

SmartNet[®]

Why use a SmartNet for 10-and-under players?

SmartNet a new invention in tennis!

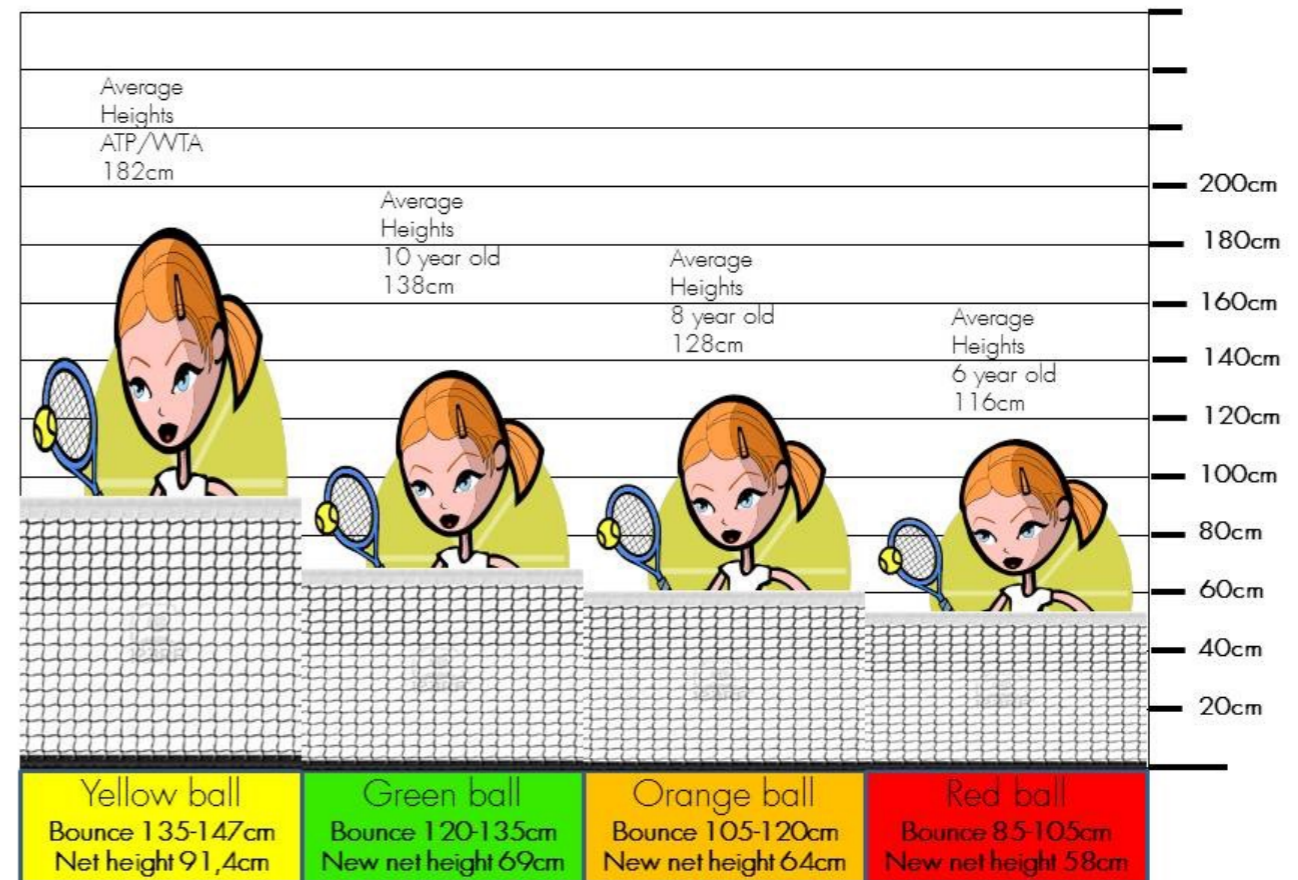
Tennis manufacturers and tennis organisations around the world have made it easier for starter players, but the tennis net have been the same.

Stonesnet AB introduces **SmartNet** to the world of tennis.

Now a change is coming to starter players! With a SmartNet it will be easier to learn the technique, the tactics and also bring more joy to the starter players!

SmartNet is height adjustable to 5 different levels!

Red, Orange, Green, Yellow and one level above yellow for extra height and extra topspin. **The net could be raised up to 20 cm (7,8 inches) above ordinary yellow net height.**



Source: World Health Organization 2007, rebound height from ITF Rules of Tennis 2011 and ATP/WTA Dec 5, 2011

"I am very positive of the concept and supporting the idea.

It is important to develop the sport of tennis and above all create opportunities for young people and their learning. Through this design and a customisable net height, there are great opportunities to learn the technique in a better way."

Stefan Edberg, former Nr 1 ATP

Why use SmartNet?

A lower tennis net will not only make it easier for the young players to play tennis but also make it easier to learn the correct swing technique from the beginning and also help the players to learn the tactics of the sport much easier. With SmartNet, a height adjustable tennis net, it will help the players to serve easier, to have greater angles on the serve and also makes it easier to learn forehand, backhand and the other shots. It will also be easier to play volley with a lower net in front of the player. A lower net will be helpful to develop the tactics and technique much easier and more natural.

Fourth component at tennis 10s

SmartNet is like a fourth component in the campaign Play and Stay and tennis 10s. Until now it has been slower balls, smaller courts and smaller rackets and now it is also possible to have a lower net. SmartNet suits the height of the player boy and girl around the world.

(Source: World Health Organization 2007)

A study confirms the effect of SmartNet!

In the Journal of Sports Science Volume 33, Issue 10, June 2015, pages 1093-1100, the study

about: The effect of equipment scaling on children's sport performance: the case for tennis was published. The study was made by Ewout Timmerman, Joel De Water, Kim Kachel, Machar Reid, Damian Farrow & Geert Savelsbergh.

AbstractThe influence of scaling court-size and net height on children's tennis performance was examined. Sixteen boys (9.7 ± 0.5 years) had to perform a 30-min match in four different conditions, where court-size and/or net height were scaled by using a scaling ratio based on the differences in temporal demands between the children and the adult game. These 30-min matches were analysed using Tennis Analyst (FairPlay Ltd., Jindalee, QLD, Australia) software to determine typical tennis match performance characteristics. Children hit more winners, more forced errors, played more volleys, struck more shots from a comfortable height and played in a more forward court position when the net was scaled. Scaling both the court and net lead to a faster children's game, more closely approximating what is typical of the adult game. The differences between the typical tennis performance variables recorded suggested that scaling the net led to a more aggressive way of playing. Further, children enjoyed playing on the standard court-scaled net condition more than standard adult conditions. **It is suggested that optimising the scaling of net height may be as critical as other task constraints, such as racquet length or court-size, as it leads to a more engaging learning environment for experienced children.**

According to World Health Organization 2007, the average height boys and girls 6 years old is 116cm – with a SmartNet the 6 years old RED tennis players will be able to play tennis over a net height of **58cm (22,8 inches)**. 8 years old boys and girls average height is 128cm – SmartNet net height **64cm (25,2 inches)**. 10 years old boys and girls average height is 138cm – SmartNet net height **69cm (27,2 inches)**. At YELLOW tennis the players will still be able to use the SmartNet at a height of 91,4cm (36 inches) at centre of the net and one level above yellow for extra height and extra topspin. The net could be raised up to 20 cm (7,8 inches) above ordinary yellow net height. With a simple adjustment, **(it only takes seconds!)**, the SmartNet is possible to **adjust the height to five different levels!**

ATP Top 10 December 5, 2011	
1. Djokovic	188cm
2. Nadal	185cm
3. Federer	185cm
4. Murray	190cm
5. Ferrer	175cm
6. Tsonga	188cm
7. Berdych	196cm
8. Fish	188cm
9. Tipsarevic	180cm
10. Almagro	183cm
Average	186cm

WTA Top 10 December 5, 2011	
1. Woznicki	177cm
2. Kvitova	182cm
3. Azarenka	183cm
4. Sharapova	188cm
5. Li	172cm
6. Stosur	172cm
7. Zvonareva	172cm
8. Radwanska	172cm
9. Bartoli	170cm
10. Petkovic	180cm
Average	177cm

ATP average	186cm
WTA average	177cm
Average ATP/WTA	182cm
Net height centre	91,4 cm

Net height centre is **50%** of the ATP and WTA players average height.

So why is not the net height for 10 and Under players **50%** of their height?



Background

The ITF Introduction to Tennis Taskforce was formed in June 2003 to identify how to better introduce tennis to starter players.

The taskforce recognised that, whilst tennis is growing in many nations, some of the more established nations are facing challenges related to participation resulting primarily from lifestyle changes that have occurred.

The key finding was that tennis appears to be better at attracting people than retaining them. The Taskforce identified the need to adapt tennis to the needs of the customer or more specifically the starter player, and to agree on a common position related to starter tennis.

ITF later started the campaign, "Play and Stay" and "tennis 10s". At "tennis 10s" slower balls and smaller courts are used, and also smaller rackets. For more information go to www.tennisplayandstay.com

Why use slower balls?

The optimal striking zone for groundstrokes is between waist and shoulder height. Even at the age of 10, the regular Yellow ball will rebound above the head of an average 10-year-old player. The slower Red, Orange and Green balls however are designed to bounce lower (and move through the air slower) to suit the height and motor skills of the player.

Why use smaller courts?

The court size for Tennis 10s is recommended to be relevant to the size of the player. The slower balls and scaled court sizes are designed to make tennis easier and more fun for young children and also to ensure that competition at this age is appropriate.

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Recently net height scaling was also examined from the perspective of children's height. The standard net height is approximately 50% of a professional tennis player's height (see Figure 2). It was therefore hypothesised that 50% of a child's height would represent the optimal net height (Limpens, Buszard, Shoemaker, Savelsbergh, & Reid, unpublished). Results offered support for this hypothesis, with desirable matchplay characteristics emerging when the net height was approximately 40% and 50% of children's height. These included more first-serve in, more winners and more shots played from inside the baseline. Significantly, however, rally length was unrealistically short when the net height was closer to 40% of children's height.

SmartNet an invention

SmartNet is a new invention. 2011 Roger Stenquist made some drawings how this SmartNet would be possible. With the help of a handful people the project started to take place and at the second half of 2013 the first prototype of the SmartNet was ready to be tested. SmartNet satisfies "Rules of tennis" from ITF, "Tennis courts a construction & maintenance manual" from USTA and American sports builders association, "Playing field equipment" from British standard.

Vision

Stonesnet AB vision is to be part of a revolution in tennis. To make tennis a sport for a lifetime. Stonesnet AB wants to help tennis players to learn the game more easily when using SmartNet.

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Company

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