

BTA Report by the President for the Year 2023 and 2024 (given at AGM March 22, 2025)

In 2023 we had 83 members (64 adults and 19 juniors). In 2024 we had 91 members (70 adults and 21 juniors).

This year up to date we have 57 members (47 adults and 10 juniors)

Programs and Events 2023

The Junior Tennis Initiative program remained active for 2023 and 2024 under Coach Osniel Bazar Cruz. In 2023 we had 33 children in the program, 9 girls and 24 boys. In 2024 we had a decline with only 23 children as part of the JTI program, 7 girls and 16 males. We still had to subsidize a bit of the coach's salary and expense, but the fees from parents took care of at least 67% of the coach's salary in 2023 and 76% in 2024, and we do receive small yearly grant from ITF for JTI program and from Olympic Association. In 2024 we had to lower the Coach's salary by \$500.00 per month.

2023 Events

5 Junior tournaments:

- 1.) The U18 sponsored by Belize Ship Handlers
- 2.) An orange level singles event
- 3.) A yellow ball event in Belmopan
- 4.) A full court juniors singles and doubles event.

Jett Diab wins a singles event in Chetumal in a green ball event. In October, 2023—Jett Diab and Jay Paul Torres went to Conteca in Salvador and played in U10. They got great exposure.

6 Open tournaments:

- 1.) Team tennis tournament sponsored by Harry's Imports.
- 2.) The Brodies RF&G Doubles tennis tournament.
- 3.) The Buca singles tournament in Belmopan.
- 4.) The Edward N Musa Male singles event.
- 5.) National men's Singles by Eric Eusey.
- 6.) September Fun Mixer- Belize at 42.

Apart from those main tournaments we held a Summer Tennis Camp 2023. We also participated in Olympic day where we got to showcase our sport at the Marion Jones Stadium.

In August 2023 we held a Cayo Summer Camp which propelled the kids into more activity in Cayo by parents. At the time we had Sharon Ross in Cayo being a tennis ambassador and promoting the sport there. We assisted with paint to line up a tennis Court on the multipurpose indoor court at Victor Galvez Stadium. Mr. Musa had also allowed use of the Golden Orange Tennis courts for them to play and train. May need a revival there.

In October 2023 we were visited by Gustavo Granitto, representative consultant from ITF. He was here to assess our facilities and advise us on how to improve them. The ITF had embarked on granting National Tennis Center recognition to countries who met certain standards and they thought we were a good candidate. We would have some areas to work on.

Programs and Events 2024

2024 Events

2 Junior Tournaments:

- 1.) U18 tennis singles competition
- 2.) Family Tennis Day!

Summer Camp was held in 2024.

Many of our full court juniors participated in our open tournaments for 2024.

5 Open Tournaments

- 1.) Team tennis event sponsored by Sunny Huang and Sons.
- 2.) The Brodies/RF&G tennis tournament- leading up to this tournament Samron did a live interview on FB with Edward "Billy" Musa Sr. & Owen "Sonny" Meighan which drove a lot of following.
- 3.) The National Women's Singles Sponsored by Denise Courtney.
- 4.) The National Men's Singles sponsored by Eric Eusey.
- 5.) The 2024 Billy Musa Sr Tennis Championships.

Over all, both 2023 and 2024 were productive years in terms of keeping our main events alive.

Other main accomplishments in 2024:

- 1.) Purchase of 6 tennis court lights for one Pickwick tennis court
- 2.) Terms of lease for 1 acre of Marion Jones property were agreed on with GOB.
- 3.) Terms of lease for 2 Newtown Public Courts were agreed on with GOB.

Plans for 2025

- We need local coaches and we need facilities to grow the sport, this will also improve our JTI program by growing the number of kids. We can also improve the JT program by going into some schools. We are on the search for a new coach for the Belize City program.
- Have a calendar of events just for juniors.

- Provided we get back the signed lease which was promised to be sent next week, we will begin apply for facility grants and asking for donations.
- With the help of our tournament committee, we plan to keep the events going. We are also starting a league with help of tennis player, Juan Ponsa.
- We hope to have a few tennis festivals in key areas of the country to expose the sport to the masses. We intend to accomplish this through collaborative efforts with the City/Town Councils and with voluntary assistance from our BTA tennis members and enthusiasts.
- We also hope to identify a couple regional events to attend this year.
- Participate in more tennis exchanges with our neighbours in Mexico/Guatemala.

Thank you. Samira Musa Pott (March 21, 2025)