

MDTTC News

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MDTTC Camps are All Summer Long!

Archive of past MDTTC Newsletters

Welcome to the 26th 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](#)

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2014 U.S. Open

Over twenty players and coaches from MDTTC attended the U.S. Open in Grand Rapids, Michigan, July 1-5. Here's the [USATT home page for the U.S. Open](#), which includes links to results, articles, pictures, and video. Here is my [blog on the U.S. Open](#). Here are some of the best results from MDTTC, including multiple Gold, Silver & Bronze finishes!

- **Crystal Wang**, 12, won Cadet Girls Singles (15 & Under), made the semifinals of 18 & Under Girls, and the quarterfinals of Under 21 Women.
- **Derek Nie**, 13, won 13 & Under Boys' Singles.
- **Charlene Liu**, 61, pulled off a triple sweep - or was it a quadruple sweep? She won Over 40, Over 50, and Over 60 Women's Singles, made the final of Over 30 Women's Singles, and won Over 60 Women's Doubles with Barbara Kaminsky.
- **Dave Sakai**, 67, won Over 65 Men's Singles, and won *four* doubles events - Over 50 and Over 60 Doubles with Dan Seemiller, Over 65 Men's Doubles with Dell Sweeris, and Over 60 Mixed Doubles with Donna Sakai. (Am I the only one who noticed that all four of these players have initials DS?)
- **Donna Sakai**, 67, won Over 65 Women's Singles, Over 60 Mixed Doubles with Dave Sakai, and made the final of Over 60 Women's Doubles with Connie Sweeris.
- **Ruichao Alex Chen** made the final of Junior Boys' Singles, upsetting U.S. #1 Under 18 player Kai Zhang, rated 2704, in the round of 16. He made the semifinals of Under 2600. He made the semifinals of Junior Boys' Teams.
- **Chen Bo Wen** made the quarterfinals of Junior Boys' Singles and the semifinals of Junior Boys' Teams.
- **Nathan Hsu** made the semifinals of Junior Boys' Teams, and in Junior Boys' Singles upset Keda Chen, rated 2648 and the U.S. #1 Under 17 player.
- **Wang Qing "Leon" Liang** made the semifinals of Under 2600.
- **Ryan Dabbs**, 11, made the quarterfinals of 11 & Under Boys' Singles.
- **Tiffany Ke**, 10, made the quarterfinals of 11 & Under Girls' Singles.
- **Daniel Sofer**, 9, made the quarterfinals of Under 1500.
- **Larry Hodges** won Over 50 Hardbat Doubles with Jeff Johnston

Summer Table Tennis Camps

MDTTC is on the 4th of its ten weeks of summer camps, every Monday-Friday, now through Aug. 22. Here is the [camp flyer](#) - hope to see you there! The camps are for all ages and levels, but are dominated by kids. If you're an adult looking for training, and don't mind a camp dominated by kids, come on out!

New! Combine Math Test Prep / Enrichment & Table Tennis Training at MDTTC

Dr. Henry Wan's Math Test Preparation and Enrichment Classes are now being offered at MDTTC. June 16-August 22: Mornings 8:30-9:30 ; Afternoons 1:45-2:45 [Separate Registration from table tennis camps](#)
万博士教室: 天才班入学考试, 奥数竞赛, PSAT/ SAT, SAT II 数学提高班. ; [信息和报名表](#)

Crystal Wang Makes Final of North American Cup

The MDTTC 12-year-old pulled off a huge upset by defeating top seed Lily Zhang (2012 U.S. Women's Singles Champion, top-ranked USA player at world #51, rated 2499) in the semifinals, 8,5,5,-3,-9,-6,7). She lost in the final to Canadian champion Mo Zhang at 4,-8,11,4,7. If she could have pulled out that third game, where she deuced it after being behind 7-10 and 10-11!

Ongoing Programs

- **Junior Classes** – the current session began ends on August 24, but you can join any time and pay a pro-rated fee. This is for beginning and intermediate juniors ages 6-14, with Coach Larry Hodges (John Hsu, Jeffrey Zeng Xun and Raghu Nadmichettu assisting), and are held Sundays 4:30-6:00 PM. (Thursday evening & Saturday morning sessions will start up again in September.) See the [Group Training page](#).
- **Group Sessions**. While this is primarily for juniors, all ages are welcome - it's about 1/3 adults. They meet on Sat & Sun, 4:30-6:30. The first 30 minutes is practice/warm-up, then 90 minutes of matches. See the [Group Training page](#).
- **Private Coaching**, by Coaches Cheng Yinghua, Jack Huang, Larry Hodges, Jeffrey Zeng, Qingliang Wang, Alex Chen, Bowen Chen, John Hsu, and Raghu Nadmichettu. See [Private Coaching page](#).

- **Leagues.** MDTTC runs three different leagues. Take your pick! They are the Tuesday and Friday Leagues (for all ages and levels), and the Elite League. The Friday league is pretty much jammed, so we're hoping to get more in the Tuesday league.

MDTTC Birthday Parties

Want to have a table tennis birthday party? Here's info! We've had five since December. Parties include one hour of coaching and games led by an MDTTC coach, usually Coach Larry.

MDTTC Club Shirts with 3 great styles. To personalize with your name costs only \$7.99 extra. To order, please drop by MDTTC to make your selection.

Kiru shirts \$20 (original \$34.99)



Pelluci \$24.99 (original \$49.99)



Passo \$29.99 (original \$49.99).



Rental Space for Corporate and Private Events

MDTTC offers space rental for special corporate and private events. 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: Be a Perfectionist

By Larry Hodges

If you want to be very good at table tennis or anything else, it's best to be a perfectionist. But to be a perfectionist, you have to think like a perfectionist.

First, focus on getting it right. In the long run, proper execution is more important than any current result, and proper execution will lead to the best results. So, focus on the techniques that are "perfect," and work to replicate them over and over until you can do them in your sleep, as well as at deuce in the fifth.

Second, forget about the incorrect shots as those are the shots you want out of your head. Thinking about them only ingrains them more. Instead, develop a determination to do the *next* shot "perfectly." If you keep doing the shot incorrectly, then you might have to analyze it to figure out what you need to do, but as soon as you get it right, put the incorrect ones out of your head and focus on doing it correctly.

Third, don't try to memorize the specifics of a "perfect" shot. Instead, once you get it right, remember the feel of the shot. Once you have that feel down, it'll feel wrong anytime you do any part of the stroke incorrectly. Getting the feel right will ingrain the shot not just for now, but for a lifetime.

If you really want to get it right, I strongly urge you to find a coach and have them work with you until you get it right, and have the feel of a "perfect" shot. Once you have that, you can practice the shot on your own without worrying about whether you are doing it right.