
On his way to the title, the unseeded Gelletich defeated the number one seed, as well as the number three and number four seeds, all of whom were ranked among top 30 players in the country.

**USTA National Level 2 in Tuscon, Ariz.**
32 – def. Jon Gamble – 6-2, 7-5
16 – def. #1 Alex Feies – 3-6, 6-2, 10-4
QF – def. Ford McCollum – 6-3, 6-2
SF – def. #3 Nicholas Reeves – 3-6, 6-4, 11-0
F – def. #4 Jagger Leach – 2-6, 6-2, 10-3

His opponent in the final, Jagger Leach, is the son of former world-number one, Lindsay Davenport.

Previously ranked outside of the top-100, Gelletich is now ranked 42nd among the nation’s 12-year-old players. He also jumped in the rankings for the USTA Eastern Section, moving up to 7th.

Additionally, Gelletich earned a coveted spot in the prestigious Easter Bowl, a “blockbuster showcase of American junior tennis,” hosted by the Indian Wells Tennis Garden in Palm Springs, California.

The Easter Bowl is scheduled for March 23-31.

GOOD LUCK BRAEDEN!
Cassidy Takes Home USTA Sportsmanship Award; Roberts Named Top Tournament Director

MatchPoint’s own Maeve Cassidy was recognized by the USTA Eastern Section at the annual Junior Awards Luncheon in January. The section “celebrates a number of junior players who epitomize sportsmanship and who show great humility during times of adversity or triumph on the court.” Due to her performance and attitude throughout the season, as nominated by the various tournament directors throughout the section, Cassidy was selected as the 2018 Richard D. Lynch II Girls’ 12 Sportsmanship award winner.

And in an annual tradition for the section, USTA Eastern also honors “some remarkable members of our section for the extraordinary contributions they have made in their communities through tennis.” For his efforts with junior tournaments throughout 2018, Ari Roberts was named the Eastern Section’s Tournament Director of the Year.

Chris Kelly Earns USTA “Golden Ticket”

Matchpoint Tennis member Chris Kelly has earned a USTA “golden ticket” and will participate in the USTA NTRP National Singles Championships in late March.

Rated as a 3.5, Kelly will compete in the 50 & Over Division at the national event, hosted by Surprise Tennis and Racquet Complex in Sunrise, Arizona during the weekend of March 29-31.

Each division will consist of eight, four-player round robin draws that will play off into four, eight-player single elimination draws. The player’s finish in the initial round robin will determine that player’s subsequent single elimination draw.

Best of luck to Chris!
MatchPoint Magic Finish Fifth at JTT Nationals

The MatchPoint Magic, the Eastern Section’s qualifier for the USTA Junior Team Tennis national tournament, finished fifth out of 16 teams at the event.

In the round-robin stage of the tournament, MatchPoint went 2-1 and defeated teams from the Missouri Valley section and the Southwest section. In the Sunshine Playoff bracket, MatchPoint defeated Hawaii Pacific and Northern California to claim fifth place.

Inspired in large part by MatchPoint juniors Samantha Killin and Maeve Cassidy, the MatchPoint community hosted a fundraising tournament to support the victims of the Tree of Life Synagogue Shooting in Pittsburgh. Twenty teams participated in a round-robin, adult-child tournament that raised $2500 for the charity. The USTA generously matched the funds donated by MatchPoint for a grand total of $5000.

MatchPoint Magic: (L-R): Aidan Staunton, Max Berina, Braeden Gelletich, Norah Staunton, Maeve Cassidy, Samantha Killin, Coach Ari Roberts

Crusader-Wildcat Smash a Huge Success

MatchPoint Tennis recently partnered with the Monroe-Woodbury and Warwick school districts to host the Crusader-Wildcat Smash, a free program designed to introduce students in grades three through five to the game of tennis. More than 50 kids participated in the five-week program and the event was supported by high school volunteers from each school.

MatchPoint Bands Together for a Cause