



# Windridge Times

THE WINDRIDGE TENNIS & SPORTS CAMP NEWSLETTER



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## News From Camp

What a summer we had in 2024! Windridge is a special place, and we are fortunate to see positive growth in our campers both on the tennis courts, soccer fields, riding rings and beyond, but also in the way they develop as people and members of our community at camp. Since coming home, many of you have reached out to let us know about the gains you have seen on the tennis court and soccer field, and as a sports camp, we are thrilled to hear about our campers' prowess and confidence in athletics. We also love to hear about your camper's newfound sense of independence and responsibility and the new friends with whom they are eager to keep in touch.

We now have four summers under our belt at Windridge. Each year we learn so much, as each year brings its unique group of successes and challenges. We are getting more comfortable in our roles, building an incredible team around us, and constantly working to improve what we offer your children in programming, our facility, and our staff.

Our top priority is and will always be the experience of our campers and staff, but we have also been addressing the needs of our facility, with the goal of enhancing and improving our facilities and grounds to help us offer one of the best summer camp experiences possible. We've done immense work on our tennis facility, including irrigation of 17 of our red clay and Har-tru courts. Our riding program has benefitted from a beautiful new barn ramp, new sand in our indoor and sand rings, and enhancements to our cross country trail and jumping features. We have purchased new goals and nets for our soccer program, and we continue to work on our fields to ensure ideal playing conditions. Outdoor lighting has been installed all over camp to help make everyone feel more comfortable and safe, our mattresses are getting replaced, and chilled, filtered water stations were added around camp. As part of our

beautification project, we've added new gardens around camp, and blueberry bushes for everyone to enjoy. We were impacted from storms in 23', and have also put substantial resources towards repairs.

The budget for food in our dining hall has increased, with the goal of providing quality meals that are nutritious with numerous options. This summer we served local grass fed meat, and expanded our salad and sandwich bar offerings.

Programming has improved as well. In tennis, we purchased new ball machines and 16 pop tennis rackets, and this coming summer, we are offering a limited amount of private tennis lesson packages. Our electives program has expanded to include Outdoor Adventures, where campers can learn more about the outdoors, from tracking to fire building (which includes S'mores, of course). Mountain biking has new bikes and elements for our riders.

So much has been done, and we still have so much on our to do and wish lists - all with the hopes of making camp more memorable, without changing the core experience which has made Windridge the camp of choice for so many for more than 55 years. We are so lucky to have a fantastic facilities director in Vinny Murawski. He and his team have worked tirelessly all over our property.

So vitally important to unforgettable summers at Windridge is our staff. They spend countless hours working with and listening to our campers, guiding and supporting them. They are there for them twenty four hours a day, through the good times and the bad, and we are so thankful for the work they do here throughout the summer. Our Assistant Director, Elizabeth Bremner, has done a remarkable job hiring and supporting our staff here at camp. Elizabeth is an instrumental part of our team, adored by staff and campers alike, and we feel so lucky to have her on our management team all year.

We are so thankful for the amazing families we have with us at camp that make up the Windridge family. We have gotten to know many of you over the years, and have enjoyed watching your children grow throughout the years. We thank you so very much for trusting us with your children, and continuing to send them to us each summer.

We hope you are all enjoying your fall, and that your campers are all off to a wonderful start of their school year. We look forward to seeing you all again for another unforgettable summer in 2025.

*Ramsey and Nifer*



*“Thank you and the whole team for making our daughter’s first Windridge experience so incredible. She made such good friends and hasn’t stopped telling us about all her adventures”*

## 2025 Dates & Rates

Session	Dates	Days	Cost	Riding
Session 1	Tuesday, June 24 - Wednesday, July 9	16	\$5200	\$1130
Session 2	Saturday, July 12 - Thursday, July 31	20	\$6500	\$1420
Session 3	Saturday, August 2 - Sunday, August 17	16	\$5200	\$1130
Rookie Session 1	Wednesday, June 21 - Friday, June 30	10	\$3300	n/a
Rookie Session 2	Saturday, July 8 - Monday, July 17	10	\$3300	n/a
Rookie Session 3	Sunday, July 30 - Tuesday, August 8	10	\$3300	n/a
CIT Session 1	Wednesday, June 21 - Thursday, July 6	16	\$2700	
CIT Session 2	Saturday, July 8 - Friday, July 28	20	\$3350	
CIT Session 3	Sunday, July 30 - Monday, August 14	16	\$2700	



- Rookie Sessions are for first-time campers, ages 7-10
- CIT Sessions are for 16 year old returning campers
- Stay two sessions, receive a \$500 discount

## Staff Updates

*We are incredibly excited about the staff members that are returning to Windridge this summer.*



From left, Olivia, Lucy, Daniel and Abby at the rodeo last summer.

We are so very excited to welcome back four of our management staff for their fourth year at Windridge. **Daniel Suastegui** will be our head of Boy's Camp, **Abby Wilson** will be back as our head of Girl's Camp, **Olivia Smart** is returning as our Electives Director, and **Lucy McCarthy** will be our Assistant Riding Director.

It means a lot for us and our programming to have the continuity of strong returning staff from year to year, and we are fortunate to have these wonderful people coming back to Windridge for another summer.

## CIT Program



Our Counselor-In-Training, CIT, program is for our returning 16 year-old campers. Half of a CIT's day is spent as a camper and the other half learning how to be a counselor. The CITs have mentors both in their specific program area, and in their cabin. They have one major per day in their program, where they assist a counselor coaching in an activity or sport, and they live in a cabin with a counselor and younger campers. CIT's also have a period each day to meet as a group and work on specific leadership skills.

We are highly selective in choosing applicants for the program because these mature teens will be working (alongside their mentors) with the younger campers. Elizabeth recently sent out a letter detailing the application process and necessary requirements for those looking to apply. [For more information about our CIT program, please click here.](#)

We are excited that some of you have already been in touch and look forward to seeing the growth of each and every CIT throughout the summer!

*"Thank you for offering and providing this lifelong memorable experience to our son. A huge thank you also to your wonderful and caring staff."*



## JC Program

Our JC program is by invitation only for those who successfully completed the Counselor-In-Training program and also show great promise as potential full staff members. JC's work alongside full counselors as their mentors gaining responsibility all around camp. This position gives our 17 year olds lifelong skills that easily transfer to the working world beyond camp days. Leadership, team work, time management, program development, communication skills to name just a few of these.





# Ramsey's Tennis Tip



## THE SPORT OF A LIFETIME

We put a strong emphasis on technique at Windridge. This helps give our campers numerous ways to incorporate the game into their tennis life after Windridge, and to assist in maximizing their development. By no means is technique the be all and end all, but we feel there are certain fundamental components that will allow our campers to enjoy the game of tennis for many, many years.

Our belief is that stroke development is the most critical aspect of the game at a young age. As young players grow, the speed of the sport of tennis changes drastically, and we have seen countless players drop out of tennis because they aren't having success as the speed of the game increases. Building a solid foundation of stroke mechanics is a top priority of ours at Windridge.

Campers spend a relatively short amount of time with us in the summer, so I want to share some key themes that we focus on within our tennis program:

- Readiness
- Preparation
- Footwork & Positioning
- Balance
- Contact & Follow Through
- Recovery

These fundamental areas remain our top priority when encouraging and giving feedback to our junior players. Each camper comes to us with a different forehand, backhand, or serve, and they each have their own strengths, weaknesses, strategies, and tactics. At Windridge, we take the time to study each camper, identify where their game can improve, and reinforce good behaviors while addressing where there is a better, more efficient way.

One of the many great things about our tennis program is that our campers get to see the progress they are making. Through results or by feedback from our staff, campers recognize that the hard work they are putting in is making a difference and paying off. Ultimately, they are gaining confidence in themselves on and off the court as they look for experience and improvement beyond continuing to play. To play the sport of a lifetime throughout life, tennis will always ask you to adjust for different opponents, conditions, injuries, and as you age with the game.

There is no set destination for tennis players. Many wind up playing on a high school team, or being competitive on the tennis ladder when they return home. Some may play on a collegiate team. Our hope is that our campers are enjoying the game of tennis for many, many years, and have the key ingredients to go as far as they desire.



## 2025 Private Tennis Lessons



New in 2025, we are offering private tennis lesson packages for regular session campers who are majoring in tennis and would like additional private lessons. These are in addition to the 45-minute private lesson all tennis majors are offered while they are at camp, and is not mandatory.

The package consists of two 45-minute private lessons for \$150. We are offering only 20 per session this summer and these will go quickly.

Sign up during the application process, or [email nifer](mailto:nifer).

# WINDRIDGE SUDOKU

The goal of Sudoku is to fill in the grid with digits so that each column, row, and 3x3 section contain the numbers between 1 to 9. Your job is to use logic to fill in the missing digits and complete the grid.

A move is incorrect if:

- Any row contains more than one of the same number from 1 to 9
- Any column contains more than one of the same number from 1 to 9
- Any 3x3 grid contains more than one of the same number from 1 to 9

	5	1	8	3		9		6
4	8		1			5		
		3		4	5			8
				7				
	6	7	4	2		8		
		9	5	6			3	
2					4	3	5	
1		8	2	5		4		
9	4		6		3		8	



Hey Mac!  
What do you call a  
sleeping bull?



A bull-dozer!



# Windridge Out & About

*“I wanted to let you know how much of an impact camp has had on our son. Since he has returned from camp he has taken on a new ‘sixth grade expectations’ attitude. Alarm set every morning at 6, gets himself downstairs packed and fed and ready for the bus, and all grades are b+ or better. I truly believe that his experience at Windridge was the catalyst for him taking on everything this fall.”*



Gus Goetz and Lawson Hoehn played against each other in a soccer game this Fall.



Gus Goetz went to root for counselor Shaw, who plays for Hamilton, at her field hockey game this Fall.



Cedar Keaton met up with his counselor, Emiliano, for a soccer (football) match in Portugal.



Counselors Emiliano, Manu, Paco, Pablo, and Antonio met up in Jardim do Morro in Oporto, Portugal.



Evie Hale, Georgia Harris, Annabelle O’Neal, and Cameron Quinlan got together for a weekend of fun, including paddle!



Ayla Davis Pick, Riley Trippe, Evey Benedict, Bailey Shepherd, Atlas Hammoud, Jay Bailey, and Ben Klemperer all got together.



*Have you met up with a Windridge friend or been somewhere fun in your Windridge gear?  
Send us your pictures!*



