

I am now back from a tennis tournament and family vacation and fired up and ready to keep us moving!

Again, this past week we saw lots of our players playing tournaments at a variety of levels which is fantastic!!!!!! What used to be a rare BigFoot-like sighting for our program is now commonplace. That is *Culture* change and *Commitment* looks like as we raise the bar on expectations and create new *Standards* for what it means to be a tennis player at Ponderosa. I am looking forward to my conversations with the boys at tryouts to review the number of events they played in and learn what they learned through it all.

A quick shout out to **Adyn Lonergan who took first place** at one of the tournaments. An upcoming Ponderosa player **Nate Spicer** (Brother of one of our Team Managers Alyssa) **took first place in the Castlevew High School** event and we also have some **Lutheran players** (I did not ask for permission to use their name so will not shout out personally) but one made it to the **Semi Finals in a Level 6 at the U14's** and another made it to the **Quarter Finals** at the same tournament. So exciting to hear about all of our boys playing and competing as we pursue our goal of 10 tournaments preparing for our season. There is still time to sign up and get one or two more in.

USTA Tournament Link - Check it Out and Remember to Play BOTH Singles and Doubles when given the opportunities for "credit for two tournaments".

[https://playtennis.usta.com/tournaments?level-category=junior&location=80134.%20CO&date-range\[\]=2022-07-29T00:00:00.000Z&date-range\[\]=2022-08-13T00:00:00.000Z&distance=200&event-division-gender\[,\] =boys&event-division-age-category\[,\] =14U,16U,18U&event-division-event-type\[,\] =singles](https://playtennis.usta.com/tournaments?level-category=junior&location=80134.%20CO&date-range[]=2022-07-29T00:00:00.000Z&date-range[]=2022-08-13T00:00:00.000Z&distance=200&event-division-gender[,] =boys&event-division-age-category[,] =14U,16U,18U&event-division-event-type[,] =singles)

Website of the Year in the Making! Heather has been busy adding, changing, discussing and changing again our website which we hope will set a new standard. Having not really ever had one we are making great progress! I would encourage you to check it out as we hope it will be a place of good information for our program families and those families also trying to connect with us. When you see Heather next be sure to give her a shout out as I have reason to believe that will embarrass her so that is an added bonus. More to come but please check it out so you can see where we are headed.

Check it Out and Look for More

Improvements...<https://ponderosahs.rschooteams.com/page/3063>

FOLLOW US ON Social Media - Share with family and friends.

- **Instagram** - <https://www.instagram.com/phsmustangsboystennis/>
- **Facebook** - <https://www.facebook.com/PHS-Mustangs-Boys-Tennis-101247918842508>

Tryout Information will Continue to Come Out... As most of you know you will have to officially register BY AUGUST 5th online and your student athlete HAS TO HAVE PROOF of a physical uploaded on the portal. I know this is a pain as it is for us too so get it done as soon as possible and if you have any questions while you can reach out to me Kerry Knackstedt has offered to be a point of contact. She can walk you through the process that includes Registration and also the use of MySchoolBucks for the required payments. **Sports Registration...**<https://phs-ar.schooltoday.com/>

Note: Lutheran Families and Others from Outside of Ponderosa - Your process will be similar but yet also different so look for more instructions to come in other emails or call me anytime. You will need to get a physical with proof so get that done as soon as possible as this is a requirement. As I recall you can also get this at some of those Minute Clinic like places if necessary as sometimes doctor appointments are hard to come by before school starts.

Call or Text Kerry 720-413-9873 but know that she might respond in the evening. I am also an option as well but Kerry will do a better job on this one!

We are in the process of updating our various **MySchoolBucks** Links where you can go to pay for everything from camps, uniforms, fundraisers and even pay for our banquet (yes we are already trying to schedule the banquet!).

On the topic of Tryouts we are creating a quick flyer with our Creative Department led by Kat Knackstedt and I hope to attach that at some point but even that will be missing details. What you need to know is that we are scheduled to go from Monday, August 8th thru that Friday and the boys need to be prepared to be playing from 3:30-6:00 pm on all of those days. It is possible that some players will be asked to play a match in the evening but I expect that might occur later in the week and will be for a select audience. Again, not knowing the numbers and having a finite number of courts between the PCC and Ponderosa we need to all be flexible but those times should be a great guide.

For tryouts I have spoken about some of the things we are looking for but obviously match play will continue to be very important. Like all sport tryouts as a program we are also looking at other things as well, not limited to fitness, attitude, coachability, commitment, mindset and passion for our sport and program. As we all know the ones who love their sport are the ones who work hard in the off season to prepare not because they have to but because they want to. They love it and this typically shows on the court in body language, attitude and in most cases not shockingly results. These attributes will also come out in conversations, discussions and reviewing public information on USTA and UTR where match play is shown. We will use as many tools as we can to identify the right players for our 2022 Varsity Team and like all tryouts some of the criteria become subjective. I thank you in advance for your support and understanding during this process and honoring the decisions made by our program.

Program Uniforms and Products are starting to arrive and so far I have opened 3 boxes and Ponderosa is spelled right and our colors are looking good. I can't tell you the worry that I have

about things like the spelling of Tennis even though I reviewed it 1000 times before approving. Also of worry was that we would have something to wear but so far while there are more boxes to come we are on a good path.

More information to come...