



NORTHERN

USTA Northern Highlights

January 2017

Membership Numbers

USTA Northern Individual Memberships

	Juniors	Adults	Total
December 2016	4,539	6,827	11,366
November 2016	4,547	6,776	11,323

USTA Northern Organization Memberships

	Clubs	CTAs	Park & Recs	Schools	Service Orgs	Total
December 2016	25	64	47	81	21	238
November 2016	25	65	48	82	22	241

USTA Northern News & Notes

Member Appreciation Event With The Gopher Women February 4

USTA Northern will play host to FREE Member Appreciation event on February 4 as the Gopher women play in the Courtside Classic at 1 p.m. at Baseline Tennis Center. FREE Cardio Tennis kicks off the day at with two sessions at 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. & 12:15-1:00 p.m. Food and prizes, courtesy of USTA Northern and the Gopher women's tennis program, will be provided following cardio tennis. To RSVP, please contact [Sandy Smith](#) at (952) 358-3288 and let her know what Cardio Tennis session you will be attending.

The Love Games Swingle Event February 11 at Life Time Fitness - Lakeville

USTA Northern will be hosting the Love Games Mixed Doubles Swingle on Saturday, Feb. 11, at Life Time Fitness – Lakeville from 6-10 p.m. Play will be at the 6.0, 7.0, 8.0 and 9.0 levels. Come enjoy food, drink, entertainment and prizes. Cost is \$25 a person for USTA members and \$35 per person for non-members. To register, [click here](#). If you are not a USTA member, please contact [Lisa Mushett](#) at (952) 358-3282 to register for the event.

Grand Opening Of USTA National Campus In Orlando

The USTA National Campus located at Lake Nona in Orlando, Fla., opened in January. The model tennis facility, featuring 100 courts, serves as the new "Home of American Tennis," by combining all USTA participation programs and USTA Player Development in a central location for the first time. The groundbreaking, state-of-the art complex is designed to enhance the sport at every level and create an unparalleled playing, training, coaching and educational experience for recreational players, competitive players, coaches and spectators. To learn more about the facility, [click here](#).

Ten Northern Members Named To USTA National Committees

Congratulations to the following USTA Northern members who were named to serve on USTA National Councils and Committees for 2017-18 including: **Marcia Bach** (Bloomington, Minn.) - Public Parks; **Jeff Baill** (Wayzata, Minn.) - Strategic and Creative Planning; **Joan Baker** (Shoreview, Minn.) – Audit (Chair), Budget; **Matt Boughton** (Eau Claire, Wis.) - Junior Team Tennis; **Scott Boyer** (Rochester, Minn.) - Junior Competition; **Jessie Daw** (Sioux Falls, S.D.) – Local Play and Competition; **Sue Gregor** (Wayzata, Minn.) – NJTL; **Susan Kringlie** (Valley City, N.D.) – CTA; **John Niedfeldt-Thomas** (St. Paul, Minn.) – League and **Carolyn Riley** (Minnetonka, Minn.) – Advisory Group on Committees and Evaluations Council (Chair).

Winter Tennis Trip to the Desert!

Book a trip to Palm Springs, Calif., March 9-13 for opening weekend of the BNP Paribas Classic in Indian Wells, Calif. Enjoy excellent day & evening tournament seating packages and luxurious Palm Springs accommodations. Book now as only 3 spots remain! Call USTA Northern League player, InnerCity Tennis member and travel planner **Brenda Martinson** at (612) 207-4510 or e-mail her by [clicking here](#). Visit www.crosscourttravel.com for more information.



Thank You USTA Northern Sponsors and Partners



Text Messaging

Get the latest USTA Northern news and updates directly to your mobile device. [Click here](#) to opt-in and receive text messages and emails.

Junior News

USTA National Diversity/Inclusion and Multicultural Scholarship Applications Due January 20

The application deadline for all USTA National Diversity & Inclusion and Multicultural Player Scholarships is January 20. To see all the scholarships and apply, [click here](#). For more information, contact [Tony Stingley](#) at (952) 358-3289.

Congratulations Winter Junior Sectional Champions

Congratulations to the following players who won the Winter Junior Section Championships at Life Time Fitness – Lakeville, Life Time Fitness Bloomington South and Baseline Tennis Center.

Singles

Girls 12s - Sarah Shahbaz (Ham Lake, Minn.) def. Annika Munson (Stillwater, Minn.) 6-1, 6-0

Girls 14s - Karin Young (Apple Valley, Minn.) def. Nore Ann Heinitz (Duluth, Minn.) 6-2, 6-2

Girls 16s - Nicole Copeland (Edina, Minn.) def. Danielle Sebata (Sioux Falls, S.D.) 6-3, 7-5

Girls 18s - Isabella Lambert (Minneapolis, Minn.) def. Sophie Reddy (Eden Prairie, Minn.) - walkover, inj.

Boys 12s - Max Exsted (Shakopee, Minn.) def. Tygen Goldammer (Rosemount, Minn.) 6-4, 6-1

Boys 14s - Sujit Chepuri (Minneapolis, Minn.) def. Bjorn Swenson (North Oaks, Minn.) 6-4, 6-1

Boys 16s - Gavin Young (Apple Valley, Minn.) def. Varun Iyer (Rochester, Minn.) 6-1, 6-1

Boys 18s - Jackson Allen (Shakopee, Minn.) def. Kaleb Dobbs (Sioux Falls, S.D.) 6-1, 6-4

Doubles

Girls 12s - Amanda Diao (Blaine, Minn.)/Shahbaz def. Reagan Mullaney (Edina, Minn.)/Munson 8-5

Girls 14s - Heinitz/Young def. Aili Hietala (Duluth, Minn.)/Zoe Adkins (Maple Grove, Minn.) 8-1

Girls 16s - Lauren Ferg (Eagan, Minn.)/Maddie Suk (Minnetonka, Minn.) def. Copeland/Ellie Puzak (Minneapolis, Minn.) 8-6

Girls 18s - Savanna Crowell (Prior Lake, Minn.)/Lambert def. Olivia Paradise (Mahtomedi, Minn.)/Reddy 8-6

Boys 12s - Exsted/Goldammer def. Emmanuel Alex (Arden Hills, Minn.)/Hank Trondson (Vadnais Heights, Minn.) 8-6

Boys 14s - Chepuri/Swenson def. Alec Sargent (Rochester, Minn.)/Joshua Christensen (Rochester, Minn.) 8-2

Boys 16s - Joe Mairs (Edina, Minn.)/Young def. Matthew Kregness (Wayzata, Minn.)/Maxim Zagrebelny (Eagan, Minn.) 9-7

Boys 18s - Allen/Dobbs def. Nikita Snezhko (Minneapolis, Minn.)/Ben Van der Sman (Woodbury, Minn.) 9-8 (4)

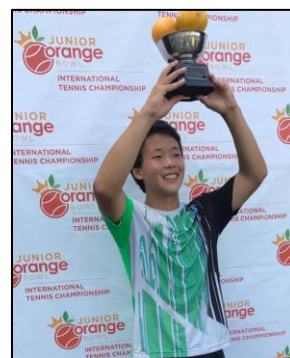
The following players were also named Sportsmanship Award winners during the tournament: **Tianna Houske** (Savage, Minn.), **Ingrid Smith** (Edina, Minn.), **Monterey Knewtson** (Fargo, N.D.), **Ashton Adesoro** (St. Paul, Minn.), **Matias Maule** (Wayzata, Minn.) and **Karthik Papisetty** (Plymouth, Minn.).

Hunter Heck Boys 14s Consolation Singles Champion At Orange Bowl

Congratulations to **Hunter Heck** (St. Paul, Minn.), who took home the Boys 14s Consolation Singles Championship at the 2016 Junior Orange Bowl International in Coral Gables, Fla. The Junior Orange Bowl is one of the most prestigious tournaments internationally as the top players in the world are entered in this event. Heck, who was seeded 17th, opened the tournament with a first-round loss to Peter Alam of Altrincham, England 7-6 (2), 6-3. He then proceeded to win 11 matches in the back draw, taking out competitors from the United States, Japan, Chile and Uruguay along the way. In the consolation final, he defeated Benjamin Heynold of Australia 2-6, 6-3, 7-5.

Stars & Trophies 10U Youth Progression For Kids Ages 7-10

USTA Northern is mandating a new system of play for kids ages 7-10 years of age called the Stars & Trophies 10U Pathway. Designed to help players develop their fundamentals and get the most out of tennis, the Stars & Trophies 10U Pathway rewards kids for competing and inspires them to play more often. The mission is to clear each level by collecting a combination of 20 virtual participation



stars and/or trophies. Players are able to collect Stars & Trophies through Play Days, Stars & Trophies 10U Orange and Green Ball Tournaments and 10U Junior/World Team Tennis. To learn more about the Stars & Trophies 10U Pathway, to register for your FREE Player account and to see how your child can earn stars and trophies, [click here](#). Questions? Contact [Tricia Moorhead](#) or [Pat Colbert](#).



Team Northern Holds First Training Camp

Congratulations to the following junior players who were selected to Team Northern - USTA Northern's Junior Elite High Performance Team - including **Hugh Perrill** (Wayzata, Minn.), **Preston Perrill** (Wayzata, Minn.), **Max Exsted** (Shakopee, Minn.), **Nolan Ranger** (Edina, Minn.), **Sam Skanse** (Edina, Minn.), **Erik Smith** (Edina, Minn.), **Jack Allaben** (Mahtomedi, Minn.), **Sujit Chepuri** (Minneapolis, Minn.), **Tygen Goldammer** (Rosemount, Minn.), **Noah Hong** (Minneapolis, Minn.), **Kevin Turlington** (Rochester, Minn.), **Emmanuel Alex** (Arden Hills, Minn.), **Christo Alex** (Arden Hills, Minn.), **Sydney Wolpert** (Hopkins, Minn.), **Amanda Diao**

(Blaine, Minn.), **Allyson Jay** (Edina, Minn.), **Julia Baber** (Rochester, Minn.), **Paige Sargent** (Rochester, Minn.), **Ingrid Smith** (Edina, Minn.), **Isabella Suk** (Minnetonka, Minn.) and **Emmeline Wang** (Hamel, Minn.).

Team Northern met for the first time on January 7 at InnerCity Tennis where 21 players, six coaches and nine mentors of Minnesota tennis royalty gathered. The impressive list of mentors included former Gopher greats **Jack Hamburg**, **Alexa Palen** and **Michael Sicora**; current Penn University assistant coach **Brian Ward**; Gustavus Adolphus player **Ally Baker**; former two-time Minnesota state champion and KFAN personality **Justin Gaard**; current Minnesota state Class AA singles champion **Jackson Allen** and top junior players **Alex Exsted** and **Ben Wheaton**.

Adult News

Chris Bushaw Named New Area League Coordinator For SE Minnesota

Chris Bushaw (Rochester, Minn.) has been named the new Area League Coordinator for Southeastern Minnesota. Bushaw will implement and administer all USTA League opportunities in Southeastern Minnesota including, but not limited to, Rochester, Winona, Owatonna and Mankato. Bushaw has been an instructor at Rochester Community and Technical College for the past 10 years. Prior to that, she had a 30-year career at the Mayo Clinic. She has played USTA League tennis since 2004, and has captained 12 teams since 2009. In 2015, she was selected as winner of the Northern Section's Albert Teeter Adult Sportsmanship Award. As a player and captain, she has represented USTA Northern at both Sectional and National Championships. As a volunteer, she has served on the Rochester Area Leagues Committee and Sectional Leagues Committee since 2013 and has volunteered at numerous League Sectional Championships. Bushaw can be reached at christine.bushaw@roch.edu.



Community Tennis News

Need \$\$\$\$\$ To Grow Your Tennis Programs?

Apply NOW for an Adopt-A-Court or Community Tennis Grant. Deadline for both grants is February 15. **Note: This is the only time in 2017 communities can apply for Adopt-A-Court grants.** For more information about either grant, [click here](#) or contact [Christine Nickels](#) at (952) 358-3290.

Set Up A Tennis Trainings Today

USTA Northern offers many low-cost tennis training opportunities for teachers, coaches, parents and others interested in growing the game. For more information about bringing a training to your school or community, [click here](#) or contact [Tony Stingley](#) at (952) 358-3289.



Mark Vellek Named South Dakota PTR Member of the Year

Congratulations to **Mark Vellek** of Sioux Falls, S.D., who has been named the South Dakota Professional Tennis Registry (PTR) Member of the Year presented to a PTR member who has shown dedication and diligence in promoting and supporting tennis and the PTR. Vellek will be honored during the 2017 PTR International Tennis Symposium February 15-18, 2017, at the Sonesta Resort on Hilton Head Island, S.C.

Kelly Baker Hired As New Head Pro At West Hills in Owatonna

Congratulations to **Kelly Baker** who was hired as the new Tennis Director and Head Pro at West Hills Tennis Club in Owatonna, Minn. To read more about Baker, [click here](#).

Community Tennis Guide Available

The 2017 Community Tennis Guide is now available [online](#). Each organization member should have received a hard copy as well. If additional copies are needed, please contact [Vanessa Sexton](#).

USPTA Northern Division Convention January 27-28

The USPTA Northern Division Convention is January 27-28 at Life Time Fitness – Fridley. Many great presenters are scheduled for the weekend including elite performance trainer **Allistair McCaw** who has worked with Bernard Tomic, Dinara Safina, Svetlana Kuznetsov and more. There will also be a USPTA Certification Workshop for those looking to become certified. Convention costs are \$65 for USPTA members and \$85 for non-members. If you were USPTA certified in 2016, you can attend for FREE. To register, [click here](#). (If you have not signed up for Settee yet, you will need to do that first. It is easy and it is free! Just go to the above web site and follow the instructions.) For a complete schedule of events for the weekend, [click here](#).

Donate Today To The Urban Youth Tennis & Education Campaign And Have Your Donation Matched

USTA Northern and Youthprise have joined forces to support tennis and education programs targeting underserved youth in the Twin Cities through the Urban Youth Tennis & Education Campaign. This initiative directly supports the collaborative efforts of local partners (InnerCity Tennis, Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center and St. Paul Urban Tennis) that bring tennis to underserved youth and use the sport as a channel for emotional, physical and academic development. Youthprise has pledged to match all donations, up to \$125,000!

Contributions collected since the start of the campaign are making an impact this school year by funding a series of free indoor tennis nights, a Level 8 tournament series, shared bus transportation to tennis and leadership programs and a new pathway manager position.

[Click here and donate today](#). Or you can send a check, payable to Youthprise, and note in the memo line: Urban Youth Tennis & Education Fund to Youthprise, 615 First Avenue NE, Suite 125, Minneapolis, MN 55413.



Donate Gently Used Equipment To High School Programs

USTA Northern has started a new initiative, "Play it Forward," as part of its Serving Up Love campaign. We are collecting gently used racquets, tennis shoes, grip and cases of tennis balls to distribute to high school tennis teams in need throughout the year. Please bring your donations to the USTA Northern office at 1001 W 98th Street, Suite 101, Bloomington or contact [Sandy Smith](#). If you know of a high school team in need, please complete the following [request form](#).

Org Referral Program Back; Receive \$5 For Each New Member You Recruit

Want to grow the game of tennis and be rewarded? USTA Northern is offering a Member Referral Program to our Organizational Members. For every new adult or junior USTA member you recruit, USTA Northern will reward you \$5. [Click here for a bulk membership form](#).

New FREE USTA Marketing Resources Site

The USTA has introduced a new Marketing Resources site that is much more robust and easier to use. The site has two areas – Learn and Promote. Through the Learn area of the site, many video and workbook resources are available on a variety of topics including Rules and Regulations, Sales, Tips/Videos/Drills, USTA Program How-To and more. The Promote side offers FREE marketing tools such as posters, flyers, press releases and more. To take advantage of the site, visit www.usta.com/marketingresources.

Want To Volunteer With USTA Northern? Register In Our Volunteer Network

Are you passionate about tennis and interested in giving back to the game you love? Then you've come to the right place. USTA Northern has a rich history of dedicated volunteers, all of whom share the same fundamental drive that gives them the passion to volunteer: they all love tennis. Prior volunteer experience is not required! [Fill out a volunteer form today](#). For additional information, please contact [Sandy Smith](#) at 952-358-3288.

Other USTA Northern Notes, Special Offers and Promotions

Stay Connected To USTA Northern Via Social Media

Stay up-to-date on the latest information regarding USTA Northern through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Photobucket or our Web site.

Web Site: www.northern.usta.com

Facebook: "Like Us" at www.facebook.com/ustanorthern

Twitter: www.twitter.com/ustanorthern
YouTube: www.youtube.com/ustanorthern
Instagram: www.instagram.com; Keyword: USTA Northern
Text Message: [Click here](#) to opt-in and receive text messages and emails.

FREE USTA Membership For Kids 10 and Under For 2017

The USTA is offering a free 1-year membership to all first-time members who are 10 and under between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017. To register your child, please visit www.usta.com/membership and enter source code **FYF17CNS** or call (800) 990-8782.

Upcoming Tournaments and Events

For a list of junior tournaments coming up in USTA Northern, [click here](#). For a list of adult tournaments, [click here](#).
For a calendar of Section events, [click here](#).

For more information about USTA Northern information and events, please contact **Lisa Mushett** at mushett@northern.usta.com or at (952) 358-3282.