

Dear Derek,

I feel compelled to write this letter to let you know how much Ali has enjoyed participating in your Tennis Camp. The past two weeks have been such a positive, fun experience for her! Right from the first day, Ali has expressed her enthusiasm and joy about her time at your camp.

As a parent yourself, you will understand my relief when Ali came home so happy each day. In the past, Ali has been hurt and disappointed, feeling lonely and isolated in group situations. Any hesitancy Ali had about attending camp, was quickly dispelled after your introduction in the gym on the first day.

Ali told me that you expressed sentiments about everyone being there for a good time. She also said that if someone spoiled the fun, then it should be reported to a counselor. Ali told me that when she heard this, she knew she was in the right place.

At the end of the first day, I sat on the grass waiting for Ali to join me. Ali came rushing towards me, saying "Mommy, I have to come back again next year". I suggested that we should just see how the next eight days went before we made that decision. Ali responded, "No, I'm coming back".

Just at that moment, one of your staff members walked by us. He looked at Ali and said, "Good job today, Ali". Well . . . he might just as well have given her a million dollars because Ali was so very pleased and proud.

All of your staff have been supportive and encouraging to Ali. She has spoken so positively of your team. Every day, she looked forward to camp. Quite frankly, I took Ali out of her school for the last two weeks because she needed some fun. Your camp was just the tonic that Ali needed.

You have put together a wonderful camp. It is the total package - great staff, lots of fun activities, good food (Ali raved about it) in an atmosphere of "inclusion."

There is a saying: "It takes two people to create a child, but it takes a village to raise a child". Thank-you for being such a joyful and happy part of Ali's village. I am very grateful.

Sincerely,

*Joan*

The Toronto tennis camp was by far the best camp I have ever went to. The camp is amazing in so many different ways. I have been at this camp since I was a tyke[4-5 year old] .When you are a tyke the camp offers a basic start on the foundations. While I was there, the counselors were very understanding even when we did so many silly things such as hitting the balls in every directions and occasionally at them!!

In the younger group you get your skills tested from a variety of challenges but after those hard working challenges you are faced with a bigger challenge, win the game for a free freezie.

In the older group you get faced with even tougher challenges but you get even more fun games to play that involve super fun tennis matches and sometimes tennis matches against the counselors and when you win you have gloating privileges.

Throughout all the time I have been there the counselors were super fun loving and taught all the stuff you need to be a great tennis player. When you are not on court you are treated to a variety of fun filled games and once a day we swim. The games we play are stones, capture the flag, tag, mafia, honey do you love me and my personal favorite hostage and many other games as well.

At the camp they offer a free lunch that is promised to be healthy on almost all days, the exception is the pizza but the homemade lunch is great. All this wrapped in one can be explained in four words, PLAY TENNIS , HAVE FUN!

By Kerim Kassem