

HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE UPDATE: OCTOBER 2019



The intention of this series is to update our stakeholders on both the progress of this committee and the current state of high school tennis from across the country. In this edition, we will debut the COACHES CORNER, where coaches from around the country answer questions about Net Generation High School Tennis.

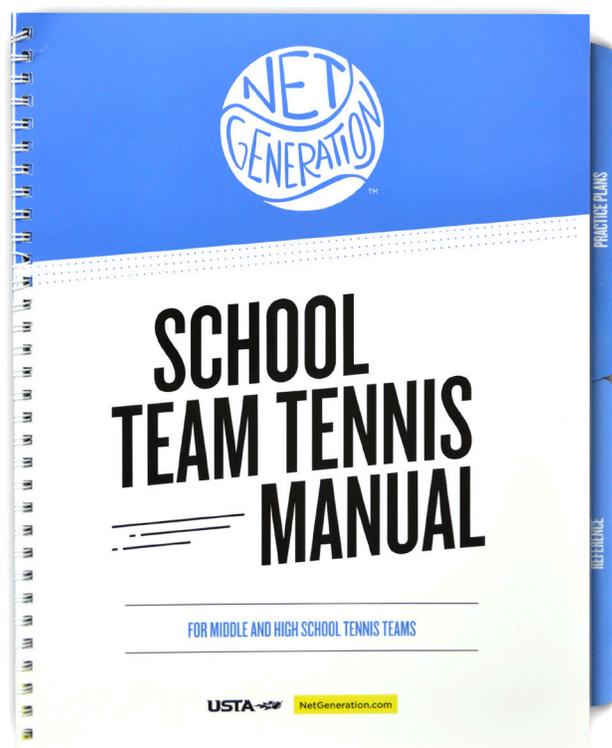
JOIN NET GENERATION OFFICIAL YOUTH TENNIS OF THE USTA

TEACH THE SPORT FOR LIFE

You help shape the future of the players you coach every day, and tennis is an excellent sport to help you in that mission. The USTA created Net Generation with you in mind. With your help, we can inspire players to get active—and stay active.

REGISTRATION IS FREE, and when you become an active part of Net Generation, you will get access to our newly published Team Tennis Manual, which includes easy-to-follow, turnkey practice plans, activities and drills—perfect for new or experienced high school tennis coaches.

(*If you are registered in Net Generation and have added your school program, you will receive a request to get your FREE printed copy of the Team Tennis Manual shown above.)



UPCOMING COACHES WORKSHOPS:

2019 Texas Tennis Coaches Association (TTCA) Convention -
December 6-9, 2019 - Registration is Open



COACHES CORNER – USTA NET GENERATION

High School Coaches across the 17 USTA sections answered questions on topics including Net Generation, No-Cut Tennis programs and benefits from the USTA for High School Coaches.

Here are the responses from a sampling of those who participated:

What do you feel is the best benefit of a No-Cut program?

Doug Chapman: Boys' Varsity Tennis Coach, Sommerset High School (Sommerset, MA)

"It gives kids an opportunity to be introduced to tennis in a team setting, which is what a lot of kids enjoy, and to get started in tennis. When I started coaching, the balls were white and the racquets were wood. One of the best things the USTA can help with is continuing education for coaches.

How did you get started in High School/Middle School tennis coaching?

Delaine Mast: Boys' and Girls' High School Varsity Tennis Coach. McCaskey High School (Lancaster, PA)

"I started teaching these kids 34 years ago. I saw it as a vehicle to change kids' lives, every day. I have been a no-cut coach since 1986, probably even before the phrase began. Playing high school tennis teaches kids sportsmanship and gives them a good core group of friends for their whole life.

What is the most important benefit the USTA can give or has given you for your coaching?

Jay Diaz: Head Coach, Felix Charter School (LaMesa, CA)

"The USTA gives you products you can really use to get better at coaching kids. They provide equipment to use, plus grants to help fund travel and program expenses—all to help you coach better. Net Generation has made it easier to be a better coach, mentor and instructor to the kids.

Who is your greatest resource at your school for helping you with your team and players?

Stacy Manger: High School Varsity Tennis Coach, Morgan County High School (Madison, GA)

"Tennis is a sport for a lifetime and we are able to give this gift to these kids. It makes us proud; being able to expose these students to this great game is what it is all about. The people at the USTA have helped me along my journey to be a better coach, be more organized, plan better for practice and be a better me. Being a no-cut coach is so valuable to these kids. Exposing all of the students at all levels to the game of tennis is what can really mold a student's life. That will stay with them forever.

With your style of coaching, how has Net Generation provided opportunities to improve the play of your students?

Kevin Castillo: Head Coach, Perry High School (Gilbert, AZ)

"I'm very excited about the Net Generation drills, as they provide specific drills for an individual problem a student has and can get right to helping better their skills. It's great to see the girls get better each year by playing in the offseason, and Net Generation helps the students stay with it all year. The no-cut program is valuable because it teaches the freshmen and younger players to overcome more than just hitting a tennis ball when playing (heat, stamina, planning, balance, etc.). They learn to work well with other coaches through tennis. The team can see different coaches working together and realize how beneficial working as a team can be."

SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Educating Coaches:

Coaches will have access to a new slide presentation outlining tennis rules and regulations. This will be helpful for coaches who are not familiar with the general rules of the sport. Moving forward, the Ambassador program will identify High School Coaches from each section who are well connected to social media and the USTA to spread the word of Net Generation High School Tennis.

Net Generation Outreach:

One of the most valuable resources to help you build your high school teams are Elementary and Middle School PE teachers! Net Generation can make you the local hero by making it easy and beneficial for your PE teachers to receive FREE training, equipment and pre-made lesson plans on the Net Generation app. This can ultimately help them offer a unit of tennis in their PE classes. Get your future stars exposed to tennis at a much younger age!

See the list of High School Coaches Clinics on Page 3. If you would like to add your clinic or training program please contact Delaine Mast (dmast4@aol.com) to be added to this list.

National Federation Of High School Sports (NFHS)

USTA Staff member Jordan Batey and USTA High School Tennis Committee Chair Laurie Martin presented at the 2019 NFHS Annual Summer Meeting USTA breakfast on June 30 in Indianapolis. The continued effort to strengthen the relationships between the USTA and the 51 NFHS member associations was evident in the collaborative environment created by Batey and Martin. The 2019-20 USTA/Tennis Rules Powerpoint was presented for feedback, an update was provided regarding Net Generation and the resources available to High School Tennis Coaches, and information was provided on available USTA Facility Assistance Grants. The sub-committee is continuing to research state-level High School Tennis Coaches' Associations and collaborate with others on how to create resources for stakeholders in communities without associations.

Middle and High School Team Tennis

School Team Tennis is an incredible opportunity for teenagers to compete in a great environment—on a team with friends. And its benefits are many, in terms of health, fitness and social interaction.

Whether you are an experienced coach or organizing a team for the first time, we have helpful resources and tips to help you lead and develop a successful squad. Join Net Generation today at NetGeneration.com!

We hope you enjoyed the update. We look forward to your comments and suggestions to help advance high school tennis. Please email Laurie Martin lmartin@xcp.org for any comments or questions.