

TennisPro®



The International Magazine for PTR Tennis Teachers and Coaches

August 2022



Create Positive Change in Your Community

NEW!

PTR Premium Plus Membership

Highlights and Takeaways
from Level 1 Instructor Course

New Twist on PTR Specialty Courses

Join Industry Leaders and Colleagues
at 2022 PTR International Tennis Symposium



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TENNISPRO®

August Issue
Volume 2022, No 2

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TennisPro is published bi-monthly by Professional Tennis Registry, a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating, certifying and serving tennis teachers and coaches worldwide in order to grow the game.

The opinions expressed in TennisPro are those of the authors and not necessarily those of TennisPro or PTR.

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Dan Santorum
Dan Santorum
CEO/Executive Director

We're through the first half of 2022 and into what looks like a very busy summer season. Thankfully, we have some good news to share with you as we head into our membership renewal season.

The first piece of good news is that we recently signed a two-year contract with Tennis-Point, one of the world's leading equipment suppliers. Tennis-Point will provide PTR members with great discounts and clothing/shoe selections from multiple brands such as adidas, Nike, K-Swiss, and more! Plus, you will be able to get PTR logo clothing to add to your professional look. PTR members will receive 30% off, and the selection of clothing and shoes is incredible. The money you will save will easily pay for part or all of your PTR dues.

Speaking of PTR dues, in the USA it's that time of the year to send out renewal notices for your PTR membership, which expires at the end of August. In addition to the fantastic Tennis-Point benefit, we are offering all PTR members a new \$25,000 occupational accident insurance policy. If you have an injury while working on the court, this coverage helps pay for any medical expenses or physical therapy associated with the accident. Please look for more details in this issue of TennisPro.

Many PTR members have asked about health insurance. We've added the option of a new telehealth product with MDLIVE to our PTR Premium Plus Membership. This affordable benefit includes telehealth visits with a board-certified physician for the whole family with \$0 copay. We're pleased to be able to offer such tremendous savings and coverage for you and your family. This is worth considering even if you already have some health coverage!

The PTR Premium Plus Membership also includes the option of The Contractor Advantage Plan, which is a professional support services bundle that includes tax, legal, financial, remote tech support, and identity theft protection assistance. It's full of included services like a federal tax return, tax advice, legal documents, financial assessments, as well discounted rates on divorce and real estate document review, among others. Don't know who to call for professional help? This program instantly connects you with trusted professionals in your area.

On the tennis industry front, I am pleased to tell you that PTR is now the USTA's only accredited Education and Certification organization in the United States. More than a decade ago, PTR started to invest in an ambitious and world-class plan to upgrade our coaches education. We worked with experts from around the globe, and we spared no expense to provide you with the best education. PTR made an investment in you, your students, and our industry.

Continuing with education, we recently launched our Level 2 Program, and our Level 3 Program should be complete by the end of the year. With PTR being the only accredited tennis coaches organization in the U.S., we plan to work even more cooperatively with the USTA. I have to say that since we received USTA accreditation in 2020, our partnership has strengthened.

Speaking of partners, we have partnered with IMG Academy to launch our inaugural PTRW Coaching Summit. The PTRW event will take place at the newly refurbished IMG Tennis Academy in beautiful Bradenton, Fla. We have a great lineup of speakers set to provide education and assistance to current female coaches and encourage more women coaches to enter our profession. We hope to see you there Sept. 23-25.

In just a few weeks, PTR will hit the Big Apple during the first three days of the US Open. On Monday, Aug. 29, we'll host a PTRW Empowering Women session with Dr. Michelle Cleere and Sarah McQuade, on Tuesday, we offer High-Impact Leadership with Kim Bastable, and on Wednesday, FitU with Dean Hollingworth and others. The sessions will be at the Intercontinental New York Barclay, and PTR attendees will receive a free grounds pass to the US Open.

The first half of 2022 has been amazing, and we look forward to the same in the second half. Continued success to you and thanks for Making a World of Difference!!

Member News



Dr. Liz Odera has been elected to serve on the board of the Black Tennis Hall of Fame.

Many recognize Liz as the PTR Humanitarian Award winner in 2004 for her amazing work with youth at the Sadili Oval Sports Academy serving more than 6,000 girls and boys in East Africa. She is a major contributor to Black tennis globally as a successful Coach, Administrator and Non-Profit Director.

Liz is a 20-year PTR member and served as a PTR Clinician and Tester.

Currently in his 30th year as the New York State Public High School Association's Girls' Tennis State Coordinator, **Chris Horgan** served as tournament director for the first-ever state team tennis championships. The semis and finals for the event were held at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center as the culminating event for the more than 6,000 girls playing on over 400 NYSPHSAA school varsity tennis teams. Additionally, Horgan coaches the Orchard Park Quakers tennis team, which finished in the top eight in the state and had a doubles team that was a finalist in the state championship tournament.



PPTR member **David Altshuler's** fundraising event, The Jimmy Fund Tennis Classic, was held in June for the 32nd year. The event benefits kids that are battling childhood cancer at the Jimmy Fund clinic at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Brookline, Mass. It has raised \$1.25 million since its inception in 1990.

Played on 10 Har-Tru courts at Beverly Golf & Tennis in Beverly, Mass., The Jimmy Fund Tennis Classic is what Altshuler calls a mixed-up doubles event with an A draw and a B draw. The event is based on playing level and not gender. Accordingly, two males can play together or two females, or a mixed team. Players' ages range from 12 to 86. This very diverse group is cause-oriented and loves tennis.



Nelly Caro, PTR Professional and provider for Peru, celebrated the 25th Anniversary of Wheelchair Tennis in Peru recently. Nelly (standing center in white cap) worked tirelessly to begin this program, and now, it's amazing to see the growth she has achieved over the past 25 years.
Congratulations, Nelly!

PTR member **Doug Chapman** won his 600th victory as coach of the Somerset Berkley Regional High School in Massachusetts. A three-time National High School Tennis Coach of the Year, Chapman is the winningest boys' tennis team coach in Massachusetts history. Recently, the tennis courts at Somerset Berkley were named in Chapman's honor. Chapman, who has coached for 44 years, with 10 championships, runs no-cut tennis programs.

Member News

PTR member **Joao “Jay” Pinho** is leading the way in the tennis industry advocating for individuals with differing abilities! After learning about **Lisa Pugliese-LaCroix's** program, Love Serving Autism, during the University of Florida's Director of Racquet Sports Certificate course, Jay and Lisa worked together to organize a special tennis event for autism acceptance month in April and launched the initial 6-week LSA session at the National Tennis Center on April 30.

“The Director of Racquet Sports [DORS] Certificate Course strives to inform professionals about all aspects of facility and program management at a club or public facility,” says **Kim Bastable** from the University of Florida. “We cannot cover all subjects, but we believe it is important to share programs like Lisa’s. We cover facility operations and strive to serve all groups of people with varied racquet sports experiences. The DORS course is not just about improving our student’s career prospects, but also about improving the racquet sports industry, as a whole.”

Thank you to Jay, Lisa, and Kim for working together to Make a World of Difference.



PTR partner **Kopplin Kuebler & Wallace (KK&W)**, an executive search and consulting firm, recently placed these PTR members:

- **Alyson Smith**, Director of Racquets at Chevy Chase Racquet
- **Renaldo Valor**, Director of Racquets at Tampa Yacht and Country Club
- **Paul Fairchild**, Director of Racquets at Wellesely Country Club
- **Joe Mattingly**, Director of Racquets at Timuquana Country Club
- **Ana Marija Zubori**, Director of Racquets at The Country Club of New Canaan
- **Tyler Ownes**, Director of Racquets at Bay Head Yacht Club
- **Jody Sambrick Jr.**, Head Racquets Professional at Baltimore Country Club



PTR International Clinician **Louie Cap**, a PTR Hall of Fame member, completed his 47th consecutive Boston Marathon in April, with a time of 5:32:29. Cap reports that he fell at Mile 16.1 and “banged up my right shoulder (which was already weak), bruised my ribs and got cuts on my right leg,” but he vows to “try to be faster next year.”



PTR Pro **Vic Dimond** of Corpus Christi, Texas, a 40-year PTR member and part of PTR Team HEAD, recently conducted a free PTR/HEAD Tennis Clinic in Port Aransas, Texas.



Coach Developer **Nigel Pugh** recently led a Level 1 Workshop at the Fremont (Calif.) Tennis Center.



Paul Bartholomai of Norcross, Ga., the tennis director at Peachtree Station Swim & Tennis and a PTR member since 1990, completed his Masters of Tennis—Junior Development.

Olympia Fields Country Club in Illinois hired **Chris Franco** (PTR, PPR, PPTR) as its new Director of Athletics. Franco most recently was the Director of Racquet Sports at Wayzata Country Club. “I look forward to implementing a fresh new look at the racquet sports facilities along with a friendly and inviting culture that allows all ages and skill levels to participate in programming while enjoying the social atmosphere,” he says.

Industry News



Longtime PTR member **Katrina Adams** was named Chairperson of the International Tennis Hall of Fame Enshrinee Nominating Committee (ENC). The ENC is responsible for deciding the candidates that appear on the ITHF ballot, as part of the ITHF multi-step process.

“Katrina is uniquely suited to lead the Enshrinee Nominating Committee. Her extensive knowledge of the game combined with her unwavering dedication, unquestioned integrity, and undeniable leadership skills make her the ideal person for guiding this core aspect of the International Tennis Hall of Fame’s mission,” said ITHF Chairman Mike Goss.

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE PTR PREMIUM PLUS MEMBERSHIP?

Premium PTR Members Have Access to The Following Through The ICBA:

Insurance Services

- ✓ Health Coverages:
- ✓ Major Medical
- ✓ Basic Health & Dental Plans
- ✓ Telehealth
- ✓ FREE - Health Discount Card
- ✓ Aflac Coverages
- ✓ Home & Auto

Financial Services

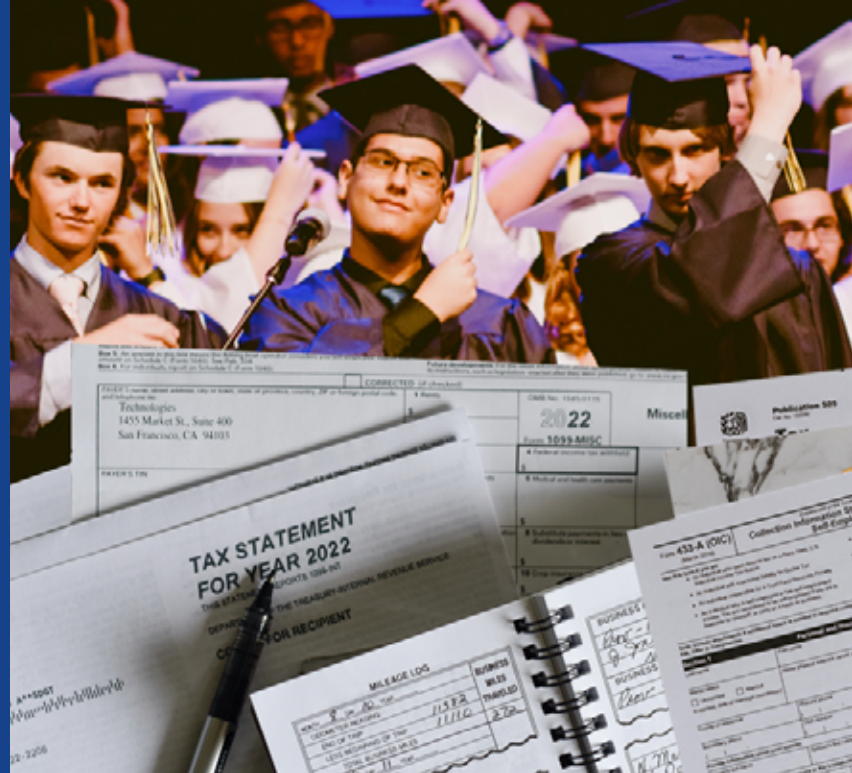
- ✓ FREE Banking Services
- ✓ Tax Support
- ✓ Financial & Credit Counseling
- ✓ Student Loan Support

Tools & Resources

- ✓ Contractor Advantage Plan
*Professional Legal, Tax, Financial,
& Tech Support*
- ✓ FREE Discounts & Savings
- ✓ FREE News & Insights

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Telehealth or Contractor
Advantage Plan!**

**Upgrade your membership
today to take advantage of
these benefits and resources.**



NEW PTR PREMIUM M

Find out about all the benefits of the new PTR Premium Plus Membership and how you and your family can access and use them.

New! Premium PTR Membership

You may have noticed that PTR membership options look a little different this year. PTR is excited to announce that for the first time, our members will now have access to benefits and resources including comprehensive health coverage options through our new PTR Premium Plus Membership.

Why is PTR Making These Benefits Available?

At PTR, our mission is to better serve coaches worldwide. Over the last few years, we've heard from our members that finding quality benefits and resources as a coach can be a significant challenge. In response, we've partnered with the Independent Contractors Benefits Association (ICBA) to develop a new Premium PTR Membership with access to comprehensive benefit offerings that you can't find anywhere else. We want to help ease the burden of finding quality benefits and health coverage options so that you can focus on spending time on the court.

What Does the PTR Premium Plus Membership Mean for Me?

The major advantage of the Premium PTR Membership is that it gives you access to unique benefits and resources that support you as a coaching professional.

All PTR Premium Plus Members will have access to benefits and resources including comprehensive health coverage options through the Independent Contractors Benefits Association. ICBA leverages the buying power of its large membership base to negotiate competitive group programs with the largest insurance and benefit providers in the country—resulting in quality, choice, and affordability that you can't find anywhere else.



MEMBERSHIP MEANS ACCESS TO BENEFITS

Through the ICBA, you'll have access to a wide range of health coverages designed to fit every lifestyle and budget. Coverage options include Major Medical Plans, low-cost Basic Health Plans, Aflac coverages, Telehealth for the whole family, and a free Health Savings Discount Card. Members also have access to a comprehensive suite of support services including free banking services, tax support, student loan support, discounts & savings on hotels, travel, and entertainment, and more!

In addition, all PTR Premium Plus Members will have a choice of one of two premium offerings: 1. Telehealth coverage for the whole family or 2. professional support with the Contractor Advantage Plan:

Option 1: Telehealth Coverage with MDLIVE

Through our unique telehealth plan, you and your family have access to a board-certified doctor 24/7/365. Our plan includes unlimited doctor's visits with \$0 copay for the whole family, no matter your location. For less than the cost of a trip to the minute clinic or visit to the ER, telehealth is a must for someone without any health coverage.

Telehealth Testimonial: *"I signed up for the telehealth plan after getting sick over a weekend and not being able to find an appointment with a minute clinic. I am so glad I did! I was able to schedule an appointment within minutes and talk to a doctor without ever leaving my house. I had a prescription ready at the pharmacy 20 minutes later. I didn't realize how easy telehealth would be. I'm never going to minute clinic again!"*

— John P. Hartford, CT

Option 2: Professional Support Services through the Contractor Advantage Plan

Have you ever needed professional support or advice but didn't know who to call? The Contractor Advantage Plan gives you access to a network of trusted professionals who can help with tax, legal, financial & credit assistance, remote tech support, and identity theft. With a single phone call, you will be connected to an expert to help in your area of need.

Contractor Advantage Testimonial:

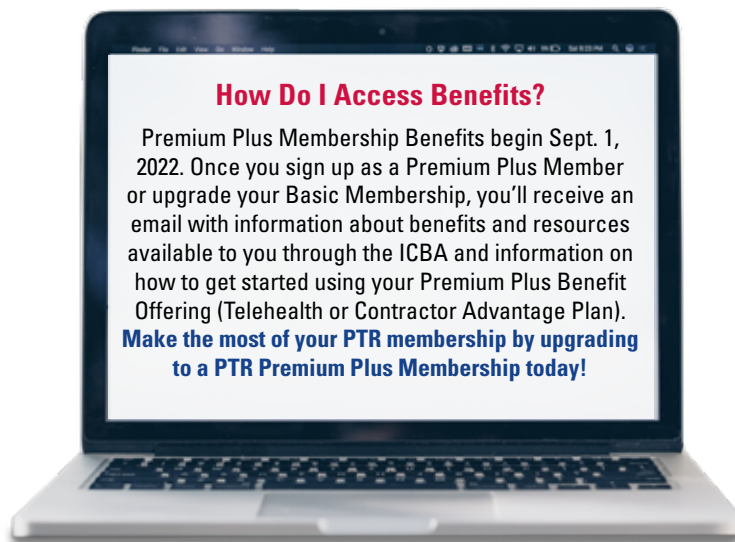
"I signed up for the Contractor Advantage Plan because I was going through a divorce and in need of some discounted legal support. I instantly connected with the lawyer recommended to me. I was so thankful to have a trusted resource to guide me and support me through the process. My experience was so good that I also took advantage of the free identity theft monitoring and remote tech support available to me through the same plan."

— Mary B., Hilton Head, SC

How Do I Access Benefits?

Premium Plus Membership Benefits begin Sept. 1, 2022. Once you sign up as a Premium Plus Member or upgrade your Basic Membership, you'll receive an email with information about benefits and resources available to you through the ICBA and information on how to get started using your Premium Plus Benefit Offering (Telehealth or Contractor Advantage Plan).

Make the most of your PTR membership by upgrading to a PTR Premium Plus Membership today!





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Certification Workshops

Partial List - For up to date information visit www.pprpickleball.org

| | |
|--------------|------------------------|
| August 12 | Greenwich, CT |
| August 13 | Chicago, IL |
| August 15 | Philadelphia, PA |
| August 18 | Charlotte, NC |
| August 19 | Austin, TX |
| August 19 | Boston, MA |
| August 20 | Charlottesville, VA |
| August 21 | Bedminster, NJ |
| August 21 | Hilton Head Island, SC |
| August 27 | Boca Raton, FL |
| September 5 | Chicago, IL |
| September 9 | Chantilly, VA |
| September 10 | Orem, UT |
| September 10 | Portland, OR |
| September 11 | Atlanta, GA |
| September 17 | Denver, CO |
| September 19 | Greenwich, CT |

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CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE FOR THE COMMUNITY

by Gabriela Bobrowski

PTR education and networking provided inspiration and skills that opened up a whole new world for this Chicago pro—and for her students.

My experience with PTR this past year has been an educational journey for me, and it's had ripple effects throughout the tennis community of Chicago. A year ago, I was invited to join a women's tennis coach network, PTRW. Through fascinating discussions with these rare and invaluable members of the tennis community, I was surprised to learn how deeply we affect our students. It was in that moment that I decided I needed to do more to help students be the positive change they are looking for. Through the support of my new **"frentors"** (that's "friend" and "mentor" combined), I was on a journey to help make learning tennis a better one for all involved.

Later that fall, I participated in a **Level 1** course, which was so different from any course I've been to. Right off the bat, the course leaders set an environment that allowed participants to be comfortable enough to be challenged and to question how to improve their current methods of coaching. The coach developers adapt their teaching methods to the needs of the participants in the course and they cater the material to the coach's program at home. The material offered before the start of the course allows

coaches to start critically thinking on their own, and then analyze and discuss in class with their peers and coach developers during the course. The information is basic enough for an amateur coach to understand while experienced coaches have the opportunity to create complex lesson plans with multiple layers. This allows anyone to benefit, whether they are teaching a camp for middle-schoolers or coaching a 4.5 team.

A few months later, I participated in the **Level 2** coaching course, where in addition to learning new concepts, we dove deeper into the material covered in Level 1. As coaches, we have so much knowledge we'd like to share, but where to start? The course helps establish guidelines in which order to tackle technical issues that may fix other problems on their own. A reoccurring theme is the physicality in tennis and how to help players safely and efficiently execute each tennis skill. We also explore interesting coaching philosophies—a fixed versus growth mindset, the importance of a good coaching relationship that allows for two-way communication, and athlete-centered practices that help all players utilize tennis as a path toward an active and healthy lifestyle.



Despite the heavy work load throughout the two weekends, I came back to work inspired and motivated to start making changes right away. I was more confident observing and analyzing my students and made better decisions in what needs to be fixed, and just as importantly, how it needs to be fixed. My students were thrilled with the rapid results in each lesson and my peers who coach the same classes with me were equally impressed with the improvements and looked to make changes in their coaching style as well. After attending the Level 2 course, I also began to pay more attention to what my students wanted to gain from their tennis lessons, besides improving their on-court skills. This might include creating more friendships, becoming more fit, learning a new life skill, or gaining more confidence in themselves. By strengthening our relationships, asking the right questions, and setting a comfortable environment, I began to help these players meet their life goals.

Before attending the Level 1 and Level 2 courses, I expected my coaching skills to improve, and this was certainly attained. What surprised me was how much more I enjoy my work. Gone are the days of monotonous lessons. Every day is an opportunity to learn how to teach the same skill in a different way. Every day I make new and deeper connections. And every day I learn how to be the positive change for my community.

Gabriela works for Midtown Athletic Club Chicago as the Adult Tennis Supervisor, after many years as the Cardio Tennis Coordinator. A first-generation Polish-American, she grew up in Niles, Ill., where she learned to play tennis at many of the local tennis clubs. As a student, Gabriela earned All State Tennis for Maine East High School and then played for Butler University in Indianapolis. She stands by her goal that as a coach she is charged to provide players with a positive experience so they continue to challenge themselves, to connect with their community, and to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Gabriela also hopes to show other coaches the influence they can have among their students, fellow coaches, and families they work with.



West Coast Location



INTERNATIONAL TENNIS SYMPOSIUM

Indian Wells, CA ♦ Nov 10 - 14, 2022

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The first day of the PTR Symposium is dedicated to becoming the best leader you can be. The presentations and speakers selected for this day are centered around leadership and growing into a leadership role.



New to the symposium this year is the PTR Job Fair. PTR has rounded up some of the biggest clubs in the industry looking for certified pro(s) to complete their team! Partnering with KK&W, the PTR Job Fair will be a great event for you to network, interview, and learn.



• WEST COAST •
**PICKLEBALL
CONFERENCE**

Extend your stay in the desert and check out the PPR West Coast Pickleball Conference on November 13 & 14. With some of the sports' top names in attendance, this is a perfect opportunity to learn more about this fast growing racquets sport!

Schedule of Events

November

10

**SYMPOSIUM
PRESENTATIONS**

**PTR AWARDS
BANQUET**

November

11

**SYMPOSIUM
PRESENTATIONS**

VIP RECEPTION

PTR TRADE SHOW

JOB FAIR

November

12

**SYMPOSIUM
PRESENTATIONS**

AWARDS BREAKFAST

**citi | TASTE of
TENNIS**

November

13

**SYMPOSIUM
PRESENTATIONS**

**PPR CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS**

PPR TRADE SHOW

PPR SOCIAL

November

14

**PPR CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS**

**PPR AWARDS
BREAKFAST**

Westin Rancho Mirage Resort & Spa



Confirmed Speakers & Topics

Nigel O'Rourke
Alec Horton
Greg Holmes
Karen Ronney
John Austin
Alexandra Stevenson
Ken DeHart

Ryan Redondo
Randy Houston
Mark Fairchild
Tatum Klingbeil
Richard Spurling
Jason Jamison
Amy Pazahanick

Gary Cimaglia
Edgar Giffenig
Simon Wheatley
Emma Wells
Scott McCulloch
Gigi Fernandez
Page Love

Jorge Capestany
Marc Kovacs
Wayne Elderton
Dean Hollingworth
Linda Low

Kim Bastable, UF Director of Professional Tennis Management

This column is dedicated to helping PTR members understand the educational offerings available from the University of Florida to become a PTR-Certified Director of Racquet Sports, a designation that, more and more, is becoming a requirement by clubs who are hiring Directors. More information on the educational options UF has for the tennis/racquets industry is available at www.UF-PTR.com.

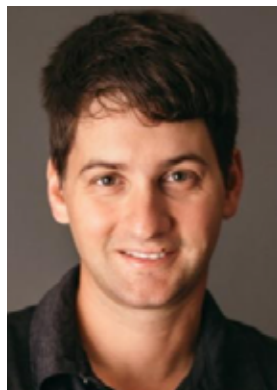


Sometimes we all just need a nudge

Michael Pereira, PTR, PPR, Head Pro at Chattahoochee Country Club (Gainesville, Ga.) found out about the UF Director of Racquet Sports Certificate Course from a buddy in the industry. He jumped right in, completing the course in five months.

“I’m impressed at the depth and detail that was put into making this course,” Pereira says. “The course, itself, is a one-stop shop for all the ins and outs of managing a racquets facility.”

But Michael’s learning didn’t stop there. After dipping his toe into the pursuit of higher education, he found himself inspired. This past spring, he applied to UF for admission to earn a full Master’s Degree in Sport Management, and he received a USTA scholarship to help toward his tuition.



“I received an email granting me a \$2,500 scholarship from the USTA on June 6. After receiving this award, I decided that fate was telling me that I needed to pursue my Masters. I accepted the offer from UF and will now start graduate school at the end of August,” he says.

Pereira found himself in a “hard to say no” position. He dove easily into the Certificate Course and the five months it required, but, for the Master’s, which will likely require two years of study, he said he needed a nudge. That nudge came from the newfound confidence he has already built from the Certificate Course, with help from a few extra dollars!

Good luck, Michael! See you in class!

From Assistant Pro to Director of Racquet Sports

Eric Engelsingjerd was one of the Certificate Course’s first graduates and it has ALREADY had a big impact on his life.

While applying for the Head Professional position at The Club at Las Campanas (Santa Fe, N.M.), he was characterized by one of the tennis committee members as “the complete racquets package.” The result was an offer for a more all-encompassing executive role as the club’s Director of Racquet Sports!

“The Director of Racquet Sports [DORS] Certification was the top item mentioned regarding my resume and was the lightning rod that sparked where we ultimately ended up,” he said.

Engelsingjerd and his wife, Johanna, and two small children moved from Little Rock, Ark., to New Mexico to start the new job last April.

BY THE NUMBERS – IN THE FIRST YEAR OF THE UF DIRECTOR OF RACQUET SPORTS CERTIFICATE COURSE

9 total graduates and 45 current students in the UF Director of Racquet Sports Certification Course

5 students enrolled in the UF Masters of Sport Management program with a specialization as a Director of Racquet Sports

15 years = the average number of years of industry experience of students admitted to the Certificate Course

1 = the number of pros with 6 years or less of experience in the industry admitted to the Certificate Course

1 = the age of the Certificate Course – it was started June 1, 2021



DID YOU COMPLETE YOUR Background Check?

All **Certified US Members** are required to complete Safe Play & Background Check annually

For more information, visit www.usta.com/safeplay



CERTIFICATION WORKSHOPS

PCR Padel certification workshops (Levels 1 and 2) are designed for coaches working with players at the beginner and intermediate levels. Each certification workshop is delivered by highly-trained clinicians responsible for creating an effective learning environment for all coaches.

To become certified, coaches must demonstrate an acceptable level of competence in three key areas:

- **PLAYING AND DEMONSTRATING SKILLS**
- **TEACHING**
- **GENERAL PADEL KNOWLEDGE**

| DATE | LOCATION | LEVEL | LANGUAGE |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------|----------|
| August 19-22, 2022 | Oslo, Norway | 1 | English |
| September 23-25, 2022 | Castelfranco V., Italy | 1 | Italian |
| October 16-18, 2022 | Guadalajara, Mexico | 1 | Spanish |
| October 21-23, 2022 | Miami, USA | 1 | English |
| October 24-26, 2022 | Philadelphia, USA | 1 | English |
| December 14-16, 2022 | Buenos Aires, Argentina | 1 | Spanish |

Padel Coaches Registry is dedicated to providing top-notch educational experiences for padel instructors and enthusiasts. Whether you are looking to become a certified instructor, tournament director, or just for guidance on how to introduce new players to the sport, PCR has something for you.

All workshop participants must be current members of PCR.

JOIN NOW!





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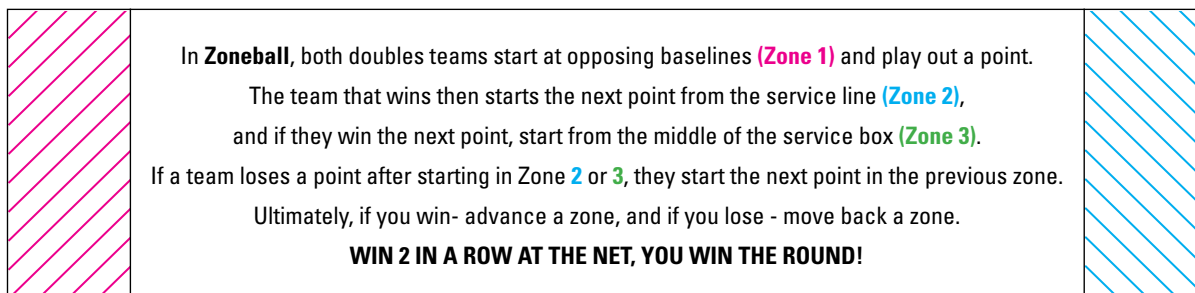


USING GAMES TO KEEP PRACTICE *FRESH & FUN*

by Mitch Case

Zoneball 2.0

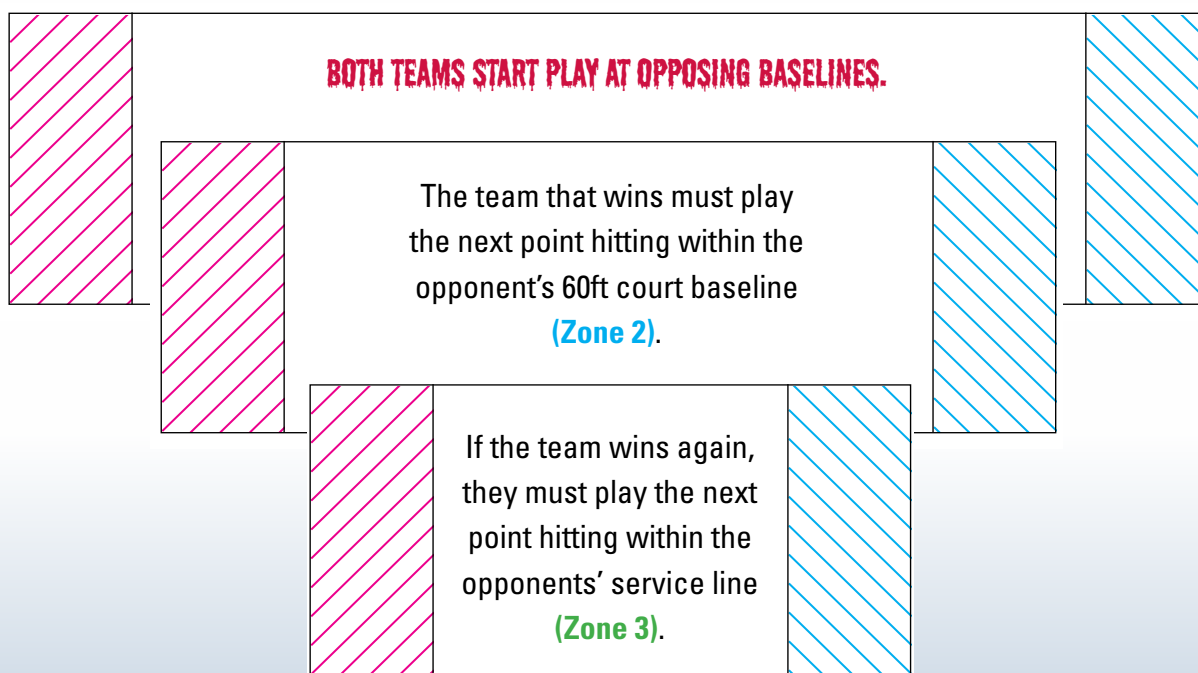
One of the staple games at my indoor club is a renamed version of **Zoneball** (we call it **“MURDER”**).



Over the years, we've tweaked this format (adding/subtracting zones, changing feeds, changing number of points to win a round, etc).

FOR THIS VERSION, WE'RE GOING TO MODIFY THE SIZE OF THE COURT -

this variation is designed to make winning multiple points in a row more **challenging**, as the usable target space **SHRINKS** with each successful point.



If a team loses a point, they can hit into the previous zone.

A team wins the round if they can win 2 points in a row playing into their opponents' service line (**Zone 3**).

We'd love to hear any modifications you might make to this game!



Mitch Case is the Director of Tennis at Woodridge Lake in Goshen, CT. Mitch wears many hats as he is also a Staff Pro at Farmington Valley Racquet Club; Head Coach of the Northwestern Regional 7 High School Boys Tennis Team; a Coach Developer for the PTR; a certification tester for the USRSA; and a member of Tennis Magazine's Playtester Panel.

Mitch achieved his Master of Tennis in Junior Development from the PTR in 2020, and is a certified iTPA Tennis Performance Trainer and Kovacs Institute certified Tennis Serve Specialist.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE PTR LEVEL 1 CERTIFIED TENNIS INSTRUCTOR COURSE

by Danielle N. Grenier



Danielle N. Grenier is a PTR certified tennis coach and fitness enthusiast living in New York City. She was a nationally ranked junior in Canada and played Division 1 collegiate tennis in the U.S., captaining the women's tennis team at Niagara University. Danielle has enjoyed coaching athletes of all ages in Canada, Australia, and the U.S and currently coaches at Sutton East Tennis Club in Manhattan. Feel free to get in touch at danielle@poweroftennis.com.

Key Highlights:

- ✓ Opportunity to learn from influential PTR coaches
- ✓ Chance to meet like-minded peers from all over the country
- ✓ A way to build skills and community as a coach through practical exercises

After having some time to implement knowledge drops learned during the PTR Level 1 Certified Tennis Instructor Course, I'm excited to reflect on my biggest takeaways and discuss how the course helped me grow as a coach and as a person.

Starting with the ice breaker, it was inspiring to meet coaches from all over the country, ranging from elite players and seasoned coaches to eager novices! It was refreshing to brainstorm and problem-solve with peers on high school and college teams and those working in different clubs across the country.

I thought the Level 1 course would be very technical in nature, geared primarily around **what to coach**, how to correct a wonky forehand or garner more topspin, but this course is built to help coaches learn **how to coach**. I was reminded of effective verbal and non-verbal communication patterns and the best way to perform demos (in SILENCE!). We were all given ample opportunity to ask questions, practice open (warm up and games) and closed (drills) concepts, and do stop-show-go exercises. I coach in a loud facility and often struggle to be heard, so I appreciated the "show in silence" reminder. I don't often have time to take other lessons, so I loved being able to observe the PTR instructors demonstrate micro coaching sessions and then have time to run



Level 1 helps coaches learn how to coach.

through practice rounds to test and immediately implement new tips and tricks! I found the peer-to-peer feedback and collective discussions around common coaching challenges most helpful by learning how others are creatively handling similar situations. I remember PTR Instructor Laura Puryear suggest, when possible, to have athletes work in pairs so it frees up time for me to roam and coach—which I continue to implement to this day.

I enjoyed the dynamic mix of pre-course work (videos, articles, quizzes, etc.), especially around the theme of encouraging kids, 10 and under, to move and engage in an active lifestyle. I am grateful to know the benefits firsthand of having sports as an outlet as a youngster and found this content to be very informative and inspiring.

Sometimes more is more and other times it is a detriment. The material highlighted such as retention, injury prevention and building overall athletic ability benefits children who engage in multi-sport activities. I remember watching video clips from pro players such as Roger Federer and John Isner discussing how they believe picking up a basketball as youngsters helped them with tennis.

While working through the Coaching Fundamentals 2 Module, I was deeply moved by a decade-old video that shared how for the first time in history our youngest generation may die five years earlier than their parents. The 2012 Designed to Move Framework shed light on the physical inactivity epidemic and almost a decade later in 2020, The New York Times posted an article titled, "Do Our Babies Need to Move More?" Inactivity has become the norm and I believe as coaches and athletes we have a huge mission ahead of us to make a difference wherever we can by encouraging kids (and all humans!) to move and have fun and hopefully make it a lifelong habit. I've personally adopted this as a core mission and try to lead my life in a way that encourages others to be as healthy and active as possible.



**"There is no place in any sport for discrimination of any kind....
The global athletic community grows stronger when we welcome and champion all athletes—
including LGBTQI+ athletes." —Billie Jean King**

In 2022, there is even more of a spotlight on **sports gender rights**, inclusivity, and equality. Throughout our course, I'm proud to say we had several healthy conversations around how to refer to players as a collective—and the consensus was to address everyone as *athletes*.

Nike says everyone with a body is an athlete and I truly believe and embody that and hope it will continue to create a more inclusive dialogue on the court. I care very deeply about this subject and hope as an industry we move to choose game titles and provide demos that use gender-neutral explanations. I look forward to being part of a sports world that brings humanity closer instead of driving us apart.

I would like to thank the stellar coaches for all their efforts, and I recommend this course to anyone who is about to embark on a tennis coaching career. I believe you will walk away with the foundation and confidence to set up lesson plans and effectively communicate with athletes. Experienced coaches who are looking to grow and continue to take more advanced certifications can still benefit and pick up a few tips, too. I look forward to building upon this knowledge with Level 2 soon!

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PTR OFFERS A **NEW** TWIST ON SPECIALTY COURSES

PTR strives to provide refreshing educational opportunities to our members, ensuring that those opportunities can be accessed by members regardless of their location! At the beginning of this year, PTR partnered with experts in their fields to offer virtual and face-to-face workshops around the country. They both proved to be popular options for our members.

PTR member Rahman Smiley took advantage of the opportunities and attended two separate workshops: the Google Sheets course with Guy Vidal and Simon Wheatley's Road Show. Here are his thoughts:

"The workshop on Google Sheets was very helpful to both my business and general knowledge of the app. I've never really used the app, so just learning how to use it was helpful. I learned how to make tables and input information as well as use formulas when needed."

"The part of the workshop that I liked the best was using the app to forecast numbers for my business. Forecasting was new to me and Guy was extremely helpful and patient with all of us. He explained the concepts clearly and made them easy to understand and apply. What

he taught us was extremely useful; I've already been using many of the concepts."

"Simon's workshop was awesome! He was engaging, funny, and knowledgeable. The workshop encompassed different bits of knowledge for every level of player, which was great. There were footwork and warm-up concepts that I had never seen before, which we have begun using in our groups."

"Simon also emphasized some things to observe with players which we had gotten away from in our programs, especially relating to footwork and preparation. It was great to have Simon go over the concepts using the participants because it was easier to understand what he was teaching when it was demonstrated, instead of just being dictated to us. It also was pretty cool that he spent time afterward to answer questions, in detail, when he didn't have to. It was one of the best workshops I've participated in!"



Rahman Smiley



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Upcoming Platform Tennis Certification Locations

Professional Platform Tennis Registry sponsors events and workshops to enhance the skill set of our PPTR members. Register for a workshop once you have a PPTR membership or at the same time as joining PPTR.

| | |
|--------------|------------------|
| August 27 | Rochester, NY |
| August 27 | Greenwich, CT |
| August 28 | Philadelphia, PA |
| September 18 | Bedminster, NJ |
| September 25 | Garden City, NY |
| September 25 | Boston, MA |
| September | St. Louis, MO |
| September | Chicago, IL |
| September | Cleveland, OH |
| September | Grand Rapids, MI |
| October | Greenwich, CT |
| October 8 | Baltimore, MD |

Click for the workshop schedule and to register!

If you'd like to host a workshop at your facility, please contact PPTR.
Call 843-785-7787 with questions or to register.

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JOIN US NOW!



Workshops



Assistant Coach workshop in Portland OR on May 28, and Frank Adams was the Coach Developer. Hosts were Michael Navarro and Don Johnson.



PTR Level 2 Workshop session 1 (June 3-5) in Oyster Bay, NY.
Host: Rares Ispas
Coach Developer: Carole Waite
Club: The Mill River Club

Level 1 – Saint Johns, FL
June 4 and 5
Club: Mills Fields Tennis Courts
Host: Heather Diegan
Coach Developer: Federico Mas





Level 1 – Naples, FL
June 18 & 19
Club: Eagle Creek Golf & Country Club
Host: Tim Bauer
Coach Developer: Federico Mas



Assistant Coach Workshop in Jackson, MS
at Dorothy Vest Tennis Center.
Hosted by Venecca Green. Conducted by
Tomas Catar. June 25.

Level 1 Certification Workshop in
East Setauket, NY at Long Island
Health & Racquet hosted and run
by Tito Perez. June 25 & 26.



International Member



ROMANIA



11-17 Junior Development
Certification
Paulesti, Romania:
S & F Tennis Academy
April 1-3, 2022
Taught by Stefan Nita



Adult Development
Certification
Paulesti, Romania:
S & F Tennis Academy
May 27-29, 2022
Taught by Stefan Nita



CHINA



Shanghai, China
10U Workshop
Feb. 28 – March 2, 2022
Taught by Adams Zhao Ruifeng

News



SPAIN



Curso Tennis 10 & Under Tennis & Adult Tennis
Madrid, Ciudad de la Raqueta
March 21-26, 2022
Taught by Lolo Pastrana



Tennis 10 & Under Development
Cáceres, Top Slice Tennis Academy
May 7-8, 2022
Taught by Lolo Pastrana



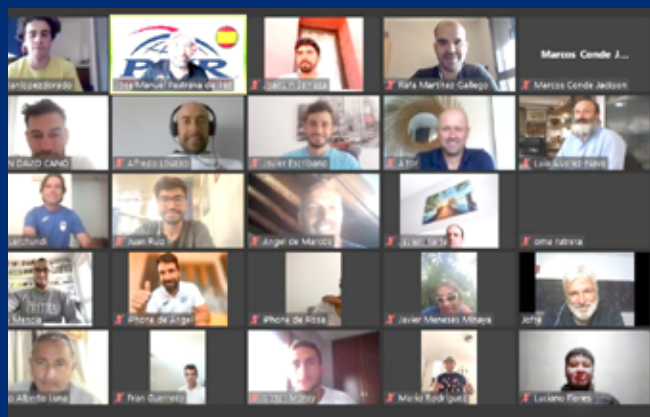
Tennis 10 & Under
Valencia, CD Saladar
May 19-20, 2022
Taught by Lolo Pastrana



Tennis 10 & Under Tennis & Adult Tennis
Las Palmas, Conde Jackson
June 18-21, 2022
Taught by Lolo Pastrana



Adult Teaching Course
Illescas, Toledo - Illescas Sport CT
June 25-26, 2022
Taught by Lolo Pastrana



PTR Spain Virtual Course: 14 & Under Tennis
June 2, 2022
Speakers: Lolo Pastrana, Jofre Porta and Rafa Martinez

International Member News



CYPRUS



PTR 10U Workshop
Larnaca Tennis Club
Larnaca, Cyprus
May 24-26, 2022
Taught by Photos Kallias



ITALY



A PTR Tennis 11/17 Certification
was held March 19-20 in Cittadella
(PD), Italy, conducted by PTR Italy
Executive Director Carlo Alberto
Massaro.



A PTR International Certification
in Performance workshop was
held April 9-10 in Padova by PTR
Italy Director of Education Luigi
Bertino. The 14 participants
were assisted by Giovanni
Giordano, with special thanks
to Giovanni and Tennis Club
Padova.

ITALY



A PTR Tennis Physical Training Workshop, conducted by PTR Workshop Leader Luigi Casale, was held May 21-22 at the beautiful International Training Centre of the ILO in Turin.



PTR Adult Tennis Certification was held June 18-19 in Arezzo, conducted by PTR International Workshop Leader Giuseppe Rigamnoti. The 10 participants were assisted by Herbert Schnaubelt, with special thanks to Lorenzo Salvini and the Junior Tennis Club Arezzo.



PTR International 10 & Under Tennis Certification was held June 23-26 in Palazzolo (Brescia), conducted by PTR Italy Director of Education Luigi Bertino. The 36 participants were assisted by Carlo Alberto Massaro, Massimo Ogna, Giorgio Roccato and Nicole Velo. Special thanks to Renato Vavassori and his academy.

AUSTRIA



The PTR Adult Tennis Certification was held in Vienna, Austria from the 19-20th of March. The Workshop was conducted by PTR International Workshop Leader Herbert Schnaubelt.

International Member News



JAPAN

PTR in Japan hosted a 10U workshop this past March at the Fairy Tennis Forum in Tokyo, reports Shinichi Suzuki. Yutaka Tokumaru, Masaru Satoh and Shojiro Matsubara helped to run the course.



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MARGIE ZESINGER
JUAN HERRERA
KIM BASTABLE
MARIA LOPEZ
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SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET DINNER

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ASK THE EXPERT

Q We finally were able to replace our old ball machine. We want it to be a success. Any tips that might help us moving forward?

A Great question. Let's break it down into three categories:

General Use

- Implement a ball machine certification program so each member is certified on how to properly use the ball machine.
- Put your extension cord on a reel. This will help protect the cord as well as speed up the set-up process.
- For the best overall player experience, I recommend use of a remote; however a strict sign-in/ sign-out procedure should be implemented.
- Use consistent balls. I recommend an extra-duty felt ball regardless of the playing surface. In a club situation, it is likely that the felt will wear down quicker than the ball will go dead. It is also not a good idea to constantly add balls from matches because the variety of balls causes inconsistency in pitches.
- Put the machine on a visible court to enhance marketing and limit any potential abuse.
- After hours/unsupervised use is not recommended.
- Minors should have adult supervision.

Profitability

- A Ball Machine Club can generate immediate revenue. Members pay an annual fee to gain unlimited usage of the ball machine. Get 30 members to pay \$200 and you have \$6000. Continue to market the machine annually and you will bring in at least \$6000 plus hourly rentals each year.
- Implement the ball machine as part of the pros' Post Lesson Curriculum. Share the revenue with the pros as part of this program.
- Do a demo day to promote the different ways the ball machine can be used for training to help promote the Ball Machine Club.
- Make the ball machine part of a video lesson program.
- Incorporate the ball machine as part of the Cardio Tennis Program.

Care - Maintenance:

- If the ball machine is used more than 20 hours a week, you should do the required Preventative Maintenance every week and the machine should receive professional Preventative Maintenance once or twice a year. If the ball machine is used less than 20 hours a week, you should do the required Preventative Maintenance every other week and the machine should receive professional Preventative Maintenance once a year.
- Make sure the machine has a cover for sudden showers and is stored in a waterproof shed with a floor.



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