

Awards Criteria

Junior Awards

- **Dorothy Vest Junior Player of the Year Award** - Male and Female: Presented to outstanding junior players ranked in the 18 divisions in recognition of their individual tennis performance at the state, sectional and national levels and their representation for Mississippi in team events including the *Southern Junior Cup*.
- **George Wilkinson Memorial Award- Male and Female** - Presented to outstanding junior players who exemplify the qualities of composure under physical stress and emotional discipline in recognition of their desire, integrity, perseverance, maturity, character (on and off the court), conduct and appearance.
- **Junior Impact Award*** - Presented to a JTT Local League Coordinator, JTT Team, or JTT Captain who demonstrates outstanding sportsmanship, fosters program growth, introduces innovative ideas, and/or makes a meaningful impact in their local tennis community.
- **Junior Tournament of the Year*** - Presented to a junior tournament in recognition of excellence in the organization and conduct of a sanctioned event.
- **Powers Moore Junior Sportsmanship Award** - Presented to an outstanding junior player (boy or girl) ranked in the state in recognition of his or her sportsmanship.

USTA League Tennis Awards

- **Adult Local League Coordinator of the Year*** - Presented to the captain of any USTA League local team in any age division and any USTA League program who advanced to the state championship, in recognition of the team's tennis performance and sportsmanship during the tournament.
- **Captain of the Year Award** - Presented to a captain who has been a captain for more than two years, displays a high level of sportsmanship and has earned the respect of their peers.
- **USTA League Adult Team of the Year** - Presented to a local league coordinator in recognition of outstanding coordination and promotion of league play.

Special Events Awards

- **Adaptive Tennis Award:** Presented to an individual (including an athlete, coach, volunteer) or organization who demonstrates sustained commitment to enhancing and growing adaptive tennis programs for intellectually disabled athletes. This person or organization is actively involved in adaptive programming exhibiting dedication and courage, resulting in an outstanding contribution to adaptive tennis.
- **Adult Tournament of the Year Award*** - Presented to an adult tournament in recognition of excellence in the organization and conduct of a sanctioned event.
- **Coach of the Year Award** - Presented to an outstanding high school or college coach in recognition of leadership and inspiration in the development of a winning program.
- **Community Tennis Association of the Year Award*** - Presented to a Community Tennis Association in recognition of outstanding service in the administration of local tennis programs and the promotion of tennis at the community level.
- **Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Champion*** - Presented to the individual or organization who demonstrates sustained commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion through the following actions: actively champions, visibly embraces and celebrates diversity on and off the court by employing goals and strategies that create an inclusive environment; reaches out to a diverse audience through participation in community activities that celebrate diversity and inclusion; provides leadership opportunities that reflect interest in individual traits, skills, and talents of others; and proactively seeks opinions and gathers feedback from a diverse audience to gain additional perspectives and learn from others.
- **Educational Merit Award*** - Presented to an individual who has developed an outstanding tennis program that provides leadership and inspiration in junior programs for schools, colleges, parks and playgrounds benefiting the growth of tennis in Mississippi.
- **Facility of the Year Award*** - Presented to a Mississippi facility in recognition of outstanding service to the local tennis community, and offers a comprehensive set of programming including tournaments, events, league play, and tennis instruction.
- **Jim Warren Volunteer of the Year Award** - Presented to a volunteer in recognition of outstanding service at the local, state, sectional and or national levels.

- **Media Excellence Award*** - Presented to an individual or organization who/which disseminates information to the general public in recognition of their contributions to tennis in Mississippi and the sport in general.
- **NJTL Chapter of the Year Award*** - Presented to an NJTL Chapter that best exemplifies the mission of using tennis and education to empower youth from under-served communities, creating lasting impact both on and off the court.
- **Special Tennis Event of the Year Award*** - Presented to a charitable or special tennis event other than a sanctioned or state championship tournament in recognition of exemplary promotion and support of tennis.
- **Team Tennis Event of the Year Award*** - Presented to a USTA Team Tennis event in recognition of exemplary promotion and support of tennis.
- **Tennis Family of the Year Award*** - Presented to a family in recognition of outstanding contributions in the promotion of tennis in Mississippi.
- **Tennis Official of the Year Award*** - Presented to a certified official in recognition of outstanding contributions to the cause of tennis officiating in Mississippi.
- **Tennis Pro of the Year Award*** - Presented to a certified tennis professional in recognition of quality USTA programming for adults and or youth.
- **Wheelchair Tennis Excellence Award*** - Presented to a player, tournament or program which has made an outstanding contribution to Wheelchair Tennis during the year, whether by on-court ability, sportsmanship, community service or promotion of the sport of wheelchair tennis.

****Denotes awards that are eligible for USTA Southern Section Awards***

Incomplete nominations cannot be submitted for consideration.