



Good vs. Great

"Good is the enemy of great." (Jim Collins)

- Good players are satisfied; great players are content but never satisfied. Great players are content with who they are (their identity) and know they can strive to always be better.
- Good players focus on the competition; great players focus on themselves and their game.
- Good players are satisfied with good enough; great players ask the question, "How great can I become?" and then constantly pursue that greatness through practice and competition. Great players strive for excellence.
- Good players say they can do all things and may or may not believe it depending on how they feel; great players say, "I will do it!", and they believe it in all situations!
- Great players develop a strategy, believe in the strategy, and stick to the strategy.
- Great players play their game and make the opponent play their game. Great players determine and control the tempo of the match.
- Great players say, "I AM UNSTOPPABLE!" in their minds and through their play on the court.
- Great players have the **X-Factors** of **relentlessness** and **perseverance**
- **Relentlessness** involves an intense belief and trust in your abilities.
 - Great players know they will win any time, any place, and against any opponent.
 - When they are up in a match, great players finish the job and close out the match. They leave nothing to chance and don't give their opponent an edge (i.e. a point, a game, a set) to regain momentum.
 - When they are down in a match, great players "will themselves" to win. They say "I WILL win this point, this game, this set, and this match." Great players gain momentum point by point and begin to see themselves in a positive situation even when the situation looks bleak.



- Great players put fear in the hearts of their opponents because of their relentless attitude. Great players show this attitude through their feelings and their actions. They NEVER, EVER get down or show the opponent a hint of disappointment. They look happy, confident, poised, and under control. In EVERY situation, they act like the match is going exactly according to plan. Through their actions, great players go for every ball and let their opponent know that they will not be defeated. They display hustle and determination on every point.
- **Perseverance** - "steady persistence in a course of action, a purpose, a state, etc., especially in spite of difficulties, obstacles, or discouragement." (Dictionary.com)
 - Great players persevere through tough moments. They are propelled by a force stronger than themselves. They always see a way to win, and they find a way to regain control of matches when they are down or things are not going their way.
- **X-Factors** lead to belief, belief leads to trust, trust leads to great play, great play leads to confidence, confidence leads to success, success leads to opponents fearing you, opponents' fear increases your confidence, which in turn drives you to becoming a great player!

"Success is peace of mind which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best that you are capable of becoming." (John Wooden)