



BALL PERSON

Understand what the job is. Ball people help to keep the match flowing. They retrieve balls and are responsible for getting the balls to the side of the court where the serving athlete or team is playing.

Know what the job entails.

- Ball people should be able to stand still while holding balls in their hands and preferably behind their back.
- Ball people should be aware of which athlete/partner is serving so they know which side of the court the balls needs to be sent to.
- Ball people should wait until play has stopped before rolling a ball to the ball person at the net or throwing the ball to the opposite end.
- The ball person at the net should also wait until play has stopped before rolling a ball to the ball person at the back of the court on the serving side of the court.
- Ball people at the back of the court should stand by the fence at a corner of court and not directly behind the court.
- Ball people can run up to athletes that may need a ball handed to them OR they can toss a ball to an athlete that can catch a ball or to a unified partner.

What I should know about the Special Pops athletes.

Athletes on the court may have difficulty focusing and attending during their match. Due to this difficulty it is extremely important that ball people stand still, refrain from socializing with people outside the fence and they should be attentive to the match that they are working on at all times.

Cell phones are never to be used on the court. It is extremely distracting to the athlete. If a ball person needs to have their cell phone it should be kept in their pocket at all times.

Please view the short Ball Person Training Video on our website

(<http://www.specialpopstennis.org/resources/video-library/>)