

**2023 APTA BOARD MEETING  
JUNIORS COMMITTEE**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Juniors Committee works to introduce and provide playing opportunities to youths of all ages and abilities, hoping to encourage lifelong interest in the sport.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

The 2022-23 season featured a full slate of junior events. We hosted 9 tour events, including 3 events in the Chicago area. I want to thank the CPTC for their support of these events as the turn out for all of them was excellent. Junior Nationals was hosted as a one-day national event. We had a total of 186 players, including 10 who made the trip from Canada and 5 teams from Chicago! This year we added 2 junior tour events in the Chicago area. Mi Paddle attended the event this year to provide coverage for social media. I know the players really enjoyed that aspect, and the videos that have been produced so far look great. I also want to thank the APTA for providing the live streaming for the event. The parents and players really enjoy being able to share the event with family/friends who don't live near by. As usual, the event wouldn't be what it is without the volunteers from all around the sport.

**GOALS**

My goal for the upcoming season is to streamline certain aspects of the Junior Tour.

- 1) The first item is Junior Rankings. For the last decade, this has essentially been a one-person data entry task. But I rely on tournament directors to provide accurate and timely results, which isn't always the case. I would like to explore having some kind of Live Scoring, or at least an online form where we can assign points automatically based on a finishing order for each event.
- 2) The second aspect I'd to improve is the website. I am excited to learn more about the new APTA website and how we can utilize it to improve awareness regarding the Junior Tour.
- 3) Third I want to make it easier for tournament directors to add tournaments but also understand what they are expected to provide. I will update the tournament directors handbook and roll out a new procedure wherein tournament directors will sign off that they have read the information. This will help ensure that all Junior Tour events are following the same set of expectations. High School play is continuing to grow under the APTA First Serve Initiative. Patty Hogan has continued to be a tireless advocate for high school parents and students as they begin to build their programs.
- 4) The last big goal for this coming year is to increase the geographic footprint of the Junior Tour. I have been in touch with tournament directors in a few new areas and hope to have dates confirmed for events soon. I personally would like to see new tournaments in Ohio, Pittsburgh, Maryland/DC, and North Carolina.

**APTA Juniors By the Numbers (Last 5 years)**

<b>Junior Nationals Players</b>	<b>APTA Junior Members</b>
2019 216	384
2020 224	330
2021 374 (including regional events)	383
2022 206	287

2023 186

313

Submitted by Chair Greg Morgan