



Maryland Table Tennis Center • www.mdttc.com

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Butterfly MDTTC October 2016 Open
Under 2350 Runner-up Tiffany Ke,
Champion Klaus Wood



Butterfly MDTTC October 2016 Open
Under 2000 Runner-up Jessica Lin, Champion Tiffany Ke



Butterfly MDTTC October 2016 Open
Under 1700 Runner-up Ara Sahakian, Champion Sam Berry



Butterfly MDTTC October 2016 Open
Under 1350 Runner-up Jackson Beaver,
Champion Ryan Lee



Butterfly MDTTC October 2016 Open
Under 15 Champion Hanfei Hu,
Runner-up Jackson Beaver

Butterfly MDTTC October Open Finalists!



Butterfly MDTTC October 2016 Open
Open Singles Semifinalist Nathan Hsu, Champion Bowen Chen,
Runner-Up Zhang Yan, Semifinalist Klaus Wood



Butterfly MDTTC
October 2016 Open
Over 50 Champion
Gong Yunhua

Archive of Past MDTTC Newsletters

Welcome to the 54th issue of the MDTTC News! As usual, there's lots of news to report and new and ongoing programs, and we hope to see you at some of them. As usual a special thanks to MDTTC sponsors [Butterfly](#), [Go Table Tennis](#), and [HW Global Foundation](#). Make sure to read my [daily table tennis blog](#) - I often write about MDTTC happenings there. And if you have a nice picture taken at MDTTC, email it to me and it might make the newsletter! -Editor and Coach [Larry Hodges](#); Publisher Wen Hsu.

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MDTTC MINI-CAMP

Nov. 7-8 (Mon & Tue) are school holidays – Professional Day and Election Day – so we will be holding a mini-camp those two days. The camps are primarily for kids, but all ages are welcome. For more info, see our [Mini-Camp page](#).

MDTTC'S U.S. NATIONAL TEAM MEMBERS AND HALL OF FAMERS!

Did you know that MDTTC has five players on the various USA youth teams, and three Hall of Famers?

- **USA National Cadet Boys' Team:** Derek Nie, Klaus Wood
- **USA National Mini-Cadet Boys' Team:** Ryan Dabbs
- **USA National Mini-Cadet Girls' Team:** Lisa Lin
- **USA National Hopes Girls' Team:** Lisa Lin, Tiffany Ke
- **USATT Hall of Famers:** [Cheng Yinghua](#), [Jack Huang](#), [Larry Hodges](#)

BUTTERFLY MDTTC OCTOBER OPEN

October 22, 2016 (See pictures at top.)

Open Singles – Final: [Chen Bo Wen d. Zhang Yan](#), -9,5,4,7,9; **SF:** Chen d. Nathan Hsu, 7,8,6,7; Zhang d. Klaus Wood, 11,6,-8,-5,10,8; **QF:** Chen d. Lisa Lin, 8,7,7; Zhang d. Jessica Lin, 3,3,7; Hsu d. Eric Li, 7,6,-11,-8,7; Wood d. Lixin Lang, 5,-7,8,5.

Under 2350 – Final: [Klaus Wood d. Tiffany Ke](#), 4,5,6; **SF:** Wood d. Lisa Lin, -9,5,7,6; Ke d. Eric Li, 9,5,-6,8.

Under 2000 – Final: [Tiffany Ke d. Jessica Lin](#), 3,8,-7,6; **SF:** Ke d. Mohamed Kamara, -6,4,8,6; Lin d. Abbas Paryavi, 5,8,9.

Under 1700 – Final: [Sam Berry d. Ara Sahakian](#), -6,-5,8,9,8; **SF:** Berry d. Adrian Yang, -13,4,7,7; Sahakian d. Jef Savage, def.

Under 1350 – Final: [Ryan Lee d. Jackson Beaver](#), 7,-8,6,8; **SF:** Lee d. Andy Wu, 7,-8,7,7; Beaver d. Michelle Kang, -9,4,1,8.

Under 15 – Final: [Hanfei Hu d. Jackson Beaver](#), -6,9,7,6; **SF:** Hu d. Stanley Hsu, -5,-9,7,9,8; Beaver d. Andy Wu, 8,-12,7,-5,7.

Over 50 – Final: [Gong Yunhua](#) d. Thomas Sampson, -7,7,9,-9,-10,10,9; **SF:** Gong d. Lixin Lang, 8,9,-4,6; Sampson d. Terry Lonergan, -10,-7,8,1,2.

MDTTC JUNIOR PROGRAMS

- **Thursday Group Classes: 6 – 7 PM.** [Click here to register online](#). This is a year round program. Fall, winter, and spring sessions will be offered. These 60 minute classes are registered through Montgomery County Recreation Department. Instructors: Larry Hodges & John Hsu, USATT & ITTF Certified Coaches
- **Sunday Group Classes: 4 – 5:30 PM.** This is for beginners to intermediate players, ages 6-14, with Coach Larry (with John Hsu and others assisting). For more info, see the [Junior Group Training Page](#).
- **Tuesday Level 2 Classes: 6 – 7 PM.** This is for advanced beginner and intermediate players with USATT level from 600-1250. This class is kept small deliberately for individualized instruction. Coach John Hsu is a USATT and ITTF certified coach. For more info see the [Adult Group Training page](#).

- **Saturday Advanced Group Training: 4:30-6:30 PM.** Junior Training with Coach Cheng, for junior rated roughly 1500-2200. For more info, contact Cheng directly at MDTTC, 301-519-8580.
- **Friday Advanced Group Training: 5 - 7 PM.** Junior training with Coach Jack Huang, for junior rated over 1750, with coaches' recommendation. Fridays 5-7PM. Contact Coach Jack directly at MDTTC, 301-519-8580.
- **Private coaching / one-on-one lessons are available.** [Click here for details.](#)

MDTTC ADULT PROGRAMS

- **[Tuesday and/or Friday Lunch Group Training \(1:00-2:00 pm\)](#)** for all levels. Improve your table tennis skills while getting great physical and mental exercises. Every player will get one-on-one playing time with Coach Jeffrey Zeng (2550+ rating).
- **[Sunday Adult Training](#)** from 6:30-8:00PM. No pre-registration is required, but if you have any questions, [email](#) Coach Larry. *Be prepared to improve!!!*

MDTTC LEAGUES

- **[Tuesday and Friday Night Leagues.](#)** All ages and levels. Please arrive prior to 7:25 pm to sign up. If you know you'll be a few minutes late, please call the club at 301-519-8580 BEFORE 7:20 pm, otherwise YOU WILL BE TURNED AWAY
- **[Wednesday Night ADULT Recreational League/Meetups.](#)** Play is from 7:15-9:00PM. If you are looking to play more table tennis with other adults, but have no one to play with? This league is for you! On Wednesday nights, recreational players get together to practice and play games informally. This league is self-run by players. The Signup sheet is posted on the bulletin board next to the restrooms. Match forms are available next to the signup sheet, if players want to record their match results.
- **[Sunday Elite League.](#)** This league is for serious players. Match play begins at 12:30PM. Eligibility: USATT Ratings above 2100. Players with ratings between 1900 and 2100 may play, but must pay additional fees. Foreign players with equivalent USATT ratings above 2000 are welcome.

POTOMAC OPEN

[Here's the entry form](#) – it's Nov. 12-13 at the Potomac TTC.

THANKSGIVING TEAMS

It's that time of year again – time for the Thanksgiving Teams! Except you have to make a choice. There are actually two of them, both held Nov. 25-27, the Fri-Sun after Thanksgiving.

- **[JOOLA North American Teams](#)** (5-star tournament) being held in Washington DC, at the National Harbor, about 45 minutes from MDTTC, so this is where most MDTTC players will play. Last year they had 181 teams and 689 players.
- **[Butterfly Teams](#)** (4-start tournament) being held in Philadelphia, about 2.5 hours north. It's a 4-star tournament. Last year they had 69 teams and 260 players.

U.S. OPEN IN LAS VEGAS

It's Dec. 12-17 – here's the [U.S. Open home page](#). A lot of MDTTC players will be there. Deadline is Nov. 20, so enter soon!

BIRTHDAY PARTIES & RENTAL SPACE FOR CORPORATE AND PRIVATE EVENTS

MDTTC offers birthday parties ran by our popular Coach Larry. We also regularly host community events and team-building activities for local businesses. Space rental for special corporate and private events are available. Here is [Facility Rental Information](#), and here is info on [Birthday Party Packages](#).

MDTTC WEB AND FACEBOOK PAGES

Don't forget to see the regularly updated [MDTTC Facebook page](#), and make sure to "like" it!

Stop by and see all the photos, read the latest news, or post your own comments. Also see the [MDTTC web page](#) for regularly updated info.

TIP OF THE MONTH: Winning Cheap Points

By Larry Hodges

Cheap points are when you do something seemingly simple, often subtle, and force the opponent into an error. For example, you might push a serve back extra heavy, and the opponent loops into the net. Or, after serving short several times in a row, you serve fast at the receiver's middle, catching him off guard, and again get an easy point. Or a last second-change of direction. Or a suddenly well-placed dead block. There are many possibilities.

The problem is that most players are so focused on either ripping winners or keeping the ball in play that they don't develop the instincts to win these cheap points. Most of what they do is predictable, and while they may rip lots of winners and keep the ball in play, so does the opponent.

How do you learn to win such cheap points? Experiment, observe the result, and learn. This doesn't mean playing all sorts of weird shots; it means trying out different things and seeing what works - a last-second change of direction, an unexpected change of spin, a change-of-pace block, and so on. These are the type of things that win cheap points for you by your opponent missing or making a weak shot. You can also win cheap points on your serve by throwing in an occasional "trick" serve.

Here are some of my favorite ways to win a cheap point:

1. Sudden fast serves, either breaking into wide backhand, no-spin to the middle (receiver's playing elbow), or quick down the line.
2. After several backspin serves, a side-top or no-spin serve, but with a big downward follow through.
3. Quick blocks and other attacks to the opponent's middle.
4. Set up to loop crosscourt from forehand, at the last second rotate the shoulders back and go down the line.
5. Set up to loop crosscourt from the backhand, at the last second whip the shoulders around and go down the line.
6. Backhand loops that go down the line or at the elbow instead of the normal crosscourt ones.
7. Aim a backhand crosscourt, then at the last second bring the wrist back and go down the line.
8. Against short backspin, sudden very aggressive and angled pushes.
9. Aim a push to the right, at the last second drop the racket tip and push to the left. Can be done short or long.
10. Take a shot right off the bounce, throwing opponent's timing off. This can be done against serves or other shots, with quick drives, blocks, or pushes.
11. Dead blocks that mess up opponent's timing. They can be no-spin, or chop blocks and sidespin blocks.
12. Suddenly aggressive dead block, especially if you pin them down on the backhand.
13. Slow spinny loops that drop short, near the net. Opponents often mistime them if they hesitate.
14. No-spin "Dummy" loops. Exaggerate the normal looping motion but use no wrist.
15. When fishing and lobbing, vary the height, placement, and spin of the shots.
16. Place your weak shots. If you have to make a weak return, at least make the opponent move! Perhaps aim one way then go the other to catch the opponent off guard.