



SOUTHERN

## THE NET GENERATION PLAYTRACKER FAQ's

USTA has updated Youth Progression for junior players ages 5-10 years old. The new "Net Generation PlayTracker" is considerably more user-friendly and interactive. It was designed utilizing the American Development Model (ADM) guidelines with the intent of increasing engagement and providing information to support a young player's tennis journey.

### Quick FAQ's

1. Players will be able to view their progress within their account in USTA and within the PlayTracker App.
2. "Points" replaced "stars and trophies" from the youth progression. Points will be published periodically.
3. Players will receive emails for the following:
  - Confirmation of registration for an event,
  - A PlayTracker point milestone,
  - A change in ball color,
  - When they are aging out.
4. No other player, parent, or coach has access to a player's profile.
5. Junior Team Tennis players participating in 8&U and 107U Divisions will earn PLAY and/or WIN points based on ball color.

\*Access to individual player profiles and points awarded to participants are not available at this time. All points earned since January 1, 2021 will be retroactively added to a player's profile once the system is updated.

### PlayTracker Progression in Junior Team Tennis (JTT)

**Q: Can a 5 or 6 year old child play Orange Ball tennis?**

**A:** It is recommended that children under age 7 play Red Ball tennis.

**Q: What if a parent wants their child to play Orange Ball tennis?**

**A:** The parent must watch a two-minute educational video and acknowledge they have made an informed decision in choosing Orange Ball rather than Red Ball. *(The video is accessible on their child's PlayTracker. Parents will also see a pop-up window when registering for an orange ball team on TennisLink.)*

**Q: Can a 7 or 8 year old child play Orange Ball tennis?**

**A:** Yes, 7 or 8 year olds can play Red Ball or Orange Ball tennis.

**Q: Can a 7 or 8 year old child play Green Ball tennis?**

**A:** A child must be at least 9 years old to play Green Ball tennis; OR a player can be moved to Green Ball once they have passed an assessment with a score of 85% or higher, conducted by a certified USPTA or PTR coach.

**Q: What happens when a child progresses to a new ball color?**

**A:** The child can continue to play in the previous ball color to fully develop their skills. Parents are required to watch a two-minute educational video the first time a child registers to play Red, Orange or Green Ball.

**Q: Can a child age 10 or younger play Yellow Ball tennis?**

**A:** A child age 10 and under must earn at least 1500 Green Ball points to play Yellow Ball tennis.  
\*players must have at least 1000 of their points be WIN points.

**Q: When does a player age out of the PlayTracker?**

**A:** Players will age out of the PlayTracker at 11 years old; the first day of their birthday month.

**Q: When a player ages out of 10 and under JTT, what division would be best for them to play?**

**A:** USTA North Carolina recommends players move to 12U green divisions. This will allow for an easier transition from 10U to 12U.

**Q: What ball color should be used in 12U JTT?**

**A:** USTA North Carolina recommends that 12U Beginner and Intermediate Divisions use Green Ball and 12U Advanced Divisions use Yellow Ball.

## **PlayTracker Play and Win Points in Junior Team Tennis (JTT)**

**Q: How many PLAY points can a child earn by participating in JTT?**

**A:** A child playing Red Ball, Orange Ball or Green Ball Junior Team Tennis will earn 100 PLAY points provided they play in at least one match during the season.

**Q: Can players earn WIN points playing Red Ball or Orange Ball JTT?**

**A:** No, players can only earn PLAY points in Red Ball and Orange Ball JTT. Players will earn WIN points in 10U Green Ball JTT.

**Q: How many Red Ball and Orange Ball points are needed for a 9 year old to progress to Green Ball?**

**A:** It is recommended that a player earn at least 1000 Red Ball points and 1000 Orange Ball points before advancing to Green Ball, however it is not required.

**Q: How many points are required to progress from 10U Green Ball to Yellow Ball?**

**A:** Players must earn 1500 points to play in Yellow Ball divisions.  
\*players must have at least 1000 of their points be WIN points.

**Q: How many WIN points can a child earn when participating in 10U Green Ball JTT?**

**A:** Players will earn 100 WIN points for each singles match won and 50 WIN points for each doubles match won. They can earn up to 400 WIN points during a JTT season.

**Q: What is the max amount of PLAY points a player can earn in 10U Green Ball?**

**A:** Players are capped at 500 PLAY points.

**Q: Will a player earn points if their match is defaulted?**

**A:** Yes, a default in 10U Green Ball JTT counts as a win.

**Q: In Championship Year 2021, can 10 and under players earn PlayTracker points in 12U Green Ball JTT?**

**A:** No, 9- and 10-year-olds who play 12U Green Ball will not earn any PlayTracker points.

### **Coach Assessment for Players Under the age of 9**

1. Coach must have the Net Generation App and have an up to date SafePlay certification,
2. Coach and player must "connect" with each other through the Net Generation App,
3. Player must list coach as "Primary Coach",
4. Coach must complete the coach assessment training video within the Net Generation App as it is tied to their personal account. \*The video emphasizes the importance and responsibility involved in this assessment of players at such a young age.
5. Assess the player and change player skill level accordingly (player must score an 85% or above.

### **Parent Education Videos**

All parents registering a player for the first time in a ball color are required to watch a two-minute video on the skills required to play at that ball color. There are separate videos for Red, Orange, and Green Ball. These videos are accessible to view through the PlayTracker App.

### **Quick Links and Contact Information**

**USTA Net Generation PlayTracker page – Click [here](#)**

**USTA Net Generation PlayTracker FAQs – Click [here](#)**

**Coach Assessment Guide – Click [here](#)**

**Coach Assessment Video - Click [here](#)**

**Red Ball Video – Click [here](#)**

**Orange Ball Video – Click [here](#)**

**Green Ball Video – Click [here](#)**

**USTA Customer Care – Click [here](#)**

**USTA-North Carolina – Click [here](#)**

**North Carolina Junior Team Tennis Coordinators – Click [here](#)**