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# PRESIDENT

From The President Of The APTA Board Tiernan Cavanna

happy New Year everyone! As I write this letter in December, I have a certain paddle related resolution in mind. Of course, I have lots of room for improvement and a long list of possible paddle resolutions. But what I'm steadfastly committed to in 2022 is not being obsessed with my PTI.

The introduction of the Platform Tennis Index (PTI) to all our leagues has been remarkable in the amount of attention it has garnered. League administrators and tournament organizers have been able to use this system to run larger leagues, and more events than ever that offer more opportunities to players of all levels.

For many of us, it's exciting to see our improvement quantified as we invest time on the courts with our favorite teaching professionals to evolve our games. If, however, you are one of those PTI fanatics or even PTI skeptics that wakes up at 5:00AM the morning after matches to see where your PTI ended up, this resolution might do you some good.

Here are some reasons why I'm not going to be obsessed with my PTI in 2022 (nod to APTA board member, Demian Johnston):

PTI is not a measure of my ability or potential; PTI is a measure of my on-court performance in rated matches.

PTI is simply a measure, not a goal. I play tournaments and league matches for the competition and the fun.

My PTI will naturally move up and down at least 3-5 points just from typical week-to-week variability throughout a season.

In 2022, I am going on the court to compete, learn from my mistakes, and add a few selected shots to my game. If my PTI improves, then great, if not, that's okay, too. Of course, I feel like I am much better than my PTI (don't we all?) and should be in the 20s, but the reality is that I am a low 30s PTI player right now. The great news is that I can compete in PTI 30+ Nationals and Team Nationals at this level, knowing that I'll face competitive opponents, and have a chance to win something that is meaningful to me. I can play anywhere in my team's line-up, with anyone as long as my partner and I have a combined PTI lower or better than the team below me.

That's it. My PTI doesn't define me as a person or player, it's just a number and I am okay with that. If you or someone you love is obsessed with their PTI, focus on the points above, and then go out on the court and have some fun.

Cheers - Tiernan

