

MIDDLESEX CLUB
DARIEN, CT

TENNIS & PICKLEBALL 2023

"Tennis is a game that requires cooperation and courtesy." (Pickleball also!)
USTA- The Code

Ozzie Benitez – Director of Racquets



WOMEN'S TENNIS 2023

Spring Camp: Get a jump on your game this spring! Camp will focus on doubles tactics, court positioning and stroke development. Open to all players. Advance sign up required. May 1st – May 12th. Cost: $44 per day

A Team	M, T, W, Th, F: 8:30- 10:30 am
B Team	M, W, F: 10:30 - 12:30 pm T, Th: 12:30-2:30 pm
C Team	M, W, F: 12:30 - 2:30 pm T, Th: 10:30-12:30 pm

DARIEN/NEW CANAAN/NORWALK INTERCLUB LEAGUE:

Middlesex has three teams competing in this league. For players familiar with USTA rankings, the A team level is approximately 4.0+/3.5, the B team level is approximately 3.5/3.0, and the C team level is approximately 3.0. If you are unsure which team you might enjoy, please arrange for an evaluation with the Director. Interclub team matches begin mid-May and continue through July. Each team will have ten weeks of weekly practice for 1½ hours and matches as scheduled. There will be pre-match warm-ups with a pro available before both home and away matches.

Cost: $380* – includes 10 practices. Practices run from 5/15- 7/20 (longer if make ups are necessary)

Team	Practice	Matches
A-Team	Mon 8:00 - 9:30 am 9:30 -11 am	Tues 9:15 am
B-Team	Wed 8:00 - 9:30 am 9:30 -11 am	Thurs 9:15 am
C-Team	Tues 8:00 - 9:30 am 9:30 -11 am	Wed 9:15 am

Please note**: there will be no partial shares and no make-ups for missed practices except for weather. **There will be an additional season charge of $50 for refreshments, towels and league fees.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY WOMEN'S TENNIS LEAGUE (FCWTL):
FCWTL Middlesex Representative: Hope Barton (hope.barton@gmail.com)

This league provides additional opportunities for those interested in doubles match-play against a wider variety of Fairfield County clubs. Middlesex is fielding teams this year that will accommodate a wide range of play. You do not need to purchase the Interclub league match/ practice package to participate on the FCWTL teams. Pre-match warm-ups with a pro are available before both home and away matches, which begin at 9:30 am on weekdays. FCWTL matches commence in May and continue through July.

2023 Middlesex FCWTL Teams:
Division 2 (MSX A) plays on Thursdays.
Division 7 (MSX B & C) plays on Fridays.

50+ League:
Another opportunity for match play is through the 50+ Team. This league is comprised of teams from lower Fairfield County. Members must be aged 50 or over to be eligible. Matches are played on either Monday or Tuesday evenings (5pm-6pm start depending on host), beginning late May, through mid-July for 7 matches total, including a bye week.

WOMEN'S EVENING CLINIC:
Busy during the day? Join us for clinics focused on doubles tactics, court positioning and stroke development. All levels are welcome; groups will be divided according to level. Tuesdays. Starts May 9th. 6:30-8:00 pm/ Cost: $44 per clinic or for10 weeks: $380*

WOMEN'S EVENING TEAM:
Represent the MSX Women's Evening Team in our quest to beat the Italian Center! We will play every other Tuesday (home or away) at 6:30pm, starting May 16th and going through July. The format will be 2 doubles and 1 singles match. At the end of the season the winning club will bring the trophy home! No League fee.

***Please note: There will be an additional season charge of $50 for refreshments and towels.** All clinics require a minimum of 3 participants or director may elect alternate option.*



MEN'S TENNIS 2023

FAIRFIELD COUNTY TENNIS LEAGUE (FCTL):

Middlesex FCTL Representative: Ted Sanborn

Middlesex men will have five teams this year competing in the FCTL. This league runs for 10-11 weeks starting in mid-May and ending in July. Each team is run by a team captain. There are no formal team practices, but members of the team are encouraged to organize clinics with the help of their captain and/or attend Monday night or Saturday morning men's clinics. Matches are weekday nights at 6:00 pm at Middlesex or various Fairfield County clubs. If you are interested in playing on one of the men's teams, stop by the Tennis Pavilion or contact Steve Molkenthin at stevemolkenthin@gmail.com. Match play schedule is pending at this time but will most likely begin Wednesday, May 10, 2023. ***There will be an additional season charge of $50 for refreshments, towels, and league fees.***

2023 MSX Men's FCTL teams:

MEN'S ADULT – WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

TEAM	DIVISION	MSX CAPTAIN
Middlesex I	Division 2	Fritz Schweitzer (fritzschweitzer@gmail.com)
Middlesex II	Division 4	Fritz Schweitzer (fritzschweitzer@gmail.com)
Middlesex III	Division 4	Ted Sanborn (ted@sanbornconsulting.com)

MEN'S MASTERS (50+) THURSDAY NIGHT:

TEAM	DIVISION	MSX CAPTAIN
Middlesex I	Division 2	Brian Rayhill (brianrayhill@gmail.com)
Middlesex II	Division 3	Bob Conologue (rjconologue@yahoo.com) Robert Steeves (robertsteeves@optonline.net)

THE GOOD OL' BOYS LEAGUE

The Good Ol' Boys is a regional tennis organization of retired male tennis players (ages 60-90+) and/or male tennis players with flexible daytime schedules. This league is sponsored by 18 local clubs including the Middlesex Club. Matches are played weekly either mid-morning or mid-afternoon from April to October. Middlesex hosts 3-4 outings each late summer and early fall. If interested, please contact Dick Paterniti at rpaterniti@aol.com. There is a $25 initial fee and $25 annual fee.

CLINICS:

Monday Evening Men's Team Clinic	**May 1 to August 28 (18 Weeks)**	**6:30 – 8:00 PM**	**Cost: $44/session Any 10 for $380**

Want to learn to play and train like the pros? Join our Monday night clinic for a great workout, learn new tactics, strokes, and get fit in a fun, fast-paced clinic. We'll have a different theme each week. This is a great way for Men on the teams to prepare for Wednesday/Thursday night matches. You don't have to play on a Men's team to participate but you might end up wanting to join one! :)

Sunday Morning Men's Clinic	**May 7 to September 3 (18 weeks)**	**9:00- 10:30 AM**	**Cost: $44/session**

This is for players who want to enhance their doubles tactics, and learn to use effective doubles strategies, shot selection, court positioning, and how to play the score appropriately. It will be an intense hour of drilling and a half hour of doubles play. This is a great way to prepare for team competition. All levels of play are welcome.



JUNIOR TENNIS 2023

Spring Pre-Season Clinics: Kick start your child's game for summer! All aspects of team play will be covered through point play, drills and games.

Junior Team*: Any child 9 or over is encouraged to try out and practice with the MSX Tennis Team! Must be able to keep score and serve. Players younger than 9 may participate if placed in an advanced orange ball indoor tennis program and/or participating in USTA U10 matches. Matches on Wednesday and Thursday at 1pm based on pro selection and player availability. Parents need to commit to one volunteer shift (matches or activity) for the season.

> ***Please note**: there will be no partial shares.* ***There will be an additional season charge of $35 for Junior Team which covers a personalized team t-shirt, refreshments, prizes and match fees.***
>
> Team commitment deadline is **May 22** to receive a personalized team T-shirt in the correct size!

Pre-team: Not old enough for team or not quite ready for matches? Pre-team will focus on getting your child match-ready!

Summer Clinics: For new players or those working on their skills: point play, drills and games.

Varsity Training: Geared toward serious junior players ages 12 and up who plan to play or aspire to play high school tennis. Focused hour of tennis instruction with smaller student/teacher ratio combined with half-hour of performance training.

Match Play: Get a chance to play junior team matches on Sunday! Free for players signed up for Varsity Training and 2-day Spring Clinics.

> ***Please note**: All clinics require a minimum of 3 participants or director may elect alternate option. Reservations strongly recommended. All times subject to change.*

Full details during the season on middlesexclub.org!

Spring Pre-Season			
Six Week Session – May 8 - June 15			
	Time	*Session Cost*	*Days*
Age 4-5 Age 6-7	4:00-4:45 pm	$145 for 6 classes	Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs Fri-make ups
Age 7-8 Age 8-11	4:45-5:45 pm	$165 for 6 classes	Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs Fri-make ups
Age 12-17	3:00-4:30 pm	$230 for 6 classes	Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs Fri-make ups
Match play: 9 and up	1-2:30 pm	$15 per day	Sunday
Spring Clinic: Age 8-11	2:30-3:30 pm	$30 per day	Sunday

Main Season			
June 19– July 28			
	Time	*Cost*	*Days*
Junior Team: 10 and under	1-2 pm	$350*	Mon- Fri
Junior Team: 17 and under	2-3 pm	$350*	Mon- Fri
Junior Team: 12 and under	3-4 pm	$350*	Mon- Fri
Pre-team: Age 8-11	4-5 pm	$30 per day	Mon- Fri
Summer Clinic: Age 4-5, Age 6-7	5-6 pm 4-5 pm 2:30-3:30 pm	$30 per day $30 per day $30 per day	Mon, Tues, Thurs Wed Sunday
Summer Clinic: Age 12-17	5-6 pm	$30 per day	Mon- Thurs
Varsity Training	5 - 6:30 pm	$40 per day	Mon- Thurs
Mommy/ Daddy & Me: Age 3-5	1-2 pm	$20 per child	Saturday
Match play: 9 and up	1-2:30 pm	$15 per day	Sunday

Late Season			
July 31 –August 25			
	Time	*Cost*	*Days*
Tennis games and drills Age 6-12	*9:30-12:15*	*$60/day $250/week*	*Mon-Fri*
Junior Tennis Team Daily/Weekly	Listed above	$25/day $100/week	Mon- Fri
Varsity Training	5-6:30 pm	$40 per day	Tues/Thurs
Summer Clinic: Age 4-5, Age 6-7	5-6 pm	$30 per day	Mon/Wed
Summer Clinic: Age 8-11	4-5 pm	$30 per day	Tues/Thurs



CLINICS AND LESSONS 2023

Spring Clinics: Need a little extra work on your game before summer? Come to one or all these sessions to help get your game ready for summer! Mon-Fri May 22 – June 16, 12:30-2:00. $44/ day

BYOC (Build Your Own Clinic): Players may choose to form their own groups for clinics. You choose the day and time. These clinics are a great way to enhance doubles tactics, court positioning, shot selection, and stamina. Cost: $44 (1.5 hr), $35 (1hr)

Ladies Friendly Clinic: This is a great option for non-competitive players who are looking to have fun, improve their game and get a workout. There will be instruction and a lot of fun games! Thur: 6:30-8:00pm, Sat: 10:30am-12:00pm. Starts May 4. Cost: $44

Cardio Tennis: This is a great alternative to an hour at the gym! It is an intense, challenging hour of running and hitting for players who want to build stamina and get in great tennis shape. Fri/Sat/Sun 8am-9am. Spring Cardio Starts May 6. Cost $25

Offence/Defense Clinic: This clinic will help you both on the offensive and defensive aspects of your game while having lots of fun and a great workout. Improve your cross-court approach shots, volleys, and overheads as well as your passing shots and lobs! Develop better footwork to transition into the net or to recover faster at the baseline. Fri 9:00am-10:30am. Starts May 19. Cost $44

Women's Point Play Clinic: Point Play is an exciting program that puts players in a realistic game situation where you play out point after point. Need to improve your focus, anticipation, or reaction time? Are you working on moving fromdefense to offense in your game? Point Play is a fun way to help you practice your tennis skills while getting agreat workout. Starts May 7. Sun 9:00-10:30 am. Cost: $44

Men's Doubles Clinic: This is for players who want to enhance their doubles tactics, and learn to use effective doubles strategies, shot selection, court positioning, and how to play the score appropriately. It will be an intense hour of drilling and a half hour of doubles play. This is a great way to prepare for team competition. All levels of play are welcome. Starts May 7. Sun 9:00-10:30 am. Cost: $44

Power Drills Men's Clinic: For players with rating 3.5 and above. Improve your endurance and stamina with drills and exercises that will push you to the limit! Thur: 8-9am, Sun: 8-9am

Kick-Start Tennis Clinic: Has it been a while since you played tennis? This clinic is for you! On-court drills will feature stroke production in the first two weeks of the session and then we will move on to doubles court positioning, strategy, shot selection and team communication. Sat: 3:00-4:30 (Starts May 6th) and Tues/Thurs: 11 am-12:30 pm (Starts May 16th). Cost $44

Women's Evening Clinic: Busy during the day? Join us for clinics focused on doubles tactics, court positioning and stroke development. All levels are welcome; groups will be divided according to level. Tuesdays. Starts May 9th. 6:30-8:00 pm/ Cost: $44 per clinic or for 10 weeks: $380.*

Private Lesson Rate Schedule:
Director: $90 1hr, $50 1hr semi-private, $50 ½ hr. private.
Assistant Pro $85 1hr. private, $45 1hr. semi-private, $45 ½ hr. private.
FAMILY PLAN: $750 10hr. session Assist Pro
Hitting Pro (Advanced Players Only: $60 1hr, $35 ½hr.)

Please note*: All clinics require a minimum of 3 participants or director may elect alternate option.*

2023 TENNIS EVENTS CALENDAR

APRIL:	Mon Apr 17	Anticipated Courts Opening
MAY:	Mon May 1	Men's Team Clinic Kick-off Night: Enjoy Pizza and Beer with the Pros (6 – 8pm)
	Fri May 5	Tennis Season Opener: Tennis Social - All Adults Welcome (6 - 8pm)
	Sat May 6	"Play in May"-Norwalk Grassroots Tennis Fundraiser (5 courts, 9am – 12pm)
	Sat May 13	Junior Touch the Fence Tournament (Green and Yellow Ball, 5 – 7:30pm)
	Sat May 20	Spiderman Returns! Come As Your Favorite Superhero! (1 – 3pm, Ages 3-6)
	Sat May 20	Middle School Night: Bring A Guest for Pizza & Tennis (5:30 – 7:30pm)
	Sun May 28	Adult Mixed Doubles Memorial Day Scrambles (9am – 1pm)
	Sun May 28	Junior Tennis Carnival Season Opener- (2-3:30pm Ages 4-8, 3:30-5pm Ages 8 and up)
JUNE:	Mon Jun 5	Ladies Member Guest and Luncheon (9am – 1pm)
	Sun Jun 11	Dollars for Deuces –Junior Doubles Tournament (1.30 – 5 pm, yellow ball)
	Fri Jun 16	Junior Team Pizza Party (4 – 6pm)
	Sat Jun 17	105 Tennis Social (Adult, 6 - 8pm)
	Sun Jun 25	Parent/Child Tournament
JULY:	Sun Jul 2	Color Wars (3pm – 5pm)
	Sat July 8	Men's A & B Flights-Member Guest (8:30am – 1pm)
	Sun Jul 9	Junior MSX Orange and Yellow Ball Club Championship (1 – 6 pm)
	Fri Jul 14	Junior Darien Cup –Member Guest Tournament
	Sat Jul 15	Tennis Social (Adult, 6-8pm)
	Sun Jul 23	Junior MSX Green Ball Club Championships (1 – 4pm)
	Tue Jul 25	Ladies Night, all levels - Rose and Play
	Wed Jul 26	Men's End of Season Team BBQ & BEER
	Fri Jul 28	Jr. Davis Cup Tournament (1 – 3pm)
AUGUST	Fri Aug 4	Friday Night Social (6 - 8pm)
	Sat Aug 12	Ladies Doubles Club Championship (8:30 – 1pm)
	Sun Aug 13	Junior "Knights for Aces" Fundraiser (4 courts, 1 – 4pm) Event TBD
	Sat Aug 19	Men's Doubles Club Championship (8:30am – 1pm)
	Tue Aug 22	Junior Color Wars and Awards Ceremony (1 – 3pm)
	Thu Aug 24	Ladies Team Dinner and Awards Ceremony (6 – 8pm)
SEPT:	Sat Sep 2	Dynamic Duo: Mixed Doubles Tournament and BBQ (8:30am – 1pm)
	Sun Sep 3	Junior Tennis FUNtastic day- (2-3:30pm Ages 4-7, 3:30-5pm Ages 8 and up)
	Mon Sept 4	Singles A&B Flights "Mike Burton Memorial Tournament" (8:30am – 1pm)

**All events subject to change. Junior Events in Green. Check middlesexclub.org for more details.

2023 INTRACLUB COMPETITION

CO-ED UP & DOWN THE RIVER:

Saturday Morning Co-Ed Up & Down the River	**May 13 to September 2 (17 weeks)**	**9:00 AM – Noon**

This is an organized round robin full of tennis, fun and lots of competition. The Director will organize challenging matches and then it is up to you to keep it challenging throughout the "up and down the river" format. The pros will play in if needed. Everyone is welcome!

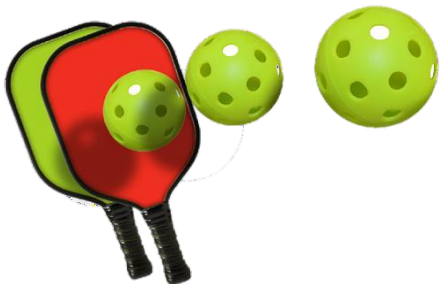
CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS:

All levels welcome to compete for a chance to win the Club Championship! This will be a tournament draw played in one day (maybe two if the draw is too big). If you win your first match you'll advance to the next round on the "main draw" towards the title. If you win your first match but lose the second, you will continue competing in the "reprieve draw". If you lose your first match, you will get a chance at the "consolation draw". If you lose your first two matches, you will play on the "consolation reprieve" draw. You'll get to play a minimum of 3 matches! For doubles, make sure to sign up with a partner, or ask the racquets director to help you find one.

- Women's Doubles Club Championship – August 12th at 8:30am. ($45 per player)
- Men's Doubles Club Championship – August 19th at 8:30am. ($45 per player)
- Junior Yellow Ball Singles Club Championship – July 9th at 1:00pm. ($20 per player)
- Junior Orange Ball Singles Club Championship – July 9th at 1:00pm. ($20 per player)
- Junior Green Ball Singles Club Championship – July 23rd at 1:00pm. ($20 per player)

ADULTS' DOUBLES IN-HOUSE LEAGUE:

Men and Women play on separate leagues.
Sign-up for the new In-House Doubles League! There will be different flights with about 20 players per flight so you will compete against players of your skill level with the opportunity to move up the ladder! Every 4 weeks, the top two players of a flight will move up, and the two bottom players will move down a flight. Matches will be played on Sunday afternoons. Each week an email will be sent to you with the time of your match, the 4 players on your court for that week, plus two subs in case someone is not available. You're likely to play every week unless you're unavailable or you're an assigned sub for that week. It's a great opportunity to get competitive play and get on the court with different players at the club.
Starts May 15th – August 13th, 12 weeks. Cost: $20 admin fee for the entire season.



PICKLEBALL

Middlesex will participate in the Fairfield Westchester Pickleball League (FWPL) this season. **Matches** begin at 3pm on Saturdays, with the season running from May 20 –July 22. Each team fills 4 lines with 8 players (minimum of 4 women) and lines can be same gender or mixed. Matches will be on tennis courts. Captain: Kathy Rawden (kmsr85@yahoo.com)

Clinics will start in April on the paddle courts:
Thursdays 6:30-8:00 pm, start April 6 and Fridays 10:30 am-12:00 pm, start April 21. Cost: $40 per clinic, $150 for 4 clinics.

2023 PICKLEBALL EVENTS CALENDAR

APRIL:	Thu Apr 6	Pickleball Kick-off Night (6:30 – 8:30pm)
	Thu May 18	Pickleball In-House Tournament (6 – 8pm)
JUNE:	Fri June 2	Friday Night Pickleball Social (6 – 8pm)
JULY:	Fri Jul 7	Friday Night Pickleball Social (6 – 8pm)
AUGUST:	Sun Aug 6	Dink N' Doughnuts Pickleball Social (8:30 – 11:00am)