



## August 2025 Newsletter

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**SHS Mentor Ethan Jones**

### ***Mentor***

I've been in the Athletes for Kids program since my sophomore year. Joining Athletes for Kids has been one of the best decisions I've made in high school. My buddy and I meet every week, which has turned into a strong bond and a great friendship! Whether we're inside playing board games, laser tag, Lego, or outside going to the park, the lake, or riding bikes, we're having a great time and enjoying time with each other.

What makes our mentorship special is that each week we take steps to learn something new or challenge each other to strengthen me and my buddy as people. The mentorship has taught me so much, and I can really tell that the 2 hours we spend together every week have had positive impacts in both our lives. I'm thankful for the Athletes for Kids program, it introduced me to a new friend that I make memories with every week and I'm looking forward to making so many more!

## Mentee Parent

Ethan and our son started hanging out in the Spring of 2024, and immediately the two of them hit it off. In addition to being responsible, Ethan is enthusiastic about all things, including bike riding to the playground for picnics, trips to Beaver Lake for paddle boarding, and movie theater afternoons. If they are hanging at our house, our son's older brothers join in games of laser tag, hide and seek, cookie baking, and listening to music. Ethan makes an afternoon at home just as exciting as an adventure to the park!

Our son's self-confidence has grown since hanging out with Ethan, as he encourages him to have fun and be himself. Additionally, Ethan is an incredible role model for all our children, showing them how to be great students, athletes, and friends. Danny and I hope one day Jack and Luke can become AFK mentors as well. We feel so grateful to have Ethan in our son's life and are thankful for all that AFK has done for our family!

## Upcoming Event



# TENNIS GROUP LESSONS



Sign up here:

<https://forms.gle/RSHhj2SS7GgmqdMCA>



### ABOUT READY SET TENNIS

Ready Set Tennis is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing accessible and individualized tennis instruction to children with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, supporting whole-person growth both on and off the court.

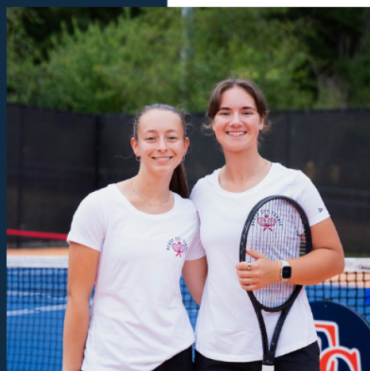
RST's coaches are all college and high school students with multiple years of competitive tennis experience. They are enthusiastic people who are eager to teach tennis and share their love for the sport.

### AUGUST SESSION DATES

August 12 & 13  
August 19 & 20  
August 26 & 27



**Free of charge!**



@readysettennis\_



Ready Set Tennis



readysettennis.org



## Ready, Set, Tennis in August

This month, all AFK mentees and mentors are invited to participate in FREE group tennis lessons at Eastside Catholic High School! These sessions are designed specifically for children with developmental and/or intellectual disabilities and are taught by competitive high school and college tennis players.

August sessions are starting soon! Click the button below to sign up, or visit [readysettennis.org](http://readysettennis.org) to learn more.

[Click Here to Register](#)

## AFK Moments



As we look back on a month of memories, we look forward to more friendship moments and choosing kindness, acceptance, and inclusion every day.

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