

**2024 APTA BOARD MEETING  
JUNIORS COMMITTEE**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Juniors Committee works to introduce and provide playing opportunities to youths of all ages and abilities, hoping to encourage lifelong interest in the sport.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS/GOALS**

The 2023-24 season featured a full slate of junior events. We hosted 9 tour events, including 3 events in the Chicago area. I want to thank the CPTC for their support of these events as the turn out for all of them was excellent. Unfortunately this year the weather was not our friend. A few of our tour events were canceled due to snow/rain/low temps.

**Junior Nationals** was hosted as a one-day national event. We had a total of 160 players, including 10 who made the trip from Canada and 5 teams from Chicago! This year, we added 2 junior tour events in the Chicago area. MiPaddle attended the event this year to provide coverage for social media. I know the players really enjoyed that aspect, and the videos that have been produced so far look great. I also want to thank the APTA for providing the live streaming for the event. The parents and players really enjoy being able to share the event with family/friends who don't live nearby. As usual the event wouldn't be what it is without the volunteers from all around the sport.

My goal for the upcoming season is to rebuild the JR Tour calendar. Participation in our JR Tour events as a whole was down this season in some areas. What makes these events so successful is the team behind the scenes. At each club whether it's the pro or a parent volunteer, they are what drives the players to get involved. I have identified professionals in our tour areas who are not currently running JR events. My plan is to guide these pros through the process from start to finish to help establish a few new events. These events will hopefully help these areas grow their JR instructional programming as well.

Lastly, I've met many parents of players over the last couple seasons who have provided me with great feedback. I am going to create a parent committee to allow for more direct involvement with the players. This committee will consist of parents who represent different age levels and geographic locations.

**APTA Juniors by the Numbers (Last 5 years)**

	<b>Junior Nationals Players</b>	<b>APTA Junior Members</b>
2020	224	330
2021	374	383
2022	206	287
2023	186	313
2024	160	320

Submitted by Greg Morgan  
Juniors Committee Chair