

Palmetto Tennis Center Selected to Host 2014 USTA/ITA National Small College Championships



SUMTER, SC (June 17): The Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) is pleased to announce the 2014 USTA/ITA National Small College Championships will be hosted by the Palmetto Tennis Center in Sumter, SC, from October 9-12. One of South Carolina's largest public tennis facilities will welcome the event for the first time.

"I am delighted that city of Sumter will be hosting this prestigious ITA event," ITA Executive Director David A. Benjamin said. "We are all looking forward to a great championship."

More than 8,000 student-athletes from NCAA Division I, II, III, NAIA, and Junior and Community Colleges compete in the USTA/ITA Regional Championships held at over 80 different college campuses across the country. Each small college division (NCAA Divisions II and III, NAIA and Junior/Community College) features eight singles players and eight doubles pairs who earned spots into this national event by winning their respective USTA/ITA Regional Championship.

The USTA/ITA National Small College Championships, which date back to 1986, are the only national championship events for singles and doubles at the NCAA Division II and NAIA levels. This event is unique in intercollegiate athletics, with all levels of men's and women's varsity sports competing in one comprehensive tournament. It is also the only championship that combines all levels of Junior/Community College tennis (NJCAA Divisions I and III, along with the California division).

The men's and women's singles and doubles champions at each divisional level will then compete to become the overall "Super Bowl" champions. The "Super Bowl" winners earn wild cards into the USTA/ITA National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships held at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center. In conjunction with this year's USTA/ITA National Small College Championships, the Palmetto Tennis Center will also be hosting the 2014 USTA/ITA National Collegiate Wheelchair Championships.

About Palmetto Tennis Center

The Palmetto Tennis Center is located inside Palmetto Park in Sumter, South Carolina. It boasts 24 state of the art tennis courts and is lit for night play. Three on-site tennis pros offer private lessons and promote a progressive training program from ages five and up when enrolled in the Performance Training Center for beginner to advanced players. Other amenities include two ball machines, stringing service, restrooms and pro shop. Admission for regular play is free of charge. The official PTC website is <http://www.palmettotenniscenter.com> or you can follow updates at <http://www.facebook.com/PalmettoTennisCenter>

About the ITA

As the governing body of collegiate tennis, the ITA promotes both the athletic and academic achievements of the collegiate tennis community. The ITA, which is comprised of nearly 1,700 men's and women's varsity coaches representing over 1,200 institutions, administers numerous regional and national championships and the ITA College Tennis Rankings for over 20,000 college varsity student-athletes at the NCAA Divisions I, II and III, NAIA and Junior College levels. The ITA also has a comprehensive awards program for players and coaches to honor excellence in academics, leadership and sportsmanship. The official ITA web site is <http://www.itatennis.com>.