

OCTOBER

2026

**"EVEN IF YOUR STRINGS
AREN'T BREAKING, THEY
SHOULD STILL BE REPLACED
REGULARLY."**

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WILL JONATHAN BE IN TODAY?



It's a question often asked of whoever happens to be behind the desk at Caswell.

It's no secret that many in the Caswell community have come to trust our Head of Racquet Services, Jonathan Gilmore, with nearly every equipment need, want and dilemma. And why wouldn't they? He's strung racquets for

players you've watched on television, including US Open champion Bianca Andreescu and 23-time Grand Slam champion Venus Williams.

What takes me two hours takes Jonathan as little as seven minutes.

Tennis players understand pressure on court. Jonathan understands a different kind of pressure, off court: stringing a professional player's racquet while their match is still happening.

They're called "on courts."

"It's when the players are in the middle of a match, and they send a racquet to get strung, asap," he said, casually weaving string over and under the mains of a customer's Blade.

He remembers stringing Venus Williams' racquet mid-doubles match at the ATX Open last February.

"I'm always a little nervous for on courts because if you don't get them done super fast, **it can legitimately dictate how a match goes.**"

Strings can be complicated, even for the most seasoned players. Technology changes. We hear things. We try things. And no two players are exactly the same.

For beginners, there's even more to think about. You're learning topspin for the first time, juggling racquet recommendations and coaching advice, and trying desperately to stop getting stranded in no man's land. The last thing on your mind is what should be shoved through your grommets.

THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A BAD STRING JOB, JUST A LEARNING MOMENT.

For players who simply don't know where to begin, Jonathan offers a starting point.

"I think it's smart for new players that still don't really quite know what they're looking for to start out with a hybrid string job; With half polyester, half multifilament. Because you're most likely going to end up using that, or a full bed of polyester or a full bed of multifilament, and at least that way you're kind of halfway there," he says. "That's how we do all of our demos."

And from there? Maybe you love it, or maybe you don't. Fortunately, that's useful information, too.

Jonathan starts asking questions, not about what string is supposedly "best," but about the player holding the racquet.

"I ask follow up questions, like, well, do you play with a lot of top spin? Are you looking to prevent tennis elbow? Are you prioritizing more durability or comfort? And that will kind of lead me to a judgment call about whether they should go to all polyester or all multifilament. And sometimes it's just trial and error, you know? Like, it's not always going to be perfect the first time, and if you hate a string job, then that's how you know not to do it next time."

Maybe that's the reassuring thing about strings: you don't have to understand everything before you start. Sometimes finding what works begins with finding out what doesn't.

Jonathan's Personal Pick

Solinco Tour Bite

"It's very spin friendly, very stiff. It's good for, yeah, just top spin and longevity."



FEATURED FROM THE PRO SHOP

NEW ARRIVALS. RESTOCKS. BESTSELLERS.

WILSON
DEFYER
HEAD
EXTREME

So, you still want in?

2026 FALL JUNIOR PROGRAM

Here's where we still have room.

Select classes are still open for late entry
through November 19.

MONDAYS:

- 4:00 - 5:00 PM | Red Ball Beginner
- 5:00 - 6:00 PM | Orange Ball Competitive

TUESDAYS:

- 5:00 - 6:00 PM | Yellow Ball Beginner

WEDNESDAYS:

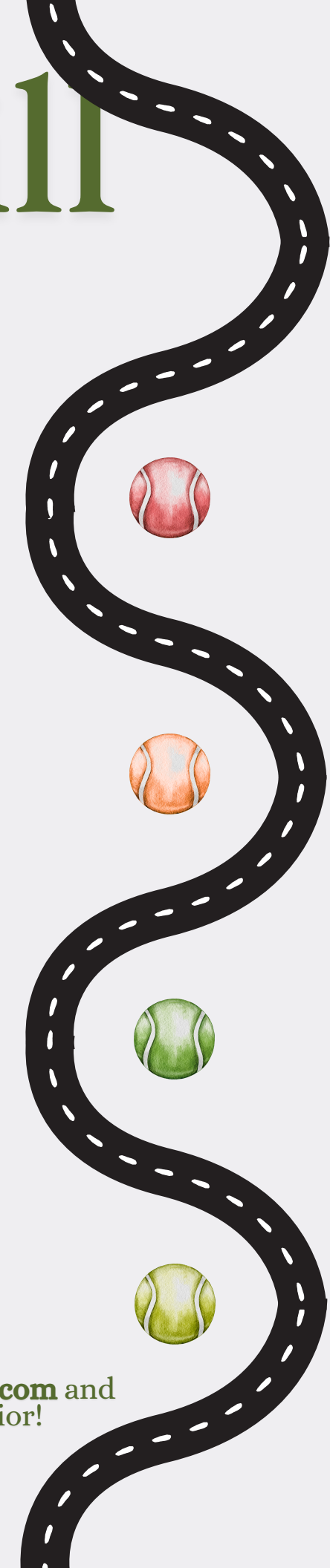
- 4:00 - 5:00 PM | Red Ball Beginner
- 5:00 - 6:00 PM | Orange Ball Competitive
- 6:00 - 7:00 PM | Yellow Ball Intermediate

THURSDAYS:

- 4:00 - 5:00 PM | Orange Ball Competitive
- 5:00 - 6:00 PM | Yellow Ball Beginner
- 6:00 - 7:00 PM | Green Ball

QUESTIONS OR READY TO REGISTER?

Contact us at proshop@caswelltennisatx.com and
we will help find the right fit for your junior!



OCTOBER MATCH PLAY

03.

Saturday
at 06:00pm

**2.5 Match Play Round
Robbin**

17

Saturday
at 06:00pm

**3.0-3.5 Match Play
Round Robbin**

SUNDAYS ARE FOR SINGLES.

SUNDAY

04

SUNDAY

11

SUNDAY

18

SUNDAY

25

3.5 / 4.0+ SINGLES MATCH PLAY

6:00- 8:00 pm

A NEW CASWELL TRADITION BEGINS.

The Caswell Cup is making
this October the most memorable yet.

This month marks the debut of the inaugural Caswell Cup, the beginning of a new Caswell tradition. There's plenty to play for, but perhaps no incentive quite like permanence. Winners of each division will have their names engraved on a plaque that will live at Caswell for years to come.

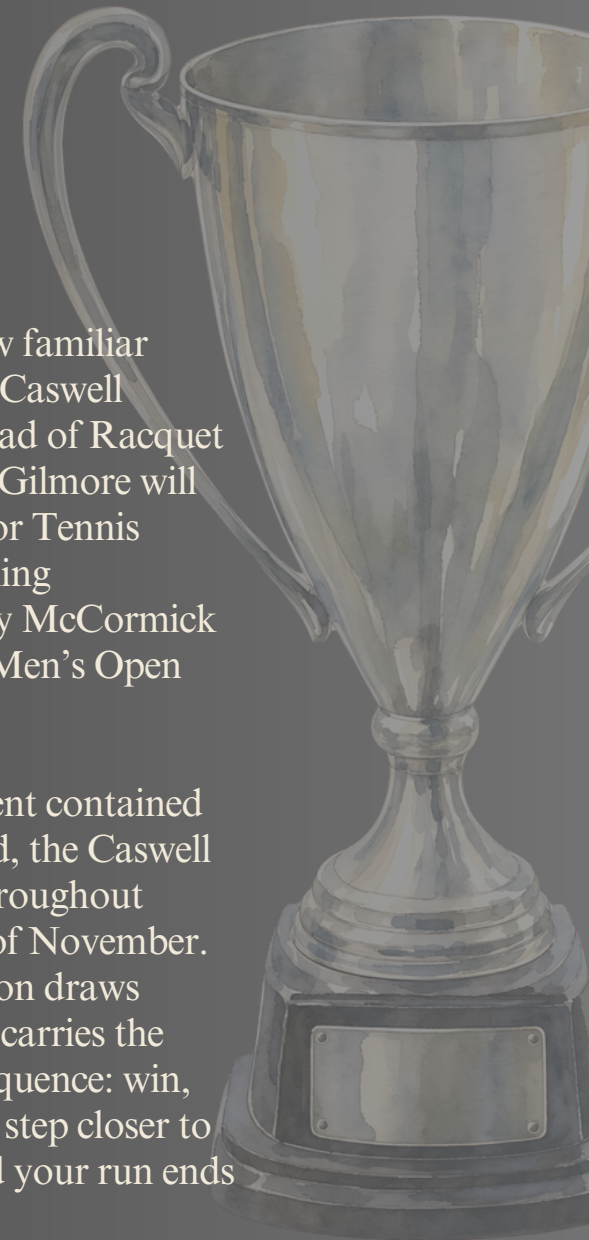
Coach Doug has spent the weeks leading up to the tournament organizing the field and preparing each draw. The result is no small undertaking: eight singles draws and eight doubles draws, with some divisions stretching to a full 32-player field. Every draw will feature at least two rounds of competition.

16 DRAWS

1 CHANCE TO
PUT YOUR
NAME IN
CASWELL
HISTORY.

And there are a few familiar names in the field. Caswell hitting pro and Head of Racquet Services Jonathan Gilmore will team up with Junior Tennis Director and teaching professional Jimmy McCormick to compete in the Men's Open doubles division.

Unlike a tournament contained to a single weekend, the Caswell Cup will unfold throughout October and part of November. Its single-elimination draws mean every match carries the same simple consequence: win, and you move one step closer to the Cup. Lose, and your run ends there.



COACH'S TIP

AIM FOR THE ARMPITS

The open court can be tempting. Coach Nick Cordes asks us to consider an alternative target this month: **the body**.

More specifically, the armpit or hip of the opposing net player.

“If you’re on the deuce side of the court, getting a forehand, I like to jam the net player on the **right armpit** or the **right hip**. If I’m on the ad side of the court, I like to jam their **left armpit** or their **left hip**. It gets the ball to come back to you, or it’s an easy blocked shot to your partner that your partner can handle.”

The idea is to make their next volley uncomfortable. When returning from the baseline, sometimes we want to attack up the line. Instead of allowing the opposing net player to extend through the ball, Nick’s target jams them.

There is another reason Nick favors this approach: **margin**.

“If I keep it in the middle of the court, if I miss, I’m in the middle.”

IF I MISS OUT WIDE GOING
DOWN THE LINE, I’M OUT.”



IT'S NOT ABOUT THE PRETTIEST WINNER

Sometimes the smartest target in doubles is the person standing directly in front of you.

