



MDTTC Medalists at the Junior Olympics

Front: Nathan Hsu, Sameer Shaikh, Amy Lu, Roy Ke.

Middle: Darwin Ma, William Huang, Jessica Lin.

Back: Ryan Lee, Stanley Hsu, Daniel Sofer, Kurtus Hsu, Hanfei Hu, Lisa Lin.

(Complete listing of medals below)

[Archive of Past MDTTC Newsletters](#)

Welcome to the 51st 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 PLAYERS DOMINATE JUNIOR OLYMPICS

Houston, TX, Aug. 1-3 – Players from the [Maryland Table Tennis Center](#) completely dominated the Junior Olympics, winning 30 medals – 17 gold, 7 silver, and 6 bronze. Thirteen players from the club attended, and by sweeping all of the team events and medaling in all of the double events they were entered, all 13 won at least two medals, including at least one gold.

They especially dominated on the boys' side, winning gold in five of the seven singles events – Under 22, 18, 12, 10, and 8 – as well as winning Boys' Doubles in Under 22, 14, 12, and 10, and Boys' Teams in Under 22, 14, and 10. On the girls' side, they won gold in Under 16 and 14 Girls' Doubles and Under 16 Girls' Teams.

MDTTC Medals by Event

- Under 22 Boys' Singles – Gold: Nathan Hsu.
- Under 18 Boys' Singles – Gold: Roy Ke; Bronze: Darwin Ma.
- Under 16 Boys' Singles – Bronze: Sameer Shaikh.
- Under 14 Boys' Singles – Bronze: William Huang.
- Under 12 Boys' Singles – Gold: Daniel Sofer; Silver: Hanfei Hu.
- Under 10 Boys' Singles – Gold: Ryan Lee.
- Under 8 Boys' Singles – Gold: Stanley Hsu.
- Under 16 Girls' Singles – Silver: Amy Lu.
- Under 14 Girls' Singles – Silver: Lisa Lin.
- Under 22 Boys' Doubles – Gold: Nathan Hsu/Roy Ke.
- Under 18 Boys' Doubles – Silver: Darwin Ma/Sameer Shaikh.
- Under 14 Boys' Doubles – Gold: William Huang/Kurtus Hsu.
- Under 12 Boys' Doubles – Gold: Daniel Sofer/Hanfei Hu.
- Under 10 Boys' Doubles – Gold: Stanley Hsu/Ryan Lee.
- Under 16 Girls' Doubles – Gold: Amy Lu/Estee Ackerman (NY).
- Under 14 Girls' Doubles – Gold: Jessica Lin/Lisa Lin.
- Under 22 Boys' Teams – Gold: Nathan Hsu, Roy Ke, Darwin Ma, Sameer Shaikh.
- Under 14 Boys' Teams – Gold: William Huang, Daniel Sofer, Hanfei Hu, Kurtus Hsu.
- Under 10 Boys' Teams – Gold: Ryan Lee, Stanley Hsu
- Under 16 Girls' Teams – Gold: Amy Lu, Jessica Lin, Lisa Lin.
- Ratings Division A – Gold: Roy Ke.
- Ratings Division C – Bronze: William Huang, Darwin Ma.
- Ratings Division D – Silver: Daniel Sofer.
- Ratings Division E – Silver: Hanfei Hu; Bronze: Stanley Hsu.
- Ratings Division F – Gold: Kurtus Hsu.

Coaches: Wang Qingliang, Chia-Chun Wu, John Hsu, Wen Hsu, Larry Hodges



MDTTC Team - 2016 Joola Teams South Division 1 Champion

Two days prior to the Junior Olympics, the Maryland Table Tennis Center Team, composed of Wang Qingliang, Nathan Hsu and Chia-Chun Wu, won the 2016 Joola Teams South Championships in Houston. MDTTC players upset the top seed Team Joola (Kewei Li, Jim Butler, Haoyun Zhou) by winning the 9th match (Hsu d. Butler. 3-1). L-R: Chia-Chun Wu, Nathan Hsu, Qingliang Wang, Haoyun Zhou, Kewei Li, Jim Butler.

MDTTC SUMMER CAMPS

Our summer camps continue through Friday, August 26, Mon-Fri, each week. Camps are 10AM - 6PM each day, Mon-Fri, with a two-hour lunch break. You can drop off kids at 8:30AM. Chinese food can be ordered in the morning for \$7 to be delivered for lunch. Here is the [MDTTC Camps Page](#), and the [MDTTC Camp Flyer](#). (Camps are for all ages and levels, but are dominated by junior players.)

THURSDAY & SUNDAY JUNIOR PROGRAM

Thursdays 6 - 7 pm, starting September 15. [Register Online](#)
Sundays 4 – 5:30 pm, starting September 18. [Registration Form](#)

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Starting up again this Fall and continuing throughout the school year. The program combines table tennis activities and homework help, with courtesy pickups at schools or houses. For more info, [contact 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!!!*

WEDNESDAY ADULT RECREATIONAL LEAGUE

Please arrive between 7 - 7:25 pm to sign up and warm up. Matches begin promptly at 7:30 pm. Giant Round Robins up to 8 players. All adult recreational players are welcome. No USATT ratings necessary. All matches finish by 9 pm. Ladies play free!!

TUESDAY & FRIDAY NIGHT LEAGUES

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!

CAPITAL AREA TEAM LEAGUE

The deadline for the "early-bird discounted price" for the Fall [Capital Area Team League](#) is August 15, with the final deadline September 15. Here's the [Fall Info Flyer](#). Last season there were 24 teams and 127 players. If you don't have a team, contact the organizers and they can help you find a team. And Congratulations to the Spring League Champions!

- Division 1: **MDTTC Lions** (You Lyu, Stefano Ratti, Ernie Byles, Ryan Dabbs, Heather Wang)
- Division 2: **SSTT 1** (Daniel Chang, George Nie, David Campos, Carlos Williams, Dennis Norman)
- Division 3: **SSTT 2** (Lakhan Abichandani, Mossa Barandao, Kevin Zhou, Enrique Matta)
- Division 4: **Wiff Waff** (Gordon Lee, Elliot Hamilton, Ian Dominguez, Michael Borek, Randy Stribling)

PRIVATE COACHING

Please call the club or contact the coaches directly to schedule your private lessons today. Our experience coaches include Jack Huang, Cheng Yinghua, Larry Hodges, Jeffery Zeng, Wang Qingliang ("Leon"), Bowen Chen, John Hsu, and Raghu Nadmichettu. See [Private Coaching page](#).

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: Move In to Cut Off the Angles with Quick Blocks

By Larry Hodges

A common problem when blocking (both forehand and backhand) is to cover the wide angles by stepping (or worse, reaching) sideways, and letting the ball come to you. While you do, of course, have to move sideways to cover these shots, a key part is moving *in*, and catching the ball off quick off the bounce. By moving both sideways and in, you can do the following:

- Catch the ball before it has a chance to move even wider, which would force you to cover even more court;
- Make a more aggressive block, which is easier to do when moving in than when moving sideways;
- Stay in position since you don't have to move as much sideways, so you will be more ready for the next shot;
- Rush the opponent by taking the ball quicker;
- Angle the opponent right back. And since you have the potential for this wide angle, if your opponent over-reacts to cover it, you can go the other way, forcing your opponent to cover a lot of ground.

How do you do all this? By stepping in and sideways with the near foot. On blocks to your left (the backhand for a righty), step sideways and in with your left foot. On blocks to the right, step in and sideways with the right foot. In both cases recover quickly by stepping back.

So when your opponent is attacking at wide angles, learn to cut off those angles by stepping in, and turn a potential weakness into a strength as you turn the tables on the opponent with your own aggressive, quick-angled blocks.