



PRESS RELEASE
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UT, A&M, HOUSTON, SFA, LAMAR WIN TEXAS SECTION, EARN BIDS TO USTA TOC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

AUSTIN, Texas – The 2016 USTA Texas Tennis on Campus Championship took place in New Braunfels, Texas from Feb., 12 – 14, with the University of Texas coming out on top over Texas A&M in the finals.

Five winners from the USTA Texas Campus Championship earns an automatic bid to the USTA National Campus Championship in Cary, North Carolina, from Apr. 14-16. Following UT & A&M, was the University of Houston in third; the wildcard team from Stephen F. Austin State University; and Lamar University, who received the USTA Texas TOC Club of the Year Award.

Pool play began on Friday, and ran smoothly through to Sunday, when the winners were crowned. An astonishing 477 players travelled to the John Newcombe Tennis Ranch, where the championship hosted 58 teams from 27 unique schools.

Contrary to the 2015 event that saw freezing rain, this years weather was excellent with blue skies and high's in the 70s. Players were able to stay the night on sight at the Newk's, which enabled them to check in on time and limit the travel for tournament play. The students enjoyed a player party on Saturday night which was accompanied by an Italian dinner as well as a karaoke contest. **Samantha Wendt** from UT was also named the TOC Leader of the Year.

"Thank you so much for everything you and USTA did to make this weekend so enjoyable and memorable for our HCC team," said **Tori Hendricks**, Houston Community College, junior corporate communications major from Denton, Texas.

The TOC Texas championship offered a range of exclusive benefits to its players and volunteers, courtesy of its joint sponsors HEAD/PENN and Whataburger. These included a team bag which was given to all captains with section championship shirts, Whataburger coupons, informational folders and a captain's gift. Players received a range of prizes that included water bottles, sunglasses, caps, TOC shirts, USTA cups and US Open towels. All 13 volunteers were given TOC jackets for their unwavering hard work.

"Not only did we get to play some amazing teams, we bonded more than we could have imagined. At the end of the day, that's what it's all about," said Hendricks, who contacted USTA Texas TOC coordinator **Megan Longbotham-Young** about the event.

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USTA Texas

Located in Austin, USTA Texas is a not-for-profit volunteer organization with over 52,500 individual members and over 600 organizational members. Since 1895, USTA Texas have been one of the 17 sections of the United States Tennis Association, the governing body of tennis in America. USTA Texas is the third largest of the sections and features a Pathway of tennis programs for beginning, recreational and competitive juniors, adults and seniors. With hundreds of volunteers, USTA Texas is devoted to promoting and developing the growth of tennis in Texas. For more information about USTA Texas go to www.texas.usta.com, "like" the official USTA Texas Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ustatexas or follow us on Twitter @USTATexas.

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