

# 2026 Player Profiles



# 2026 Open Division



# Sam Rathmanner

Dellwood, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing



# Annika Munson

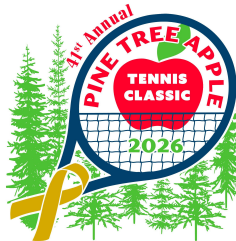
Grant, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- Defending Pine Tree Open Division Champions
- Placed 3rd (2023) and 4th (2024) in the Class AA State Singles Tournament and third in doubles (2022). Finished his high school career with 127 wins for Mahtomedi H.S.
- Is playing Division I tennis at Richmond.

## Why I Play

- I play to support a good cause and to play mixed doubles because I rarely get to.



## Tennis Background

- Defending Pine Tree Open Division Champions
- Played tennis since she was 6 years old.
- Played in many national tournaments and qualified for the high school state tournament all 4 years she played at Mahtomedi High School.
- Playing Division I tennis Toledo.

## Why I Play

- I play Pine Tree because it's organized very well and for a good cause. My favorite thing is competing against other good players and playing in a mixed doubles format.

# Elaine Franta

White Bear Lake, Minn.  
6th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Grew up playing at Life Time White Bear Lake and Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center
- Played for White Bear Lake Area High School
- Played D-III tennis at the Wisconsin-Eau Claire
- Qualified for the ITA Cup in doubles

## Why I Play

- I play PTATC to raise money and awareness for children's cancer research and to play in honor of friends and family that have undergone cancer treatment.



# Matt Gilbert

Minneapolis, Minn.  
5th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played at Washburn High School
- 5 years at UW-Eau Claire
- Competed in multiple Nationals for USTA

## Why I Play

- The atmosphere and energy this tournament brings for a good cause!

# Maik Nguyen

Lilydale, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing



# Molly Miller

Bloomington, Minn  
4th Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- Won the 2024 Junior Pine Tree 17U Championship with Molly Miller.
- Started playing at the age of three.
- Two-time Minnesota A State Doubles Champion at St Paul Academy H.S.
- Currently on the University of Minnesota Club Tennis Team.



## Tennis Background

- Second year playing in the adult tournament after playing the Junior Tournament for 2 years.
- 2023 and 2024 Junior Pine Tree 17U Champion.
- Been playing since I was 4
- Playing D-III tennis in the fall at Christopher Newport University

## Why I Play

I play Pine Tree because of the amazing community it creates. Plus I'll never turn down an invitation to play mixed doubles.

# Keely Ryder

Rochester, Minn.  
5th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Attends Dartmouth College
- Two-time Junior Pine Tree champion (2022, 2024)
- 2023 Minnesota Class AA Doubles Champion
- Two-time Class AA Team Champion at Rochester Mayo
- She and her father Andy made the awards for this year's tournament.

# Liam Selvido

Rochester, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played tennis at University of the South
- ITA Scholar-Athlete
- Teaching pro at Rochester Athletic Club
- Coaches High School Tennis at Mayo High School
- Currently part of the Surgical First Assistant program at the Mayo Clinic



# Jessa Boike

Eden Prairie, Minn.  
12th Year Playing

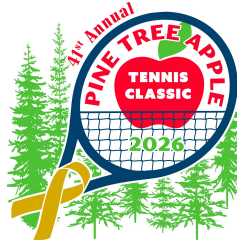


## Tennis Background

- Played at Minnetonka High School where she is now the girls tennis coach.
- Played D-II tennis for Augustana University in Sioux Falls and was an All-American doubles player.
- Inducted into the Augustana Athletics Hall of Fame in 2026

## Why I Play?

- There is nothing better than combining my passion for tennis with a greater cause, raising money and awareness for pediatric cancer patients and their families.



# Jeff Adolf

Minneapolis, Minn.  
11th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played club tennis at the University of Minnesota

# Alekya Gottmukkula

Eden Prairie, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played at Eden Prairie High School
- Currently plays on the University of Minnesota Club Team

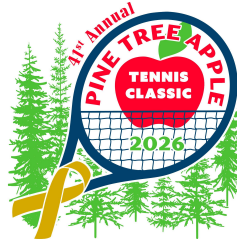
# Anthony Perrill

Orono, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Won the 2025 Minnesota Class AA Boys State Doubles Championship



# Aria Benjamin

Minneapolis, Minn.  
9th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played at the University of Minnesota where she finished with the 10th-most singles wins in program history.
- Was also a two-time Minnesota State High School Singles Championship at Minnetonka High School.

# Kyle Hoffman

Franklin, Wis.  
5th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Captain of the UWEC Tennis team 2015-16 and 4-year starter.
- I've taught tennis for the last 10 years ranging from Franklin, Whitewater, Stanford, YMCA tennis camps. I also teach part time at Life Time Lakeville.

## Why I Play

I love to see the tennis community coming together playing great tennis while raising money for an amazing cause. My favorite thing about the tournament is competing against my friends in an awesome environment with fans packed in the stands.



# Micah Gustafson

Cambridge, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Plays at Bethel University
- Started in 8th grade and was hooked immediately but I didn't start playing in the offseason until my senior year of high school

# Michaela Sullivan

Lakeville, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Plays at Bethel University
- Qualified in doubles for both the NCAA Division III Championships and ITA Cup Division III Nationals
- MIAC Rookie of the Year and MIAC all conference singles and doubles

## Why I Play Pine Tree

- I play Pine Tree for my nephew Hudson



# Olga Zubrieva

Kyiv, Ukraine  
2nd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played at St. Olaf
- MIAC Chris Evert Award recipient in recognition of sportsmanship and exemplary athletic, academic, and humanitarian accomplishments
- All-MIAC in doubles
- Honorable Mention All-MIAC in singles
- College Sports Communicators Academic All-District, TA Scholar-Athlete

## Why I Play

- Energy of the tournament and playing for a great cause



# Jakub Belik

Stillwater, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played college tennis at St. Olaf

## Why I Play

- To support a great cause and to share the court with an awesome community

# Chase Johnson

Golden Valley, Minn.  
5th Year Playing



# Ellie Puzak

Minneapolis, Minn.  
2nd Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- Two-time Pine Tree Open finalist including last year with Sonya Das.
- Was a 2x Minnesota State Tournament Participant at Hopkins HS
- Division III All-American at Gustavus  
Also won the ITA Arthur Ashe Leadership and Sportsmanship Award.

## Why I Play

- It provides vital fundraising for life changing research and treatment. My favorite part of Pine Tree is the fun and supportive environment it creates for everyone.

## Tennis Background

- Played college tennis at Colorado and Georgetown
- Mom played tennis at University of Minnesota
- Played at Minneapolis Southwest High School



# Tommy Entwistle

Sioux Falls, S.D.  
5th Year Playing



# Isabella Lambert

Minneapolis, Minn.  
8th Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- Played tennis at Gustavus Adolphus
- An inspiring event with great people working towards an important goal.

## Tennis Background

- Played tennis at the University of Minnesota
- Won the Minnesota State High School Singles Championship as junior.

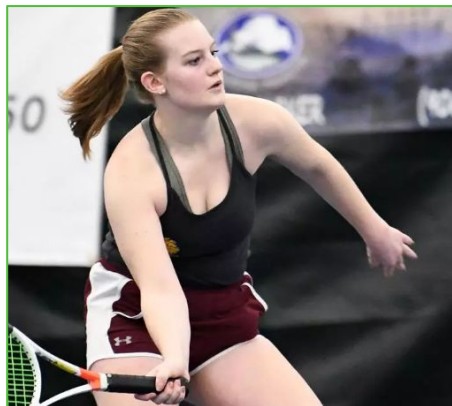
## Why I Play

- I play Pine Tree for the great cause, getting to see so many tennis friends, and competing at a high level.



# Mallory Lithun

Plymouth, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played at Robbinsdale Armstrong
- Played college tennis at Minnesota-Duluth for 4 years

## Why I Play

- I want to be able to help children and families in need from raising donations that can hopefully change their lives in a positive way.



# Larson Ringlien

Northfield, Minn.  
2nd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- 22 years of playing, teaching for 8.
- Current 4.5/5.0 player
- Teaching tennis at Minnetonka tennis club

## Why I Play

- For the amazing cause, and the amazing community that shows up to support and help make this even possible every year

# Maddie Larsen

Maple Grove, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing



# Oliver Walseth

Elk River, Minn.  
4th Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- State qualifier in doubles at Maple Grove High School.
- Is playing collegiately at Denison College.
- Pine Tree tournament volunteer and past junior player.
- Finished second in the 17U Junior Tournament two years ago.

## Tennis Background

- Second year playing the Open after playing Junior Pine Tree the for 2 years.
- Played since I was 8 years old and basically learned how to play from my dad who coaches at Irondale High School and played at St Thomas.

## Why I Play

- To raise money, play mixed doubles which is hard to come by, and have fun.



# Tristen Bryant-Otake

Kailua, Hawaii

2nd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Grew up playing tennis in Hawaii since the age of 5.
- Played collegiately at Northern Colorado and Western Kentucky. Then played at Minnesota State Mankato for one year in grad school.
- Volunteer coach at Mankato for one season and head coach for one season.

## Why I Love Pine Tree

- I have never played before but I do love that this tournament is a fundraiser for such a great cause. Also excited to play some fun mixed doubles since that's not event commonly played.



# Joseph Punnoose

Bloomington, Minn.

3rd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played tennis for 4 years at Gustavus.
- Teaches at Life Time Bloomington South

## Why I Play

- I play for the amazing cause which the proceeds go towards. Favorite thing about the tournament is the great atmosphere and high level tennis.

# Scott Wall

DePere, Wis.  
2nd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- First started playing at Legion Park in De Pere, Wisconsin
- Played college tennis at St. Thomas. Was All-MIAC conference in singles, Academic All-MIAC and named to the All-MIAC sportsmanship team during his career.

## Why I Play

- It is a weekend of excellent tennis for an excellent reason

# Anna Nguyen

Apple Valley, Minn.  
4th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played at Apple Valley HS where I had two of the best tennis coaches in the world - Sue Hodgson and Susan Furtney!
- Played college lacrosse at the University of Minnesota for a couple years and started to really miss tennis. I played for the club tennis team at the U and haven't put down a racquet since!

## Why I Play

- I love being a part of a great cause and getting the opportunity to play some of the best tennis players around!



# Clara Thoemke

Inver Grove Heights, Minn.  
2nd Year Playing

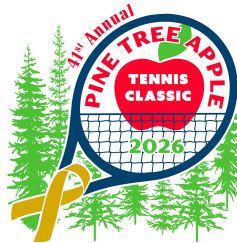


## Tennis Background

- Played college tennis at Winona State where she WSU Presidential Scholar Athlete, 2024 NSIC All-Academic Team, 2023-24 WSU Student Athlete of the year nominee
- Played at Simley H.S. where Nate was her coach. Was a state tournament qualifier.
- Teaching professional at Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center

## Why I Play

- The great cause for cancer research and childhood cancer research. I love my job of teaching/coaching and tennis so this is a great way for me to get involved.



# Nathan Tretsven

North St. Paul, Minn.  
6th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played high school tennis at North St Paul; college tennis at Hamline and UW-Eau Claire.
- Currently teaching at Life Time White Bear.
- Varsity Girls tennis coach at Mahtomedi H.S.

## Why I Play

- It is a fun, high level event that raises money for a wonderful cause!

# Brandon Pham

Mahtomedi, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Plays college tennis at UI-Indy
- Academic Advisors List at UI-Indy

## Why I Play

- I play because it allows me to compete at high level while also supporting a great cause.

# Tianna Houske

Savage, Minn.  
1st Year Playing

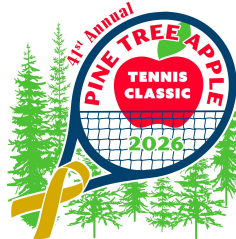


## Tennis Background

- Played at Prior Lake High School
- Currently a member of the University of Minnesota Club Team

## Why I Play

- I'm excited to play Pine Tree for my first time. I've heard such great things from people who have played it in the past, so I'm looking forward to experiencing the fun atmosphere while raising money for an amazing cause.



# Carl Wahlstrand

Shoreview, Minn.  
4th Year Playing



## **Tennis Background**

- Played at Mounds View High School
- Played collegiately at Michigan Tech.
- Currently a 5.0 and a part time pro at Life Time White Bear

## **Why I Love Pine Tree**

- The chance to help cancer patients without good options and how the tournament brings the tennis community together.

# Rory Wahlstrand

Shoreview, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing



## **Tennis Background**

- Will be playing tennis at Gustavus Adolphus in the fall
- Won 2024 Minnesota Class AA Girls State High School Doubles championships with younger sister Reese
- Played in the Junior Pine Tree in the past.
- Excited to be playing with her dad

## **Why I Love Pine Tree**

- I play for the amazing cause and the amazing people!



# Cooper Anderson

White Bear Lake, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played high school tennis for White Bear Lake HS where I was incredibly blessed to have my mom Christine as my coach.
- Played junior hockey
- Returned to tennis at Saint John's University where he played both hockey and tennis.

## Why I Play

- It's an incredible opportunity to make a positive difference in the world. I believe in the immense power of sports to make a difference in people's lives and to play in an event that supports such a worthy cause is amazing. I remember coming to watch this event for many years and I am very excited to finally participate.



# Soneera Kavya

Cottage Grove, Minn.  
1st Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- Playing tennis at St. Thomas in the fall.
- Two-time SPEX National Champion
- National Tournament Champion in Malaysia
- Top 10 Ranked in Singapore

# Siddhesh Mahadeshwar

Mumbai, India  
2nd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Former D2 varsity athlete at Michigan Tech
- ITA Scholar- Athlete

# Varsha Rathore

South Windsor, Conn.  
2nd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- All-Conference and All-Academic player in high school,
- Ranked 15th in New England in 2020
- USTA Adult League player and have qualified for nationals
- Played college tennis at Connecticut.

## Why I Play

- I'm deeply associated with the cause (I was a Director of Camp Kesem in college) and feel for the tournament's purpose. I have raised \$4k annually in college and hope to do the same this year!



# Reese Ellingson

Woodbury, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- One of the top junior players in the United States
- Currently ranked 15th on Tennis RPA
- Will be a freshman in high school this year.

## Why I Love Pine Tree

- Helping find a cure to children's cancer and fun of playing my favorite sport

# Bulut Ozcelik

Angara, Turkey  
2nd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Director of Baseline Tennis Center Programming, Events and Venue Operations
- Played collegiately at TED University in Turkey
- Played professionally all around Europe
- Has played in 15 different countries



# Chris Kuna

Edina, Minn.  
9th Year Playing



# Paula Rincon Otero

Madrid, Spain  
11th Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- Won two team state championships at Edina High School.
- Holds the record for most wins at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.
- Met his wife Mary on the tennis team at Eau Claire.

## Why I Play Pine Tree

- I love playing in the Pine Tree because it is so cool to see our tennis community come together doing what we love and supporting a great cause. The atmosphere is always amazing and the support from everyone in the tennis community is incredible.



## Tennis Background

- Played for the Gophers from 2012-16 where she was Academic All-Big Ten.

## Why I Play Pine Tree

- I cannot think of a better way to help kids than doing what I love: Playing tennis. Every year, the Pine Tree is one of my favorite events of the summer! It is so fun!

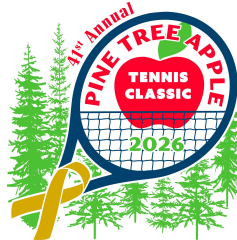
# Madeleine Schneider

Gartringen, Germany  
2nd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played college tennis at Minnesota-Crookston where she played #1 singles and #1 doubles and holds the all-time school record with 33 singles wins.
- Was named All-Conference and to the All-Academic Excellence team while at Crookston.
- Was named one of 30 finalists for the NCAA Woman of the Year Award - the most prestigious award a college athlete can receive during her career.



# Lucas Wood

Urbana, Ill.  
3rd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- All-MIAC at Macalester

## Why I Play Pine Tree

- Raises money for a good cause.

# Liv Smith

Edina, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Was on the original Pine Tree Planning Committee back in 1986.
- Long-time Pine Tree supporter whose bucket list wish was to play in Pine Tree ... which she is excited to cross off her list
- 3.5 USTA League player

# Luke Robertson

Bloomington, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Teaching pro at Interlachen CC

## Why I Play

- I'm playing this year because no child or human should have to deal with cancer. Life is very precious and everyone deserves a chance of living a good life, pain free.



# Anders Jensen

West Des Moines, Iowa  
4th Year Playing

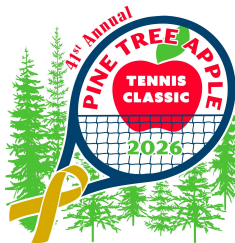


## Tennis Background

- I have played tennis since I was 6 years old.
- Played competitively in USTA Missouri Valley as a junior player.
- Coed State Champion in Iowa.
- Played college tennis at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa.
- All conference singles/doubles.
- Play in USTA leagues in Twin Cities area.

## Why I Play

- I play Pine Tree to join a wonderful community in supporting cancer research. My favorite thing about the tournament is the competition and all the people who make this weekend what it is!



# Kelsey Kruse

Decorah, Iowa  
4th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Iowa high school tennis: 3rd place team 2016, 3rd place doubles.
- Luther College 2016-20: All conference doubles and singles player.
- NCAA national tournament appearances, 3x conference champions

## Why I Play

- Working as an ER nurse that works with kiddos and their families every day, it's great to be able to give back and support them through tennis and have a great time playing tennis!

# Jack Allaben

Mahtomedi, Minn.  
4th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Six-year varsity player at Mahtomedi High School. During my time there, our team earned 3rd Place at the State Tournament, and I finished as the runner-up in the Doubles Individual State Tournament.
- Plays on the Club Tennis Team at Georgia Tech, where we finished 2nd at Nationals this year!
- Pine Tree volunteer doing all of the social media for this year's tournament.
- 2025 Pine Tree Sportsmanship Award Winner

## Why I Play

- I play in Pine Tree because it supports such an incredible cause and brings together amazing people. My favorite part is the energy, the community, and of course, the apple treats!



# Molly Austin

Arden Hills, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Just completed her college career at Gustavus Adolphus
- 4x All-MIAC in singles and doubles
- MIAC Rookie of the Year as a freshman
- Played at Mounds View High School

# Noor Omar

Fridley, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Plays tennis at Gustavus Adolphus College
- Academic All-MIAC

## Why I Play Pine Tree

- The environment and community

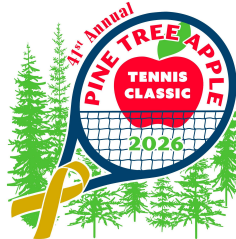
# Karl Kimber

Duluth, Minn.  
2nd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played at Duluth East H.S.
- Currently plays at Gustavus Adolphus
- Second year playing in the Open Division after playing in the juniors two years ago.
- Son of Pine Tree Hall of Famer Meghan Kimber who he played Pine Tree with last year.



# Elizabeth Trevathan

St. Paul, Minn.  
5th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played at Macalester College
- All-MIAC Singles honors in 2024 and 2026
- All-MIAC Honorable Mention in Doubles in 2023, 2024, and 2026.

## Why I Play

- Pine Tree is my hometown tournament. I grew up playing at White Bear Lake Lifetime, and it's where the community that nourished and supported my love for tennis was. I have seen, from watching the setup for the tournament, to watching the tournament when I was younger, to playing in it, how much this tournament means to the community. I play Pine Tree to honor, support, and give back to the community that supported me so much!



# Michael Mairs

St. Paul, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played tennis at Mounds Park Academy
- Attends St. Olaf University

# Lauren Lofrumento

White Bear Lake, Minn.  
7th Year Playing



# Nick Lofrumento

Cocoa Beach, Fla.  
4th Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- Played tennis at Luther College in Iowa. Also played at White Bear Lake High School.

## Tennis Background

- Division I athlete in tennis and cheerleading at Gardner-Webb University
- Assistant tennis pro at LifeTime White Bear.

## Why I Play

- To raise money for a good cause and be a small part of respected organization and the post-match apple treats.



# Ankit Gupta

Minneapolis, Minn.  
4th Year Playing



# Hayley Haakenstad

Chanhassen, Minn.  
8th Year Playing

## Why I Play Pine Tree

- This is my fourth year getting the opportunity to play in this tournament and support an amazing cause! I have worked in the medical field for the past decade and in my last job helped lymphoma patients navigate being on a clinical trial for their cancer and helping support cancer research is a cause near and dear to my heart.



## Tennis Background

- 2021 Pine Tree Open Champion.
- Completed a 5-year career playing tennis for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2019 Big Ten Sportsmanship Award recipient. 74 career doubles wins at Nebraska.
- 2015 MN High School State Singles Champion. 2016 Minnesota State Softball Champion.

## Why I Play Pine Tree

- Super fun to be able to play for such a great cause!

# Lexi Helmer-Jahnke

Maple Grove, Minn.  
1st Year Playing

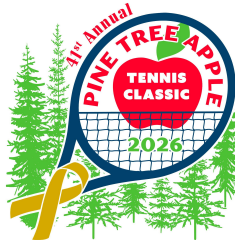


## Tennis Background

- Played high school tennis for 6 years at Maple Grove High School, playing varsity for 4 of those.
- Team went to state three times and placed 4th in doubles

## Why I Play

- I played in the Spring Fling and Pine Tree sounded fun



# Zach Helmer-Jahnke

Maple Grove, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Junior at the University of Minnesota
- Played tennis at Maple Grove High School, where he was a captain as a senior
- Played since I was 8
- Helped coach the MG Summer Camp for the past 3 years.

## Why I Play

- I played the Spring Fling this April with my sister and it was very fun. We were told Pine Tree is awesome and that we should play in it.

# Ryan Meger

Mahtomedi, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played tennis at Saint John's University (2015-19).

## Why I Play

- Great way to fundraise money for pediatric cancer research and the tournament has a very fun atmosphere.

# Lauryn Douglas

North Mankato, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Earned All-America honors in singles at the 2026 NCAA Championships
- Also played doubles at both the NCAAs and ITA All-Americans in 2025-26
- MIAC Singles and Doubles Player of the Year



# Jackie Bettenga

Apple Valley, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played in state tournament in doubles
- Played at Luther College and won the IIAC conference in 2017 and 2018
- Was an assistant coach at St. Thomas for one year with her dad.

## Why I Play

- The community is fantastic, the atmosphere is electric and the food is amazing.

# Jimmy Ayer

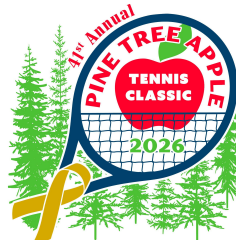
Memphis, Tenn.  
1st Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- Played for Central High School in Philadelphia, PA.
- Played for Luther College in Decorah, IA.
- Currently plays 5.0 USTA league tennis and the occasional tournament in the Twin Cities!

## Why I Play

- I've heard some spectacular things. A good cause, competitive tennis, a ton of fun...what else can you ask for?



# Martina Sfilio

Zarate, Buenos Aires  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Plays at Augustana University in Sioux Falls

# Keagen Lowman

Cambridge, Minn.  
2nd Year Playing

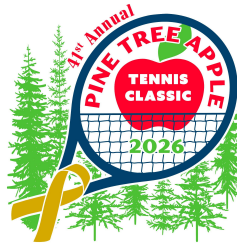


## Tennis Background

- Plays at Augustana in Sioux Falls.
- MIAA Newcomer Academic Honor Roll

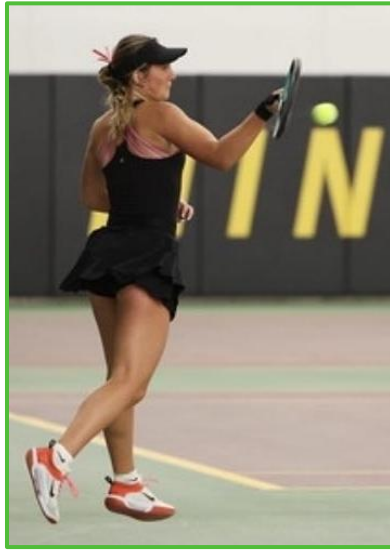
## Why I Play

- It's always fun to play and the cause is great!



# Keira Kelly

Lakeville, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played in the Junior Pine Tree tournament
- Minnesota High School Class AA Doubles State runner-up at Lakeville North High School
- Plays Club Tennis at the University of Minnesota.

## Why I Play

- It is for a really good cause and I love seeing the tennis community get together.

# Bode Campbell

Bloomington, Minn.  
1st Year Playing

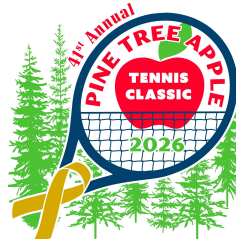


## Tennis Background

- Currently plays at Xavier University
- Played high school at Bloomington Jefferson where he advanced to the state tournament.
- Ranked as high as #71 in the country.

## Why I Play

- I love being able to help give to an incredible cause



# Ashwika Thotakura

Eden Prairie, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Volunteer Coordinator for the 2026 Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic
- Plays on the U of M Club Team
- Played at Eden Prairie High School

# Preston Perrill

Chanhassen, Minn.  
1st Year Playing

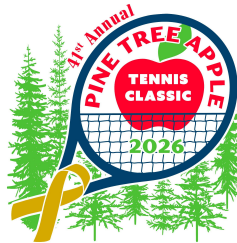


## Tennis Background

- Currently on the University of Minnesota Club team
- Played at Orono High School and was a 3-year captain
- Tennis has always been a big part of my life, and I still love the competitive side of the game and the relationships that come with it.

## Why I Play

- Pine Tree combines competitive tennis with an incredible cause. I love getting out there and competing, but what makes Pine Tree special is the community around the tournament. My favorite part is the friendships and relationships you build with the other players, families, volunteers, and supporters who come together every year for something much bigger than tennis



# Jonah Kauls

Forest Lake, Minn.  
2nd Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- Played at Forest Lake High School where he played in the Minnesota Class AA State Tournament for doubles the past two seasons.

## Why I Play

- Great event and great community

# Lauryn Schenck

Edina, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Second year playing in the Open tournament after playing in the junior tournament previously.
- Won the 2025 Minnesota Girls State High School Doubles Championship
- Will play tennis at St. Thomas in the fall.

## Why I Play

- To play for a great cause.



# Ava Nelson

Elk River, Minn.  
2nd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Plays college tennis at Sacred Heart University
- MAAC Co-Rookie of the Year
- MAAC First Team Doubles
- MAAC First Team Singles
- Played high school tennis at Elk River H.S. where she was the 2024 Minnesota Class AA State Finalist.

## Why I Play

- I am excited to support the tournament and the cau



# Curtis Horton

Elk River, Minn.  
2nd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Teaches at Rogers Tennis Club
- Plays USTA 18+ 4.5 and 5.0
- Played Division III tennis at St. John's.
- Assistant coach for Elk River boys and girls varsity teams

## Why I Play

- Great competition, greater cause

# Shelby Anderson

Stillwater, Minn.  
10th Year Playing

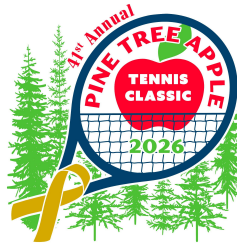


## Tennis Background

- Played 6 years at Stillwater H.S., followed by 4 years playing at Eastern Illinois University.
- Currently a tennis pro at InnerCity Tennis and assistant coach at the University of St. Thomas.

## Why I Play

- My favorite part of the weekend is seeing the tennis community that has been part of Pine Tree for the past 40 years, and knowing all of the great things the weekend has done to help in the fight against childhood cancer.



# Alex Senjem

Rochester, Minn.  
1st Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- Played tennis at Gustavus Adolphus

**Alex  
Repplier**  
Champlin, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



**Tennis Background**

- Plays tennis at Wisconsin-Whitewater
- 3x WIAC All Conference
- 2 NCAA team tournament appearances, 2 WIAC conference championships

**Why I Play**

- It's a great way to raise money for a good cause and bringing people together through tennis

**Wyatt  
Crowell**  
Prior Lake, Minn.  
2nd Year Playing



**Tennis Background**

- Plays #1 singles at Hamline University

**Why I Play**

- I am playing this tournament because of one of my mentors and friends Dwight Soeffker, he passed away in the fall of 2023 from lung cancer. He was a great coach and friend and always supported me in my tennis. I've known both adults and children who have fought against cancer and hold the cause very close to me. Being able to go out and play a sport I love for a cause that is close to me is one of the most meaningful things I can do in this sport.



# Alexandra Blackwell

Kansas City, Mo.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played at Howard University in Washington DC
- 2022 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) Commissioner's All-Academic Team and MEAC All-Academic Team

# Jon Badua

Round Lake, Ill.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Tennis pro and stringer at Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center
- Div I NJCAA Tennis at College of Lake County
- 2021 Illinois Skyway Conference Sportsmanship Award
- 2022 NJCAA Div I Region 4 3rd place
- Played in 2022 NJCAA Div I National Championship

## Why I Play

- I want to play in Pine Tree because it brings the tennis community together to raise money and awareness to such a worthy cause. The ability to help children who are suffering from cancer and fund the research and partnerships across the world is a beautiful thing that shows the power and commitment that Pine Tree brings to the world.



# Elizabeth Payne

Minneapolis, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Rising senior at Holy Angels High School
- Won the Minnesota State Class AA singles championship in 2025

## Why I Play

- The great atmosphere and competition! It's so much

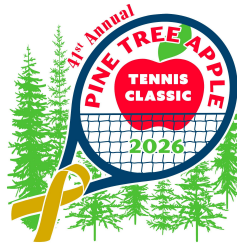
# Stefan Pereira

Minneapolis, Minn.  
1st Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played tennis at Washburn High School





**Tobias  
Wernet**  
Mainz, Germany  
12th Year Playing



**Jackie  
Sperling Hosseini**  
Eden Prairie, Minn.  
4th Year Playing

### **Tennis Background**

- 2024 (Nilttooli Wilkins) and 2020 (Alexis Nelson) Pine Tree Champion.
- Grew up playing tennis in Germany, where he was once the country's #1-ranked junior—though he's still not over blowing a 5-2 lead to a young Juan Martín del Potro, who went on to become a Grand Slam champion.
- Later competed in Germany's 2. Bundesliga before joining the University of Minnesota, where he played for the Gophers from 2007-11.
- More than any award or accolade, he's most proud of the lifelong friendships, lessons, and memories that came from being part of a close-knit team grounded in hard work, resilience, and community—just like the team at Pine Tree.
- Member of the Pine Tree Apple Classic Fund Board of Directors

### **Why I Play Pine Tree**

- This is my 12th year playing Pine Tree, and it's one of the most meaningful traditions in my life. I play because the cause hits close home—supporting kids and families impacted by cancer is something I always show up for. What makes this tournament so special isn't just the mission, though—it's the community. Every year, players, volunteers, supporters come together to create something bigger than tennis. The incredible energy, purpose, and heart behind the weekend, and I'm honored to be a small part of it.



### **Tennis Background**

- Won the 2022, 2023 and 2024 Pine Tree Masters Championships with Tim Burke.
- Played tennis at the University of Minnesota 2006-2010
- Won National Father/Daughter grass court championship
- Won two National Mother/Daughter National Indoor Championships.

### **Why I Play Pine Tree**

Looking forward to good competition to raise money for a good cause!

# 2026 Masters Division



**Kelly  
Buckley**  
Mequon, Wisc.  
2nd Year Playing



**Brett  
Morse Karzen**  
Wilmette, Ill.  
6th Year Playing

### **Tennis Background**

- 2025 Pine Tree Masters Division Champion
- Played collegiately at Santa Clara University
- As a freshman, played at DePauw where she qualified for the NCAA Division III Singles Tournament.
- Member of the 2025 ITF Masters 35s World Team Championships in Antalya, Turkey.
- Awarded 5 gold, 4 silver, and 1 bronze ball in adult Level 1 age group competitions.

### **Tennis Background**

- 2021, 2025 Pine Tree Masters Division Champion.
- Three-Time Doubles All-American at Gustavus Adolphus College
- 47-time USTA national father/son champion
- 2024 National Pop-A-Shot Basketball Finalist

### **Why I Play**

- Great cause, great tournament, great people, great food!



# Callee Anderson

Hibbing, Minn.  
11th Year Playing

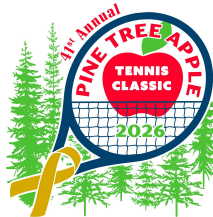


## Tennis Background

- Played tennis at Hibbing High School. Played for University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and then transferred and played for St. Scholastica. Tennis professional at InnerCity Tennis

## Why I Play

- My favorite event is the year! What a great cause to play the game that I love while supporting children!



# Wessel Kemp

Osseo, Minn.  
Back Playing  
Pine Tree



## Tennis Background

- Originally from South Africa.
- Played at Oral Roberts University.
- Was a tennis coach at InnerCity Tennis.
- Now a personal coach and fitness instructor.

# Jodi Schley

Minnetrista, Minn.  
9th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- St. Thomas record holder for most career wins
- 2021 4.5 women's USTA 18+ 2nd place national team. 2023 USTA 40+ national champions.

## Why I Play

- I love playing in this tournament because it combines my passion for tennis with a meaningful cause. Supporting children's cancer research through a sport I love is an incredibly rewarding way to give back. There's no better way to use my time and talent than for something that makes a real difference.

# Nick Ciapetta

Chicago, Ill.  
6th Year Playing

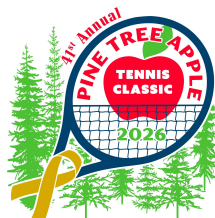


## Tennis Background

- Played on the club team at Ohio State; 3x USTA League National Qualifier

## Why I Play Pine Tree

- It's for a cause bigger than tennis, it's for our youth and the real battle they face off the court with pediatric cancer.



# Sierra Krebsbach

North Oaks, Minn.  
Back Playing Again!



## Tennis Background

- Played at Gustavus Adolphus
- Three-time All-American our-t
- Four-tiime MIAC Champion at Gustavus Adolphus College

## Why I Play

- Supporting a wonderful cause, eating apple rollovers, and playing with her brother-in-law, Tyler, for the first time!

# Tyler Johnson

West Bend, Wis.  
9th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Gustavus Men's tennis team - 4 Years.

## Why I Play

- It is a super fun event to raise money for a great cause and eat delicious Pine Tree Apple Orchard treats



# Alex King

Apple Valley, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing



# Betsy Houser-Young

Orono, Minn.  
1st Year Playing

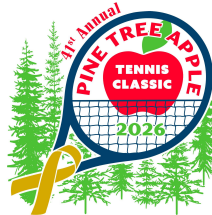


## Tennis Background

- I LOVE tennis!
- Played tennis at Apple Valley High School.
- Played Club Tennis at U of MN
- Currently play too many leagues and I'm loving it.

## Why I Play

- For a good cause.



# Yuliya O'Neill

Woodbury, Minn.  
5th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Teaching professional at Life Time White Bear Lake.
- Played junior competitive tennis in Belarus.
- Played #1 singles and doubles at a Division II college.

## Why I Play

- It's a great way to raise awareness and gather support support for this vital mission.

# Matt Edin

Staples, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Grew up playing tennis with his sisters
- Played tennis at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN where he earned All-MIAC honors in each of his four years.
- Resides with his wife and two children in Vadnais Heights, MN and continues to enjoy both playing and teaching tennis.

## Why I Play

- For the fun and competition.

# Meghan Kimber

Duluth, Minn.  
24th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played high school tennis at Duluth East and college tennis at Gustavus Adolphus College.
- Teaches tennis in Duluth and continue to enjoy playing USTA leagues and tournaments.
- Four-time Pine Tree Champion. 2020 Pine Tree Sportsmanship Award Winner. 2024 Pine Tree Hall of Fame Inductee

## Why I Play

- To help be a small part of something big and for the incredible camaraderie and competition!

# Kevin Werwie

Sheboygan, Wis.  
33rd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Former All-Big Ten Player for the University of Minnesota tennis team
- Reached top 500 in the world in singles and doubles
- 8-time Pine Tree champion
- President Emeritus of the Pine Tree Apple Classic Fund Board of Directors

## Why I Play

- To support an incredible cause and be part of a special tennis event where I have met so many wonderful friends over the years.



**Erica  
Toppin**  
Plymouth, Minn.  
13th Year Playing



**Matt  
Narr**  
Rochester, Minn.  
16th Year Playing

### **Tennis Background**

- I grew up playing juniors in Michigan before moving to Minnesota and playing for Gustavus Adolphus College. 2021 member of USTA 4.5 Women's 18 and over Northern Section team who finished second in the nation.

### **Why I Play**

- To support the amazing work the team at Children's Minnesota does each and every day to lessen the suffering of kids with cancer.

### **Tennis Background**

- Played collegiate tennis under legendary coach Steve Wilkinson at Gustavus Adolphus College.
- President of the Pine Tree Apple Classic Fund Board

### **Why I Play Pine Tree**

- Bringing the tennis community together to raise money for such an important cause, what could be better?!? And, the apple donuts!



# Rajasree Hawk

Chicago, Ill.  
8th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played college tennis at Drake University

## Why I Play

- I love the fun atmosphere and food and drinks available all weekend. I am grateful that the MN tennis community can do something positive for the greater community.

# Tucker Combs

White Bear Lake, Minn.  
9th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Grew up on the mean courts of White Bear Lake, learning the game from household names like Combs, Cornell, Olson, Gordon and Schollmeier.
- From there, played Division III for St. Scholastica
- Now I'm just trying to convince my kids that I actually know how to play

## Why I Play

- It's such an honor to play the game I love to benefit such incredible kids. I'll keep playing until we find a cure or my body gives out, whichever comes first.



# Paul Kolenich

Greenville, Pa.  
10+ Years Playing



## Tennis Background

- Competed for 4 years at Tulane University
- 2024 Sportsmanship Award winner

## Why I Play

- Great cause and good times!

# Kelly Esala

Minnetonka, Minn.  
1st Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- Played at East Grand Forks High School and went to state
- Played 1 singles and doubles at Hamline University

## Why I Play

- My husband is a pediatric lung cancer survivor, who was motivated by his challenge with cancer to pursue a career in medicine and help others. I value the mission to support pediatric cancer initiatives and look to raise awareness and funds to further future breakthroughs for cancer patients while using my skills in tennis to generate interest, support, and awareness.



# Cami Jarnot

Roseville, Minn.  
4th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played at Luther College lettering all 4 years and qualifying for the NCAA Tournament 3 times.

## Why I Play

- I play in this tennis tournament because it's deeply personal to me. My nephew was recently diagnosed with cancer, and watching him face this battle with so much courage has changed how I see everything. No child should have to endure what he's going through, and no family should have to navigate it alone. Being part of this tournament is one small way I can honor his fight, raise awareness, and support the research and care that these kids so desperately need. It's not just about tennis—it's about showing up for him and for every child facing the same fight.



# Austin Seaverson

Bemidji, Minn.  
2nd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- State Semis
- Lumberjack Open Champion Coach at Fred Wells
- Teaching pro at Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center.

# Marla Menne

White Bear Lake, Minn.  
16th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- 2006 ITA national doubles champion and All-American; 4-time NCAA Division III National team quarterfinalist for Gustavus Adolphus College and MIAC all-conference; 4-time MIAC team conference champions.
- 2021 Pine Tree Masters Champion. 2018 Pine Tree Sportsmanship Award Winner.
- Pine Tree Apple Tennis Classic Planning Committee member.

## Why I Play

- The cause



# Tim Burke

Minnetrista, Minn.  
10th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- 2022, 2023, 2024 Pine Tree Masters Division Champion with Jackie Sperling Hosseini
- Played at the University of Minnesota

## Why I Play

- This tournament brings so much fun and excitement while at the core, is incredibly meaning to those families encountering such difficult times related to cancer. I think we all have experienced this horrible disease in one way, shape, or form, but for a child and their families to go through such hardship is definitely next level! I hope we can raise funds and even more awareness around this awful disease. Now, let's get after it, one ball at a time (OBAAT)!

# 2026 Grand Masters Division



# Mario De la Torre

2nd Year Playing



# Amy Jamieson

Anoka, Minn.  
11th Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- 2025 Pine Tree Grand Masters Champion
- Over 40 years playing tennis
- Play on ATP tour for 3 years
- Supportive training member of the Mexico Davis Cup Team

## Why I Play

- Experience and support this great cause.

## Tennis Background

- 2025 Pine Tree Grand Masters Champion
- Played at Anoka High School and then played at UW-Stout.

## Why I Play

- I really enjoy the fact that it combines great tennis with the opportunity to give back to such an important cause. The atmosphere is full of positive energy, great sportsmanship and shared goals.



# Paul Schroeder

Blue Earth, Minn.  
4th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Minnesota High School state team title and runner up, along with individual doubles 3rd and 4th place.
- USTA Men's National 4.5 Team Champions, along with other numerous National appearances for men and mixed team events.
- Assistant coach at Bethel University for a number of years.

## Why I Play

- Playing for a good cause, great tennis, and best tennis ever atmosphere of the year.



# Elisabeth Walker

Northfield, Minn.  
19th Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- Elisabeth has enjoyed playing tennis for almost 50 years!
- She played college tennis at Carleton and was a member of a three-time MIAC Championship team.
- She plays USTA leagues and coaches Girls Tennis at Northfield High School.

## Why I Play

- It's all about the kids!

**Ken  
Cychosz**  
Minneapolis, Minn.  
35th Year Playing

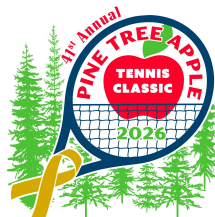


**Tennis Background**

- Member of UW Eau Claire Hall of Fame.
- 42 #1 rankings in Northern Section. 24 USTA Northern championships. Participated in 58 National Championships.
- Served as head coach of St. Thomas women's team advanced to round of 16 NCAA Division III tournament (with 2 All-Americans) in 2021.
- Head Women's Tennis Coach at UW-Eau Claire.

**Why I Play Pine Tree**

- Originally joined to play for a great cause. It is even more than that now. It is the one time during the year the tennis community gets together at all different ages to represent tennis around the great cause. One of the social events of the year.



**Maura  
Smiley**  
Edina, Minn.  
14th Year Playing



**Tennis Background**

- Edina East High School 3x state champs
- University of Minnesota
- Pro for Northwest Racquet Clubs, InnerCity Tennis, Interlachen, Town and Country and coached at Visitation High School

**Why I Play Pine Tree**

- Awesome event that raises a lot of money and awareness for children's cancer research. Incredible fundraiser for children's cancer. Love how it brings together generations of top players in the area!

# Chris Combs

White Bear Lake, Minn.  
41st Year Playing



# Katie Resch

Menasha, Wis.  
17th Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- Calling himself a former player, Chris learned to play in a simpler time with long hair, short shorts, and wooden racquets.
- He has taught the game to others for over 40 years and has even taught four generations of some families.
- Not only was Chris an open division champ in 2000, he is also the only person walking the earth who has played in every Pine Tree tournament.

## Why I Play Pine Tree

- First and foremost, I play for the chance to fund lifesaving research for some amazing kids. The perks of playing are the great atmosphere, tasty snacks, and to prove to my grandkids that I'm a cool grandpa.

## Tennis Background

- I played one year of college tennis at Rhode Island College.
- Played intramurals at Wisconsin.
- Been on several USTA teams that have gone to nationals. In 2011, on a fantastic senior mixed team that won Nationals.

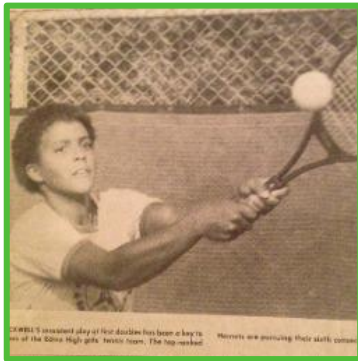
## Why I Play Pine Tree

- It's an amazing fundraising vehicle to support the hard work and dedication of the doctors, physical therapists and researchers who work tirelessly to find a cure for cancer.



# Lea Favor

Edina, Minn.  
4th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Played at Edina High School. Plays USTA Northern Adult Leagues on all levels.

## Why I Play

I love tennis and have been around the game my whole life. I played for the Edina dynasty as a youngster (Go Hornets!) and continue to compete in adult leagues as much as I can. I love the Northern tennis community and play on way too many teams! :) And I am passionate about philanthropy and giving back to the community, particularly when it involves helping young people at vulnerable times in their lives. Pine Tree combines all of these things into one amazing weekend!



# Drew Fernelius

Crystal, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- 2023 Pine Tree Grand Masters Champion
- Head Men's & Women's Coach at Bethel University
- Three-time NCAA All-American at St. Thomas
- 1989 Minnesota State High School Champion at New London-Spicer H.S.

## Why I Play

- Great Cause, Great Tennis! We hosted it at Bethel during COVID and it was a blast!

# Amy Mitchell

Medina, Minn.  
5th Year Playing

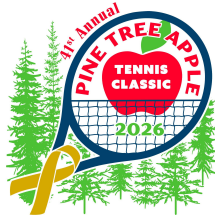


## Tennis Background

- Top 10 junior in the USTA Northern Section:  
Four-Time State Team Champion at Edina High  
School: Played D-I college tennis at the University of Minnesota.

## Why I Play

- Great tennis plus raising funds and awareness to help kids fight cancer - who could turn that down? I am grateful for the opportunity.



# Bruce Gullikson

Burnsville, Minn.  
35th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Assistant Department Head at Life Time Bloomington South
- Tournament player and teaching pro for 4 decades.
- RSPA Master Professional.
- All-conference at Mounds View HS
- Nationally-ranked in USPTA singles and doubles; participated in many USTA team national championships.
- 2021 Pine Tree Sportsmanship Award Winner.
- USTA Northern Hall of Fame 2021.

## Why I Play

- The cause is so worthy and the people who play organize and support it are so nice, and of course the food stand is great.

# Patrice Meger

Austin, Minn.  
14th Year Playing



## Tennis Background

- Adult USTA leagues and LifeTime leagues for 20 years, attending National team events.

## Why I Play

- Fantastic community charitable event raising much needed funds for children's cancer research.



# Bob Watkins

White Bear Lake, Minn.  
3rd Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- Played high school tennis and returned to the game about 20 years later.

## Why I Play

- Great cause, great event



# Doug Matuska

St. Paul, Minn.  
8th Year Playing



# Linnea Benson

Minneapolis, Minn.  
8th Year Playing

## Tennis Background

- 2024 Pine Tree Grand Masters Champion
- Started in 1984 with a wood racquet/still standing!
- Head pro at Life Time Bloomington South

## Why I Play Pine Tree

- To support a great cause.

## Tennis Background

- 2024 Pine Tree Grand Masters Champion
- Grew up playing high school tennis in Fairmont, Minn.
- Attended Luther College and was an Division III All-American in doubles. Member of Luther Athletics Hall of Fame.
- Have played in USTA leagues and tournaments through adulthood.
- Coaches boys and girls teams at Washburn H.S. in Minneapolis.

## Why I Play Pine Tree

I play for the cause and the great tennis. My favorite thing about the tournament is the PEOPLE!



# 2026 Junior Division



# 2026 Junior Players

*Ari Akradi \* Adelyn Altepeter \* Cece Anderson \* Max Anderson \* Elias Barnes \* Natan Belenky \* Hershey Bharadwaj \* Alton “Bubba” Brown \* Norah Brusco \* Henry Cammack \* Ela Cantellano \* Jaime Chamu \* Ben Conlon \* Leo D’astolfo \* Alex Diehn \* Parker Deppa \* Annika Dox \* Elliana Elder \* Noah Elder \* Jacob Elder \* Jonathan Fan \* Anders Fey \* Finn Ganje \* Colette Gefroh \* Adrian George \* Brennan Grove \* Paige Heideman \* Oliver Hickey \* Noah Hill-Starr \* Bryan Huie \* Holden Jackson \* Baghdan Jalil \* Katie Jung \* Tyson Jung \* Adelyn Juskewitch \* Amelia Juskewitch \* Ava Kennedy \* Carson Klett \* Ryann Klett \* Ravi Kumar \* Angela Lee \* Lana Lee \* Autumn Lin \* Sam Levine \* Sarah Levine \* Charlotte Leviton \* Emily Leviton \* Kaylee Livingston \* Bella Loucks \* Abigail Manger \* Olivia McDonald \* Bode Miller \* Elle Miller \* Evan Mills \* Ella Muhl \* Mya Nelson \* Elizabeth Niemi \* Macallister Niemi \* Joe O’Flaherty \* Everly Paulson \* Peyton Percy \* Addy Primo \* Tommy Prondzinski \* Juan Daniel Arevalo Rodriguez \* Isabelle Ronneberg \* Caden Roseth \* Milan Roth \* Noah Ryder \* Lucy Saari \* Ali Schmidt \* Lucky Selvakuar \* Shelby Schnell \* Emma Senn \* Braelyn Skow \* Evelyn Smiley \* Isabelle Starkman \* Ethan Stout \* Melat Tabara \* Kiersten Terris \* Brady Thai \* George Thai \* James Thai \* Connor Trivedi \* Tessa Trivedi \* John Trygstad \* Madden Vanderwere \* Ugne Volckevicius \* Louis Walseth \* Riaan Yadav \* Roger Yang \* Chloe Ye \* Evan Ye \* Crissa Yueh \* Noah Zamansky \* Joy Zhou \* Michael Zhou*