

Youth Table Tennis Report

Fall 2008

Hello Youth Table Tennis Players!

We have an exciting lineup of table tennis activities for you this fall.

Table tennis is sometimes a frustrating sport to learn, but our coaches will work with you and show you how to quickly master the core skills - backhand, forehand, ready position and service.

Please ask your coach about the upcoming school tournament, the monthly competition at the Fat Cat Table Tennis Club or the regionally sanctioned tournaments in New York City. Announcements will also be placed at www.aytto.org.

Table tennis is an exciting sport to play once you have acquired the skills. It is our job to work with each of you so that you can play in these exciting events.

We look forward to seeing you in class!

AYTTO Coaches



American Youth Table Tennis Organization

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P.O. Box 155

Irvington, NY 10533

www.aytto.org 917-686-1911

Coach's Corner: The 2008 Olympic Games



Beijing China: China took a clean sweep of all the individual table tennis medals at the 2008 Olympic Games. In the Women's event, Zhang Yining won gold, Wang Nan, silver and Guo Yue, bronze. In the Men's event Ma Lin, won gold, Wan Liqin, silver, Wang Hao, bronze. China as expected won both the men's teams and women's events.

Please visit www.aytto.org and click on "Events" to see how the American Table Tennis team performed.

Coach's Tip: NBC Olympics has a great website with full coverage videos and commentary. Please visit www.nbcolympics.com

You can learn a lot by watching these Internet videos. We encourage each of you to visit the website above and watch the technique and skill displayed in these exciting matches!



United States Doubles Team –
Guo Jun and Wang Chen in action
at the 2008 Olympic Games



2008 International Children's Games

By *Peeru Pirzada Mohammad*

On July 10th, Team NYC, consisting of a contingent of 17 New York City Middle School Track, Tennis and Table Tennis athletes, travelled to San Francisco to compete in the 2008 International Children's Games (ICG).

These student athletes were selected and sponsored by New York Junior Tennis League, New York Road Runners Foundation, American Youth Table Tennis Organization and the New York City Sports Commission to represent the City of New York.

Held annually the ICG is a global youth event that attracts middle school children from cities all over to world. Established in 1968 ICG is the only global youth athletics event that combines sport, educational programs and cultural exchanges. AYTTO is proud to send its table tennis team to this event. There were over 1,500 other athletes in attendance, representing cities and countries from five continents.

It is a difficult task to capture in a few paragraphs the profound number and depth of experiences that Team NYC children gained. For many it was their first international competition, and a chance to get on an airplane for the first time. The trip exposed our team to cultures and opportunities they had never dreamed of before, but will always remain deep in their hearts and minds.



Team NYC Table Tennis – Lily Wu, Jia Jia Ren, Peeru Muhammad Pirzada, Vincent Zhou and Amos Fishman

A special thanks goes to the New York City Sports Commission for sponsoring the team uniforms and providing New York City pins. The team uniforms were an international crowd favorite and the pins were quickly traded as currency for other souvenirs and mementos.

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Competition Results:

The table tennis contingent of team NYC – Table Tennis consisted of Lily Wu, Jia Jia Ren, Amos Fishman and Vincent Zhou. They faced a crowded and competitive field of international athletes.

Jia Jia was the only Team NYC table tennis athlete to make it out of the competitive round robin draw of 128 and into the round of 32. Playing beautiful counters and keeping her steady game intact she was able to pull away with two hard-fought victories. Meanwhile, Amos and Vincent fought hard, in a very tough male draw, but were not able to advance through the first day. Lily meanwhile had the opportunity to play one of the top seeds, from Chinese Taipei, and lost in three games.

The next day featured Jia Jia in the round of 32 where she faced a highly skilled athlete from Romania. Despite raising her skill level, Jia Jia lost in three games.

At the end of the respective competitions, Team NYC had the opportunity to meet and exchange City of New York pins with children from around the world. The pins were a hot commodity, making Team NYC one of the more popular sport delegations to visit and socialize with. Despite limited training time, Team NYC table tennis played exceptionally well.

For more information on the ICG and for detailed results. Please visit <http://www.sficg2008.com/site3.aspx>.

Mr. Peeru Pirzada Mohammad, coach of Team NYC table Tennis, is AYTTO's Program Director.

Support, Donations, Sponsorship, Volunteers

AYTTO's mission is to teach young people the sport of Table Tennis. We work in schools and at selected youth centers in New York City.

Our teaching philosophy incorporates life skills, such as leadership, respect, and focus.

We are a 501c3 not-for-profit organization, and we seek your support for our activities --- from donations of used equipment to corporate sponsorship. Your assistance will enable us to significantly expand our activities in reaching a broader youth market

For further information, please contact Ben Nisbet at 917-686-1911.