



# 2009 Greater Columbus Tennis Association

## Area Qualifier May 6 thru June 5, 2009 (Tournament ID: 856370409)

**Events:** Boys' & Girls 10, 12, 14, 16, & 18 with a feed-in consolation. **Players may enter only one age division\*.** This tournament is sanctioned by the USTA, with all play subject to the rules and regs of the USTA. The USTA Point Penalty System will be in effect throughout the tournament. \*(Those playing in the 10's can also play in the 12's.)

**Tournament Entry:** The GCTA Area Qualifier will utilize the on-line **TennisLink** tournament registration system. See page 4 for **TennisLink** registration instructions.

**Entry Deadline:** Friday, May 1 at 11:59pm. **No phone entries. No late entries ... no exceptions!**

**Entry Fee:** \$41.89 (\$38.50 entry fee, plus \$3.39 non-refundable registration fee to active.com)

**Junior Age Eligibility:** A player may compete in any junior age division (18, 16, 14, 12, 10) if the player is an amateur who has not exceeded the maximum age by the last day of the month during which the tournament is scheduled to start. Players should exercise caution in determining the proper age division to avoid the possibility of starting the year in an age division that you will be ineligible for later in the year. For example, if you have a June, July, or August birthday and you expect to advance beyond the local level, you should consider play in the upper age group from the beginning of the year. All juniors may play an age division until the month of their birth date. Players may play in only one age division (except those playing in the 10's can also play in the 12's).

**Residency Requirement:** To be eligible for the GCTA Area Qualifier, a player must actually reside in Madison, Franklin, or Delaware Counties. An attempt is being made to arrange for players living in Union County to play in the Columbus Area Qualifier and OVTA District Championships. Check the GCTA web site for updates. Players who live in, for instance, Licking, Fairfield and other counties must contact their particular area or district tennis association for their particular qualifier information.

**USTA Membership:** All players must have a current USTA membership to participate in this event.

**Draw:** Draws will be made approximately 10 days before the start each particular event. (Draws for the Boys and Girls 10's will be made on Saturday, May 2, 2009.)

**Seeding Information / Player Records:** If you wish to be considered for seeding, you may submit 2008 ranking information and a completed player record listing results from all tournaments played in 2009. Non-sanctioned matches can be considered for seeding; therefore, high school match records are encouraged. Send seeding information to: GCTA Area Qualifier, 1100 Bethel Road, Columbus, OH 43220.

**Each age division will be treated as a separate tournament, run by a specific tournament director.**

**All questions about your particular division should be directed to the appropriate division coordinator listed below:**

<i>Division</i>	<i>Event Dates</i> (subject to change)	<i>Division Coordinator</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>
Girls 10	May 8 – 11	Jim Hendrix – Racquet Club	457-5671
Girls 12	May 15 – 19	Jim Hendrix – Racquet Club	457-5671
Girls 14	June 1 – 7	Jim Hendrix – Racquet Club	457-5671
Girls 16	May 18 – May 22, May 26 – May 29	Jim Hendrix – Racquet Club	457-5671
Girls 18	May 14 – 23	Fran McCabe – Olympic	267-1213
Boys 10	May 8 – 11	Jim Hendrix – Racquet Club	457-5671
Boys 12	May 14 – 23	Fran McCabe – Olympic	267-1213
Boys 14 **	May 15 – May 31	Kim Hilborn – Scarborough	868-5683
Boys 16 **	May 29 – June 7	Doug DiRosario – Wickertree	882-5724
Boys 18 **	May 29 – June 7	Kim Hilborn – Scarborough	868-5683

**\*\* See page 3 for important information concerning the Boys 14's, 16's and 18's \*\***

**All dates are subject to change depending on draw sizes and court availability.**

**First match times & tournament draws** will be posted approximately one week before the start of each particular event. First match times and draws will be posted at the tournament internet home page (the same USTA site where you registered for the tournament). (First match times for Boys & Girls 10 will be posted May 5)

**Endorsement:** 15 players (semifinalists in the front draw, quarterfinalists in the consolation, and 3 players selected by the tournament committee based upon rankings, player records, and tournament results) from each division will qualify to advance to the Ohio Valley District Tournament to be held **June 13 – 16, 2009** at the following locations ...

B12: Cincinnati, OH   B14: Parkersburg, WV   B16: Huntington, WV   B18: Cincinnati, OH  
G12: Dayton, OH   G14: Dayton, OH   G16: Columbus, OH   G18: Centerville, OH

The B&G 10 OVTA District Tournament will be played in Cincinnati, OH on June 19 – 22  
(there will be no MW Sectional Tournament for the B&G 10's)

A player must **Play & Complete** this event in order to be considered for endorsement to the OVTA District Championships. Play & Complete, as defined in the USTA/Midwest Yearbook, means that all scheduled matches (including any consolation and playoff matches) in the tournament are started, and none end in a default.

**Players wishing to compete in a USTA National Tournament (National Open, etc.):** Players wishing to participate in the National Open (May 16-20) or a level 2 or 3 event in May may request a waiver from the Area Qualifier, and thus be part of the Columbus Area quota to the OVTA Districts. To be considered for a waiver, a player must, **BEFORE** the May 1 entry deadline: 1. apply for and be accepted into the draw of a level 2 or 3 national event and provide to the GCTA Area Qualifier tournament director a confirmation number verifying entry, 2. the national level tournament must directly conflict with and be the same age level as the particular Area Qualifier event from which the player wishes to receive a waiver, 3. the Area Qualifier reserves the right to limit the total number of waivers granted for a particular age group to a maximum of 3 (waivers would be granted according to ranking order).

The waiver process can be very tricky, with serious timing issues. It will be the sole responsibility of the player and their parents/coaches to manage this process and any timing issues. In order to make draws and schedule matches in timely fashion, and in order to be fair to ALL tournament participants, the Area Qualifier will not be able to delay making the draws while a player waits to find out if they have been accepted into a national event. Note: All USTA rules governing the signing up for two tournaments at the same time will apply. The Area Qualifier will try to assist players hoping to play in a National Open or level 2 or 3 event, but there may be little leeway, given the tight schedule for making the draws, scheduling matches, etc.

**Coaching:** A player may not receive coaching during any match. After due warning, an offending player may be disqualified.

**Warm Up:** Warm up will be strictly limited to 10 minutes. Warm up time is for just that, warming up ... it is not practice time.

**Scoring:** **All matches will be best 2 out of 3 sets with a 10-point Match Tie-Break in lieu of the third set.**

**Tennis Balls:** Two new tennis balls will be provided for all matches.

**Special Match Times:** We regret that we will not be able to entertain special individual scheduling requests.

**Rules:** The Rules of Tennis, USTA Regulations, and The Code, as found in the 2008 or 2009 Friend at Court will govern all play.

**Special Note:** While every effort has been made to schedule the tournament around the myriad activities that a player might encounter, we regret that there is no way to accommodate everyone and their unique scheduling needs (school trips, other sports, band practices, recitals, etc.)

***Draws and results will be posted and regularly updated throughout the tournament on the internet at [www.usta.com](http://www.usta.com)***

*Questions? Contact your Division Coordinator, or Jim Hendrix at 614/457-5671 or [jnh@ix.netcom.com](mailto:jnh@ix.netcom.com)*

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**NOTICE: All players will be subject to the OVTA Suspension Point System which will be posted on the OVTA District web site at [www.ohiovalley.usta.com](http://www.ohiovalley.usta.com).**

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**By entering the GCTA Area Qualifier, all players, their parents/guardians, and family agree to the following GCTA Area Qualifier Junior Sportsmanship Agreement**

The GCTA asks for your cooperation in abiding by the rules and regulations as stated in the USTA Friend at Court. The rules and regulations are for players, coaches, and spectators. The Point Penalty System shall be imposed against a player for unsportsmanlike conduct during a tournament such as but not limited to:

- Unreasonable delays after the warm-up period, between points and when changing ends, and otherwise unreasonably delaying a match due to unsportsmanlike behavior;
- Audible obscenity;
- Visible obscenity;

- Violently, or with anger, hitting, kicking, or throwing a tennis ball or other equipment;
- Verbal or physical abuse of any official, opponent, spectator or other person;
- Coaching by a coach or any other accompanying person;
- Any unsportsmanlike conduct including disrespecting your opponent

**As a parent or player, you will agree to the following:**

- **YOU WILL BE POSITIVE** - You will express support and encouragement for your child/player and his/her opponent.
- **YOU WILL RESPECT YOUR OPPONENT** – You will respect the opponent for their skills and effort.
- **YOU WILL RESPECT THE TOURNAMENT STAFF** – You will give professional respect before, during and after the match to the tournament staff.
- **YOU WILL RESPECT OFFICIALS** – You understand that tennis has rules and regulations and the officials will enforce them to the best of their ability.
- **YOU WILL BE A GOOD SPORT** - By your example, you will teach your child/player good sportsmanship toward the opposing opponent and parents.
- **YOU WILL ACCEPT THE CONSEQUENCES IF YOUR OR YOUR CHILD/PLAYER BEHAVES IMPROPERLY:** These consequences may include being told by the officials or tournament staff to leave the facility and/or your child may receive suspension points that could lead to your child being suspended from participating in junior tennis.

**Special Note for Boys 14, 16 & 18**

The OHSAA has scheduled the State High School Championships for the weekend of May 29-30, with the State Team Championships to be played May 31.

- The boys 16 & 18 events will begin play as early as May 29 for those not playing in the OHSAA State Championships or the State Team Championships.
- The boys 16 & 18 draws will not be made until the weekend of May 24-25, and will be posted, along with first match times, by 12:00pm, Wednesday, May 27.
- In the event that a player entered into the Boys 14 qualifies for the OHSAA State Championship or State Team Championship, that player must contact Kim Hilborn at Scarborough East before match times are posted so that an attempt can be made to schedule around those high school events.
- School Trips – Players in the Boys 14 who might have a conflict with a school sponsored class trip must contact Kim Hilborn at Scarborough East no later than May 3. While an attempt will be made to schedule around school trips, there are no guarantees. In the interest of fairness to ALL players, and given court availability, draws sizes, etc., there may be no way to schedule around a players' particular school trip.
- SAT's – Players scheduled to take the SAT test during the Area Qualifier must contact Kim Hilborn no later than May 15<sup>th</sup>. After that date, no accommodations can or will be made.
- High School Graduations – A player who might have a conflict with ***their*** graduation ceremony must contact Kim Hilborn at Scarborough East no later than May 15<sup>th</sup>. An attempt will be made to schedule around a graduation event if possible. (This applies to the ***player's*** graduation, not the graduation of a family member, friend, etc.)

# **How to Register for the GCTA Area Qualifier**

May 6 – June 7, 2009

Direct Link to tournament home page:

<http://tennislink.usta.com/tournaments/TournamentHome/Tournament.aspx?T=78044>

**Registration deadline is Friday, May 1, 2009 at 11:59pm,  
no exceptions!**

To register: (before you begin, please have your USTA membership number and a major credit card handy)

(NOTE: The registration process will create several additional "pop-up" windows. If you have difficulty with the registration process, turn off any pop-up blocking software you might have on your system.)

- Log onto the USTA site at [www.usta.com](http://www.usta.com).
- In the upper right corner ... click on [tennislink](#).
- Click on [Enter Now](#) link next to Tournaments in middle of page.
- In the Tournament ID # box, enter **856370409** ... then click [Find It](#).
- Click on [GCTA Area Qualifier](#).
- Click on the red [Register Now](#) link ... and follow the directions ...
- If you are a first time user, you must set up a new account. Follow the instructions for setting up the account. Make sure your e-mail address is correct; this will be used for all confirmations and notifications. Also take care to remember your Login Name and Password. If you already have an account, enter your Login Name and Password.
- You must have a USTA membership current through the last day of the event. If you need to renew your membership, you will be prompted to do so.
- Once your USTA membership has been verified, continue with the entry process. Please complete the player contact info (phone number and e-mail address) – this info will be used by the Tournament Director to contact the player.
- Enter credit card information. You must enter the name exactly as it appears on the credit card.
- For this tournament, your credit card will be charged immediately.
- If your registration is completed correctly, you will receive a confirmation number which will also be sent as a message to your e-mail address.

***If you have any difficulties in registering, you can contact the TennisLink Team at [linkteam@usta.com](mailto:linkteam@usta.com) for assistance.***

**REMEMBER, THE ENTRY DEADLINE IS MAY 1<sup>st</sup>!!!**