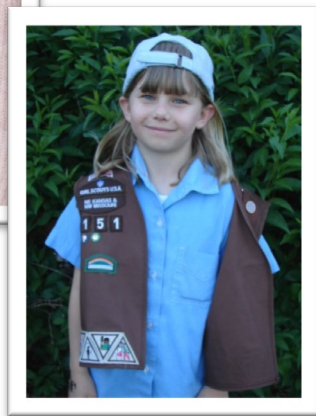




Haley Cruise

Overland Park, Kansas



Annual Tennis Play Day

Haley Cruise has been a Girl Scout for 12 years and is in Troop 146 in Service Unit 679. She is currently a junior at Olathe East High School.

As an avid tennis player, Haley knew that she wanted her Gold Award project to teach and encourage more young kids to pick up a tennis racket and join the sport and ultimately, get outside! To do this, Haley created an annual Tennis Play Day where she invited youth in her community to come and learn the sport from her and other tennis players.

Haley recruited her private tennis coach to help her lead the play day and she distributed fliers and sent emails advertising the event for youth ages 5-10 years of age. At the end of the Play Day, parents and kids completed surveys with results showing that kids felt enabled and encouraged to play tennis again. Through her Gold Award project, Haley grew stronger and more confident in what she does every day and is more comfortable in public speaking settings and working with adults.

Because of Girl Scouts, I have learned to stay cool under pressure when leading events. One main factor is that I learned what real life is actually like and how to manage time as well as people.