

CAPTAIN SPOTLIGHT

A captain that has captained over 200 USTA teams!



Scott Thompson

How did you get into tennis?

I started playing in 1996, and was taught by a self-taught gentleman named Gene Lewallen. He taught me the finer points of the game, but I have to give Gerald Smith the thanks for getting me involved with USTA. He was everything that makes up a great captain, and I used his style and skill as an example when I started captaining teams.

What is your favorite captain memory?

I actually have 2 that stand out in my mind. We are a tennis family. My Son-In-Law and my wife, Cyndi, both played on Mixed Doubles teams at Nationals. My daughter was on some great teams but they could never get past Sectionals. Finally, in 2012 Lindy, my daughter, and her teammates made it to a National Tournament and finished 2nd in their flight. I have to say that was one of the best moments I have ever experienced!

The other great story is about Vody Vodinh and Urby Carrasco. Vody has worked decades at Cedar Bluff Racquet Club promoting tennis and running leagues. I decided to put together a Men's 3.0 Senior team and put Urby and Vody as teammates. The ages together total over 150 years old!! To my recollection, they dropped only 1 court and made it to Sectionals in Mobile Alabama. It was over 100 degrees and Vody and Urby played on! They interviewed them at the tournament and the video is still on YouTube today. They had a great time and are still extremely good friends.

How many teams have you captained?

I have tried to find the exact answer to the question, but it was very hard to trace them. I was able to find more than 200 teams. I have had more than 100 city champion teams, 20 State Champion teams, 7 Sectional Champions, 1 National Champion and 4 Second Place National Teams



These moments are what keep me playing!