

Parents of Middle School Tennis Players

The Spearfish Tennis Association offers this program because Middle School Tennis is not an official Middle School activity. Joe Doerges, will be running the program with other members of the Spearfish Tennis Association helping.

This program can count as a High School activity for 7th and 8th graders. It is considered a club sport for 6th graders. All players will need a school physical and handbook form turned into the MS office, complete our STA registration/waiver form, and use our online registration through the USTA.

There is a \$30(\$25 for STA members) cost to help us cover our expenses.

T-shirts are an additional cost of \$10.00 and additional \$5.00 if you want your LAST NAME on the back. Order deadline is March 23. See STA registration form for details. Click on link to register: <https://tinyurl.com/2024spmst>

There will be a Parent/Player meeting Thursday, March 7 at 5:30pm in the MS commons.

Practices will start March 11, weather permitting, and run until May 10. Practices will be Monday – Friday from 3:30 to 5:15 at the Middle School tennis courts. We will practice at the High School courts when the High School team is out of town. Players are not required to attend all practices, but we would like to know when they would be there. If practice is canceled, there will be an announcement at school and a REMIND notification on your phone if you have signed up. How to sign up for REMIND and class code will be sent to parent's email address.

Participants will need proper practice clothes, T-shirt, shorts with pockets, tennis shoes, warm clothing for those cooler days. NO flip flops or jeans. We will provide water but they need to have their own water bottle.

The tennis association will provide tennis rackets for those that need one.

Players will learn the basic tennis skills footwork, grip, forehand, back hand, volley, serve and overhead rules of the game, tennis etiquette and how to keep score (regular, no-add and tie-breaker).

Popcorn Sales: We will be participating in the HS popcorn sales this year. The HS pays for transportation and food when we travel with the JV, and this is a way for us to help cover costs.

We are also looking at having "Play Days" on Saturday mornings where players will get a chance to play round robin singles and doubles. **We usually have three JV/MS meets scheduled on Saturdays: 2 in Rapid City, 1 in Spearfish and an away meet in Pierre on Monday, April 29th.** We will send out more information on this and any other meets later. **6th grade Parents will need to arrange transportation for Rapid City meets.**

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7th & 8th graders who have the skills may opt to participate on the High School team. Those students wishing to move up to HS tennis will need to talk to the HS coach and commit to attending all high school tennis practices and meets. High School practices are Monday-Friday from 3:30 -6pm and the season runs from March 11th – May 14th.

Please complete the attached form and return to the Middle School Office or to us at practice. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

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