

From: Alan & Joan Bear
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2011 4:05 AM
To: Smith, Terry
Subject: RE: Robinswood Tennis Center- Junior Tennis

Dear Terry,

Would you be able to forward this on to Lynne Robinson as we did not have the correct e-mail address. If you believe any other members of the park and community service board should receive this e-mail please forward it.

Thanks for all your help.

Regards,

Alan & Joan Bear

From: Alan & Joan Bear
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2011 8:17 PM
To: 'ddavidson@bellevuewa.gov'; 'jsoriano@bellevuewa.gov'
Cc: 'tsmith@bellevuewa.gov'; 'lrobinson@bellevuewa.gov'; 'rhaaseth@bellevuewa.gov'
Subject: Robinswood Tennis Center- Junior Tennis

Dear Mayor Davidson and Mr. Soriano,

Over the last 18 months we have been extremely impressed with the Robinswood junior tennis program directed by Jason Chapman. Two of our children are participating in the program, and they are developing both as tennis players and as young adults. Jason and his staff have an incredible passion for tennis, and Jason is positively impacting each of the junior players. Many of the staff that support him were former junior players from the Robinswood programs and you can see the tennis and life skills he has provided them.

For the last two seasons, our daughter has played on the Robinswood Jr. Tennis Team (14 & under Intermediate level) which competes in the USTA summer league. While many of the junior teams they compete against during the summer recruit players from various clubs, the Robinswood team is only made up of players who participate in the Robinswood junior programs. Jason coaches the team along with various assistants. This year, he designated Freddy Walsh to be the assistant coach. Freddy participated in the junior programs at Robinswood and played for Newport High School. Freddy is now playing tennis at Boise State (top 16 in Division 1 tennis) on a tennis scholarship; he is majoring in Health Sciences with a minor in Business Marketing.

At the end of this summer, this Robinswood 14U jr. team was eligible to compete in the Pacific NW Sectional tournament (including British Columbia, Washington, Idaho and Oregon) held in

Portland, Oregon. The team won the Pacific NW Sectional tournament and qualified for the USTA Jr. Tennis Team National tournament. See below article from the Bellevue Reporter. There were also similar articles in the Sammamish, Issaquah and Mercer Island Reporters highlighting the accomplishments of the local players representing the Robinswood Tennis Center in Bellevue.

By **JOSH SUMAN**
Bellevue Reporter Staff Writer
Oct 06 2011

James Wu and Ryan Hung of Newport High School and Rachael DeCaires of St. Louise School are headed to Surprise, Ariz. later this month after being part of the sectional championship tennis team from Robinswood tennis center in Bellevue.

Freddy Walsh and Jason Chapman are the team's coaches and other team members are: Rachel Bear, (Skyline HS) Cameron Coe, (Mercer Island HS) Rachel Bear, (Skyline HS) Megan Bastian, (Eastside Catholic) Stuart Toda, (Mercer Island HS) and Melanie Lee (Mercer Island HS).

The 14 and under junior national tournament takes place from Oct. 20-23.

This last weekend the USTA Jr. Team Tennis National tournament took place in Surprise, Arizona. The Robinswood team was 1 of the 16 sectional winners competing for the national championship. During the opening ceremony of the tournament, it was stated that there were over 2,500 junior teams competing in USTA junior leagues and the teams playing represented the top 16 teams.

During the tournament last weekend, we really learned how special Jason is as a person. We always knew he was good with the kids, but after spending 4 days together we learned even more. The way he interacts with these kids and how the kids respond to him is absolutely amazing. He prepared the team both physically and mentally for an amazing 3 days of intense competition. This preparation played a key factor in the success of the team as they worked together to support one another during the tournament. The Robinswood team made it through to the final 4 and ended up finishing 4th.

1st Place: Weddington Racquets (USTA Southern)
2nd Place: Florida Acers (USTA Florida)
3rd Place: Sunshine Aces (USTA Southern California)
4th Place: Robinswood Hu Rays (Pacific Northwest)



The team, including parents and coaches, will always remember this amazing weekend. As proud as we are of the results, it was the impact that Jason had on the kids that will be most remembered. Without him this never would have happened!

Competing at these events is a great learning experience for our kids. When the team travels for these types of tournaments, Jason commits his time and incurs personal expenses to support them. We as parents have helped in small ways, but we will admit that this does not cover his personal out of pocket expenses. Not only does he support the junior program, but he also supports the adult leagues at Robinswood that have similar tournaments every year as well.

We hope that the City of Bellevue keeps supporting Jason and the Robinswood Tennis Center as he is positively impacting kids who will be important contributors to our community.

Regards,

Alan & Joan Bear