

**2024 Boys’ Tennis Team Update / #5: 04/21/24**

**Here’s our look ahead for this coming week:**

1. **Our schedule for this coming week**.

Monday 4/22: Matches vs. Blaine: V away, JV home

Tuesday 4/23: V Match vs. North Branch @ home, JV practice

Wednesday 4/24: Practice 3-5:30 at home

Thursday 4/25: Matches vs. St. Francis: V away, JV home

Friday 4/26: Practice 3-5:30 at home

1. **So how are the V squad boys doing?** From Coach Ron: Although our record to date is 500, I really think the V squad is doing well. We are a young team in that we only have one senior on our team. This year is a learning year in that we are getting better each day at our strokes and learning how to compete through our matches. I have told the V squad that I am not going to put any pressure on them as to how our record ends up this season. Rather I am looking forward, and looking for each of them to improve their games, and the results will come in time. So I guess what I’m saying is that I am quite pleased with their performance to date.
2. **So how are the JV squad boys doing?** From Coach Steve: The players have had a tall order for them this year.  They have been playing JV teams that are older than they are.  The kids are having fun and they are getting better each week.  Developing the form and shape of their shots has improved and keeps improving.  The game of tennis involves good footwork and the players are also improving this part of their game as well. The team played their best match of the year on Thursday against the Princeton Tigers.  Way to Go Cats!!  With three more weeks of the season left, there’s still plenty of opportunity for growth and enjoyment on the court… Keep up the great work, and here’s to more success ahead for the Wildcats!
3. **Scheduling.** I’d like to take a moment and talk about scheduling of practices and matches. One of the things I asked for in my very first email to everyone was flexibility when I said: **FLEXIBILITY BY ALL IS THE KEY THIS TIME OF YEAR!** It is incredibly hard to predict the weather this time of year. It may look as if we can go outside, but then a popcorn rain cloud comes over the courts and ruins our plans in 10 short minutes. Or, it may look as if it is going to rain for the remainder of the day, and then it clears off with sunshine and I get asked questions like: “why aren’t we outside?” Believe me, it’s hard to know what to do. I and Jodi Otte struggle with this as we have to determine early in a day (because of transportation or use of the WCC) what exactly to do.

There are some overriding guidelines though as to what we are doing. IF we aren’t outside, and barring some exceptions, we’re probably going to practice inside. And, our practices inside are most likely going to be later (approximately 5:15 to 7:30 – and this is due to other sports needing time slots also).

**Sufficed to say, please be patient with us and take into consideration how hard it is to predict the weather, and plan accordingly. Thank you!**

1. **Fundraiser.** We held the Adrenaline Fundraiser kickoff on Wednesday. Most of the boys have signed up for the Raise-365 App and are on their way to raising funds for the team. I personally want to thank all of you who are participating! The fundraiser is going to continue until May 1st. Our goal for this fundraiser is to raise $6500 of which we are about ½ of the way there. That’s great! Oh, and by the way, the word is from our AF rep that we are beating the LAX team in their effort. Go Tennis over LAX (ha ha – always the competitor in your coach). But seriously – thank you. Let’s see if we can make that goal.

If you are choosing not to participate in the AF Fundraiser and simply want to contribute directly to our overall fund, you can write a check to: CLCA – Boys’ Tennis. Mail the check to the attention of:Craig Walker, 29400 Olinda Trail, Lindstrom, Mn. 55045

1. **Summer Training.** It’s not too early to mention the summer training classes that are going to be held. I want all of the boys to be involved in the training. This will extend their current training until the end of July when we as coaches are then restricted from working with them. It will also give me the opportunity to work with both the JV and V squads. The classes are held on Tuesday and Thursdays. More information can be found on the HOME page of our website. The classes which I feel are best for our JV practice squad are classes 7691-24C or 7693-S24. The class I’d like to see all of the varsity practice squad boys join is 7725-S24. I’ll follow up with this later, but please start to think about this training.

If you have any further questions and/or comments, email me @ ingallsrontennis.com.

Thanks, Coach Ron