Junior Director Year End Report – 2026

It was a great tennis season of building junior engagement, community, and fun!

Junior Intercounty Team

The Junior Intercounty Team was established in May and training (sponsored by the club) and match play continued until the end of June. Due to a shortage of competition ready juniors in the U14 category, it was difficult to fulfill all match requirements. The team, which consisted of U18 members as well, did their best to complete as many interclub matches as possible and honour team commitments, despite a limited roster.

Junior Socials

The plan was to have 3 socials, but the July one needed to be cancelled due to air quality concerns. All junior socials were kept free of charge again this year. In May, we ran a 'Meet and Greet' social for juniors to connect with each other at the start of the season. In August, we had an Olympic themed social which included a parent-child component for our younger juniors, and a separate area for older juniors to socialize. The socials were well attended with approximately 40 juniors at each one. Total cost for the combined socials was under $1000, well within budget. Expenses included food, gifts/prizes and game supplies. Feedback for both socials was overwhelmingly positive, with juniors enjoying the games, food, gifts, medals, and time to connect with each other.

Junior Instruction

Junior lessons were provided by ACE and NTA this season. The Junior Director supported parents in navigating questions related to instruction, connecting them with coaching staff as needed. Parent and junior feedback was valued and any issues that arose were quickly resolved in cooperation with the coaching team.

Junior WhatsApp group

The WhatsApp group established last year continued and was used on occasion by juniors, and parents looking for playing partners for their children.

Overall, it was another great season of junior tennis and fun! The socials were enthusiastically attended and supported by all age groups and should remain a priority next year. Junior development should also continue to be a focus, and the hope is to be able to establish another robust intercounty team once we have a full roster of U14 and U18 members.

Malini Mandal, 2026 Director Junior Programs