



# The Match

Spring 2024 [www.mtef.com](http://www.mtef.com)



## A New Outdoor Home

### MTEF Takes a Step Forward with Dineen Park Site

The Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation (MTEF) is delighted to announce a significant milestone in its mission to improve the lives and futures of Milwaukee youth through the

sport of tennis.

Effective April 1, MTEF secured a user agreement with Milwaukee County Parks, making Dineen Park, 6901 W. Vienna Ave., their official outdoor tennis home.

This achievement is a dream come true for MTEF, which has long sought easier access to tennis courts. The foundation has explored various avenues to realize this goal, from envisioning its own state-of-the-art facility to considering different partnerships.

The courts at Dineen Park are an ideal fit for MTEF's needs. The park boasts five tennis courts, two of which are equipped with lights, which will allow the foundation to offer programming later into the fall. The courts were resurfaced in 2016 and have seen little use since, making them a prime location for MTEF's programs.

With the new lease, MTEF will submit its court usage and have the *Continued on Page 2*



Dusan Medan led a drill during a visit to Dineen Park last year.

## A Night to Remember

### 24th Tennis Ball Checked the Boxes for Fun and Fundraising

To put it succinctly, the 2023 MTEF Tennis Ball was both fun-tastic and fund-tastic!

From start to finish, the 278 guests who attended the event at the Italian Community Center, 631 E. Chicago St., forgot about the cares of the world and simply enjoyed themselves, while sipping beverages and savoring hors d'oeuvres that included, for the first time, a very Wisconsin item – deep fried cheese curds with an aioli dressing – among the offerings.

Prior to a delicious three-course dinner, they mingled around the auction tables, took part in the basket challenge, wine pull, gift card pull and created their own souvenir videos in the 360 Photo Booth. Flashing rings adorned the fingers of those who donated \$25 for a chance to win a TV set in the up/down racquet spin. The basket challenge prize was Tennis Warehouse gift card.

Catered by the Bartolotta Restaurant Group, dinner did not disappoint. The entrees, which might be *Continued on Page 8*



Debbie Schaefer

Erica Forbes and Erich Weidenbener shared a laugh at the Tennis Ball

### Inside

- 2** Executive Director's Message
- 3** Summer Preview
- 6** Grants and Gifts
- 7** 40/40 Spring Campaign
- 11** Meet Our Kids

## MTEF Officers and Directors

**President:** Jeffrey Davis

**Vice President:** Brian Ellenbecker

**Secretary:** Sean Bailey

**Treasurer:** Vukasin Teofanovic

**Directors:** Earl Arms, Sean Bailey,

Michael Buckholdt, Mary Fran Cahill, Christopher Conley,

Timon Corwin, Trevor D'Souza, Jeffrey Davis,

Donna Drosner, Brian Ellenbecker, Makda Fessehaye,

Elizabeth Horneffer, Kurt Janavitz, Jodi Keller,

John Kandler, Ian Martin, Charles Mulcahy,

Thomas O'Byrne, Caran Quadracci, Rajit Saluja,

Denny Schackter, Christopher Schifano, Michael Sperling,

Vukasin Teofanovic, Gina Vecera, Joanne Williams, Lisa Winders

### Past Presidents

Charles Mulcahy (1975-2006), David Pelisek (2006-2008)

Thomas O'Byrne (2008-2010), Trevor D'Souza (2010-2012)

Michael Sperling (2012-2014), Timon Corwin (2014-2016)

Elizabeth Horneffer (2016-2019), Kurt Janavitz (2019-2021)

Michael Buckholdt (2021-2023)

### Advisory Board

John Austin, William Henk, Daniel O'Brien

## MTEF Staff

**Executive Director:** Rachael Badt

**Tennis Director:** Dusan Medan

**Controller:** Ann Keenan

## Park Offers Many Opportunities

From Page 1 first right of refusal on the use of the courts. This agreement will allow MTEF to expand its tennis programs, create more opportunities for the community and foster a greater love for the game.

"The partnership with MTEF not only engages our community but also positively enhances the quality of life through parks, fostering more opportunities for people to connect outdoors and engage in tennis throughout the community," said Alyssa Krueger, organized sports manager of the Milwaukee County Parks Department.

While MTEF will proceed thoughtfully with this newfound access, the possibilities for what can be achieved in the future are boundless.

MTEF looks forward to hosting you at the park in the near future.

## About Dineen

The picturesque, 64.2 acre park is named for Cornelius R. Dineen, park commissioner from 1927 to 1955.

Primarily developed in the 1960s, the park has undergone significant upgrades in the last few years.

In addition to its tennis courts and a basketball court, it includes a seven-acre lagoon, improved walking paths, a new community playground, a large picnic shelter, a splash pad, a reconstructed 350-foot baseball field, a redesigned 18-hole disc golf course, improved fishing overlook for ADA access, updated pedestrian lighting, new native plantings, trees throughout the park and a turtle habitat.

# The Good Times Are Rolling

## Winter Ends and Spring Begins — All on a Positive Note

As I sit down to write this message on the official first day of spring, I am filled with anticipation for the warmer days ahead and the exciting outdoor tennis activities that await us.

First and foremost, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Elite Sports Clubs for graciously hosting our winter indoor season. Their support allows us to offer tennis programming year-round, even in Wisconsin's often challenging weather conditions.

Speaking of that, our winter season has been bustling with activity and I'm proud to say that we've had our largest group of TEAM players ever.

This is all thanks to the dedication of Dusan Medan, our tennis director and our exceptional coaches who continue to keep our players engaged and motivated.

As we eagerly await the warmer days ahead, I am thrilled to announce that MTEF has found a new outdoor home at Dineen Park on Milwaukee's near Northwest Side.

This milestone marks a significant step forward for our organization. I can't wait to see our robust summer programming come to life in this and other new settings.

You'll find more details about these

exciting developments elsewhere in this newsletter, so be sure to check them out.

You may not be aware of this but each year we survey our participant families to best understand the impact of our programs. The feedback we've received is nothing short of inspiring.

In our 2023 survey, 100% of TEAM and summer camp participants reported that MTEF helped them be more active. Moreover, 98% of parents believe MTEF coaches are good mentors and role models, 96% felt coaches care about their children, 88% believe MTEF helped their child make friends and 83% felt that MTEF helped their child develop important life skills.

These results are a testament to the dedication and passion of our coaching staff and the supportive environment we strive to create at MTEF.

Your investment in and support of MTEF are invaluable, so please know I'm always here to address any questions, comments or tennis tips you may have. You can call the MTEF office, (414) 442-8195 or email [info@mtef.com](mailto:info@mtef.com).

Thank you for being part of our journey and for helping us make a positive difference in the lives of our players and families.



**Rachael Badt**  
Executive  
Director's  
Message



# Summer Nouveau

## Programming Expands, Includes Innovations

One thing is certain! MTEF's 2024 summer programming won't be the same old, same old!

For openers, the season is being expanded to include nine weeks of programming, eight weeks of camp and one week of tournament play.

MTEF's established camps will remain at the heart of summer programming. A three-week, full-day camp will be offered at Merrill Park, 435 N. 35th St., in partnership with Milwaukee Recreation. Two three-week, half-day camps are scheduled at Brown Deer High School, 8060 N. 60th St., in partnership with Brown Deer Parks and Recreation. In addition, a three-week, half-day camp will take place at a new location – Dineen Park, 6901 W. Vienna St. (See story that begins on Page 1.)

"These camps have been a cornerstone of our program," said Rachael Badt, MTEF's executive director. "We're excited to continue offering them to our participants."

Three new pilot programs also are on the summer schedule. The first is **MTEF Adventure Camp** at the JCC Rainbow Day Camp in Fredonia.

"In continuation of our partnership with the JCC, we [will be] running week-long standalone tennis camp sessions at Rainbow Day Camp," Badt said. "This location offers participants the opportunity to play tennis in the morning and then embrace the outdoors while taking part in a myriad of summer activities to

promote personal development."

These activities include boating, swimming, gardening, outdoor sports and crafts

The second new offering, **Mini-Camps**, will focus on metropolitan areas with under-used tennis courts that also are Little Tennis Library locations – Lincoln Playfield, 300 W. Lincoln Ave. Sherman Park, 3000 N. Sherman Blvd. and

Rainbow Park, 700 S. 119th St., West Allis.

"These week-long camps are designed for *Continued on Page 5*



## A Comprehensive Approach

### TEAM Programming Combines Many Facets

I am thrilled to share with you the latest developments and insights on our TEAM year-round program.

The school year program is larger and more active than ever. Currently, the program has 73 kids enrolled, with an impressive participation rate of 75% throughout the year. I am pleased to report that during this high-demand indoor season, we have been able to welcome them to play at least twice a week.

Our program offers a comprehensive approach, combining large group drill sessions with smaller, focused sessions aimed at technique enhancement and match play strategies. These efforts are supported by our dedicated team of coaches, who play a pivotal role in fostering a supportive and inclusive environment where players can grow and thrive.

Looking at enrichment for our TEAM players, I have worked to find ways for them to interact with college tennis. I am excited that we have been able to partner with the Marquette and UWM tennis programs to provide our MTEF players with the opportunity not only to watch high-level Division I tennis but also to learn in a clinic environment hosted by the University teams. I thank both teams for taking the time to be a part of our program.

We also added a special pre-season Boys Skills and Drills

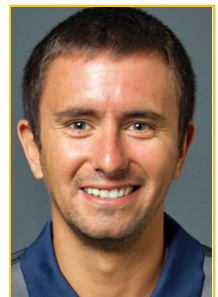
session. The idea behind this was simple — we wanted to give one final push for our TEAM players who are trying out for their high school tennis teams. This session is designed to fine-tune their skills, work on strategic drills, and provide them with the confidence they need to perform at their best during tryouts.

We previously ran a similar program in August before the girls' tryouts, which received positive feedback and helped prepare our players effectively.

Looking ahead, we're excited to continue building on the momentum from the past few months of good work as we head into a fun filled summer. As always, our goal is to create a vibrant tennis community where players can connect, learn, and grow together.

I'm incredibly grateful to everyone who has contributed to the success of our program and I look forward to another fantastic spring and summer.

Please feel free to reach out to me at [dmedan@mtef.com](mailto:dmedan@mtef.com) if you have any questions, comments or suggestions.



**Dusan Medan**  
Tennis  
Director's  
Message

# MTEF Elects New Officers



Davis



Ellebecker



Bailey



Teofanovic

New leadership took over the MTEF helm with the election of Jeffrey Davis as president, Brian Ellebecker as vice president, Sean Bailey as secretary and Vukasin Teofanovic as treasurer. The quartet won unanimous approval at the Dec. 12 board of directors meeting.

Davis, who has been a practicing attorney at Quarles and Brady for more than 30 years, has been a member of the MTEF board since 2013. He also served as a Wisconsin Court of Appeals judge from 2019-2021.

“I am excited to lead MTEF for the next two years and look forward to continuing the excellent progress that has been made under the leadership of my predecessor Mike Buckholdt and our executive director Rachael Badt,” Davis said.

“Specific goals,” he continued, “include increasing the number of kids served by expanding our infrastructure, successfully integrating Dineen Park into our programming, and

continuing our sound financial performance through ongoing fundraising activities and efforts to build community awareness of MTEF and the importance of its mission.”

Ellebecker is a financial planner and strategist at Shakespeare Wealth Management, where he advises high net worth individuals and their families. He joined the board in 2023.

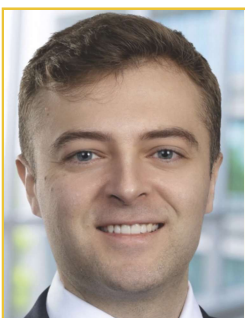
Bailey, a tax manager at Huberty CPAs in Sheboygan, has an MTEF history that dates back to a period from 2004-2010 when he worked as an after-school trainer/tennis instructor and summer tennis instructor with the foundation’s TEAM program. In addition, he served as a volunteer tennis instructor from 2010-2015. He also joined the board in 2023.

Teofanovic is vice president of financial planning and analysis for Kinex Medical Co. A former star player for the Marquette Golden Eagles men’s tennis team, he joined the board in 2022.

## Welcome Aboard

### Former TEAM Coach Rejoins MTEF as Director

Sometimes, what goes around comes around – in a very good way! In 2010, as a high school student, Christopher Conley volunteered as an MTEF tennis instructor. As a college student, he served as site director for MTEF’s summer camp at Brown Deer High School. On Dec. 12, 2023, he was elected to the foundation’s board of directors.



Conley

It was a momentous occasion for Conley, now an enterprise solutions senior consultant for Crowe, LLC in Chicago.

“It is an honor and a privilege to be elected to the board of directors for the Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation, Conley said.

“As a newly elected member, my primary goal is to enhance the integration of tennis and educational opportunities for youth in Milwaukee by fostering a love for the game and encouraging players to get involved in leadership opportunities, tutoring programs, and volunteer initiatives,” he continued.

“Furthermore,” he said, “I aim to continue facilitating an environment where every child can thrive both on the court and in their academic pursuits. Tennis is not just a sport for life, but a powerful tool that builds community, strong character traits, and fulfillment for those who participate. I am lucky enough to have been a student and beneficiary of the game and will continue to pay it forward.”

Conley holds a B.A. degree in business management and an M.S. in business design and innovation, both from Carthage College in Kenosha, where he was a member of the men’s varsity tennis team.



# \$\$\$ and Sense

## TEAM Participants Learn How to Manage Money

**F**inancial knowledge is an investment that literally pays dividends throughout life. Knowing this, MTEF recently collaborated with SecureFutures, an esteemed local non-profit, to offer their Money Sense enrichment program, to a self-selected group of its TEAM players. The program is designed to equip high school-age youngsters with essential financial knowledge.

Money Sense covered fundamental topics that are crucial for a strong financial foundation, including banking basics, creating a savings plan, budget management and healthy credit habits.

The program spanned three weeks in March, with each session lasting 90 minutes.

The sessions, led by Jeff Wozniak, a SecureFutures volunteer, brought a wealth of knowledge and practical experience to the classroom, ensuring that the participants gained valuable insights.

Wozniak, a relationship manager at Principal Financial Group, is dedicated to bringing financial knowledge to those he teaches.

“My passion has always been to help young people, he said. “SecureFutures has allowed me to combine my passion of helping young people and sharing my knowledge of



Instructor Jeff Wozniak points to a delighted Marissa Jones, who had just given the correct answer to his question.

consumer and personal finance.

“I strongly believe in the importance of providing our young people with financial education tools that will help them make sound financial decisions throughout their lives. My energy also comes from the fact that, in each classroom setting I have been in, I learn as much from the students as I teach them. We all learn together.”

As part of MTEF’s commitment to financial education, a small financial incentive was awarded to those who completed all three sessions. More than a reward, it was a seed to plant – an opportunity to invest in their financial future.

The bottom line is that by participating in Money Sense, the MTEF players not only learned about money management but also got a taste of the rewards that come with financial responsibility.



A Brown Deer player kept her eye on the ball during a drill last summer.

## League Play on Schedule

From Page 3 the beginner player,” Badt said.

“Each camp week will focus on a different age group – 7 to 9 years old, 10 to 12 years old and 13 to 15 years old. They will be limited to 18 players to ensure personalized attention,” she added.

The last new program is the **Summer Youth Tennis League**.

“This program was designed with our older TEAM members in mind, ages 14 to 18,” Badt said. “Many of them are busy with other activities, like jobs, in the summer and we wanted to keep them engaged with some weekly match play.”

And never fear, MTEF still will end the summer with its traditional Summer Showdown Tournament, which Badt termed “a chance for our players, from beginners to advanced, to put their tennis skills to the test.”

Registration information for all these summer offerings can be found on the foundation’s website, [mtef.com](http://mtef.com).

## Grants and Gifts

### Grants

Bader Philanthropies  
Herb Kohl Philanthropies  
Robert L. Auxer Fund  
The Windhover Foundation  
USTA/Midwest Section  
USTA/Midwest Tennis & Education  
Foundation

### Corporate

MillerCoors  
US Bank

### Individual

Susan Abelt  
Reb and Patricia Bortz  
Jeff Davis and Rachel Schneider  
Don and Sallie Davis  
Ann and Kevin Keenan  
Michael King  
Linda Gorens-Levey and Michael Levey  
Michael and Aoy Mitchell

Brandon and Karen Moran  
Judith Neal  
Kevin Reardon  
Chris and Debbie Schifano  
Vuk Teofanovic and Jessica Edward  
Kathleen and Frank Thometz

### In Memory of Ted D'Souza

Rihab Aris  
Al Hurvis / ADAMM Education  
Foundation  
Rachael and Marty Badt  
Katherine Banzhaf  
Libby and Jon Baranko  
Mary Fran Cahill  
Kristine Cleary and Peter Coffey  
Maureen and Trevor D'Souza  
Jean Zeplin and Allen Deaton  
Anita Fleisch  
Jacek and Magdalena Flejsierowic  
Barb and Dave Gerbus  
Mary Kay Habel

Teri and Jim Jamison  
Ashok Kulkarni  
Superluminal Medicines  
Chas Mulcahy  
Tom O'Byrne  
Gerald and Marjorie Pagel  
Nancy Pekarek  
Andrea Peters  
John Reckmeyer  
Patricia Roell  
Sharon Samuels  
Donald Shannon  
Rick Vetter  
Susan Zippel

### Herbert D. Hentzen, Jr. Scholarship

Ott and Gaby Brentener  
Mary Fran Cahill  
Al and Kathy Hentzen  
Herbert D. III and Dianne Hentzen  
Bob and Marilyn Warnimont



### Parent Testimonials

**"We are so grateful to you all for such a wonderful program. A. has finally found an activity that he really enjoys, and he would not have had nearly the opportunity to learn, grow, and play tennis without your programming. So, thank you for making tennis accessible and fun, and for all your hard work and dedication."**

*M. I. MTEF Parent*

**"The breadth and accessibility of the program is amazing. If MTEF wasn't around, my child wouldn't have had the opportunity to play tennis with anyone but his Dad or me, and he has no other sports he's interested in."**

*J.D. MTEF Parent*

**"Making tennis accessible and affordable has really helped us be able to get our daughter more engaged with the game and physically active."**

*J.N. MTEF Parent*



Ensure the future of tennis, education and mentoring for Milwaukee's youth by naming the Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation (EIN: 39-1317061) in your will or estate plan.

To learn more, contact your financial advisor.





# 40/40 CAMPAIGN

40 hours  
+ 40 kids

## Support Summer 2024

Every summer, MTEF provides under-resourced Milwaukee youth with an inclusive camp experience that promotes personal growth and peer bonding through training in the lifelong sport of tennis. At camp, each youngster is afforded the opportunity to be supported, not just as a tennis player but as the well-rounded person they are – which empowers them to succeed both on and off the court.

Each year, as an organization, we need to raise at least \$500 per participant to support this invaluable camp environment. These dollars provide a summer filled with tennis, enrichment activities, positive adult role models, making new friends and more.

Starting May 15 at 8 a.m., MTEF will kick off its **40/40 Campaign** – 40 hours of fundraising focused on securing enough money to send 40 kids to summer camp.

Will you get in the game with us and support our effort to make summer 2024 the best summer yet? Our success depends on donors like you! Every donation, large or small, makes a difference!

[www.mtef.com/4040](http://www.mtef.com/4040)



100% of your charitable donation to Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation remains here in our community and directly impacts our local youth. All donations made between May 1 – 20, 2024, will support the 40/40 campaign. Contact Executive Director Rachael Badt, [rbadt@mtef.com](mailto:rbadt@mtef.com) with any questions.



More than 270 guests spent a fun evening at the 2023 MTEF Tennis Ball. The event was held at the Italian Community Center on Nov. 4.

Debbie Schaefer

## 2023 Tennis Ball Raised Near-Record Net of \$95,000

From Page 1 described as upscale comfort food, included grilled citrus chicken breast with spinach, Yukon gold potato puree and citrus butter sauce; braised short ribs -with Yukon gold potato puree, carrots and a red wine reduction and rigatoni pasta marinara with fried eggplant, fresh mozzarella, basil and grana padano cheese.

MTEF's president and executive director, Mike Buckholdt and Rachael Badt, got the evening's program off to a quick start by welcoming guests.

Badt also recognized sponsors and, for those attending their first Tennis Ball, provided a cliff-notes overview of the foundation's purpose and programming.

The organization, she noted, is a youth development program that uses tennis as the vehicle to improve the lives of youth. Components include the school year TEAM program, a six-week summer camp and a year-round outreach effort that brings tennis to communities such as schools and parks.

Programming, she said, has become more robust since Dusan Medan, a former Marquette university player and experienced college coach, was hired as MTEF's tennis director in March.

As an example, she noted that this fall, TEAM was expanded from a select group of about 20 participants to a group that includes 70 youngsters aged 8 to 18, at all skill levels. This followed a summer camp that introduced a new tennis curriculum, more extensive enrichment experiences and more.

But there is something that makes MTEF special.

"I believe one of the things that sets us apart is the fact that once a child joins our program, they tend to stay with us for a significant period of time," Badt said. We are not just a one-summer or one-school-year experience. ... We continuously refresh and evolve our programming to meet their skill levels and interests. We are more than just a tennis lesson to them, we are a community."

After a showing of MTEF's 2023 video, Lance Allan, the evening's emcee, took the stage to conduct the live auction, which featured items ranging from a diamond necklace to a trip for two to the French Open. With his usual enthusiasm, Allan expertly cajoled battling bidders to keep the competition going. When it was over, the auction raised more than \$11,000.

Tennis Director Medan spoke briefly before introducing

student speakers Lucas Lenhart and Taidhra McKenzie, the guests for their continued support of MTEF and concluding that the bottom line is: "It's all about the kids."

Lenhart, a senior at Brown Deer High School, has been an MTEF participant for nearly 10 years.

"Not only have I had awesome coaches but awesome teammates as well," he said, crediting both with pushing him to be not only a better player but also a better person.

He cited experiences of tournament play, opportunities to watch tennis during outings to the Milwaukee Tennis Classic collegiate tournament, tutoring and hands-on activities as contributing to his growth through the program.

"Tennis is a lifelong sport that will stick with me forever... and the life lessons that come along with it," he said. "I know I wouldn't be the person I am today without MTEF."

McKenzie, a freshman at Pius XI High School, where she plays varsity tennis, has been involved with MTEF since 2017.

"Through tutoring, the TEAM program, the summer camp program and the mentoring program, MTEF has provided me with life skills and tennis skills that have enabled me to be successful," she said.

She noted that during the Covid pandemic, the foundation kept participants involved in education, exercise and enrichment activities via ZOOM. Tennis instruction continued, although group size was limited.

As life returned to the courts and in-person activities resumed, she noted, MTEF brought in speakers who discussed careers and life skills and took participants on excursions that included trips to movies along with Brewers and Bucks games.

"These were memorable activities and I appreciate having the chance to experience them," McKenzie said.

While it didn't break the record set in 2022, the 2023 Tennis Ball was an outstanding success in terms of fun and fundraising, netting approximately \$95,000 to support MTEF's efforts to fulfill its mission to "improve the lives and futures of Milwaukee youth through tennis, education and mentoring."

For the fun part, you'll just have to join us at the 2024 MTEF Tennis Ball to experience that part for yourself!

See you on Nov. 16 at the ICC!

You won't be disappointed!



# Tennis Ball Sponsors and Supporters

## Sponsors

### Match Sponsors

Caran and Joel Quadracci

### Set Sponsors

Robert W. Baird & Co. - Drosner  
Phillips Ristau Group  
Kurt and Kari Janavitz  
Kay and Richard Yuspeh

### Game Sponsors

Heartland Value Fund  
Medical College of Wisconsin - Dean Kerschner  
Ian Martin and Erica Arrington  
Rajit and Jyoti Saluja

### Forecourt Sponsors

Mary Fran Cahill  
Al Hurvis/ADAMM Education Foundation  
Shakespeare Wealth Management - Brian Ellenbecker

### Backcourt Sponsors

Mike and Karin Buckholdt  
Jeff Davis and Rachel Schnieder  
D'Souza Family  
Elite Sports Clubs  
First Trust Portfolios/Mestan Contracting & Remodeling  
Beth and Mark Horneffer  
Jodi and Pat Keller  
O'Byrne Distribution Centers  
Optima USA, Inc.  
Real Time Automation  
Denny Schackter/Gina Vecera  
Chris and Debbie Schifano  
Mike Sperling and Peggy Kirkeeng STRYV365  
Trimble Family Foundation  
Lisa Winders and Ryan Bingham

### Serve Sponsors

Makda Fessahaye  
Wisconsin Athletic Club

### Point Sponsors

Jennifer Fleck  
Mel's Charities  
Rick Vetter

### Live Auction

Donna Drosner and Jeff Pink  
Angela and David Dubofsky  
Caren and Joel Quadracci  
The Chef's Table  
The Tennis Channel

### Silent Auction

Anonymous  
Babolat/Steve Buccellato  
Rachael and Marty Badt  
Bailey Family

Brown Deer Parks and Recreation

Broken Bat Brewing Co.

Mike and Karin Buckholdt

Mary Fran Cahill

Jeff Davis and Rachael Schneider

Angela and David Dubofsky

Deubel Family

Education Foundation of New Berlin

Elite Sports Clubs

Mary and David Francis

David J. Frank Landscape Contracting

Friends of MTEF

Laurie and Gary Gardetto

## Prizes

Colder's

Tennis Warehouse

## Wine Pull

MTEF Board members

## Supporters

Lance and Amy Allan  
Lindsey Ashenden  
Rachael and Marty Badt  
Bridget and Sean Bailey  
Drew Baryenbruch  
Jesse Bauwensv and Sarah Casey  
Jeremy and Nicole Bemis

Ann and Jason Benish

Kelly Biedinger

Kelly and Dan Blong

Kati and Scott Broady

Suzanne and Robert Budiono

Gerry Caballero

Susan and Karl Castello

David Cohn

Christina Colarossi

Chris Conley

Kelly Cordill and Bradford Meyer

Timon and Rachel Corwin

Nancy Covert

Sarah Cyganiak

Sean and Bridget Bailly

Shekhar and Julie Dagam

Trevor and Maureen D'Souza

Jeff Davis and Rachael Schneider

Alexander Dawes

Pearl and Cony D'Cruz

Gina and Ben DeBruin

Michele and Derek Deubel

Angela and Jeff Dubofsky

Allison and Ryan Duncan

Brian Ellenbecker and Rebecca Anhold

Andrea Engel

Mike Enright

Evergreen Property Management

Britt and David R. Frank

Jane Frank

Jeff Frank

Brian Gilpin

Deborah A. and Martin J. Goldin

Mark and Maddy Goldin

Jennifer and Peter Goldman

Bill Gomilla and Katie Mahalick

Kate and Perry Gould

Danielle Gross and Joe Mattefs

Jeff and Julie Gundersen

Sally and Rob Haderlein

Scott and Sandy Harding

Elizabeth and Mike Hayes

## Tennis Ball Committee

Earl Arms, Bridget Bailey, Sean Bailey,  
Timon Corwin, Makda Fessahaye, Beth Horneffer,  
Jodi Keller, Caran Quadracci, Denny Schackter,  
Diane Veenendaal, Lisa Winders

**Emcee/Auctioneer:** Lance Allan

**DJ:** BG Good

**Food and Beverage:** Bartolotta Restaurant Group

**Video:** Michael Garcia and New Journey Marketing

**Registration volunteers:** Laura Bensman, Anne Lovitz,  
Stef Sager, Michelle Vail, Helene Weisz

Debbie and Thomas Hitchcock

Jodi and Patrick Keller

Marcus Hotels and Resorts

Marquette Men's Tennis Team

Betty Mathison

McKinley Mixed

Miami Open

Milwaukee Bucks

Missing Links

Molson Coors

MTEF

MUHS Parents

Orangetheory Fitness

Palermo's Pizza

Stinebrink's Lake Geneva Piggly Wiggly

Deb Schaefer Photography

Mike Sperling and Peggy Kirkeeng

Vuk Teofanovic

Rick Vetter

Washington Highlands Friends

Western Racquet Club

Western & Southern Open

Wheel & Sprocket

Lisa Winders and Ryan Bingham

Wisconsin Athletic Club

Xenon

Continued on Page 10

# They're Back!!!

## Little Tennis Libraries Will Be at 10 Sites This Year

As tennis enthusiasts in Wisconsin gear up for outdoor play, MTEF is thrilled to reintroduce our Little Tennis Libraries initiative back to community parks. The goal is to make tennis more accessible and approachable for everyone in the community.

The concept behind Little Tennis Libraries is simple yet impactful. Similar to the popular Little Free Libraries seen in neighborhoods, these mini tennis hubs are stocked with racquets, balls and informational materials about the sport. The idea is to encourage anyone interested in tennis to borrow equipment, play and then return it for others to enjoy. It's about getting racquets into people's hands and fostering a love for the game while having fun.

Last year's debut of LTL received an overwhelmingly positive response from the community. Katie Seitz, manager of citywide programs at Milwaukee Recreation, noted how well-received the program was among park visitors and said the department received plenty of positive feedback. Users also provided feedback through a QR code on the bins, with one user sharing a delightful moment playing tennis with their grandkids.

This year, LTL is expanding its reach to include 10 locations, including four courts managed by Milwaukee County Parks. The full list of sites can be found on the MTEF website, [www.mtef.com/LTL](http://www.mtef.com/LTL).



MTEF will manage checking on the libraries, keeping them well-maintained and ensuring they are adequately stocked throughout the season, which runs from the first weekend in May to mid-October.

For those passionate about tennis or looking to explore a new sport, the Little Tennis Libraries offer a fantastic opportunity to engage with the community, stay active and discover the joy of tennis.

If you want to help, donations of tennis equipment can be dropped off at the MTEF office in the Mary Ryan Boys and Girls Club, 3000 N. Sherman Blvd. or pickup can be arranged.

Additionally, MTEF welcomes volunteers interested in adopting a library for the season. MTEF will provide all the necessary equipment while the volunteers will ensure the libraries are stocked and ready for play. If you're interested in adopting, email [info@mtef.com](mailto:info@mtef.com).

## Tennis Ball Sponsors and Supporters

Heartland Advisors  
Hal Horneffer  
Matt and Erin Jelenchick  
Johnson Level  
Ted Jordan  
Phil Kelbe  
Jodi and Pat Keller  
Sam Keller  
John and Martha Kendler  
Joseph Kerschner  
John and Nancy Kirtley  
Mary and Allan Klotsche  
Tracy and Michael Lalonde  
Kyle and Melissa Leistikow  
Les Moise  
Hector and Ivelisse Lopez  
Rachel and Carmello Maddente  
David and Julia Magnasco  
Rubi and Matt Malczewski  
Marcus Hotels & Resorts  
Amy and Nate Marshall  
Jamie and Erick Martinez  
Katie and Colin McWey  
Margaret and Kevin McWey  
Jasna and Kelley Miller  
Missing Links  
Todd and Caroline Moering  
Chas Mulcahy  
Pat and Chris Murphy

Connor Muth  
Holly and David Nygro  
Sean O'Byrne  
Tom and Sue O'Byrne  
Katelin and Mitchell Odom  
Rebecca and Jose Oscar Toledo  
Paley Tennis Center  
Shelia Payton  
Tom Pence  
Nancy and Bruce Prom  
Margaret Bradley and Nick Puibello  
Tim and Laurie Quernemoen  
Nolan Rademacher  
Hassan Rahim  
Michael Rajchel  
Kevin Reardon  
Stacy and Matt Reid  
Carol and Dennis Reilly  
Kevin and Amanda Rey  
Becky and Mark Riebesehl  
Angela Riedel and Brian Wilson  
Leslie and David Rosmann  
Denny Schackter and Patti Lock  
Steve and Kathy Schneider  
Ivana and Marko Selak  
Stuti Shankar and Kamar Sujeet  
Jodi and Mike Sharp  
Jamie and Joe Shomperlen  
Caitlin and Brian Smyth  
Beth and Roger Stafford

Therese and Paul Stockhausen  
Tennis Warehouse  
Vuk Teofanovic and Jessica Edward  
Sherry and Jan Termuehlen  
The Bartolotta Restaurant Group  
The Windhover Foundation  
Sally Duffy and Paul Tilleman  
David and Banessa Treis  
Trimble Family Foundation  
Carl and Nancy Trimble  
Tyler Trimble  
Gina and Dave Vecera  
Diane and Carl Veenendaal  
Vennture Brew Co.  
Oscar Villareal Espinosa  
Heidi and Al Vizgiatis  
Adam Vljaj and Mary Ellen Donovan  
Erich Weidenbener and Erica Forbes  
Deanna Weiss  
Western Racquet Club  
Joanne Williams  
Lisa and John Wilson  
Lisa Winders and Ryan Bingham  
Wisconsin Tennis Association  
Kirk and Barbie Woosencraft  
Randall and Sarah Yale  
Charles and Peggy Yang  
Erica and Erik Zipp  
Amy and Edward Zosel  
Heather and Scott Zukewich



# Meet Our Kids

**M**et Our Kids features young people involved in MTEF's year-around TEAM (Tennis, Education and Mentoring) programming.

## Anders Roos: 8th Grade, Webster Middle School



**How long have you been a part of MTEF?** About one and a half years.

**What is your favorite part of MTEF?** Being able to play tennis multiple times a week for the whole year.

**What are you really good at tenniswise?** Slicing and volleys.

**What are you working on?** My serves.

**What keeps you coming back to MTEF?** Getting to play tennis.

**Outside of tennis, what keeps you busy?** I play video games, roller blade, keep fish, and go to sleepovers with my friends.

**Favorite snack?** Cool ranch Doritos.

**Favorite TV show?** *One Piece*.

**Anything else you would like to share about your MTEF Experience?** I really like being able to play tennis with coaches who really want to help me improve my game.

# Meet Our Coaches

## Cullen White

**How long have you been a part of MTEF?** I started as a volunteer in 2019.

After half helping out the program for a year and a half, I was formally hired in 2020-2021 — once the summer programming resumed after the Covid pandemic.

**What is your favorite part of coaching for MTEF?** My favorite aspect of MTEF is developing relationships with our participants through which I can teach them not only tennis skills but support each of their unique character development needs.

Tennis is the perfect medium to facilitate conversations about discipline, respect and healthy habits. As a coach, I have the opportunity to model these life skills that are so vital for youth in hopes that they adopt a personalized approach to navigating life which starts on the tennis court and transcends into future endeavors that remain with them for a lifetime.

**What are you really good at tenniswise?** Something I do well is that I can grind and find ways to compete beyond my perceived capabilities against players who are much better than I am. This is done with the help of a steady backhand.

**What are you working on?** Parts of the game I still working on include my forehand, volleys, overheads and serves. Also, my inner game of trusting my body and forgetting the negative mindset I allow

myself to fall susceptible to is a constant work in progress.

**What is one thing someone might not know about MTEF or you?** The amazing administrative and coaching staff here at MTEF makes this work environment very warm and inviting. I am ever so grateful to be considered year after year to come back and help. Also, the memorable experiences shared with participants are at the core of what makes the MTEF experience so special.

**Anything else you would like to share about your MTEF experience?** One thing that I notice from an inside perspective here at MTEF is the quality character of kids in the program. We foster an inclusive community here at MTEF and I can honestly say that each participant is respectful and supportive to others.

**Age?** 27

**Favorite snack?** My quality go-to snack would be chips and guacamole.

**Favorite TV show or movie?** A favorite movie series would be James Bond, with each era having its own charm.

**Your motivational song?** *Mulan's I'll Make a Man Out of You.*

**Outside of tennis, what keeps you busy?** I enjoy playing tennis competitively in local leagues as well as getting out on the disc golf course to play with friends.



Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation  
Attn: Rachael Badt  
3000 N. Sherman Blvd.  
Milwaukee, WI 53210

SAVE THE DATE

# 25th Annual Tennis Ball

SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 16, 2024



**NOW HIRING  
FOR SUMMER**

FULL AND PART TIME POSITIONS

[WWW.MTEF.COM/SUMMERCOACH](http://WWW.MTEF.COM/SUMMERCOACH)