

SIMPLY THE BEST.....

Writing Nominations
That Are Better Than
The Rest!





WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS



Why Do Awards Matter?

Why should we take time to recognize players, events, coaches, and facilities that we think are exceptional?

- Winning a USTA award strengthens your resume and can positively impact your career.
- Winning a USTA award can be a positive marketing tool for facilities and events.
- Winning a USTA award is a great motivator and promotes positivity – who doesn't love to be recognized for their hard work!



What Is The Difference Between Non-advancing And Advancing?

USTA Georgia **Non-Advancing** award categories will only be recognized at the state level and will not proceed further.

USTA Georgia **Advancing** award categories will be submitted to the USTA Southern Awards Committee for consideration at the Southern level.

Some awards that win at the sectional level can progress to National for consideration.





Non-Advancing Awards

- Al Parker Junior Player of the Year
- Charles H. Cox Jr. Award for Adult Player of the Year
- Hardie Family Award for Junior Sportsmanship
- Jerry Baskin Scholar Athlete of the Year
- Kathleen and Cannon Carr Award for High School Coach of the Year
- Randy Stephens Award for State Volunteer Service
- Signature Tennis Courts Award for Tennis Director of the Year
- USTA Junior Team Tennis Captain of the Year Award
- USTA League Female Captain of the Year
- USTA League Male Captain of the Year

Advancing Awards

- Richard C. Botsch Educational Merit Award
- Adult Tournament of the Year Award
- Dr. Robert Bunnen CTA of the Year Award
- First Horizon Tennis Pro of the Year Award
- James Kincaid Family of the Year Award
- Janet Louer JTT Coordinator of the Year Award
- Local League Coordinator of the Year Award
- Mac MacDougal Tennis Official of the Year Award
- Mark Kaplan Media Excellence of the Year Award
- Member Organization of the Year Award
- Outstanding Parks & Recreation Dept. Award
- Special Tennis Event of the Year Award
- Wheelchair Tennis Excellence Award
- Adaptive Tennis Award
- NJTL Chapter of the Year Award
- Team Tennis Event of the Year Award
- Junior Tournament of the Year Award



Types Of Tennis Awards

There are different categories of USTA Tennis Awards:

- **Player Awards** – Ex: Adult Player of the Year Award, Al Parker Junior Player of the Year Award
- **Coaching Awards** – Ex: Kathleen & Cannon Carr High School Coach of the Year Award
- **Sportsmanship and Community Service Awards** – Randy Stephens Award for State Volunteer
- **Facility Awards** – Outstanding Parks and Recreation Department Award
- **Event Awards** – Special Tennis Event of the Year Award
- **CTA/Member Organization Awards** – Member Organization of the Year Award



Awards Calendar

AWARDS CALENDAR (DATES MAY SHIFT)

Dates	Actives
Early June	USTA Georgia Award Nominations Open
Late August	USTA Georgia Award Nominations Close
Mid September	Committee will be informed about nominations and timeline for voting
Mid September	Advancing Award Nominations Sent to Awards Committee Chair
Mid/Late September	Consideration and Voting on Advancing Awards
Early October	Advancing Award Winners submitted to USTA Georgia for Advancement to Southern
Early October	Advancing Award Winners notified
Early October	Non-Advancing Awards Sent to Awards Committee Chair
Early/Mid October	Consideration and Voting on Non-Advancing Awards
Mid October	Non-Advancing Award Winners submitted to USTA Georgia
Late October	Non-Advancing Winners notified

Our busiest time will be
LATE SEPTEMBER TO MID OCTOBER

Writing The Best Nomination

“There are no short
cuts to any place
worth going.”

- Beverly Sills



Allow Yourself Time To Reflect On Your Nominations

Things to consider:

- Performance metrics?
- Personal Qualities?
- Community Involvement/Role Modeling?
- Submit photographs to reinforce the nomination?
- Collect testimonials about the nominee?

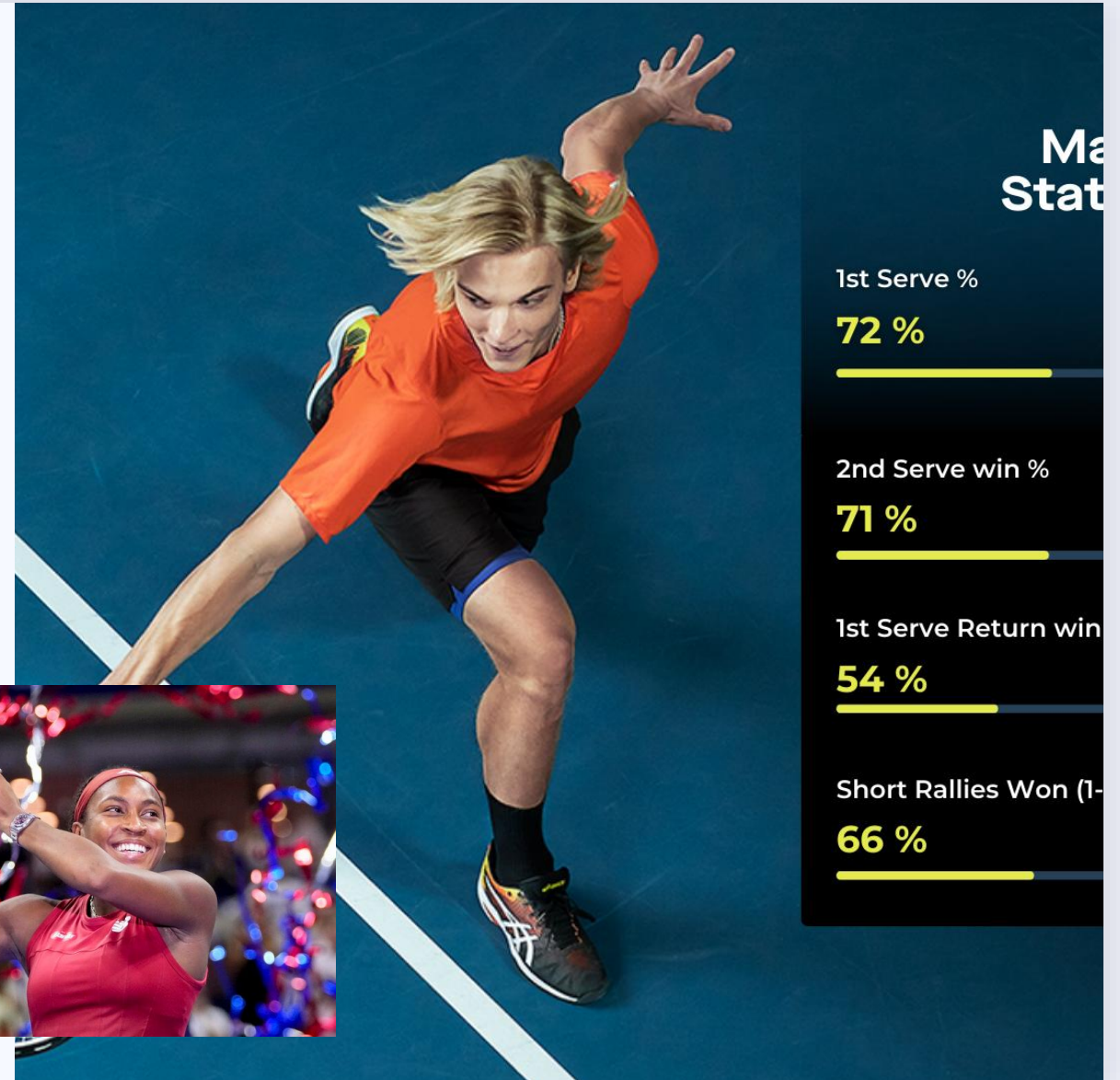
Great nominations should take time to create – don't wait until the last minute!



Collect As Much Comprehensive Data As Possible

Are there **Performance Metrics** that need to be included?

- Wins?
- Rankings?
- Improvement?
- Other statistics?



Collect As Much Comprehensive Data As Possible

What **Personal Qualities** need to be considered?

- Leadership
- Sportsmanship
- Resilience
- Altruism



Collect As Much Comprehensive Data As Possible

What **Role Modeling** or **Community Involvement** needs to be considered?

- Volunteering
- Mentoring
- Coaching
- Positive Influence



THIS PERSON WOULD BE A GREAT NOMINEE FOR TEAM CAPTAIN OF THE YEAR. SHE HAS ALWAYS TRIES AND ALWAYS TRIES SHE HAS BEEN VERY THE BOARD FOR TH OUR LOCAL TENNIS WAY THAT SHE CAN HOSPITALITY ROOM NEEDED. I DO NOT INVOLVED WITH HER TEAM AND HER PLAYERS THAN THIS PERSON AND I



A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS...

PHOTOGRAPHS HELP YOUR NOMINEE **SHINE!!!**

A Testimonial for Testimonials....



TESTIMONIAL

A testimonial from people who know your candidate can be a powerful tool to help get your nominee selected.

Remember to reach out to coaches, teammates, co-workers, community members – anyone who can offer insight into why this nominee is exceptional.

As them to share what they love about this nominee!



Nominee Form

Don't Forget To Tell
The Nominee's
Story.....



Be Sure To Tell The Nominee's Story

Start with a strong introduction:

- Who is the nominee?
- Why are they deserving?

Highlight the nominee's journey:

- What challenges have they overcome?
- What achievements have they accomplished?

Focus on specific examples rather than general statements. Help us “see” this nominee – use your adjectives!!!



Let The “**S.T.A.R.**” Be Your Guide!

Use the **STAR** method to help organize your thoughts:

- **S – Situation** – Set the context for the examples.
- **T – Task** – Describe the nominee’s role, responsibility, or challenge.
- **A – Action** – Explain what the nominee did or accomplished.
- **R – Result** – Share the outcome, impact, or improvement.



Digging Into The Archives.... What Works And What Doesn't!





EXAMPLE #1

EXAMPLE

She is a great example of what a captain should be. She has led several local, division, state, and other championship teams. She is the best captain that I have ever played for.

USTA League Female Captain of the Year Award

- **S – Situation** – Set the context for the examples. **Nominee is Team Captain**
- **T – Task** – Describe the nominee’s role, responsibility, or challenge. – **Not sure.**
- **A – Action** – Explain what the nominee did or accomplished. **Led several local, division, state and other championship teams.**
- **R – Result** – Share the outcome, impact, or improvement. **Not sure.**



EXAMPLE #2

EXAMPLE

He/She is an outstanding leader. He/she just wrote a grant to provide funds to pay league fees to bring players who haven't played in a while back to the courts. He/She does not organize league schedules without talking to the captains first. This CTA gives out tennis balls to league players and He/She delivers them personally. This CTA has seen a 6% increase in returning players and had only one league grievance from league captains this year, down from 5 last year.

Local League Coordinator of the Year Award

- **S – Situation** – Set the context for the examples. **Nominee is League Coordinator**
- **T – Task** – Describe the nominee's role, responsibility, or challenge. **Increase # of players returning to tennis, good communication with league captains, visibility**
- **A – Action** – Explain what the nominee did or accomplished. **Wrote grant to pay league fee for returning players, communicates with league captains before setting league schedules, hand delivers balls to teams**
- **R – Result** – Share the outcome, impact, or improvement. **Returning players increased by 6%, decrease in grievances from league captains.**



EXAMPLE #1



ANOTHER EXAMPLE

All family members are dedicated to the sport. At least one member of the family can be found at the tennis courts almost every night.

Family of the Year

In addition to their sportsmanship and tennis participation, they are incredible volunteers. _____, _____, and _____ all helped with the Special Tennis Games this year. _____ and _____ volunteer spending hours maintaining the grounds in this area, and they even answered the call to sweep and line courts during the _____ Cup last month.



EXAMPLE #1



ANOTHER EXAMPLE

All family members are dedicated to the sport. At least one member of the family can be found at the tennis courts almost every night.

Family of the Year

- **S – Situation** – Set the context for the examples. **Nominee is for Family of the Year**
- **T – Task** – Describe the nominee's role, responsibility, or challenge. – **Not sure.**
- **A – Action** – Explain what the nominee did or accomplished. **Family is regularly at the tennis courts**
- **R – Result** – Share the outcome, impact, or improvement. **Not sure.**



EXAMPLE #2



ANOTHER EXAMPLE

In addition to their sportsmanship and tennis participation, they are incredible volunteers. _____, _____, and _____ all helped with the Special Tennis Games this year. _____ and _____ volunteer spending hours maintaining the grounds in this area, and they even answered the call to sweep and line courts during the _____ Cup last month. They were recognized by our CTA as family of the year.

Family of the Year

- **S – Situation** – Set the context for the examples. **Nomination is for Family of the Year**
- **T – Task** – Describe the nominee's role, responsibility, or challenge. – **Family participates in volunteering**
- **A – Action** – Explain what the nominee did or accomplished. **Family volunteered at Special Tennis Games, regularly helps maintain grounds, maintains courts, volunteers at other events**
- **R – Result** – Family was recognized for their service by their CTA.



Questions?



USTA Writing Nomination Workshop Evaluation



TIME FOR TENNIS KAHOOT!!!!

