (516) 488-1417...

Hofstra University hosted its first-ever junior tournament, held at the school's outdoor tennis complex. Winners of the Hofstra University



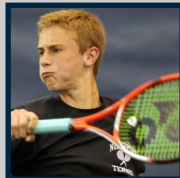
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Long Island's own **Noah Rubin**, 22, won the USTA's Roland Garros Wild Card Challenge and competed in the first round of the French Open against #9-ranked John Isner. The appearance marked Rubin's first time playing in the French Open. Currently ranked #196 in the world, he previously has competed in the US Open and the Australian Open main draw where he upset #14 Benoit Paire in 2017. Also playing in the French Open was 17-year-old Cannon Kingsley of Northport, who competed in Boys' Singles and Junior Doubles....

Free Money!! Don't miss out on

Junior Spring Challenger were Ryan Shayani, Khyanna Singh and Eugene Fishman. Hofstra Tennis Coach Jason Pasion served as Tournament Direc-

more than \$12,000 in grant money currently budgeted for your tennis programs! This money is available to fund programs under the guidelines of the USTA Eastern Section, which gives preference to non-profits or 501 (c)3 organizations. These are Regional Grants; the application link and details can be found on the Long Island Region's website at www.longisland.usta.com. Questions? Email ustaonlongisland@gmail.com...



Have you visited the **USTA Long Island Facebook page** recently? The page, along with the USTA Long Island Twitter account (@USTA_LI) and web site (www.longisland.usta.com), is updated frequently with events, news and activities of Long Island's clubs, league teams, players and more. The page currently has nearly 1,000 likes! Click [here](#) to check it out; maybe you'll be fan number 1,000!!



USTA Eastern Long Island

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We are committed to the promotion and growth of tennis, the "lifetime sport," for people of all ages and abilities to play and enjoy the game. Through the efforts of volunteers, USTA staff and strategic partners, we are dedicated to the highest standards of integrity, honesty and ethics in developing tennis programs in local communities throughout Long Island. Our mission will be served by having our youth, our adults and corporate partners enjoy the "sport for a lifetime."

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