

COURT MONITORS

- What is a Court Monitor?

Adults (or young adults) who supervise U8 and U10 JTT matches to support young tennis players in learning the basics of the game, including scoring, line-calling, and tennis etiquette. Court monitors serve as a resource to the junior players to make sure that the match runs smoothly.

- Who can be a Court Monitor?

Captains, parents, grandparents, teenagers, etc. can serve as court monitors. It's basically anyone who understands the U8 or U10 match format and court monitor responsibilities and can assist the players during the match in an unbiased and supportive manner.

Court monitors can (and should) be assigned from both teams. I recommend that team captains discuss court monitor responsibilities when they discuss line-ups prior to the match. This allows parents / captains to know ahead of time if they need to monitor a match.

- Do I need a court monitor for every U10 match?

Yes, if we want our players to fully benefit from the JTT experience, a court monitor should be dedicated to every U8 and U10 match. For U10 players of all levels, it is very difficult for one person to observe more than one match at a time. (Trust me, I've tried 😊)

- Is it the same thing as a line judge? Or a tournament referee? Or a coach?

No, court monitors assist on a variety of aspects of the game, not just line calling or scoring disputes. The goal is to prepare our junior players to play their matches independently by the end of the season. Court monitors are there to help ensure the match runs smoothly but they are not providing coaching tips. Court monitors serve as an example to our players and should work with the team captains to resolve any issues.

- Do we need a Court Monitor for Intermediate and Advanced players?

Yes, you still need court monitors for Intermediate and Advanced levels, however, the role is somewhat different. At this point, the players should be mostly self-sufficient, but the court monitor still has the opportunity to interject when necessary. Again, this is a valuable instructional opportunity for players prior to tournament play.