



Special Pops Tennis Unified Partner Letter

We're excited that you will be joining us, as a Unified Partner, as we host our 12th Annual Fall Classic! We look forward to sharing an exciting weekend with you and thank you for sharing your time with Special Pops Tennis. Some of you are returning partners while others are new to our SPT family. **Attached** you will find some information regarding unified play that may be helpful and is worth reviewing. You should also review our unified partner video on our website (<http://www.specialpopstennis.org/resources/video-library/>)

We have new Match Play rules this year to allow for more play time. We will play best of 2 out of 3 short sets. (The first player/team to win four games by a margin of 2 wins the set) A 7 point tie breaker is played at 4 all. If the Score of the match is one set all, then only a 10 point tie-break game will be played as a third set in order to decide the match.

The No-Ad scoring system is used in all match play.

At the deuce point, the receiving player or team has the choice of advantage court or deuce court to which the service is to be received.

Unified Partner Role. POINT OF EMPHASIS- Unified partners should play at the level of the athletes that they are on the court with. Your goal is to help facilitate the match. The athletes must be the main focus of the match and should be the ones to determine the outcome of the match. (Generally, the athlete playing the better match should win). If at any time a unified partner is observed to be repeatedly dominating play/playing at a higher level than the athletes on the court he/she will be addressed by the umpire and/or tournament director. We understand the challenges faced in being a unified partner. SPT recognizes that being a successful unified partner is most critical and difficult role as a volunteer.

SCHEDULE:

Unified Play is Saturday & Sunday. You will receive your check-in time via email from the Unified Partner coordinator the week of the tournament.

CHECK IN:

Lifetime Athletic & Tennis
6350 Courtside Drive
Peachtree Corners, 30092

1. Please park in the lot on the right as you enter the facility. (please allow for traffic)
2. Please sign Lifetime waiver (will be done each day) and proceed through the outside gate to get your t-shirt and then report to the Unified Partner table to get your credentials/lanyard.
3. If you are helping in other tasks during the day you will receive a complimentary lunch.
4. We will have a hospitality area set up near Court 6 for your snack and drink needs.
5. Lifetime does not allow outside food to be brought in from other restaurants.

“Success as a unified partner occurs when the outcome of a point or match is determined by the quality of play and effort of the athlete...not the partner!”

During the tournament please feel free to direct any questions, suggestions, or comments to Paula Sumple, Jim Hamm or Dave Ellis.