

Viewpoint Tennis Club
8700 East University Drive, Mesa AZ 85207

BEGINNER TENNIS PROGRAM POLICY		Version #2 3
November 2015, 11/17, 01/18		Review November January 2020
Purpose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to provide guidelines for a tennis development program for beginners 		
Policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A program of tennis instruction encourages new members. Volunteer members implement this program. Initial instruction takes place in the fall season. EVSTL match play at the 1.5 level takes place in the fall and spring seasons. The beginner level is focused on learning the game of tennis through instruction and social play. Beginners participate in the EVSTL but do not play competitive matches until they have been evaluated for promotion to the 1.5 or higher level. The program leaders are responsible to the Vice-President and follow the Captain's Handbook Guidelines as applicable. 		
PROCEDURES:		
STEP 1	VP secures volunteers to lead the beginner program/ 1.5 team .	
STEP 2	VP secures volunteer coaches for beginners.	
STEP 3	Participation is encouraged by advertising in the activities hallway, on bulletin boards and on the website.	
STEP 4	Program leaders meet with potential players to review skills and evaluate. Higher skilled players will be moved up to appropriate level through consultation with VPTC player evaluators.	
STEP 5	Potential players participate in 3-4 weeks of orientation program prior to making a commitment to join 1.5 team . VPTC .	
STEP 6	Practices are held twice weekly, teaching the items on the Learning Checklist (attached).	

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Learning Checklist for **Beginner Level 1.5 Team**

Tennis is a lifetime sport that can increase physical fitness and health. What's more is that tennis is a highly social sport. Players can revel in the competition but also enjoy the camaraderie that comes with participation in a team sport. In the words of Billie Jean King: "Playing on a team makes tennis more fun!"

As "coaches" for the Viewpoint 1.5 **beginner** team, our main wish for all of you is that you simply enjoy the learning experience. Have fun as you get to know each other and as we introduce you to the following fundamentals for this great game: (not necessarily in this order)

- The importance of warming up before a game (none of us are 20 anymore)
- Getting to know the court (because we're not 20 anymore, we usually play doubles)
- How to score the game...game; set; match (you will finally enjoy watching tennis on TV)
- How to play a tie breaker (a crazy scoring system gets even crazier)
- Holding the racket (racquet) and racket preparation
- Ready position/introduction to split step/importance of moving the feet
- Shots: Forehand ground stroke, Backhand ground stroke, Forehand volley, Backhand volley, Overhead and Lob
- How to serve – it's how we get the ball in play
- Basics for the return of serve
- Learning to sustain a rally
- Basic court position for doubles tennis – when you are serving; when you are receiving the serve; when your partner is serving; when your partner is receiving the serve and once the ball is in play (defensive – back a little and offensive – forming the wall)
- Etiquette and sportsmanship (towards your partner, your opponent and the scorekeeper)
- Basic strategy for doubles tennis...doubles tennis is a team sport!
- Stretching after we play (remember, we're not 20 anymore)
- Care of the courts and club equipment