



USTA Northern Highlights

February 2017

Membership Numbers

USTA Northern Individual Memberships

	Juniors	Adults	Total
January 2017	4,566	6,841	11,407
December 2016	4,539	6,827	11,366

USTA Northern Organization Memberships

	Clubs	CTAs	Park & Recs	Schools	Service Orgs	Total
January 2017	24	64	47	82	22	239
December 2016	25	64	47	81	21	238

USTA Northern News & Notes

USTA Northern Hiring Two Positions; Application Deadline February 24

USTA Northern is hiring for two positions - Director of Training and Outreach/Tennis Service Representative Minnesota/NW Wisconsin and a Junior Teams Assistant. Deadline for both positions is February 24. For more information about each job posting, [click here](#).



Carolyn Kramer Named Director of Schools Tennis

Congratulations to **Carolyn Kramer** (Moorhead, Minn.), who will take on additional responsibilities in the Section as the new Director of Schools Tennis. She will also remain as the Tennis Service Representative for North and South Dakota, a position she has held since 2012. Kramer can be contacted by e-mail at kramer@northern.usta.com or by phone at (701) 238-1515.



Donate Today To Tony Stingley Diverse Player Scholarship Program

Congratulations to long-time USTA Northern staff member **Tony Stingley**, who accepted a new position as the Manager of Schools Tennis with USTA National in Lake Nona, Fla. Stingley's last day at USTA Northern was February 9. Although we are sad to be losing the best, Stingley's impact to tennis in our Section will continue as USTA Northern has renamed its Diverse Player Scholarship after him. The Tony Stingley Diverse Player Scholarship was created with input from the USTA Northern Diversity and Inclusion Council and supports the level one priority of diversity and inclusion within USTA Northern. It is available to young people of ethnically diverse heritage who have excelled academically and participated in an organized community tennis program. You can honor Stingley and all he has done to grow the game in USTA Northern by donating to the Tony Stingley Diverse Player Scholarship at <https://www.razoo.com/story/B4ijif> or by contacting **Sandy Smith** at ssmith@northern.usta.com or at (952) 358-3288.

2017 USTA Northern Yearbook Now Available

Salute the Section's best and relive all of the great moments of 2016 with the 2017 USTA Northern Yearbook, available online at <http://tinyurl.com/zeb4c2q>.

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.

Thank You USTA Northern Sponsors and Partners



Mortgage Planner & Tennis Coach
Doug@DougRoeth.com

USTA Northern Mourning Death Of Bill Kuross

USTA Northern is mourning the death of Hall of Famer **Bill Kuross**, who passed away on January 31, 2017, after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease. He was 86 years old. A memorial service for Kuross will be planned later this year. Kuross played tennis at Augsburg College in the mid-40s. He then went on to play for the United States Navy team in Philadelphia and at the US Open in Forest Hills, N.Y. During the 1960s and '70s, Kuross won several consecutive state open tennis championships. He was ranked fourth nationally in senior doubles in his 50s. In 1958, he started the Minikahda Invitational, which would be the premier tennis event in the Twin Cities for many years. Grand Slam champion Andre Agassi played in the event (and won) when he was only 15 years old as the tournament raised money for inner city tennis programs in USTA Northern. In 1979, Kuross was one of seven inaugural members of the Minnesota Tennis Hall of Fame, which became the USTA Northern Hall of Fame.



Baseline Tennis Center. The match will most likely be played outdoors so please dress accordingly. FREE Cardio Tennis kicks off the day at with two sessions indoors at 10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m. & 11:15-12:00 Noon. Food and prizes, courtesy of USTA Northern and the Gopher men'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 and your NTRP level.

Fargo's Vic Youngs Named 2017 National High School Coach of the Year Finalist

Congratulations to **Vic Youngs** (Fargo, N.D. and South H.S.), who is a 2017 National High School Athletic Coaches Association National Coach of the Year Finalist. He will be honored Wednesday, June 21, at the National Awards Banquet at the Embassy Suites in East Peoria, Ill.

Junior News

Learn More About New Team Tennis Offerings

It's New, It's Different, It's For Everyone! In addition to traditional Junior Team Tennis, USTA Northern is offering a new, different and fun Team Tennis offering in 2017 called World Team Tennis. All you need are 2 courts, 2 girls, 2 boys and 90 minutes for this fast-paced format played at any level. There are no individual match requirements, organizers do not have to use TennisLink, and best of all - IT IS EASY & INEXPENSIVE TO ADMINISTER. Also...No USTA Membership is required. To learn more, contact [Brandon Jackson](#) at (952) 358-3291.

Hunter Heck Wins USTA National Level 3 Championship In Las Vegas

Congratulations to **Hunter Heck** (St. Paul, Minn.), who won the Boys 16s singles title at the USTA National Level 3 in Las Vegas in January. Heck won five matches, including defeating Alexander Kiefer (The Woodlands, Texas) 7-5, 5-7, 1-0 in the finals. He also earned finalists honors in doubles.

Baseline Tennis Center Hosts National Level 2 Tournament

Thank you to the **University of Minnesota's Baseline Tennis Center** who hosted the USTA National Girls 16s Level 2 Tournament February 10-13. Karina Miller (Ann Arbor, Mich.) won the singles title, while Miller and partner Emma Jackson (La Grange Township, Ill.) won the doubles.

Minnesota Tennis Coaches Association Coaches Clinic March 3-4 At Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center

The 2017 MTCA Coaches Clinic is March 3-4 at the Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center in St. Paul, Minn. Registration is

Over 70 Attend Gopher Appreciation Event

Over 70 people enjoyed fun, food and tennis at the USTA Northern Member Appreciation Event with the Gopher women on February 4. The event started with two sessions of Cardio Tennis, followed by lunch and prizes and the Gopher women's match against Dartmouth.

Next Member Appreciation Event April 23 As Gopher Men Play Indiana

USTA Northern will play host to a FREE Member Appreciation event on April 23 as the Gopher men play Indiana at 12 Noon at

open online at <http://www.mshsca.org/tennis>. Cost is \$65 and \$75 at the door. Speakers include: **Christin Thurston**, Tennis Professional-Licensed Cardio tennis professional (Level 3) & USPTA Northern Division Executive Director; **Marc Stingley**, PTR National Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator; **Kevin Whipple**, PAES Tennis at Baseline; **Bruce Gullikson**, USPTA Elite Professional, PTR Professional MTM and a keynote speaker courtesy of Wilson. For more questions, contact **Rick Engelstad** at (763) 242-1451 or e-mail him at rengelstad@isd578.org.

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 and 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](#). For a schedule of events around the Section, [click here](#). Questions? Contact [Tricia Moorhead](#) or [Pat Colbert](#).

Adult News

Spring ONE Doubles Registration Open In Twin Cities

Find a partner and register today for Spring ONE Doubles in the Twin Cities. ONE Doubles is for men, women and mixed teams 18 years of age or older. NTRP Levels include 3.0 (2.5 players can play at the 3.0 level), 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5 and 6.0, 7.0, 8.0 and 9.0 mixed. Team format is two to four players per team at the same NTRP level. Play format is one doubles match per week. [To register, click here](#). Team registration deadline is March 10. Need a partner? We can find one for you. Contact matchline@northern.usta.com and find a partner today!



Over 70 People Play In Valentine's Mixed Doubles Swingle

Congratulations to Team Kiss Me - winners of the 2017 Valentine's Mixed Doubles Swingle event at Life Time Fitness – Lakeville. Members of the team included **Beth Hebner, Craig Kuberski, Don Stehler, Nancy Lundberg, Michael Ewen, Sarah Rossman, Gautam Erande and Jamie Golden**. Be on the lookout for our next event later this Spring.

Tennis On Campus Section Championships February 25-26

The University of Minnesota is vying for its 14th straight USTA Northern Tennis on Campus Section Championship February 25-26 at Life Time Fitness – Lakeville. USTA Northern will also recognize the 2017 Club and Organizer of the Year during the event.

Community Tennis News

World Tennis Day Is March 6

The 10th Annual World Tennis Day is Monday, March 6, featuring the BNP Paribas Classic at Madison Square Garden in New York City. Watch Juan Martín del Potro go up against Kei Nishikori, Venus Williams play Garbiñe Muguruza, Jack Sock battle Nick Kyrgios and Andy Roddick face Lleyton Hewitt in the star-studded event.

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 **Christine Nickels** at (952) 358-3290.

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.