

NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the 2014 USTA Tennis On Campus National Championship!

Provided below is information you will need to ensure this event is a success for you and your team. It is imperative that you review all of the information and share this information with your entire team.

Please contact Valerie McCutchan at <u>Valerie.McCutchan@nirsa.org</u> or at 541.766.8211 immediately if for some reason your team cannot attend the tournament. Teams that do not show for the tournament will be "sanctioned" and will not be allowed to participate in future National Championships.

<u>Home Page Access</u>: The USTA Tennis On Campus National Championship home page will be updated with scores and other information daily, and can be found at: usta.com/tocnationals. Make sure your school newspaper's sports editor, friends and family have the web address so they can follow the tournament. You can also follow Tennis On Campus year-round at <u>TennisOnCampus.com</u>.

<u>Playing Venues</u>: Matches will be held at two locations: Surprise Tennis & Racquet Complex, 14469 West Paradise Lane, Surprise, Ariz. and Valley Vista High School, 15550 N Parkview Place, Surprise, Ariz.

<u>Schedule:</u> Play will begin on Thursday morning at 8:00 a.m., sharp. Please be advised that we will start immediately on time. The schedule will be posted on <u>TennisOnCampus.com</u> on April 3rd. Be sure to check the master schedule at Tournament Headquarters on Thursday, April 10 to find out if any schedule changes have occurred. Teams will play seven matches (if all teams show up to scheduled matches), so plan accordingly. All teams will play on Saturday.

<u>Match Play History</u>: All players on the roster must have played in two events representing their team/school in the same academic year and prior to the USTA Tennis On Campus National Championship. An event is considered a dual match, a tournament, or a USTA Tennis On Campus Section Championship. Please use the attached History Play Form to record each player's matches.

<u>Player Certification Form</u>: The Player Certification Form was emailed to all team representatives. Please bring this form with you to Arizona. If your club team is not part of Recreational Sports, Athletics or Student Services, please contact <u>Valerie.McCutchan@nirsa.org</u> to arrange alternate University approved signature. A reminder: you must have University approval to attend this event.

<u>USTA Personal Release Form:</u> All participants will be required to sign a USTA Personal Release form. This form is included with this email. We ask that you make copies and **bring the completed and signed form to team check-in.** Please do not mail the forms to the NIRSA National Center. The Personal Release Form allows USTA, NIRSA, WTT, and ITA to use the photos from this Championship event. Teams will not be allowed to play any matches unless all members fill out and sign required form.

Photo ID: A photocopy of a driver's license, student ID, or other form of photo identification is required for all team members. Please photocopy **all IDs together on one sheet of paper** and bring it to the team check-in.

<u>Team Check-In</u>: Registration for all teams will take place at the Surprise Tennis & Racquet Complex from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 9. Only one person from each team is needed to check in the entire team. All forms must be turned in on Wednesday evening during check-in:

- 1. Player Enrollment Certification Form (signed by University Registrar)
- 2. USTA Personal Release
- 3. Match history of roster players
- 4. Photocopy of photo IDs.

Inclement Weather: Please note that the tournament format, number of matches, and match length may change due to a team not showing up or circumstances beyond our control, such as weather. Surprise generally has warm, dry weather during the month of April; however, rain could cause delays, modifications to the format, and possible cancellation of the tournament. Please be advised that there are no back-up courts: the Surprise area does not have indoor courts where we can move the event in case of rain. If there is a rain delay, teams that are scheduled on the court will be responsible to dry the court they play on - one court per team. Teams that fail to dry a court will forfeit one of their singles matches with a score 6-0.

<u>Practice Courts:</u> Practice courts will be available for reservation on Wednesday, April 9 from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Surprise Tennis & Racquet Complex on a first-come, first-served basis. Please email <u>Valerie.McCutchan@nirsa.org</u> to reserve court time.

<u>Official Merchandise</u>: Back by popular demand, Official USTA Tennis On Campus National Championship Merchandise will be on sale throughout the tournament. Check out this exclusive limited edition apparel line for yourself or purchase a souvenir for your teammates, friends or family.

<u>Mandatory Team Rep/Coaches Meeting</u>: All coaches/team representatives are required to attend a meeting on Wednesday, April 9th at 7:00 p.m. at the Surprise Tennis & Racquet Complex. This meeting should last about an hour and will cover important information about the tournament. Each team must have at least one representative at this meeting. If you have flights/delays/driving problems on Wednesday and are unable to make the mandatory meeting on time, email <u>Valerie.McCutchan@nirsa.org</u> to let her know you will be arriving late.

<u>Rules:</u> The 2014 Tennis On Campus National Championship follows the World TeamTennis rules and format, the guidelines of which can be found <u>here</u>. A player may play in only two sets per match, whether as a starter or a substitute (excluding the Supertiebreaker). Should you have questions about the rules, please bring them to the coaches meeting. If you haven't attended a USTA Tennis On Campus National Championship event before, please read the rules carefully before your first match and be sure to make the rules available to all teammates.

<u>Format:</u> The structure of the tournament will be 16 four-team pools playing round robin matches within pool play on Thursday. The first-place team in each pool will be placed in the Gold bracket and will remain in the running for the National Championship; the second-place team in the pool will advance to the Silver bracket; the third-place team in the pool will advance to the Bronze bracket; and the fourth-place team in the pool will advance to the Copper bracket. This will be reviewed at the Team Rep/Coaches meeting on Wednesday evening. Any teams that are tied at the end of pool play should return to the Tournament Desk on Thursday evening at 8:30 p.m. or refer to the back of the scorecard for Tie Breaker process to identify their playoff bracket.

Photo ID Checks: A photo ID check will be done at your first scheduled match, and periodically throughout the tournament. We ask once more: please bring all identification to each and every match your team plays. This means that you should be sure that all of your players have their IDs before you leave for the Championship, and also before you depart your hotel each morning.

<u>Athletic Trainer</u>: There will be an athletic trainer on-site to assist with athletic injuries. They will have access to ice. Please bring your own tape and pre-wrap for chronic injuries.

<u>Hot Line Number:</u> If someone in your family has an emergency and needs to get a message to you, they can call the Surprise Tennis & Racquet Complex 623.222.2400 or email <u>Valerie.McCutchan@nirsa.org</u>.

<u>Team Sportsmanship Award:</u> Every year at Nationals, a special award is given to the team that showcases the true spirit of the sportsmanship ideal. Captains from each team will be asked to cast a vote for the team that best exemplifies and exhibits fundamental values: respect, fairness, civility, honesty and responsibility. These votes will be considered, along with the votes from the Awards Panel, to determine the honorees.

Individual Sportsmanship Recognition: Great sports make a sport great! This year we want to emphasize the importance of good sportsmanship not only among teams but also on an individual level. We ask teams to

recognize opponents who handle victory and defeat with grace and dignity and treat opponents with fairness and courtesy. Captains will be given two sportsmanship pins upon check in and will be able to reward opponents who exemplify good sportsmanship during a match. All players who receive pins will be recognized at the Awards Banquet.

<u>Food</u>: Snacks and assorted drinks can be found in the Surprise Tennis & Racquet Complex clubhouse. There are also several restaurants with 2-3 miles of the complex.

<u>Player Banquet/Awards Ceremony</u>: All team members are invited to a player banquet and awards ceremony to be held onsite at the Surprise Tennis & Racquet Complex around 7 p.m. (the banquet will begin immediately following the conclusion of the championship match) on Saturday night.

Transportation: All teams are expected to provide their own transportation and be on time for their matches. Some hotels may have a shuttle service in and around the area, be sure to check with the hotel front desk.

<u>Rental Car Information:</u> <u>Enterprise Car Rental</u> will have special rates for tournament participants. They also will allow drivers under the age of 25 (but must be at least 21 years old). For more information, check out: <u>TennisOnCampus.com</u>

<u>Uniforms</u>: Have fun and show school spirit! It is strongly recommended that teams wear matching uniforms which clearly identify your school during all matches.

Exam Proctor: This year the tournament falls during finals for some students; if you a scheduled to take an exam during Nationals, contact Valerie McCutchan at <u>Valerie.McCutchan@nirsa.org</u> or dial 541.766.8211 for more information.

<u>Special Guests: Championship Match & Banquet Emcee</u> ESPN's Prim Siripipat joined the Worldwide Leader of Sports as an anchor in March of 2011. At ESPN, she serves as an on-air personality for television and also ESPN.com, covering the NFL, MLB, NBA, NHL, mixed martial arts, golf and, of course, tennis. She also serves as a tennis analyst and makes frequent appearances on ESPN radio.

Siripipat began playing tennis at the age of seven. At 12, she moved to Tampa, Fla., to attend Saddlebrook Tennis Academy in hopes of pursuing a career in tennis. While at Saddlebrook, she trained with Grand Slam tournament champions such as Jennifer Capriati, Martina Hingis and Andy Roddick, as well as former Top 10 player Mardy Fish. After being named Valedictorian, earning a top ten national ranking and traveling with Team USA, Prim earned a full scholarship to Duke University. Her education at Duke led her to a career in sports broadcasting.

Southwest Hospitality Hour: The Southwest Tennis Association wants to welcome you to the area and share a little "down home" hospitality. They'll be onsite Wednesday, April 9 from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. with free snacks, games and prizes for players. Stop by for some good old Southwest hospitality!

Player Lounge: There will be a lounge outfitted with laptop stations where you can check out the Tennis On Campus Nationals website or be part of the social media conversation, or if you need a quiet spot to study. Please make sure to use #TOCNationals in all of your social media posts. There will be fruit, snacks and water available courtesy of Surprise Tennis & Racquet Complex.

<u>USTA TOC Promotion Tent</u>: Be sure to stop by the Tennis On Campus promotion tent for free snacks, prizes and information about TOC alumni events and careers in tennis. You can check us out on Thursday & Friday from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. You might also win some cool TOC swag on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (while supplies last) when you "Spin the Wheel" for TOC prizes. See you there!

<u>NIRSA Championship Series Sportsmanship Statement</u></u>: The following Sportsmanship Statement was adopted by the NIRSA Championship Series Committee and is now read at all championship matches:

"We believe good sportsmanship is an integral component of intercollegiate competition. We wholeheartedly embrace the position that, in order for sportsmanship to prevail, coaches, student-athletes, and fans must display respect, fairness, civility, honesty, and responsibility before, during and after all athletic contests. We encourage fans to enthusiastically support their team, recognize the outstanding performance of opponents, and always exhibit good sportsmanship in their words and actions.

We encourage and promote sportsmanship by student-athletes, coaches, and spectators. Offensive language including profanity, racial or ethnic slurs or other intimidating actions directed at officials, event staff, student-athletes, coaches or team representatives will not be tolerated and are grounds for removal from the competition site."

<u>Final Thought:</u> Come prepared, remain flexible and represent yourself, your team and your school in a professional manner that's in line with NIRSA Rules & Regulations throughout the event. This will ensure a wonderful experience for you and your teammates now and for years to come.

We look forward to seeing all of you in a couple weeks!

Teams Attending the 2014 USTA Tennis On Campus National Championship Returning National Champions: University of Georgia 2013 TOC Spring Invitational: University of Southern California 2013 TOC Spring Invitational: Cal Poly – San Luis Obispo 2013 TOC Fall Invitational: University of Florida 2013 TOC Fall Invitational: University of Virginia 2014 TOC Club of the Year: Ferris State University Eastern: Rutgers University Eastern: Cornell University Eastern: Stony Brook University Florida: University of South Florida Florida: University of Central Florida Intermountain: Brigham Young University Intermountain: University of Colorado Mid-Atlantic: Virginia Tech Mid-Atlantic: College of William & Mary Mid-Atlantic: James Madison University Middle States: Villanova University Middle States: Pennsylvania State University Middle States: University of Pennsylvania Middle States: University of Delaware Midwest: University of Michigan Midwest: Marguette University Midwest: University of Wisconsin - Madison Midwest: Purdue University Midwest: University of Illinois Midwest: Northwestern University Midwest: Saginaw Valley State University Missouri Valley: University of Iowa Missouri Valley: University of Missouri Missouri Valley: Washington University – St Louis Missouri Valley: University of Oklahoma New England: Northeastern University New England: Boston College New England: Harvard University New England: Yale University New England: Dartmouth College Northern: University of Minnesota Northern: North Dakota State University Northern Cal: University of California – Berkeley Northern Cal: Stanford University Northern Cal: California State University - Chico

Pacific Northwest: University of Oregon Pacific Northwest: Western Washington University Pacific Northwest: Gonzaga University Southern: Auburn University Southern: University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Southern: University of South Carolina Southern: North Carolina State University Southern: Georgia Tech Southern: Louisiana State University Southern: Duke University Southern Cal: University of California-San Diego Southern Cal: University of California-Irvine Southern Cal: University of California - Santa Barbara Southwest: University of Arizona Southwest: Arizona State University Texas: Texas A&M University Texas: The University of Texas at Austin **Texas: Southern Methodist University** Texas: University of North Texas Texas: Texas Tech University Texas: Baylor University Texas: University of Texas at San Antonio



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