

Playing to Win



Written by George Ivanoff

Illustrated by Patrick Hawkins

Contents

Chapter 1: New Term, New Teacher	3
Chapter 2: Trying Tennis	6
Chapter 3: Getting Serious	10
Chapter 4: The Competition	18

Chapter 1

New Term, New Teacher



Josh felt nervous as he walked through the school gates. He looked at his best friend Misa beside him. “How could she be so calm?” he wondered.

Josh and Misa had been friends all their lives. Misa had always been the calm one. He felt better when she was around.

It was the first day of term, and they were about to meet their new teacher.

“I wish Mrs Gertrude hadn’t retired,” said Misa.

Josh nodded. “I really liked her, and she was a great volleyball coach, too.” He suddenly stopped. “I hope the new teacher is nice. What if she gives us lots of homework? What if she hates volleyball?”

Misa laughed. “You worry too much.”

The new teacher stood smiling at her class.

“Do you think she looks familiar?” Misa whispered to Josh.

Josh shrugged. “Maybe.”

“Good morning everyone,” said the teacher. “My name is Ms West and I’m your new teacher.”

Josh raised his hand. Ms West nodded at him.

“Are you going to coach the volleyball team?” asked Josh.

“I’m afraid not,” she said. “I don’t know anything about volleyball. But I do know about tennis because I used to play, so I will be coaching tennis at the court next door. We’ve got permission to use it twice a week at lunchtime. Maybe some of you will be interested in giving it a go.”

Josh’s face fell. No more volleyball!





MS WEST

