第5回 TOMAS CUP 全国ジュニアテニスツアーチャンピオンズ大会

2012 JOP Episode for Angelyna

I don't belong to a big academy so I don't get to practice with other kids my age. I also don't have any kids at my school who really play tennis, so I didn't have any friends who I could share my passion for tennis with.

However, I have made so many good friends that I met because I started playing in JOP! We may fight each other to win in a match, but I've found that we are more alike and share more in common than other kids who don't play tennis seriously. All my best friends are tennis players like me and seeing them in JOP is like a great reunion every time.

Another great thing about JOP is we get to visit so many different places. We are from Kanagawa, but my parents have taken me all over Tokyo, Saitama, Yamanashi, Gunma, Chiba and even Akita for tennis. I love tennis and I love to travel, so it is great that JOP lets me enjoy two things that I love at the same time.

My best experience came when I won a tournament in Takasaki. It was the first time I beat a girl who may be better than me and also the first time I ever came back after losing by at least two games in a set. Even though she was smaller than me, she was a power player who could probably beat me if I played my usual style. However, my dad saw a weakness and had me play a counterpunching style using a lot slice shots to win in the final.

But, even though I was so happy to win the tournament, the biggest impression I had was seeing wheelchair tennis for the first time in my life. I was truly inspired to see someone love tennis so much that they would still play even with such a disability.

They made me feel like I should never give up and that no matter what obstacle I face in the future, nothing can stop me from following my dream!

I thank the people at the Takasaki Indoor Tennis Club and Sports Sunrise for all my friends, great experiences and opportunities in tennis.

Sincerely,

Angelyna