



Title Sponsor

27th Annual "Little Mo" Nationals

hosted by



Austin Tennis Academy

Austin, Texas

September 27-30, 2024





Celebrating over 55 Years of Promoting Junior Tennis Development in the United States and Worldwide!

September 18, 2024

Dear Players and Parents,

We would like to welcome you and your family to the 27th Annual "Little Mo" Nationals tournament in Austin, Texas - congratulations on reaching your final destination on the 2024 "Road to the Little Mo Nationals"! This prestigious event will be held at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site), Lake Travis High School, Westlake High School, and Dripping Springs High School from Friday, September 27 - Monday, September 30, 2024. There will be **160 players from 20 different states across the USA** featured in this national tournament! With so many talented players from around the country, we hope it will be a fantastic weekend filled with new friendships, great sportsmanship, and competitive tennis. Thank you so much for your support of the "Little Mo" and a special thank you to our tournament sites, volunteers, and proud sponsors: **Jersey Mike's Subs** (Title Sponsor), **Tennis Competitors of Dallas (TCD)**, **Wilson Sporting Goods** ("Official Ball and Racquet"), **Lucky in Love Kids** ("Official Apparel"), and **Ethos School** ("Official Sponsor").

The "Little Mo" began in 1976 as a local tournament for Dallas youngsters and later grew to include players from all over Texas. In 1998, it expanded nationwide and became known as the "Road to the Little Mo Nationals", one of the premier series of junior tournaments for boys and girls ages 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12. The Road is now in its 26th year as a yearlong circuit of regional and national tournaments for players who reside in the USA and its territories. It is the only circuit of its kind for talented, high-performance boys and girls in the United States who compete against others born in the same year.

The Road begins in the spring and summer with the four "Little Mo" Regionals (North, South, East, West) held in different cities across the United States. Yellow (regular) ball divisions will be offered for boys and girls ages 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 in addition to a green dot option for ages 8, 9, and 10. The top four yellow ball players (semifinalists) in each age division from each "Little Mo" Regionals will advance to the prestigious "Little Mo" Nationals in Austin, Texas. These players will form a 16-size draw in each age division at the Nationals. The top 160 players who reach the Nationals are the youngest and brightest future stars in American tennis!

The "Little Mo" tournaments are designed to provide outstanding competition at the regional, national, and international level while also encouraging players to develop new friendships, learn good sportsmanship, and most of all, have fun. The "Little Mo" is also unique in that it gives youngsters the opportunity to gauge their ability against players born in the same year (i.e., 8's play 8's, 9's play 9's). Over the years, many well-known collegiate players and famous tennis professionals have participated in the "Little Mo" tournaments including Andy Roddick, Coco Gauff, Taylor Fritz, Tommy Paul, Belinda Bencic, Madison Keys, Leylah Fernandez, Dominic Thiem, Emma Raducanu, Sebastian Korda, Christopher Eubanks, Jenson Brooksby, Brandon Nakashima, Vasek Pospisil, Borna Coric, Mackie McDonald, Denis Kudla, Ryan Harrison, Taylor Townsend, Donald Young, Steve Johnson, Sofia Kenin, CiCi Bellis, and Ana Konjuh among many others. Roddick won the "Little Mo" in 1992 (age 10) and he said, "the 'Little Mo' was my first big win!" Gauff won the "Little Mo" in 2012 (age 8) and she said, "the 'Little Mo' is where the belief began." This is all wonderful news for junior tennis and we are so proud that the "Little Mo" continues to be one of the most popular events for young players around the world.

The festivities will begin on Friday, September 27 with a complimentary tennis clinic with drills and games for all players at the Austin Tennis Academy from 2:00-3:00pm. An individual and Group Photo will be taken starting at 3:15pm and the spectacular Opening Ceremony will begin at 4:00pm with the players parading onto the center court carrying their state flags. The national anthem will be sung. Cindy Brinker Simmons, MCB President and daughter of Maureen Connolly Brinker, and Doug Davis, Austin Tennis Academy Head Coach, will each give an inspirational message to the players and parents. There will also be entertainment with a Texas flair featuring Cowboy Doug Whitaker and his famous trick roping show following the ceremony. Matches will begin on Saturday, September 28 and continue through Monday, September 30. The winner of each division will be crowned a "Little Mo" Nationals champion! For all draws and results, please visit: www.littlemonationals.com.

On Saturday evening, a fun player party will be held for all of our families at the Austin Tennis Academy from 5:00-7:30pm. There will be many exciting activities for the players including laser tag, videogame van, bounce house, inflatables, and other games. Henri Elkins and Fernando Velasco will also be performing their world-renowned "Bijou" Tennis Show (comedy performance and tennis tricks) from 6:30-7:00pm - their show has been described as the "Harlem Globetrotters" of tennis! Additionally, the Austin Tennis Academy will be hosting a "College Prep Open House" for any parents and coaches interested in learning more about ATA's on-campus, fully accredited private school from 5:00-7:00pm. We hope you will join us for this special occasion as it will be a great opportunity to meet other outstanding players from around the country - be sure to get their contact information so you can stay in touch after the event!

The "Little Mo" tournaments are hosted by MCB in memory of its tennis champion namesake, Maureen "Little Mo" Connolly Brinker. Born in San Diego, Maureen became the first woman to achieve the Grand Slam of tennis in 1953 by winning all four major championships (Australian, French, Wimbledon, and US Open) in the same year. She was well known for her powerful groundstrokes from the baseline, which earned her the famous nickname "Little Mo" - a comparison to the explosive firepower of the battleship USS *Missouri*, also known as "Big Mo". Only five players in the history of tennis have won the calendar Grand Slam, and Maureen is still the only American woman and the youngest at age 18 to have accomplished this magnificent feat. She won an amazing nine consecutive championship titles (three US, three Wimbledon, two French, one Australian) - undefeated in 50 matches.

Unfortunately, her spectacular career would be short-lived due to a horseback riding accident in 1954. While she could no longer compete at an elite level, Maureen's legacy as a legendary tennis star would continue through the Maureen Connolly Brinker Tennis Foundation (MCB). Founded in 1968 with her dear friend Nancy Jeffett, MCB's mission would be the promotion and support of junior tennis development worldwide. That same year, she was inducted into the prestigious International Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport, Rhode Island. Sadly, Maureen lost her valiant battle with cancer the following year and passed away at the young age of 34. Although her tennis career only spanned three years, many premier sportswriters consider Maureen Connolly to be the finest of all female players for her achievements on and off the court. In 2019, she was honored by the United States Postal Service with her very own "Little Mo" Commemorative Forever Stamp.

Today, MCB continues to support the growth of junior tennis by organizing numerous "Little Mo" tournaments throughout the United States annually for talented boys and girls (ages 8-16). These events are designed to provide outstanding competition at the regional, national, and international level while also encouraging players to develop new friendships, learn good sportsmanship, and most of all, have fun. The "Little Mo" tournaments are also unique in that young players have the opportunity to gauge their ability against others born in the same year from around the world (i.e., 8's play 8's, 9's play 9's). MCB strives to empower young athletes by giving travel grants, "Mo" Coins for prizes, and also Sportsmanship and Kindness awards to deserving individuals in honor of Maureen's legacy. The Foundation also contributes financially to many notable programs including the National Junior Tennis League for inner-city youth and Invest In A Child for deaf and wheelchair tennis.

Maureen Connolly was known for her outstanding victories, but more importantly for her exemplary sportsmanship and kindness on and off the court. To honor her legacy, the "Little Mo" offers special "Mo" Coins to players who display good sportsmanship and who are respectful and kind to others. The referee, officials, and tournament staff will have

the colorful “Mo” Coins in their pockets to give to players during the event. All players will be able to trade in their coins for prizes at the “Little Mo” Booth at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site). Sportsmanship and Kindness Awards will also be given to four deserving players selected by the officials during the tournament.

In addition to the “Little Mo” Nationals, we hope you will join us for our last remaining “Little Mo” Internationals (Florida) - **open to any player worldwide (ages 8-16)!** In 2006, MCB created the “Little Mo” Internationals for USA players to experience different styles of play and meet others from various countries and cultures from around the world. This flagship event was first held in Texas and it has evolved over the years into three different events held in Colorado, New Jersey, and Florida. Today, the Internationals attract thousands of talented boys and girls (ages 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12) who travel from across the United States and worldwide to compete against others born in the same year. The “Big Mo” divisions have also been added in Colorado and Florida for ages 13, 14, 15, and 16. These unique tournaments are held at some of the most prominent and historic tennis clubs in the United States, which helps to create an unforgettable experience and enjoyable vacation for the entire family. There are also many fun tourist attractions and sights to see near our three international events such as Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods, US Open, Times Square, Statue of Liberty, Broadway shows, Disney World, Epcot, and beautiful beaches.

This year, our host sites are the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado (June 28 – July 3), the West Orange Tennis Club in West Orange, New Jersey (August 17-21), and the Palm Beach Gardens Tennis Center in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida (December 6-11). In Colorado and Florida, yellow (regular) ball divisions will be offered for boys and girls ages 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 in addition to a green dot option for ages 8, 9, and 10. In New Jersey, yellow (regular) ball divisions will be offered for boys and girls ages 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 in addition to a green dot option for ages 8, 9, and 10. The “Big Mo” divisions (ages 13, 14, 15, and 16) will **not** be offered due to limited courts in New Jersey. All players will have an opportunity to participate in Singles, Doubles, and Mixed Doubles in addition to many exciting and memorable activities such as the Player Clinic, Player Parade, Group Photo, Opening Ceremony, Player Gift Exchange, “Mo” Coins, Player Party, “Little Mo/Big Mo” Booth, and much more. Last year, the “Little Mo” Internationals in Florida featured over 700 players from 70 different countries! Registration for all international tournaments will be on a **first-come, first-served basis up to the entry limit - we will be accepting the first 30 players in Florida in each division.** If a division reaches the entry limit before the registration deadline, a WAITING LIST will be established at that time. **Be sure to register early as the draws typically fill before the registration deadline - some draws are already full!** All yellow ball results from the “Little Mo” Internationals (Colorado, New Jersey, Florida) will count towards your player’s Universal Tennis Rating (UTR). All green dot results will also count towards the Universal Tennis Color Ball Rating (CBR). **For more information and to register for our last international tournament, please visit our website (www.mcbtennis.org) and click on the “Tournaments” tab.**

Have you ever dreamed of winning the tallest trophy in junior tennis? In 2013, MCB created the ultimate challenge for any player (ages 8-12) to win the “Little Mo” Slam. The Slam was created in honor of Maureen Connolly’s Grand Slam win in 1953 - winning all four major championships (Australian, French, Wimbledon, and US Open) in the same calendar year. If a “Little Mo” player can win their **yellow ball division** at all three Internationals (Colorado, New Jersey, Florida) in the same year, they will receive the tallest trophy in junior tennis (6 feet tall) and the title of “Little Mo” Slam Champion! The Slam continued this year with the 1st leg at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado (June 28 - July 3). The 2nd leg was held at the West Orange Tennis Club in West Orange, New Jersey (August 17-21). The 3rd and final leg will take place at the Palm Beach Gardens Tennis Center in Palm Beach Gardens Florida (December 6-11). There have been eleven players who have accomplished this magnificent feat in the past eleven years. **Who will win the “Little Mo” Slam title this year?**

We are actively looking for sponsors for the 2024 and 2025 “Little Mo” tournaments. If you are interested or you know someone who works for a company that would be interested in being a sponsor of our “Road to the Little Mo Nationals” circuit and/or the three “Little Mo” Internationals (Colorado, New Jersey, Florida), please send an email to: carol@mcbtennis.org. We will be happy to send a customized PowerPoint sponsorship proposal, which would include branding opportunities such as placing banners at various sites across the country, advertising in the player program and booklet, having your logo on the tournament t-shirts, and promoting your product(s) to our players, parents, and their families. We are also always trying to improve the “Little Mo” tournaments and create a fun and memorable experience for our players and their families. If you have a creative idea or suggestion for the “Little Mo” tournaments, please send an email to: carol@mcbtennis.org.

MCB has promoted the development of junior tennis for over 55 years and continues to benefit countless numbers of young players worldwide. It is our mission to provide a special and meaningful experience at all of our events while also inspiring outstanding attributes at a young age such as fair play, good character, integrity, sportsmanship, kindness, giving back, and an “attitude of gratitude”. Thank you so much for your support of the “Little Mo” tournaments and the legacy of Maureen Connolly Brinker. Thousands of players compete in the “Little Mo” tournaments annually and we hope to see even more youngsters play this wonderful “sport for a lifetime” this year. We would also very much appreciate your help in spreading the word about the “Little Mo” so we can continue to impact future generations of young players. The MCB Tennis Foundation is led by its directors: Cindy Brinker Simmons (President), Brenda Brinker Bottum (Vice President), and Elizabeth Jeffett (Vice President), Carol Weyman (Executive Vice President), Matthew Cody (Tournament Operations Manager), and Tiffany Hollebeck (Tournament Operations Coordinator) organize the “Little Mo” tournaments. For more information about the “Little Mo”, please visit our website at: www.mcbtennis.org and click on “Tournaments”.

On behalf of MCB, we would like to thank our proud sponsors, Austin Tennis Academy (ATA - Host Site), Lake Travis High School (LTHS), Westlake High School (WHS), Dripping Springs High School (DSHS), their staffs for hosting our event, **Jack Newman** (ATA Founder and Chief Executive Officer), **Deb Cahill** (ATA Chief Operating Officer), **Doug Davis** (ATA Head Coach), **Carol Hagar** (ATA School Founder and Head of School), **Lisa Weinhold** (ATA Pro Shop Manager), **Brian Notis** (Tournament Director), **Fred Lipcomb** (Referee), **Mike Henry** (Deputy Referee) and the officials, **Henri Elkins**, **Fernando Velasco**, **Cowboy Doug Whitaker**, **Ely Hobbick**, **Debbie Brooke**, **Garret Mak**, **Caiden Riebold**, and all of the volunteers who have donated their time and energy for our event. We appreciate their hard work and dedication to junior tennis!

The “Little Mo” is truly a “one of a kind” tournament for young tennis players held in honor of tennis legend Maureen “Little Mo” Connolly Brinker, and we look forward to sharing all of the fun and festivities with you and your family in Austin. By playing in the “Little Mo” tournaments, you are also a role model for other players (especially those younger than you) so we hope you will follow in Maureen’s footsteps and be a positive example for those around you. We wish you all good luck in your matches, but most of all, we hope you enjoy the tournament, have fun, and meet some new friends. **Play “Mo” Tennis!**

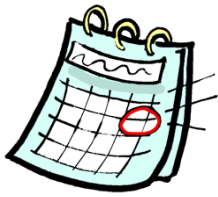
Warmest regards,

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Maureen Connolly Brinker
Tennis Foundation, Inc.

Receive monthly newsletters to stay tuned for
“Little Mo” Tournament News and Updates

CLICK HERE TO JOIN



Important Notice



For **Draws, Match Times, Results, and Event Updates**, please go to the tournament's **USTA** homepage:

www.littlemonationals.com

PLEASE NOTE THAT EVERYTHING WILL BE POSTED ON THE USTA HOMEPAGE (WE WILL NOT BE POSTING ANY MORE INFORMATION ON THE UTR HOMEPAGE WHERE YOU ORIGINALLY REGISTERED FOR THE TOURNAMENT). ALSO, YOU WILL NEED TO "REFRESH" THE USTA HOMEPAGE FROM TIME TO TIME IN ORDER TO SEE THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.



Player List is Now Available - Click on the Link Above!

The official Player List is available as a document online. To view the Player List document, please click on the following link: <https://mcbtennis.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/NAT24.pdf>. Please note that the Player List is **NOT** posted on the tournament's USTA or UTR homepage (you must click on the link to view the Player List).

Draws / Match Times: The draws and first-day match times for all divisions will be posted on the tournament's **USTA** homepage (link included above) by **Thursday evening, September 26 - not before 7:00pm Eastern Time**. We will be sending out an email to all registered players when the draws/match times are posted online. When available, please click on the "Draws" tab, select your player's division in the list, and look for your player's name in the draw. Please note that the USTA platform will show all players and their individual age divisions under the general headings of: "8 & under", "10 & under", and "12 & under". This simply means that the 8's players and their draws will be found under the "8 & under" headings, the 9's and 10's players and their draws will be found under the "10 & under" headings, and the 11's and 12's players and their draws will be found under the "12 & under" headings. Unfortunately, the USTA platform is unable to have specific headers for each individual age division at this time. We would also like to let you know that while the USTA name and logo are featured at the top of the drawsheets, MCB Tennis Foundation is not affiliated with the USTA. We do follow most of the USTA guidelines, employ USTA officials, and use their software to run our "Little Mo" tournaments, but we are a separate non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

Match Locations / Tournament Desks: All matches for this tournament will be played at the following four sites: Austin Tennis Academy (abbreviated as "**ATA**" on the draws online), Lake Travis High School (abbreviated as "**LTHS**" on the draws online), Westlake High School (abbreviated as "**WHS**" on the draws online), and Dripping Springs High School (abbreviated as "**DSHS**" on the draws online). The draws online will include the specific playing site for your player's match when posted. Once you know the location for your player's match, you can go directly to that site. There will be a Tournament Desk at all playing sites so there is no need to go to the Austin Tennis Academy first on Saturday if you are playing at another site. Please remember to check your draw carefully each day for the correct match time and location. Also, please check in at least 30 minutes prior to each match at the Tournament Desk while allowing some extra time for traffic and parking.

Results / Next Day Match Times: The draws online will be updated during the event with results as matches are completed throughout the day. The Saturday match times will be posted on Thursday evening, September 26 (**not before 7:00pm**). The Sunday match times will be posted at the conclusion of play on Saturday (**not before 7:00pm**) and the Monday match times will be posted at the conclusion of play on Sunday (**not before 7:00pm**). The **USTA** homepage will have the most up-to-date information about the tournament so please save and bookmark the URL above. *Be sure to check the tournament's USTA homepage on a regular basis for important updates during the event (weather, draw changes, et cetera).*



27th Annual

“Road to the Little Mo Nationals”

Rules and Regulations

Welcome to the 27th Annual “Road to the Little Mo Nationals”! These tournaments are designed to provide outstanding competition at the regional and national level while also encouraging players to develop new friendships, learn good sportsmanship, and most of all, have fun. The Road is the only circuit of its kind for talented, high-performance girls and boys in the United States who compete against others born in the same year. [Please read through the following rules and regulations carefully:](#)

- **Eligibility:** The Road will begin in the spring and summer with the four “Little Mo” Regionals (North, South, East, West) held in different cities across the United States. The regional tournaments are open to any player who lives in the United States and its territories (ages 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12). There are no special qualifications or ranking needed to register for the regional tournaments - any USA player who registers will be accepted into the draw until the entry limit is reached. **Please note that players must have lived in the United States for at least six consecutive months prior to the tournament start date in order to be eligible for the “Little Mo” Regionals. If a player does not meet this requirement, they will be withdrawn from the tournament.*
- **Entry Limit / Confirmation Email:** Registration for the “Little Mo” Regionals will be on a first-come, first-served basis up to the entry limit - we will be accepting the first 32 players in each division. If a division reaches the entry limit before the registration deadline, a WAITING LIST will be established at that time. Be sure to register early as the draws typically fill before the registration deadline! **Please note that once you have received a confirmation email from UTR/Stripe, your player’s entry has been accepted into the tournament and you can make your travel arrangements.*
- **Multiple Tournaments:** Players may compete in any “Little Mo” Regionals regardless of where they are currently living in the United States or its territories. Players may also compete in as many regional tournaments as desired, but they only need to participate in one regional tournament and finish in the top four (yellow ball division only) to qualify for the “Little Mo” Nationals.
- **Events / Guaranteed Matches:** The “Little Mo” Regionals and the “Little Mo” Nationals will offer Singles events for all divisions (no Doubles or Mixed Doubles events). All players will be guaranteed at least two Singles matches during the regional and national tournaments.
- **Age Eligibility / Registration by Birth Year:** Players must register in the proper age division according to their birth year. This ensures that our players are competing against others who are born in the same calendar year (i.e., a player born in 2014 must play in the 10’s division since they will be turning 10 this year).
 - Girls and Boys 12’s - born in 2012
 - Girls and Boys 11’s - born in 2013
 - Girls and Boys 10’s - born in 2014
 - Girls and Boys 9’s - born in 2015
 - Girls and Boys 8’s - born in 2016 (Only players who are born in 2016 will be allowed to play in the 8’s divisions. Players born in 2017 or 2018 will not be eligible.)
- **Divisions:** Yellow (regular) ball divisions will be offered for girls and boys ages 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 in addition to a green dot option for ages 8, 9, and 10. Players must register for only one division. This means that players competing in the 8’s, 9’s, and 10’s divisions must choose to play with either the yellow (regular) ball or the green dot ball for their age group. Players in the 11’s and 12’s divisions must play with the yellow (regular) ball. All divisions will be played on a full 78’ tennis court with either the yellow (regular) ball or the green dot ball.
- **Draw Formats:** All divisions will use the same draw formats regardless of age or ball type, but we will be using several different draw formats based on the draw size:

- **32-size draw:** A **Modified Feed-in Consolation format through the Round of 16 with a 3rd/4th Place playoff and 5th/6th Place playoff** will be used. This means that any player who loses before the Quarterfinal Round (Main Draw) will feed back into the Consolation bracket. The losers of the Quarterfinal Round (Main Draw) will move into a 5th/6th Place playoff and the losers of the Semifinal Round (Main Draw) will move into a 3rd/4th Place playoff.
 - **16-size draw:** A **Feed-in Consolation format through the Quarterfinals with a 3rd/4th Place playoff** will be used. This means that any player who loses before the Semifinal Round (Main Draw) will feed back into the Consolation bracket. The losers of the Semifinal Round (Main Draw) will move into a 3rd/4th Place playoff. A 5th/6th Place playoff is not possible as the Consolation Winner and Consolation Runner-Up are the 5th/6th Place winners in this format.
 - **8-size draw:** A **First Round Losers Consolation format with a 3rd/4th Place playoff** will be used. This means that any player who loses in the First Round (Main Draw) will move into the Consolation bracket. A Feed-in format is not possible as the Second Round (Main Draw) is the Semifinal Round, and the losers of the Semifinal Round (Main Draw) will move into a 3rd/4th Place playoff. A 5th/6th Place playoff is also not possible as the Consolation Winner and Consolation Runner-Up are the 5th/6th Place winners in this format.
 - **5 or less players:** A **Round Robin format** will be used.
- **Scoring Format:** All divisions will use the same scoring format regardless of age, ball type or draw format. All Singles matches (Main Draw and Consolation) will consist of two tiebreak sets (first to 6 games). At 6 games all, a 7-point set tiebreak (first to 7, win by 2) will be played. If players split sets, a 10-point match tiebreak (first to 10, win by 2) will be played in lieu of a third set. Regular scoring (**with ad**) will be used for all Main Draw matches and a 5-minute warm-up will be given before each match. No-ad scoring will be used for all Consolation matches in addition to the 3rd/4th Place playoff and the 5th/6th Place playoff. A 2-minute rest period will be given between the first and second sets, and a 3-minute rest period will be given between the second set and match tiebreak. **No coaching is allowed at any time.** **Shortened scoring may be used in the case of rain.*
 - ***NEW IN 2024 - Bathroom Break Courtesy Point:** If a player needs to go to the bathroom, they need to get permission from an official. *To minimize loss of momentum during the set caused by a bathroom break, the player taking the break will give a courtesy point to their opponent. This is **not** a penalty point. A courtesy point will **not** be given for a bathroom break taken at the end of a set. This rule is unique to the “Little Mo” tournaments.*
 - **Advancing to “Little Mo” Nationals:** The top four **yellow ball** players (semifinalists) in each age division from each “Little Mo” Regionals will advance to the prestigious “Little Mo” Nationals in Austin, Texas from September 27-30, 2024. These players will form a 16-size draw in each age division at the Nationals. If you advance to the Semifinal Round (Main Draw) in your age division at the Regionals and you (and your parent/coach) have followed the Code of Conduct, you will receive your Nationals invitation with a special code needed for registration by email from the MCB office following the regional tournament. The top 160 players who reach the Nationals are the youngest and brightest future stars in American tennis!
 - **Alternate Players for “Little Mo” Nationals:** If one of the top four **yellow ball** players (semifinalists) from a “Little Mo” Regionals cannot attend the “Little Mo” Nationals, we will contact the 5th and 6th Place winners (if applicable) to take their place as the first and second alternates. If neither player can attend, we will consider other players in the draw and players from other regional tournaments as replacements based on their results and UTR. If there is **not** a 5th/6th Place playoff, we will contact the Consolation Winner as the first alternate instead. If the Consolation Winner cannot attend, we will consider other players in the draw and players from other regional tournaments as replacements based on their results and UTR. The MCB office will let you know as soon as possible via email if there is an opening to attend the Nationals. *While the green dot players will **not** be able to advance to the Nationals, they might be considered as replacement players if all of the qualified yellow ball players have been contacted.*
 - **Universal Tennis Rating (UTR) / Color Ball Rating (CBR):** All yellow ball results from the “Road to the Little Mo Nationals” (Regionals, Nationals) will count towards your player’s Universal Tennis Rating (UTR). All green dot results will count towards your player’s Universal Tennis Color Ball Rating (CBR).

Good luck to all players!





Code of Conduct for **“Little Mo” Tournaments**

The “Little Mo” tournaments are organized by the Maureen Connolly Brinker Tennis Foundation (MCB). These events are named in memory of Maureen “Little Mo” Connolly Brinker, who was known for her outstanding sportsmanship on and off the court. Your participation in the “Little Mo” tournament should reflect this gold standard of behavior. In registering for any “Little Mo” tournament, we expect all players, parents, coaches, spectators, and other participants to adhere to its Code of Conduct. That includes exhibiting the following behavior:

1. **You must be considerate and respectful of the rights of all participants and spectators regardless of their age, gender, ability, race, cultural background, sexual orientation, or religious beliefs.**
2. **You must play within the rules of tennis and respect the officials and their decisions. There shall be no arguments, no displays of aggressiveness, no cursing or profane behavior, no volatile anger, or similar behavior against the referees, other players, opponents, or members of the tournament committee.**
3. **You must play fairly. Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated, including but not limited to, intentionally and willfully calling the lines incorrectly, calling the score incorrectly, and intentionally delaying the game.**
4. **You will not receive or offer any form of coaching from the sidelines during match play.**
5. **You must look presentable on court and pick up after yourself at all times.**
6. **You are expected to be positive, respectful, and supportive of other players.**
7. **MCB has a zero-tolerance policy for any person videotaping or capturing the image of opposing players, their family members, or guests with the intent of posting derogatory, offensive, or disparaging comments about them online or on any social media platform. This includes, but is not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, LinkedIn, and TikTok. MCB will not permit this kind of demeaning behavior related to any of its “Little Mo” tournaments. Consequences of this action may include the immediate default of a player from the tournament and/or the dismissal of the offending parent, coach, spectator, or participant from the tournament, in addition to other consequences as determined by MCB.**
8. **Most “Little Mo” tournaments use multiple playing sites due to the large number of players involved in the event. If you have more than one child entered in a tournament, MCB is not able to guarantee they will be playing at the same site. Therefore, it is highly recommended to bring an additional guardian for each child you bring to a tournament. For safety reasons, a player should not be left alone without a guardian at any time.**

Parents / Coaches / Spectators / Other Participants:

- No coaching, hand signals, or any communication with the player when on court. Only English can be spoken when the player is on court.
- No clapping when the opponent double faults or makes an unforced error.
- No loud, excessive or constant cheering/clapping that is disruptive or distracting to players while on court. This includes cheering that distracts other players on adjacent courts and cheering across another court during a match.
- No interference with the match or arguing with, yelling at, or threatening the officials or Tournament Director. Their decisions are final.
- No yelling at or threatening anyone especially players.
- Emotional, physical, or sexual misconduct will **not** be tolerated at “Little Mo” tournaments. This includes but is not limited to child abuse, endangerment, and neglect.

Players:

- No coaching, hand signals, or any communication is allowed during your match. Only English can be spoken when the player is on court.
- No cursing or yelling on court. This includes yelling “come on” or other distracting outbursts that can be heard on other courts.
- No hitting the ball to the back of the fence or the net in anger.
- No hitting the ball away from the player when it is their serve.
- The server must announce the score loudly in English before every point. All players must know how to keep score and announce it correctly.
- If a player needs to go to the bathroom, they must ask an official for permission. We encourage players to only go to the bathroom at a set break to minimize loss of momentum during the set. Any player taking a bathroom break that is **not** at the end of a set must give a courtesy point to their opponent. Players will be accompanied to and from the bathroom by an official when possible.
- Play fair! No cheating of any kind will be tolerated. Please make correct line calls – if in doubt about a call, it is IN. No delay of game.

We would like everyone to have a wonderful and memorable experience at the “Little Mo” tournaments. Let the memory of your match be a good one for both you and your opponent, whether you win or lose.

Consequences of Behavior:

During a Match:

The officials will be watching the matches closely and if a player breaches the Code of Conduct during the match, the player will be given:

1. First offense: A warning.
2. Second offense: A point penalty.
3. Third offense: A game penalty.

If the behavior continues after the game penalty, additional game penalties will continue to be given until the match is over. The behavior of parents, coaches, spectators, and other participants can also cause their player to receive the above penalties, and may also result in consequences to the offending individual, including removal. However, the tournament committee has the discretion to issue an immediate default to the player in cases where the conduct rises to a level at which an official determines that, in the interest of fairness or the health and safety of participants, the match cannot proceed.

In addition to the above, an official may, in his or her discretion, take the following actions, among others, in the event of a breach of the Code of Conduct by a player, parent, coach, spectator, or other participant: issue a warning OR begin the ejection and/or default process.

If a parent/guardian is ejected from a match and/or the premises, their player will forfeit any match in progress and will be asked to leave with their parent/guardian unless (1) another parent/guardian is available to stay with the player; or (2) the parent/guardian's misconduct was directed at the player and MCB believes the parent/guardian poses an immediate threat to the player, in which case the Tournament Director and MCB will work with the player and law enforcement, if needed, to determine appropriate steps.

Any ruling made by an official and/or the tournament committee during a match is final.

Additional Consequences:

Regardless of whether an official issues a penalty during a match, MCB may take the following additional actions, in its discretion and without limitation, in response to a breach of this Code of Conduct: refuse the entry of any player wanting to register for any "Little Mo" tournament; not invite a player to the next round of the "Road to the Little Mo Nationals" circuit; prohibit a player or other individual from attending "Little Mo" events for any period of time, up to a lifetime ban; impose conditions on an individual's attendance at "Little Mo" events; revoke any trophies or travel grants from any player.

Repeated violations at the same match or multiple matches over time may also result in additional penalties.

Law Enforcement:

MCB reserves the right to call or report behavior to law enforcement when required and when MCB otherwise deems necessary or appropriate according to USTA Safe Play guidelines.

Reporting:

If you are a player, parent, coach, spectator, or other participant and you reasonably believe that an individual has breached this Code of Conduct, or that anyone at a "Little Mo" tournament (including officials and event staff) has committed emotional, physical, or sexual misconduct (including but not limited to child abuse), you may make a report to MCB at: carol@mcbtennis.org.





27th Annual “Little Mo” Nationals



Title Sponsor

Fact Sheet

Dates: Friday, September 27 - Monday, September 30, 2024 - *please plan your departure after 5:00pm on Monday, September 30 as final matches will be played that day for all age divisions.*

Tournament Director: Brian Notis

Tournament Email: tiffanv@mcbtennis.org **Tournament Phone:** (214) 883-2113 → both calls and texts are possible

Fastest Tournament Communication: If you have any questions about the tournament, please call or send a text to our official Tournament Phone: (214) 883-2113. The Tournament Phone will be available during the event from approximately 8:00am-8:00pm each day. You may also send an email to: tiffanv@mcbtennis.org, but you will receive the fastest response by phone or text.

Playing Surface: Outdoor Hard courts

Ball: Wilson US Open Regular Duty

Sites: Austin Tennis Academy (ATA - Host Site)
6800 Spanish Oaks Club Boulevard
Austin, Texas 78738
Click [here](#) to visit their website.

Lake Travis High School (LTHS)
3322 Ranch Road 620 South
Austin, Texas 78738
Click [here](#) to visit their website.

Westlake High School (WHS)
1337 Westbank Drive
Austin, Texas 78746
Click [here](#) to visit their website.

Dripping Springs High School (DSHS)
940 US-290
Dripping Springs, Texas 78620
Click [here](#) to visit their website.

**All matches for this tournament will be played at the following four sites: Austin Tennis Academy (abbreviated as “ATA” on the draws online), Lake Travis High School (abbreviated as “LTHS” on the draws online), Westlake High School, (abbreviated as “WHS” on the draws online), and Dripping Springs High School, (abbreviated as “DSHS” on the draws online).*

Tentative Saturday Match Locations: The following list is where each division will tentatively play on Saturday, September 28 - **please note that this schedule may change at any time so please double check your match location once the draws/match times are posted:**

- **Girls 8** and **Boys 8** → Westlake High School (WHS)
- **Girls 9** and **Boys 9** → Lake Travis High School (LTHS)
- **Girls 10, Girls 11, Boys 10,** and **Boys 11** → Austin Tennis Academy (ATA)
- **Girls 12** and **Boys 12** → Dripping Springs High School (DSHS)

Parking - Austin Tennis Academy: Complimentary self-parking will be available in the parking lot at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site), but we are asking our families to not park in the fire line at any time, on the bridge outside of the academy or in any of the “reserved” spots as these are for the ATA staff. Overflow parking will be available in the grassy field near the front of the school building. Please note that players can be dropped off at the front of the facility while you find parking nearby. ***Also, please be mindful of any handicapped parking spots and make sure to read all of the posted parking signs/regulations very carefully or your car may be towed!***

Parking - Lake Travis High School, Westlake High School, and Dripping Springs High School: Complimentary self-parking will be available in the parking lots at the Lake Travis High School, Westlake High School, and Dripping Springs High School. Please note that players can be dropped off at the front of the facility while you find parking nearby. ***Also, please be mindful of any handicapped parking spots and make sure to read all of the posted parking signs/regulations very carefully or your car may be towed!***

Alternate Sites / Transportation Recommendations: In addition to the Austin Tennis Academy (host site), we will be using 2-3 additional alternate sites on Saturday, Sunday, and potentially Monday as well if there is any inclement weather during the tournament. One alternate site will be Lake Travis High School which is located about 8 minutes away from the Austin Tennis Academy. A second alternate site will be Westlake High School which is located about 16 minutes away from the Austin Tennis Academy. A third alternate site will be Dripping Springs High School which is located about 23 minutes away from the Austin Tennis Academy. While all of our alternate sites will be relatively close to the Austin Tennis Academy, we do recommend renting a car if you do not already have transportation. A ride-sharing service such as Uber or Lyft might also be an option based on availability in the area. Regardless of which playing site you have at the beginning of the tournament, all matches should be coming back to the Austin Tennis Academy for the final day(s) of the event. ***Click [here](#) for a map from the Austin Tennis Academy to Lake Travis High School, click [here](#) for a map from the Austin Tennis Academy to Westlake High School, and click [here](#) for a map from the Austin Tennis Academy to Dripping Springs High School.***

(VERY IMPORTANT) Water / Ice / Sunscreen / Shade: It may be hot so please remember to hydrate adequately before and during the tournament. Water and ice will be available at all playing sites, but we encourage our players and their families to bring their own water and ice for their coolers - please **do not** fill up your coolers from the ice machines. It is best to bring your own water bottles and cups too if needed. We

would also recommend bringing any sunscreen, umbrellas, sunglasses, and canopy/folding chairs if needed as there may be limited shade at your playing site.

Host Hotel Information: Our host hotel for the Nationals tournament is the SpringHill Suites Austin West/Lakeway hotel (322 Medical Parkway, Lakeway, TX 78738). Most of our players and their families will be staying at the SpringHill Suites hotel during the tournament and it will be a great place to meet some new tennis friends. The hotel is located about 8 minutes away from the Austin Tennis Academy (host site). Although our discounted room rate at the SpringHill Suites expired on **September 12**, there might still be some rooms available this week due to last-minute cancellations - **please contact the SpringHill Suites hotel directly at: 512-599-4434 for any questions about their current rates and availability.** Our courtesy room block featured **King rooms** and **Double Queen rooms** starting at **\$154/night** (before taxes) - rates may have varied based on your specific travel dates. These rates include complimentary breakfast, WiFi, and self-parking among other amenities. For more information about the hotel and a full list of its wonderful amenities, please click here: <https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/auswl-springhill-suites-austin-west-lakeway/>.

***Special Note about your Hotel Reservation in relation to Alternate Sites and Divisions:** If you decide not to stay at our host hotel, it is still best to make your reservations near the Austin Tennis Academy (host site) as all of the playing sites for this tournament will be relatively close to each other (within 10-25 minutes). Please note that we will **not** know where specific divisions will be playing until the draws/match times are posted. Also, players may be competing at different sites throughout the tournament based on the scheduling (it is **not** guaranteed that players will be at the same site each day).

Entry Fee: \$220 per player which includes **Singles only**. Please note that Universal Tennis adds an additional \$12 fee on top of our entry fee if you have not upgraded to a UTR Power subscription - this additional fee is set by UTR. The entry fee helps to cover the cost of the courts, balls, officials, t-shirts, trophies, online registration fees, and other tournament expenses. *A portion of the entry fee also comes back to the Foundation to help further the development of junior tennis worldwide and it is tax-deductible.*

Withdrawal and Refund Policy: If you are unable to join us for the Nationals tournament, please send an email as soon as possible to: tiffanv@mcbtennis.org to be withdrawn from the event. A player's entry fee was fully refundable up until the registration deadline posted on the tournament's UTR homepage - **September 6 at 5:00pm (Central Time)**. **At this time, any withdrawal requests will not be eligible for a refund or credit to a future tournament.**

Player's Birth Certificate / Passport (VERY IMPORTANT - MANDATORY): All players who participate in the "Little Mo" Nationals must present a copy of their birth certificate or passport at Player Check-in to be included in the tournament. Player Check-in will be taking place at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site) on Friday, September 27 from 11:00am - 2:00pm (anytime). Information must be able to be read in English and clearly show a player's full name and birthday (please make sure that the copy you bring is not blurry). Due to our privacy policy, we will **not** be accepting any birth certificates or passports in advance or by email. We will also **not** be accepting any birth certificate or passport images on a phone during Player Check-in (**you must bring a hard copy to the event**). **A copy of your player's birth certificate or passport is mandatory to play in our national tournament (no exceptions).**

Special Dress Code on Friday and Tennis Attire during the Tournament (VERY IMPORTANT): There will be a special dress code required on the first day of our national tournament. On Friday, September 27 (only), our players will need to wear **all-white clothing** for all of the special activities scheduled for that day (colored shoes are OK). Clothing that must adhere to the "all-white" dress code on Friday includes shirts, shorts, skirts, tennis dresses, warm-ups, jackets, and sweaters (a 5-10% colored trim on clothing is allowed, but no large logos). Players can also wear the white "Little Mo" tournament t-shirt they will receive at Player Check-in on Friday. During the tournament, we ask our players to please wear nice tennis attire for their practice and matches - **colored clothing/shoes are acceptable and there are no logo restrictions.** The "all-white" dress code is **not required** at any time from Saturday, September 28 - Monday, September 30. If you have any questions about the special dress code on Friday, tennis attire during the tournament, or a particular item of clothing, please send an email and picture to: carol@mcbtennis.org.

Player Parade - State Flag (OPTIONAL): It is a special "Little Mo" tradition that all players at our national tournament participate in an Olympic-style Player Parade leading into the Opening Ceremony. This will be a very memorable occasion and players will have a unique opportunity to represent their home state. State flags will **not** be provided by the tournament so if your player would like to carry their own state flag in the Player Parade on Friday, September 27, please be sure to bring one from your home state (no bigger than 2' by 3'). **It is not required to bring a state flag.**

Player Gift Exchange (VERY IMPORTANT): It is a special tradition that all players at the "Little Mo" Regionals and the "Little Mo" Nationals exchange a small gift with their first-round opponent in Singles. The gift should be \$15 or less (wrapped or in a gift bag) and represent your home city/state since your opponent will most likely be from a different area. The gifts are exchanged as the players walk to the court for their first match. This is a fun way to meet a new friend on the first day and it will be a special memory for years to come. **If you have any questions about the Player Gift Exchange, please visit the Tournament Desk during the tournament.**

Universal Tennis Rating (UTR): All yellow ball results from the "Road to the Little Mo Nationals" (Regionals, Nationals) will count towards your player's Universal Tennis Rating (UTR). All green dot results will also count towards the new Universal Tennis Color Ball Rating (CBR).

Events / Guaranteed Matches: The "Little Mo" Nationals will offer **Singles** events for all divisions (**no Doubles or Mixed Doubles events**). All players will be guaranteed at least two Singles matches during the regional and national tournaments.

Age Eligibility / Registration by Birth Year: Players must register in the proper age division according to their birth year. This ensures that our players are competing against others who are born in the same calendar year (i.e., a player born in 2014 must play in the 10's division since they will be turning 10 this year).

- Boys and Girls 12's - born in 2012
- Boys and Girls 11's - born in 2013

- Boys and Girls 10's - born in 2014
- Boys and Girls 9's - born in 2015
- Boys and Girls 8's - born in 2016 (Only players who are born in 2016 will be allowed to play in the 8's divisions. Players born in 2017 or 2018 will **not** be eligible.)

Divisions: Yellow (regular) ball divisions will be offered for boys and girls ages 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12. Players must register for only one division. All divisions will be played on a full 78' tennis court with the yellow (regular) ball.

Draw Format: All divisions will use the same draw size and format regardless of age. A **16-size draw** and a **Feed-in Consolation format through the Quarterfinals with a 3rd/4th Place playoff** will be used. This means that any player who loses before the Semifinal Round (Main Draw) will feed back into the Consolation bracket. The losers of the Semifinal Round (Main Draw) will move into a 3rd/4th Place playoff. A 5th/6th Place playoff is not possible as the Consolation Winner and Consolation Runner-Up are the 5th/6th Place winners in this format.

Scoring Format: All divisions will use the same scoring format regardless of age. All Singles matches (Main Draw and Consolation) will consist of two tiebreak sets (first to 6 games). At 6 games all, a 7-point set tiebreak (first to 7, win by 2) will be played. If players split sets, a **full third set** will be played in lieu of a third set tiebreak. Regular scoring (**with ad**) will be used for all matches (Main Draw and Consolation) and a 5-minute warm-up will be given before each match. A 2-minute rest period (**no coaching allowed**) will be given between the first and second sets, and a 10-minute rest period (**off-court coaching allowed**) will be given between the second and third set. **Shortened scoring may be used in the case of rain.*

***NEW IN 2024 - Bathroom Break Courtesy Point:** If a player needs to go to the bathroom, they need to get permission from an official. *To minimize loss of momentum during the set caused by a bathroom break, the player taking the break will give a courtesy point to their opponent. This is **not** a penalty point. A courtesy point will **not** be given for a bathroom break taken at the end of a set. This rule is unique to the "Little Mo" tournaments.*

Seeding: The order of seeding will be based on verified UTR ratings, which include "Little Mo" and other tournament results. The UTR ratings used to calculate the seedings are downloaded at the close of registration (about 1-2 weeks before the tournament start date).

Practice Courts, Academy Practice and Private Lessons at The Austin Tennis Academy: Practice courts will be available during the week on a first come, first serve basis, Monday-Thursday. No court reservations will be available.

On Friday, September 27, we will have courts available to reserve from 9:30am-10:30am and 10:30am-11:30am only. One hour maximum practice per family. After 11:30am, the courts will be open on a first come, first serve basis until 2:00pm. We ask that you share courts with other players (4 players per court). Court reservations will open on Friday, September 20th. Please call the ATA Pro Shop: 512-276-2271. Players can participate with the Academy players on Thursday and Friday from 7:30am – 9:30am. Price per play is \$100 per session (limited amount of players can sign up). To sign up please, email: Deb.Cahill@austintennisacademy.com.

Private lessons and hitting lessons are available on Thursday and Friday. We have limited time slots available. The Pro Shop will be able to give contact information for the coaches to set up the lessons. For more information, please call the ATA Pro Shop: 512-276-2271.

Warm-up Courts: During the tournament, "warm-up courts" will be available at all playing sites from approximately 7:00-8:00am each morning on a first-come, first-served basis (**no reservations will be taken**). Players will have priority over coaches/parents and we ask everyone to please share courts with other players if they are waiting (4 players per court). There will not be any "warm-up courts" available at any playing site after matches begin in the morning so please make other arrangements if you are needing a court during the day - there are several other clubs, facilities, schools, and parks nearby (see below).

Possible Saturday / Sunday Practice Courts: On Saturday and Sunday, practice courts might be available at Lake Travis **Middle School** (**not to be confused with Lake Travis High School where matches will be played**), Bee Cave Middle School, Hudson Bend Middle School, and Westridge **Middle School** each day on a first-come, first-served basis as they are **open to the public**.

Weather Updates / Rain Plan: We are looking forward to sunny skies and completing our national tournament this weekend. If there are any important changes to the tournament schedule due to inclement weather, we will be posting the latest updates and information on the tournament's **USTA** homepage: www.littlemonationals.com.

Player Party: A fun player party will be held for all of our families at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site) on Saturday evening, September 27 from 5:30-7:30pm. There will be many exciting activities for the players including laser tag, videogame van, bounce house, inflatables, and other games. Henri Elkins and Fernando Velasco will also be performing their world-renowned "Bijou" Tennis Show (comedy performance and tennis tricks) from 6:30-7:00pm - their show has been described as the "Harlem Globetrotters" of tennis! Additionally, the Austin Tennis Academy will be hosting a "College Prep Open House" for any parents and coaches interested in learning more about ATA's on-campus, fully accredited private school from 5:00-7:00pm. We hope you will join us for this special occasion as it will be a great opportunity to meet other outstanding players from around the country - *be sure to get their contact information so you can stay in touch after the event!* **The dinner, games, and activities are "complimentary" for all "Little Mo" players.** There is no cost to participate in the games and activities, but parents, guests, and siblings (over age 5) will need to pay for their own dinner tickets at the party desk (\$10/person). The buffet dinner will be catered by Salvation Pizza and it will include sandwiches, pasta, meatballs, chicken, pizza, salad, cake, chips, drinks, and other items. Please note that no outside food or drink is allowed at the Player Party. Please check in at the "Little Mo" party desk (near the school building) to pick up your player's "complimentary" dinner ticket and/or purchase any additional dinner tickets.

Player Welcome Bag: All players will be able to pick up their official welcome bag during Player Check-in at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site) on Friday, September 27 from 11:00am - 2:00pm (anytime). The welcome bag will include a t-shirt, backpack, UTR dampener and bracelet, Wilson string and keychain, "Mo" Money raffle ticket, 70th Logo Balls and more. A copy of the Code of Conduct featuring the tournament rules

and expectations will also be included along with other important information. An official certificate with your player's name and a copy of the special Player Program featuring all of the player names and their cities/states will also be included along with other important information. ***If you are unable to pick up your player's welcome bag on Friday, you can stop by the "Little Mo" Booth at the Austin Tennis Academy anytime during the tournament to pick it up!***

Trophies: Trophies will be awarded in each division to the Main Draw Winner, Runner-Up, 3rd Place, and 4th Place as well as the Consolation Winner and Runner-Up. Sportsmanship and Kindness Awards will also be given to four deserving players selected by the officials during the tournament.

Travel Grants: Best of luck in your matches this weekend! Any "Little Mo" player who wins their **yellow ball** division at the "Little Mo" Nationals will receive a special travel grant - ***more details to be announced at the tournament!*** These travel grants are sponsored by the **Tennis Competitors of Dallas** (TCD) and we are so thankful for their support of junior tennis!

"Mo" Coins: Maureen Connolly was known for her powerful groundstrokes, but more importantly for her exemplary sportsmanship and kindness on and off the court. To honor her legacy, the "Little Mo" tournaments offer special "Mo" Coins to players who display good sportsmanship and who are respectful and kind to others. The referee, officials, and tournament staff will have the colorful "Mo" Coins in their pockets to give to players during the event. All players will be able to trade in their coins for prizes at the "Little Mo" Booth during the tournament. The "Little Mo" Booth will be located at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site).

Plastic Chairs: We will be renting plastic chairs for our "Little Mo" players and their families to use at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site) during the tournament. If you decide to use a chair during the day to watch your player's match, we are asking you to please return it to the stack near the front of the facility when you are finished with the match. Thank you so much for your cooperation!

Food / Drink Options - Austin Tennis Academy: The Austin Tennis Academy (host site) will have various granola bars, snacks, and drinks available for purchase in their Pro Shop during the tournament. Credit cards, cash (small bills only), Apple Pay, and checks will be accepted, but **no Venmo payments**. There will not be any lunch options available at the Austin Tennis Academy, but there are many fast food, restaurant, and grocery store options nearby. A food delivery service such as UberEATS/Door Dash may be an option too based on availability. **Please note that outside food and drink is allowed, but alcohol is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. Also, please help us keep our host site clean by throwing away any food, drinks, or other trash.**

No Food / Drink Options - Lake Travis High School, Westlake High School, and Dripping Springs High School: There will **not** be any food or drink options available for purchase on-site at Lake Travis High School, Westlake High School or Dripping Springs High School during the tournament, but there are many fast food, restaurant, and grocery store options nearby. A food delivery service such as UberEATS/Door Dash may be an option too based on availability. **Please note that outside food and drink is allowed, but alcohol is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. Also, please help us keep all of our alternate sites clean by throwing away any food, drinks, or other trash.**

Pro Shop - Austin Tennis Academy: The Pro Shop at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site) will be open during the following days and hours: Friday (8:00am-6:00pm), Saturday/Sunday (7:30am-6:00pm), and Monday (7:30am-2:00pm). ***Please do not leave your bags, coolers, chairs, and other personal items in the Pro Shop or clubhouse during the tournament as it can be a safety hazard for people trying to walk through these areas.***

Stringing - Austin Tennis Academy: A Master Racquet Technician (certified stringer) will be available at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site) with same day turnaround service during the tournament. Please visit their Pro Shop for more information and give them as much notice as possible if you are needing any stringing services.

No Pro Shop / No Stringing - Lake Travis High School, Westlake High School, and Dripping Springs High School: There will **not** be a Pro Shop or any stringing services available on-site at Lake Travis High School, Westlake High School or Dripping Springs High School during the tournament, but there are many sporting goods stores nearby including DICK's Sporting Goods, Sportsman's Finest, Champs Sports, Play It Again Sports, Academy Sports + Outdoors, and Give Sports.

Pet Policy - Austin Tennis Academy, Lake Travis High School, Westlake High School, and Dripping Springs High School: There are **no** animals allowed at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site), Lake Travis High School, Westlake High School or Dripping Springs High School. Thank you so much for respecting their policies!

Fitness Center - Austin Tennis Academy: During the tournament, our players and their families will **not** be able to access the fitness center at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site) as this area is reserved for their members, academy players, officials, and staff.

Tournament Photography Services: **YourGameFace** will be offering a Digital Set of Match Photos by ***request only***. Let them capture this moment in your player's tennis history. See Samples on Instagram: **@YourGameFace**. Cost is \$150 for a digital set of action photos (normally 200-300 photos). Website: www.yourgameface.com

4 WAYS TO SIGN UP FOR THE DIGITAL ACTION PHOTOS:

1. Click this online Order Form: <https://square.link/u/2YedPFY1>
2. Text YourGameFace cell phone: 214-543-5437
3. Visit the Photo Tent at the Host Site.
4. Scan this QR code with your phone's camera:



Videography Services: Petar Racic with **Game Smart Tennis** will be on-site to record all matches played at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site) and Lake Travis High School on Saturday and Sunday, and all matches played at the Austin Tennis Academy on Monday. **Matches played at Westlake High School and Dripping Springs High School will unfortunately not be able to be recorded.** If you are interested in purchasing a

match video or seeing additional services available for purchase, please visit: www.matchbox.tennis. All recorded videos will be available through the end of the year. For any questions, please send an email to: petar@gamesmarttennis.com.

Recording Matches: If you are planning on recording any of your player's matches during our national tournament, you must first check with the parents of your opponent before recording. We also ask that you avoid posting any match recordings taken during the tournament on social media. Thank you so much for your consideration!

"Little Mo" Movie: We hope you will find some time to enjoy the 1978 "Little Mo" movie (made for TV) about Maureen Connolly. The movie is about 2.5 hours long and features some major movie stars like Mark Harmon, Leslie Nielsen, and Glynnis O'Connor. It is a wonderful movie for the entire family and is very inspirational for young players who love the game of tennis. Thank you so much for sharing the "Little Mo" story with your child as it will help make their "Little Mo" experience more meaningful. To watch the movie, please go to our website (www.mcbtennis.org/about-little-mo) and scroll down to the popcorn icon.

Tournament Chairman: Carol Weyman

Email: carol@mcbtennis.org

MCB Office: (214) 754-7065

Volunteers / Workers: We are looking for volunteers or those seeking community service hours to help out during the tournament from Thursday, September 26 - Monday, September 30 (anytime between 7:00am-7:00pm). Any adult, friend or older sibling of a player looking for something to do during the tournament would be greatly appreciated. The jobs are all very easy to do and the hours can be split into shifts if needed. Some examples of potential jobs include volunteering at Player Check-in, assisting with the Player Clinic, Group Photo and/or Player Parade, working at the Tournament Desk and/or "Little Mo" Booth, updating scores on the drawboards, and helping out with the trophy presentations. If you are interested in this opportunity, please send an email to Carol Weyman (carol@mcbtennis.org) with your availability and contact information.

Things to Do in Austin, Texas:

In addition to the tennis, there are many fun tourist attractions for the entire family: Texas State Capitol, Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library, Zilker Botanical Garden, Austin City Lights, Lake Travis Zipline Adventures, South Congress Avenue, Zach Theater, McKinney Falls State Park, Austin Zoo, Bee Cave Sculptures Park, Mount Bonnell, Lady Bird Lake Hike & Bike Trail, Barton Springs Pool, bat watching at the Congress Avenue Bridge, and more are nearby!



Play "Mo" Tennis!



27th Annual "Little Mo" Nationals



Title Sponsor

Schedule of Events

The Austin Tennis Academy (ATA - Host Site), Lake Travis High School (LTHS), Westlake High School (WHS), and Dripping Springs High School (DSHS) are happy to welcome our players and their families to their beautiful facilities this weekend. We ask all of our guests to be respectful of the members, clubhouses, buildings, and grounds. Please be sure not to leave any trash on the courts or around the facilities, and please do not leave your bags, coolers, chairs, and other personal items in any common areas during the tournament. While all of our tournament sites are very safe places, we ask that you do not let your children go to the parking lot alone. Please do **not** leave any child unattended at any time during the tournament. **We appreciate your cooperation!**

Friday, September 27 (Player Check-in / Opening Ceremony - MANDATORY):

**Please note that no matches will be played on Friday, however Player Check-in and the Opening Ceremony on the first day are mandatory. All of the special activities on Friday will be taking place at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site) in Austin, Texas.*

- 11:00am - 2:00pm (anytime)** Player Check-in and welcome bag pick up - **mandatory** in the field at the **Austin Tennis Academy** (host site). All players will present a copy of their birth certificate or passport to be included in the tournament. Information must be able to be read in English and clearly show a player's full name and birthday (please make sure that the copy you bring is not blurry). Due to our privacy policy, we will **not** be accepting any birth certificates or passports in advance or by email. We will also **not** be accepting any birth certificate or passport images on a phone during Player Check-in (you must bring a hard copy to the event). *A copy of your player's birth certificate or passport is **mandatory** to play in our national tournament (no exceptions).*
- 2:00 - 3:00pm** There will be a fun complimentary tennis clinic with drills and games for all players on the **Hard Courts**. Players will be divided out onto the courts by age division so please listen carefully to the pros on court. Prizes will also be given out during the clinic. **Players, please do not forget to bring your racquets!*
- 3:15 pm** There will be individual age division photos and a special Group Photo with **YourGameFace** on **Courts #3/#4**. *Players, please leave your racquets and bags with your parent (only players will be allowed in the photo area).*
- 3:45pm** Players will line up for the traditional Player Parade on **Courts #3/#4**. *Players, please remember to bring your state flag if you would like to carry it in the Player Parade (no bigger than 2' by 3') - it is not required to bring a state flag.*
- 4:00pm** Players will parade onto the center court carrying their state flags.
- 4:15 - 5:00pm** The Opening Ceremony is **mandatory**. The national anthem will be sung. **Cindy Brinker Simmons**, MCB President and daughter of Maureen Connolly Brinker, and **Doug Davis**, Austin Tennis Academy Head Coach, will each give an inspirational message to the players and parents. Important information will be given to our families and the ceremony will end at approximately 5:00pm. There will also be entertainment with a Texas flair featuring Cowboy Doug Whitaker and his famous trick roping show following the ceremony. *Parents, please do not forget to bring your camera!*
- 5:30 - 7:30pm** After the Opening Ceremony, there will be some practice courts available on-site from approximately 5:30-7:30pm on a first-come, first-served basis (**no reservations will be taken and no court lights will be turned on**). Players will have priority over coaches/parents and we ask everyone to please share courts with other players if they are waiting (4 players per court).

Saturday, September 28 (Matches Begin, Player Gift Exchange, and Player Party):

- 8:00am** Matches will begin as early as 8:00am for all age divisions and continue all day (typically 1-2 rounds of Main Draw Singles and 1 round of Consolation Singles will be scheduled). Please remember to check your draw carefully each day for the correct match time and location. Also, please check in at least 30 minutes prior to each match at the Tournament Desk while allowing some extra time for traffic and parking.
- Player Gift Exchange:** All players will exchange a small gift with their first-round opponent in Singles. Players, please exchange your gifts as you walk to the court for your first match. *If you have any questions about the Player Gift Exchange, please visit the "Little Mo" Booth during the tournament.*
- 5:30 - 7:30pm** A fun player party will be held for all of our families at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site) on Saturday evening, September 28 from 5:30-7:30pm. There will be many exciting activities for the players including laser tag, videogame van, bounce house, inflatables, and other games. Henri Elkins and

Fernando Velasco will also be performing their world-renowned “Bijou” Tennis Show (comedy performance and tennis tricks) from 6:30-7:00pm - their show has been described as the “Harlem Globetrotters” of tennis! Additionally, the Austin Tennis Academy will be hosting a “College Prep Open House” for any parents and coaches interested in learning more about ATA’s on-campus, fully accredited private school from 5:00-7:00pm. We hope you will join us for this special occasion as it will be a great opportunity to meet other outstanding players from around the country - *be sure to get their contact information so you can stay in touch after the event!* **The dinner, games, and activities are “complimentary” for all “Little Mo” players.** There is no cost to participate in the games and activities, but parents, guests, and siblings (over age 5) will need to pay for their own dinner tickets at the party desk (\$10/person). The buffet dinner will be catered by Salvation Pizza and it will include sandwiches, pasta, meatballs, chicken, pizza, salad, cake, chips, drinks, and other items. Please note that no outside food or drink is allowed at the Player Party. *Please check in at the “Little Mo” party desk (near the school building) to pick up your player’s “complimentary” dinner ticket and/or purchase any additional dinner tickets.*

Sunday, September 29 (Main Draw Semifinals and 3rd/4th Place Playoffs):

8:00am

Matches will begin as early as 8:00am and continue all day (typically the Main Draw Semifinals, 3rd/4th Place Playoffs, and 2 rounds of Consolation Singles will be scheduled).

Monday, September 30 (Final Day - Main Draw Finals / Consolation Finals):

8:00am

Matches will begin as early as 8:00am and may continue into the late afternoon (typically the Main Draw Finals and Consolation Finals will be scheduled to finish on the last day). It is our goal to have most of the matches finished by the early afternoon, but some final matches may continue into the late afternoon depending on the schedule. *Please plan your departure after 5:00pm on Monday, September 30 as final matches will be played that day for all age divisions. Also, please note there is no closing ceremony for the “Little Mo” Nationals.*



“Probably the most important thing that tennis has taught me is the kind of fair play and sportsmanship that can be carried over to everyday living. It has taught me how to get along with people and to respect and admire those who have accomplished something in fields other than sports. Tennis has also given me a good sense of competition and a desire to do everything to the best of my ability - no matter what the job may be.” **Quote by: Maureen Connolly Brinker**



“Little Mo” Player Party!

Hosted by Cindy Brinker Simmons and Brenda Brinker Bottum

Time: 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Date: Saturday evening, September 28

Place: Austin Tennis Academy - **in the field near the school building**
6800 Spanish Oaks Club Boulevard
Austin, Texas 78738



A fun player party will be held for all of our families at the Austin Tennis Academy (host site) on Saturday evening, September 28 from 5:30-7:30pm. There will be many exciting activities for the players including laser tag, videogame van, bounce house, inflatables, and other games. Henri Elkins and Fernando Velasco will also be performing their world-renowned “Bijou” Tennis Show (comedy performance and tennis tricks) from 6:30-7:00pm - their show has been described as the “Harlem Globetrotters” of tennis! Additionally, the Austin Tennis Academy will be hosting a “College Prep Open House” for any parents and coaches interested in learning more about ATA’s on-campus, fully accredited private school from 5:00-7:00pm. We hope you will join us for this special occasion as it will be a great opportunity to meet other outstanding players from around the country.

The dinner, games, and activities are “complimentary” for all “Little Mo” players. There is no cost to participate in the games and activities, but parents, guests, and siblings (over age 5) will need to pay for their own dinner tickets at the party desk (\$10/person). The buffet dinner will be catered by Salvation Pizza and it will include sandwiches, pasta, meatballs, chicken, pizza, salad, cake, chips, drinks, and other items. Please note that no outside food or drink is allowed at the Player Party. Please check in at the “Little Mo” party desk (near the school building) to pick up your player’s “complimentary” dinner ticket and/or purchase any additional dinner tickets.

***The Austin Tennis Academy is a very safe place, but we ask that you do not let your child go to the parking lot or restroom alone. Also, please tell your child to not leave the site for any reason without your permission. Have a great time and enjoy the party!**





IMPORTANT INFORMATION

PARENTS, PLEASE READ...

DIRECTIONS TO THE AUSTIN TENNIS ACADEMY (ATA):

The Austin Tennis Academy is located in southwest Austin within the Spanish Oaks community. The physical address is **6800 Spanish Oaks Club Boulevard, Austin, Texas 78738**. It is located 0.2 miles west from the intersection of Highway 71 W and 620, across from the McCoy's Building Center. Look for the McCoy's Building Supply Center sign on your right at the top of the hill and get in the left-hand lane to take an immediate left turn at the windmill into the Spanish Oaks community. After you make the left turn, go to the second roundabout and ATA will be on your left. Your navigation system may not find ATA, so please enter the following address for the best directions: **13443 Hwy 71 West, Bee Cave, Texas 78738**. This will take you to the entrance of Spanish Oaks.

PARKING:

Please park only in the designated parking spots at Austin Tennis Academy. Overflow parking will be available in the grassy field near the front of the school building. Do not park outside the facility on the traffic circle or along the bridge on the way to the academy as your car may be towed.

FITNESS CENTER:

The ATA Fitness Center is for "Little Mo" officials, staff, and members only. Please do **not** use the Fitness Center restrooms, equipment or watch matches from the inside of the center. This is a courtesy to the members and academy players who will be using the facility.

PRO SHOP:

The ATA pro shop will be open from 7:30am until the conclusion of matches each day.

TOURNAMENT PLAY:

Players must request an official if necessary. Players are responsible for keeping the score, announcing the score loudly, and using scorekeepers at all times. Parents are not allowed to lean on the fence, communicate with their player at any time while they are on court or interfere with the match in any way.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

Players, please do not bring any cell phones, smart watches or other electronic devices on court. Parents, please do not use your cell phones within 50 feet of the courts while matches are in play or put them on vibrate when you are near the courts.

IN CASE OF RAIN:

For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the tournament's UTR homepage under "Description" on the "Overview" tab. Information will be updated on a timely basis. Please **do not** call the ATA Pro Shop.

TEXAS FIRE ANTS:

Please be aware of Texas fire ants. Do not let small children wander around on the grass. Watch for dirt mounds in the grass, as these might be fire ant hills. If you are allergic to fire ants, the reaction can be very severe.



The Austin Tennis Academy would like to encourage you to play again next year on the 2025 “Road to the Little Mo Nationals”, which culminates each year at the Austin Tennis Academy in Texas. It is truly a special event with a one-of-a-kind Opening Ceremony, Player Party, and high quality tennis. For more information, please visit www.mcbtennis.org.

In addition to the “Little Mo”, we’d love to talk to you if you are looking for a tennis training environment where you can pursue the highest level junior training while studying at our own accredited private school, ATA College Prep. ATA College Prep provides personalized academic and athletic training programs for the most dedicated student-athletes. Our integrated plans are structured to maximize the potential of each student and are developed based upon goals, aptitudes, learning styles and stages of development. Our college placement program will help each player identify the best college fit and allow each player to achieve their goals, whether it be playing tennis at the highest level or leveraging their college choice.

Just a reminder that your child can also take advantage of the Austin Tennis Academy’s tennis camps to progress at a rapid rate. Each camp is designed to provide the greatest development of your child’s physical, mental technical, and tactical performance levels. We will offer ten weeks of tennis camp for all levels. We do not offer boarding, but the Sonesta hotel is nearby and provides a shuttle as well! Its proximity to the Hill Country Galleria mall, Whole Foods, etc. make it an attractive vacation location for the whole family! We also offer Spring Break Camp and individualized short programs throughout the year.

Please visit www.austintennisacademy.com to sign up for our camps or contact us at: info@austintennisacademy.com for more information about our programming. We look forward to seeing you soon!

214-543-5437
yourgameface@me.com



gotta love
**YOUR
GAME
FACE**



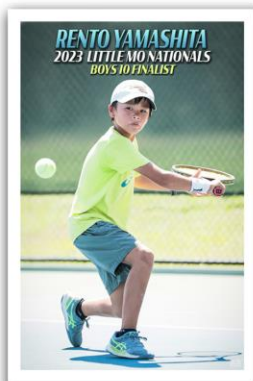
DIGITAL IMAGES

200 Action Photos
1 Match \$150
Additional Matches \$75

Scan to order digital images

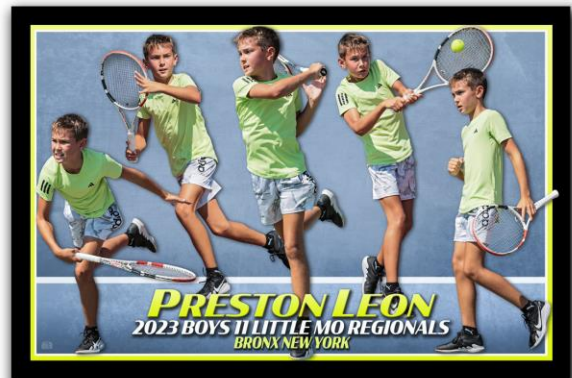


ACTION POSTERS



16x24 inches \$195
20x30 inches \$245

Printed on Canvas?
additional \$150



16x24 inches \$345
20x30 inches \$395

Printed on Canvas?
additional \$150

GROUP PHOTO



8x10 Print \$20

The "Little Mo" Club!

The "Little Mo" Club is an online platform where junior players can stay connected with their "Little Mo" friends, participate in fun activities, and have access to interviews and tips from coaches and pro players, as well as to promos from our partners and sponsors.

As a "Little Mo" player you get a complimentary membership to the "Little Mo" Club. All you have to do is scan the QR code below, sign up, and create your player profile.

You must use the same email you used to register for the tournament. Once you sign up, you will receive a verification email and your parents must fill out a parental consent, authorizing you to use the platform, in order for your account to get activated.

Make sure to check your spam folder and add: info@littlemoclub.com to your contact list to prevent our emails from going to the spam folder in the future.

If you also want to subscribe to the "Little Mo" Club newsletter, please go to: <https://www.littlemoclub.com/newsletter>.

Play "Mo" Tennis!

"LITTLE MO" CLUB

BENEFITS

- 1.- PARTICIPATE IN GIVEAWAYS & SPECIAL EVENTS!
- 2.- STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR "LITTLE MO" FRIENDS!
- 3.- ACCESS TO INTERVIEWS, WEBINARS & PRO TIPS!
- 4.- PROMOS FROM OUR PARTNERS & SPONSORS

TO SIGN UP

- 1.- SCAN THE CODE & MAKE YOUR PLAYER PROFILE
- 2.- CHECK YOUR EMAIL (for a verification email from us)
- 3.- SIGN PARENTAL CONSENT (Parents must sign to activate account)

COMPLIMENTARY MEMBERSHIP FOR "LITTLE MO" PLAYERS

DON'T FORGET TO TAG US ON INSTAGRAM & SHARE YOUR PICTURES OF THE TOURNAMENT!

@LITTEMOCLUB

RACQUETS
GEAR
EVENT TICKETS
BOOKS



TOURNAMENT RULES



~ Fred Lipscomb, REFEREE ~

Welcome to the 2024 “Little Mo” Nationals in Austin, Texas! When players step out on court for a match, they become responsible for what happens on their court. The following tournament rules apply:

MATCH FORMAT, SCORING, AND RULES:

- All divisions will use the same scoring format regardless of age, ball type or draw format. All Singles matches (Main Draw and Consolation) will consist of two tiebreak sets (first to 6 games). At 6 games all, a 7-point set tiebreak (first to 7, win by 2) will be played. If players split sets, a 10-point match tiebreak (first to 10, win by 2) will be played in lieu of a third set. Regular scoring (**with ad**) will be used for all Main Draw matches and a 5-minute warm-up will be given before each match. No-ad scoring will be used for all Consolation matches in addition to the 3rd/4th Place playoff and the 5th/6th Place playoff. A 2-minute rest period will be given between the first and second sets, and a 3-minute rest period will be given between the second set and match tiebreak. **No coaching is allowed at any time.** **Shortened scoring may be used in the case of rain.*
- **Both players must return to the Tournament Desk after each match to report the score.**
- All players will decide service and side before starting their warm-up for the match. There will be a 5-minute warm-up for all Main Draw and Consolation matches.
- **The server must announce the score loudly before each point.** Players are also responsible for keeping the score and using scorekeepers at all times.
- The receiver must play to the reasonable pace of the server. The maximum time between points is 25 seconds.
- If a player is unsure of a call, the ball is good (benefit of the doubt goes to the opponent).
- Whether on or off the court, officials will overrule any clear mistakes they observe. Officials will also be watching for any obvious foot faults.
- A player can request a medical time out for illness or an injury. The player may choose someone (a parent or coach) to treat them. An official will supervise the treatment. The maximum treatment time for a medical time out is 3 minutes. For a medical timeout involving bleeding, up to 15 minutes is allowed.
- The “Little Mo” Point Penalty System begins with a warning, then forfeiture of a point, then forfeiture of a game, followed by an additional loss of game (or default) as determined by the Referee and Tournament Director. An immediate default can also be used in egregious situations as determined by the Referee and Tournament Director. Violations include ball abuse, racquet abuse, obscenities, yelling out, crying or being a distraction, parental interference, coaching, and anything else that could be considered unsportsmanlike behavior.
- **Only players (not parents) may call for an official to be on the court, but parents can be helpful in alerting officials of any emergencies.** A player must first raise their racquet high so that an official can see it and come to the court. The only reason players may leave the court is to obtain an official.
- Parents are **not** allowed to lean on the fence or interfere with the match in any way.
- No cell phones, watches or electronic devices are allowed while on court. Also, please **do not** talk on your cell phone near the tennis courts and put it on “silent” while matches are in progress.
- If a player needs to go to the bathroom, they need to get permission from an official. *To minimize loss of momentum during the set caused by a bathroom break, the player taking the break will give a courtesy point to their opponent. This is **not** a penalty point. A courtesy point will **not** be given for a bathroom break taken at the end of a set. **This rule is unique to the “Little Mo” tournaments.***



A NOTE TO PLAYERS:

The sun can be intense so please make sure you are well hydrated before coming to the court. Start drinking liquids the night before (starting the morning of your match is too late). **Water and ice will be available at all playing sites.** Be sure to use sunscreen and apply it at least thirty minutes before each match.

Since officials will be calling foot faults, you may want to check your serves during practice sessions to make sure your feet are not touching the baseline until after the ball is hit. Make sure all cell phones, watches, and electronic devices are turned off and left with your parent before entering the court. In order to be considered a good sport, you must display good sportsmanship both on and off the court.

Good sportsmanship includes:

- saying “good shot” to the opponent when deserved or “nice try” when the opponent makes a great effort at trying to get the ball
- not pumping your fist at the opponent at any time, especially after a good shot
- not screaming out at any time during the match (i.e., “let’s go”, “come on”, “vamos”)
- not hitting the ball to the back fence or into the net in anger at any time
- handing the balls nicely to the opponent or hitting the balls softly and accurately to the opponent during the match (i.e., change of server, after a point, changing sides)
- not asking “are you sure” repeatedly after each of the opponent’s line calls

The officials will be roving the courts and watching for the behaviors listed above. It is very important to make proper line calls. If you are unsure of a call, the benefit of the doubt goes to the opponent. A ball that is 99% out is 100% in. When a player deliberately makes incorrect calls in order to gain an advantage, everyone in the crowd who is watching the match sees it and the opponent knows it as well. This reputation will follow you for the rest of your junior career and we **do not** want that to happen to you. Let the memory of your match be a good one for both you and your opponent, whether you win or lose. Please request an official at any time if you need anything. Also, please review the code of conduct/rules/scoring format before your first match so you understand what is expected.

A NOTE TO PARENTS / COACHES:

Watching the match can be a hard job for parents and coaches, especially if there is a problem or a questionable call. Although staying uninvolved is difficult, it is necessary. Once your player enters the court, it is their match. **Explain to your player that they will be on their own once they step onto the court and that you will not be able to talk to or coach them in any way during the match.** Emphasize and explain what good sportsmanship is to your player and why it is important. ***Also, a friendly reminder that all multilingual parents and coaches must only speak or cheer in English when their player is on court. Appropriate cheering is allowed, but it must be in English so that officials are able to monitor for coaching.*** Please note it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to educate any guests who attend your player’s match that they understand tennis court etiquette (specifically for larger groups) and how important it is to remain quiet during the match and not be disruptive in any way. Spectator behavior can result in penalty points to the player.

Parents and coaches are **not** allowed to talk on cell phones near the courts when matches are in progress. They are also **not** allowed to make any line calls or assist in any scoring disputes, as that is the job of the official. **Coaching is not permitted at any time (i.e., hand signals or anything that is instructional such as “stay on your game plan”, “make him/her play”, “focus”).** Also, **inappropriate cheering is not allowed (i.e., clapping when the opponent double faults or makes an unforced error, excessive or constant cheering/clapping that is disruptive, making discouraging remarks about the opponent).** It is proper court etiquette to cheer for the good shots of both players. Maureen Connolly was known for her competitive tennis as well as her good sportsmanship. It is our hope that as parents and coaches, you will set a good example for your player during the tournament and follow the gold standard of sportsmanship, integrity, and kindness.

If something is in need of attention (i.e., a player is out of water, a player is having a health issue, a racquet needs to be returned to the player, a ball is lost over the fence), the player must get an official’s attention and request their assistance. **Only players (not parents or coaches) may call for an official to be on the court, but parents and coaches can be helpful in alerting officials of any emergencies.**



**THE ULTIMATE
KIDS CHALLENGE**
is the

“Little Mo” Internationals



Title Sponsor

Florida

In 2012, Coco Gauff won the “Little Mo” Nationals and Internationals as an 8-year-old. She said, “The ‘Little Mo’ is where the belief began!”

Registration is Open!

**Palm Beach Gardens Tennis Center
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida
December 6-11, 2024**

2024 “Little Mo” Internationals

- Open to all players worldwide (Girls and Boys ages 8-16)
- “Little Mo” Divisions: ages 8-12 (Green Dot: ages 8, 9, 10) (Yellow Ball: ages 8-12)
- “Big Mo” Divisions: ages 13-16 (Yellow Ball only)
- Draws limited to 32 in each age division (entries on a first-come, first-served basis)
- Singles / Doubles / Mixed Doubles
- Players play their own birth year
- Opening Ceremony with Player Parade of Nations
- Player Clinic and Player Party
- Yellow Ball and Green Dot Ball results count for UTR Ratings



Maureen Connolly Brinker Tennis Foundation, Inc.



transforming education

Register Now: www.mcbtennis.org

Info: (214) 754-7065

Contact: carol@mcbtennis.org

Want to play in another “Little Mo” tournament?

Just a friendly reminder that registration is **OPEN** for our 18th Annual “Little Mo” Internationals in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida (December 6-11) - open to any player worldwide (ages 8-16)! There are no special qualifications or ranking needed to register for the international tournaments - any player who registers will be accepted into the draw until the entry limit is reached. **Please note that players **do not** need to compete in one of the “Little Mo” Regionals or the “Little Mo” Nationals in order to participate in one of the “Little Mo” Internationals.*

Registration for all international tournaments will be on a **first-come, first-served basis up to the entry limit - we will be accepting the first 30 players in Florida in each division**. If a division reaches the entry limit before the registration deadline, a WAITING LIST will be established at that time. Be sure to register early as the draws typically fill before the registration deadline - some draws are already full! *Also, please note that once you have received a confirmation email from UTR/Stripe, your player’s entry has been accepted into the tournament and you can make your travel arrangements.*

To date, we have over **450 players registered** and so we hope you and all of your tennis friends will join us for our Florida international tournament! Any “Little Mo” or “Big Mo” player who wins their **yellow ball** division in Florida will receive a special travel grant - *more details to be announced at the tournament!* For more information and to register, please visit our website (www.mcbtennis.org) and click on the “Tournaments” tab.

The 2024 "Little Mo" Slam!

Have you ever dreamed of winning the tallest trophy in junior tennis?



Born in San Diego, Maureen became the first woman to achieve the Grand Slam of tennis in 1953 by winning all four major championships (Australian, French, Wimbledon, and US Open) in the same year. She was well known for her powerful groundstrokes from the baseline, which earned her the famous nickname "Little Mo" - a comparison to the explosive firepower of the battleship USS *Missouri*, also known as "Big Mo". Only five players in the history of tennis have won the calendar Grand Slam, and Maureen is still the only American woman and the youngest at age 18 to have accomplished this magnificent feat. She won an amazing nine consecutive championship titles (three US, three Wimbledon, two French, one Australian - **undefeated in 50 matches**).

In 2013, MCB created the ultimate challenge for any player (ages 8-12) to win the "Little Mo" Slam. The Slam was created in honor of Maureen Connolly's Grand Slam win in 1953 - winning all four major championships (Australian, French, Wimbledon, and US Open) in the same calendar year. If a "Little Mo" player can win their yellow ball division at all three "Little Mo" Internationals (Colorado, New Jersey, Florida) in the same year, they will receive the tallest trophy in junior tennis (6 feet tall) and the title of "Little Mo" Slam Champion! The Slam continues this year with the 1st leg at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado (June 28 - July 3). The 2nd leg will take place at the West Orange Tennis Club in West Orange, New Jersey (August 17-21). The 3rd and final leg will be held at

the Palm Beach Gardens Tennis Center in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida (December 6-11). There have been 11 players who have accomplished this magnificent feat in the past 11 years.

Who will win the "Little Mo" Slam this year?



1ST LEG **COLORADO**

U.S. Air Force Academy
Colorado Springs, Colorado
June 28 - July 3, 2024

2ND LEG **NEW JERSEY**

West Orange Tennis Club
West Orange, New Jersey
August 17-21, 2024

3RD LEG **FLORIDA**

Palm Beach Gardens Tennis Center
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida
December 6-11, 2024



“Mo” Coins



By playing in the “Little Mo” tournaments, you are one of the youngest and brightest future stars in junior tennis, and with that comes great responsibility. You are a role model for other players (especially those younger than you) so we hope you will follow in Maureen Connolly’s footsteps and be a positive example for those around you. You also represent your family, coaches, friends, tennis academy, and club so we ask you to be the best you can be and display outstanding sportsmanship on and off the court.

Maureen Connolly was known for her many outstanding victories, but more importantly for her exemplary sportsmanship and kindness on and off the court. To honor her legacy, the “Little Mo” tournaments offer special “Mo” Coins to players who display good sportsmanship and who are respectful and kind to others. The referee, officials, and tournament staff will have the colorful “Mo” Coins in their pockets to give to players during the event. All players will be able to trade in their coins for prizes at the “Little Mo” Booth during the tournament (each coin is worth \$1). The “Little Mo” Booth will be located at the host site.

It is our hope that these “Mo” Coins will encourage good sportsmanship, friendship, and kindness during the tournament and whenever you play tennis.

To earn “Mo” Coins:

Exhibit Good Sportsmanship:

- a) Calling lines fairly and keeping up with the right score
- b) Hitting the balls back nicely to the server
- c) Saying “good shot” when the opponent makes a good shot
- d) Not showing any anger, throwing your racquet or screaming out “come on”
- e) Shaking hands after the match
- f) Responding in a respectful manner to all officials and tournament staff

Help Others:

- a) Offering to help the tournament director or staff if they need any help
- b) Picking up items to keep the tournament site(s) clean
- c) Holding the door open for someone who is carrying a lot of items





Sportsmanship Nominations:



At each “Little Mo” tournament, we present a Sportsmanship Award to one boy and one girl selected by the Officials, Staff, and Players. Here are some examples of someone who should be nominated for the award:

- Calling lines fairly and keeping up with the right score
- Hitting the balls back nicely to the server
- Saying “good shot” when the opponent makes a good shot
- Not showing any anger, throwing your racquet or screaming out “come on”
- Shaking hands after the match
- Responding in a respectful manner to all officials and tournament staff
- Offering to help the tournament director or staff if they need any help
- Picking up items to keep the tournament site(s) clean
- Holding the door open for someone who is carrying a lot of items



"Little Mo" Booth

Items for Sale



| | | |
|---|-------------|--|
| Frisbee | \$1 | |
| Magnet | \$1 | |
| "Mo" Mints | \$2 | |
| Bracelet | \$2 | |
| Tennis Pen | \$2 | |
| Sticker | \$2 | |
| Key Ring | \$2 | |
| Maze Puzzle | \$2 | |
| Hacky Sack | \$4 | |
| Coin Pouch | \$4 | |
| Lip Balm | \$4 | |
| Notepad | \$4 | |
| Push Pop Ball | \$5 | |
| Jellyfish Yo-Yo | \$5 | |
| Yellow Yo-Yo | \$5 | |
| Towel | \$5 | |
| Cloth Wristband | \$5 | |
| Sunglasses | \$5 | |
| Mousepad Calendar | \$5 | |
| Tennis Ball Streamer | \$5 | |
| Phone Fan | \$8 | |
| T-shirt (youth & adult sizes) | \$8 | |
| Pop Socket | \$8 | |
| Message Fan | \$10 | |
| Rubik's Cube | \$10 | |
| Water Bottle | \$10 | |
| "Toss Doctor" | \$10 | |
| LED Fidget Spinner | \$12 | |
| Animal Grip Cover | \$12 | |
| Tennis Teddy Bear | \$12 | |
| Cloth Hat / Visor (youth & adult) | \$15 | |
| Long Sleeve Shirt (youth & adult sizes) | \$15 | |
| Night Shirt | \$15 | |
| Dri-Fit Hat | \$20 | |
| Dri-Fit T-shirt (youth & adult sizes) | \$20 | |
| "Contact Doctor" | \$20 | |
| Quick Starter Racquet Set | \$20 | |
| Dri-Fit Long Sleeve Shirt (youth & adult sizes) | \$25 | |
| Bucket Hat | \$25 | |
| Sweatshirt (youth & adult sizes) | \$25 | |
| Sweatpants (youth & adult sizes) | \$25 | |
| "Restored: Reconnecting Life's Broken Pieces" – \$20 paperback / \$30 hardback (new book written by Cindy Brinker Simmons, MCB President and daughter of Maureen Connolly Brinker) | \$20 / \$30 | |
| "Born to Play, Tennis Doodle Journal" (book written by Maria Cordrey, tennis enthusiast and mother of two "Little Mo" players) | \$30 | |
| "Little Mo" Movie (DVD) – NTSC (USA) / PAL (Europe) versions available (feature film made for TV based on the life of Maureen Connolly Brinker) | \$30 | |

CASH / CREDIT CARD ONLY

Purchases can be made with the colorful "Mo" Coins (each coin is worth \$1). Please pay at the "Little Mo" Booth by coin, cash or credit card. All proceeds benefit the Maureen Connolly Brinker Tennis Foundation to help further the development of junior tennis worldwide.





The "Little Mo" Story



Maureen Catherine Connolly Brinker, affectionately called "Little Mo", was born on September 17, 1934 in San Diego, California. She began playing tennis at age nine in 1943 on the public courts of the Balboa Tennis Club in San Diego.

Although her career spanned three years, many premier sportswriters consider her to be the finest of all female players. In 1953 at the age of 18, she was the first woman to win the "Grand Slam" of tennis by claiming all four major events in one calendar year (Australian, French, Wimbledon, and US Open). She lost only one set in the process. She is still the only American woman and the youngest to have accomplished this magnificent feat. To put the significance of her "Grand Slam" achievement into perspective, only five players in the history of tennis have won the "Grand Slam" of singles championships.

Nicknamed "Little Mo" for her powerful, accurate ground strokes (a comparison to "Big Mo", the battleship USS *Missouri*), Maureen was devastating from the baseline and seldom needed to go to the net. A small and compact right-hander (5-foot-4), she won her major singles championships as a teenager: three successive Wimbledon titles (1952-54), three consecutive U.S. Championships at Forest Hills (1951-53), two French Championships (1953-54), and one Australian Championships (1953).

Maureen was the #1 junior girl in the nation in 1949 and 1950, winning the 18 and under singles and doubles titles at the National Jr. Championships. In 1951, 1952 and 1953, Maureen was the undisputed world champion. She was voted "Woman Athlete of the Year" by the Associated Press for those three consecutive years.

A cheerful and sporting competitor, Maureen crushed the opposition, never losing an important match, only occasionally losing a set. She helped the U.S. beat Britain in the Wightman Cup matches of 1951-54 by winning all seven of her singles. Nobody has measured up to her perfect record in the majors. She sailed through nine successive majors (three U.S. titles, three Wimbledon titles, two French titles, one Australian titles), unbeaten in 50 matches.

In July 1954, Maureen's playing career ended with heartbreaking suddenness when she was involved in a horseback riding accident. After winning her third consecutive Wimbledon title, she was riding her beloved Tennessee Walker, Colonel Merry Boy, in San Diego with two friends on a private dirt road. A cement truck unexpectedly rounded the corner, sideswiped her horse, and severely injured her leg.

"I knew immediately I'd never play again," Maureen said later.

Although she was unable to compete any longer at her elite championship level, Maureen's love of the sport continued. She dedicated herself to the promotion of the game of tennis, conducting clinics throughout the nation and becoming one of the game's outstanding teachers. Maureen married Norman Brinker in 1955 and had two daughters, Cindy and Brenda. She was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 1968. In 1969, she lost her valiant battle with cancer and passed away at the young age of 34.

This remarkable champion is memorialized through her namesake, The Maureen Connolly Brinker Tennis Foundation (MCB), which is dedicated to the promotion and support of junior tennis development worldwide. Maureen's dream of establishing a foundation was based on her desire to give back to the game she loved so much. She was raised by a single mother and due to financial constraints, she was unable to travel to national tournaments. There were a few organizations in California that helped her with travel grants to cover expenses. Maureen thought at that time if she was ever in a position where she could help some young, promising players financially to travel to tournaments in order to improve their rankings, she would do it. This was the seed that was planted over fifty years ago in forming the foundation.

"Whenever a great player comes along you have to ask yourself, 'Could she have beaten Maureen?'" says Lance Tingay of the Daily Telegraph of London. "In every case, the answer is, 'I think not.'"

Former "Little Mo" Champions



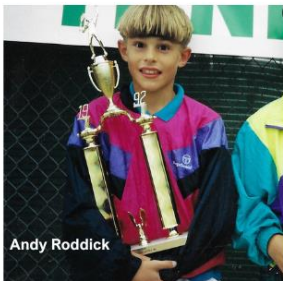
Coco Gauff



Belinda Bencic



Madison Keys



Andy Roddick

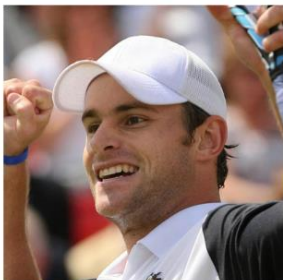
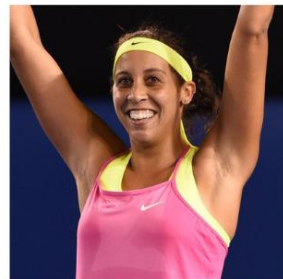
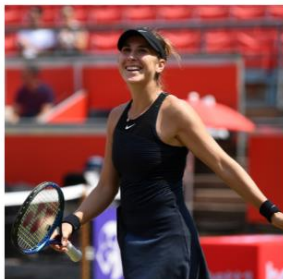


Tommy Paul



Taylor Fritz

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