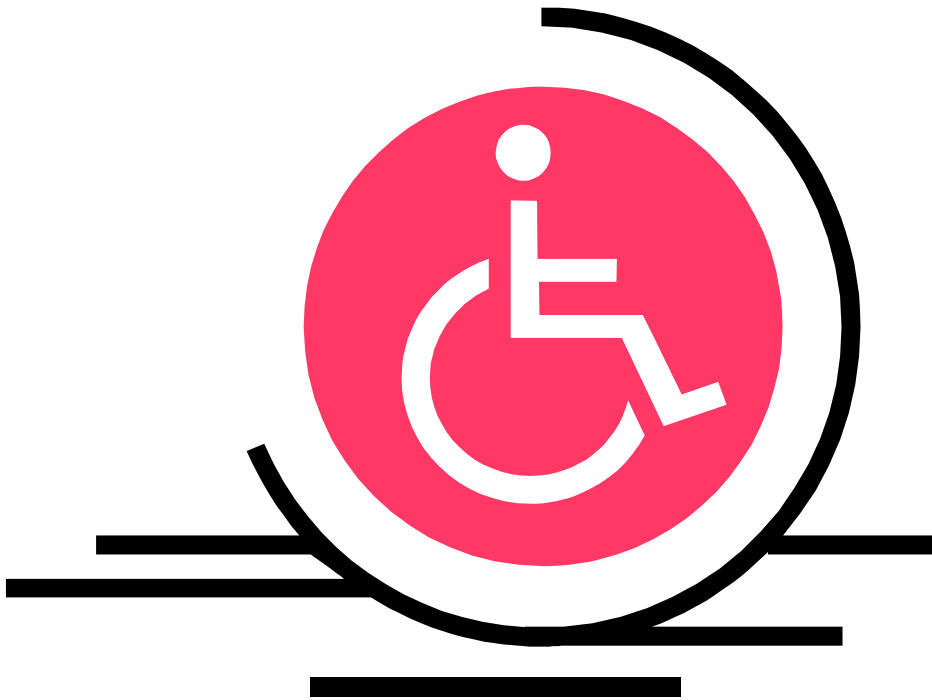




11961 Performance Drive
Orlando, Florida 32827
Tel: 407.634.3050

USPTA Specialist Program

USPTA Specialist in Wheelchair Tennis



*Enhancing the tennis professional's knowledge and skills in
teaching special populations*

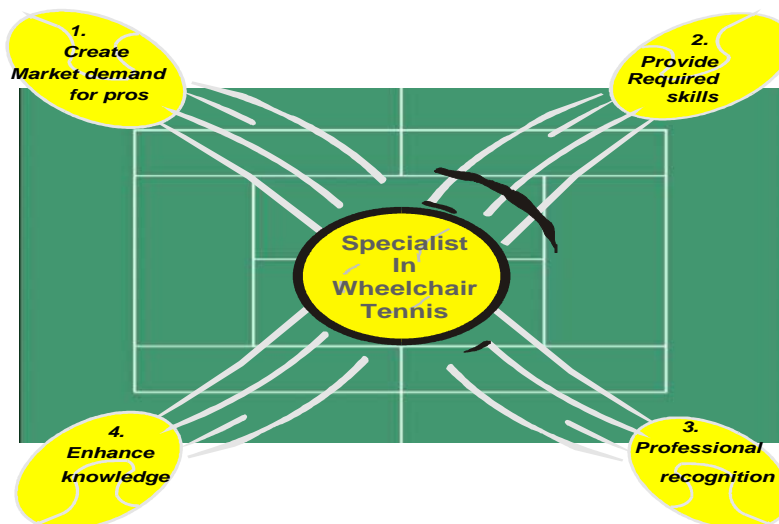
United States Professional Tennis Association, Inc.

USPTA Specialist in Wheelchair Tennis

Enhancing the tennis professional's knowledge and skills in teaching special populations

Section I. Program objectives

The USPTA developed this specialist degree as an adjunct to its wheelchair certification. Tennis professionals may now attain a higher level of recognition and certification in the area of teaching special populations by earning this specialist degree.



The Specialist in Wheelchair Tennis degree is designed to:

- 1. Create a market demand for USPTA-certified specialist professionals with consumers, owners, managers and other employers.*
- 2. Provide the tennis-teaching professional with the skills required to teach wheelchair players and other special populations.*
- 3. Enhance the professional's knowledge of teaching through continuing education and specialized training.*
- 4. Provide measurable opportunities for USPTA professionals to earn recognition in a specialized area.*

USPTA Specialist in Wheelchair Tennis degree is available to qualified professionals who meet all the required prerequisites and competencies.

Section II. Method of operation

USPTA has gone through four major steps in designing this specialist degree: identifying advisers, defining the required prerequisites and competencies, locating education resources to help applicants document their education and achievements, and creating an evaluation stage. The results are outlined below.

A. *Advisers*

Advisers are selected for their expertise in the area of wheelchair tennis. We are fortunate to have the adviser who helped design and implement USPTA's wheelchair certification program.

Bal Moore, Ph.D., USPTA Master Professional Bal Moore, Ph.D., is the owner and tennis professional of the Rhinelander (Wis.) Tennis Club. He has published numerous articles on wheelchair tennis, as well as the book, *Wheelchair Tennis, Myth to Reality*. Moore was named 1992 USPTA Coach of the Year and was inducted into the Alabama Tennis Hall of Fame and the National Junior College Hall of Fame. Moore has coached the U.S. wheelchair men's tennis team since 1989, winning three world championships.

B. *Prerequisites and required competencies*

When applying for the Specialist in Wheelchair Tennis degree, USPTA members must have accomplished each of the following:

1. A USPTA Elite Professional or Master Professional rating and wheelchair certification
2. At least two years' experience working with wheelchair tennis players with corresponding documentation
3. Three letters of recommendation from wheelchair players
4. Attend/view the "Wheelchair tennis" specialty course (2 credits)
5. Ten additional credits in USPTA-sponsored teaching courses
6. Read USPTA's *Teaching Wheelchair Tennis* manual and complete the certification
7. Video documentation of on-court competency. Video must be a minimum of 30 minutes in length and in DVD format. Video must show applicant on-court teaching a wheelchair player.
8. The competencies required to become a Specialist in Wheelchair Tennis include a thorough knowledge of the skills and techniques needed to teach wheelchair players the game of tennis. In 3,000 words or more, write a narrative thoroughly outlining how applicant would define and/or explain his or her philosophy and skill for the required competencies below. List steps taken, key elements and/or specific examples where applicable. If submitting an electronic workbook, create a folder on your disc or CD ROM labeled "Narrative" and save narrative in its corresponding folder.
 - a) Disabilities
 - 1) Cerebral palsy

- 2) Rheumatoid arthritis
 - 3) Spina bifida
 - 4) Stroke (cardiovascular arrest or CVA)
 - 5) Spinal muscular atrophy
 - 6) Spinal cord injuries
 - 7) Amputee
 - 8) Muscular dystrophy
 - 9) Multiple sclerosis
 - 10) Diabetes
 - 11) Post polio
 - 12) Osteogenesis imperfecta
- b) Chair characteristics and setup
- 1) Wheels
 - a. Tires
 - b. Wheel camber
 - c. Axle position
 - 2) Casters
 - 3) Straps
 - 4) Upholstery and chair back height
 - 5) Anti-tip tube or posterior wheel
 - 6) Power wheelchairs
- c) Similarities and differences between wheelchair and able-bodied tennis
- 1) Mobility
 - 2) Player-to-ball relationships
 - 3) Strength
 - 4) Power
 - 5) Agility and flexibility
 - 6) Stroke production (technique)
 - a. Forehand groundstroke
 - b. Backhand groundstroke
 - c. Forehand volley
 - d. Backhand volley
 - e. Serve
 - f. Overhead
 - 7) Grips
- d) Mobility
- 1) Contact points
 - 2) Pushing and pulling
 - 3) Forward turn
 - 4) Reverse turn
 - 5) R-N-R
 - 6) Inside turn
 - 7) Outside turn
 - 8) Cross hand turn
 - 9) Over turn
 - 10) Loop turn
 - 11) Mobility model

- 12) Hub
- e) Stroke production (technique)
 - 1) Forehand
 - a. Topspin
 - b. Slice
 - c. Sidespin
 - 2) Backhand
 - a. Topspin (traditional Eastern and Western grips)
 - b. Slice
 - c. Sidespin
 - 3) Serve
 - a. Stabilization method
 - b. Free hand method
 - c. Grip
 - d. Outcome
 - 4) Serve return
 - a. Static return
 - b. Forward return
 - c. Placement
 - d. Outcome
- f) Forehand volley
 - 1) Grip
 - 2) Location
- g) Backhand volley
 - 1) Grip
 - 2) Location
- h) Half-volley
- i) Overhead
 - 1) Grip
 - 2) Options
- j) Teaching the wheelchair player
 - 1) Pertinent questions
 - 2) Feeding balls
 - 3) Drills
 - 4) Integrated lessons
- k) Singles strategy
 - 1) Basics
 - 2) Serve
 - 3) Serve return
 - 4) Attacking
 - 5) Defending
- l) Doubles strategy
 - 1) Basics
 - 2) Attacking
 - 3) Defending
 - 4) One-up doubles
- m) Inclusion strategy

C. *Educational resources*

1. USPTA resources

Most of the competencies for this specialist degree can be attained through USPTA resources that include:

- a) Specialty courses (see list on Web site)
- b) *USPTA Teaching Wheelchair Tennis* manual

2. External resources

Some of the competencies for this specialist degree can be attained through external educational resources, such as:

- a) Human Kinetics, which has a vast library of books and videos on sports and the disabled. You may find these products at www.humankinetics.com.

D. *Documentation*

Individuals must submit this application and a workbook or an electronic workbook in the form of a floppy disc or CD-Rom that includes documentation that they have completed all prerequisites and requirements, and achievements demonstrating the required competencies to effectively teach wheelchair tennis. Electronic workbooks must have a separate folder for documentation and narrative. All required documents must be placed in their corresponding folders. Once scanned, documentation files may be saved as graphics (.jpg), PDF files or Word documents.

E. *Evaluation*

The Specialist in Wheelchair Tennis degree is gained upon the favorable review and evaluation of the applicant's documented work and achievements. The evaluation will be conducted by some of the most knowledgeable wheelchair tennis teachers within USPTA.

Section III. Materials

It is the responsibility of the applicants to supply USPTA with scrapbook or electronic scrapbook documenting their work, continuing education and achievements. USPTA will verify attendance at all seminars and courses submitted for continuing education credits.

Section IV. Review

The evaluation committee will meet twice a year: once at the World Conference and another time to be decided by the committee. There is a \$100 administrative fee to offset the expenses associated with this specialist degree.

Section V. Application

Application Specialist in Wheelchair Tennis

Please print clearly and complete the application. Return **all** documentation required, fee and application to:
USPTA Education Department
11961 Performance Drive
Orlando, FL 32827

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (work) _____ (home) _____

Member number _____ e-mail _____

Division _____

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- I. At the time of application, members must provide documentation that they have accomplished the following prerequisites:
- Elite Professional or Master Professional rating and/or wheelchair certification
 - At least two years' experience working with wheelchair tennis players with corresponding documentation (letter from supervisor, flier, articles, etc.)
 - Three letters of recommendation from wheelchair players
 - Attend/view the "Wheelchair tennis" specialty course (2 credits)
 - Ten additional credits in USPTA-sponsored courses
 - Read USPTA's *Teaching Wheelchair Tennis* manual and complete the certification
 - A 3,000-word-or-more, detailed narrative explaining, listing and defining the key points within the required competencies. Video must show applicant on-court teaching a group of children.
- II. All materials returned with this application will be evaluated for fulfillment of the prerequisites and other requirements before the degree application is approved.

Important: Please provide additional information about your experience with wheelchair players and your qualifications for specialist credentials by attaching proof of course completion, work experience and/or education background.