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UNITED STATES TENNIS ASSOCIATION PACIFIC NORTHWEST REOPENS THE VANCOUVER TENNIS CENTER TODAY

Regional section of national nonprofit rejuvenates the public facility, previously on the verge of closure

VANCOUVER, WA (DATE) — United States Tennis Association Pacific Northwest (USTA PNW), is the Pacific Northwest section of the United States Tennis Association, the national governing body of the sport of tennis, and also a nonprofit organization dedicated to growing the game of tennis by sustainably expanding tennis infrastructure and play opportunities to all, reopens the Vancouver Tennis Center today after making preliminary facility upgrades that will total more than \$2 million by the end of 2019. The preliminary upgrades will focus on on-court modernization improvements, including court resurfacing, LED Lighting and live stream indoor court viewing, creating an experience and amenities that are considered industry-best in appearance and functionality.

USTA PNW's strategy for providing access includes RecTennis[®], PNW's recreational tennis program, tournaments and trainings, fundraising, scholarships and sliding scale entry, and now facilities management, beginning with the reopening Vancouver Tennis Center.

"By revitalizing the Vancouver Tennis Center USTA PNW is addressing the single greatest challenge of growing the game of tennis in the Pacific Northwest: access to indoor courts," said Matthew Warren, Executive Director, USTA PNW "We are delighted to provide the Vancouver community with a best-in-class facility and programming that will allow more people than ever to learn and enjoy the game of tennis together."

The Pacific Northwest is experiencing a groundswell of interest in tennis but there is currently only one indoor court for every 26,706 people. When factoring accessibility (public courts only), it's one court for every 158,868 people. USTA PNW addresses this challenge with the Vancouver Tennis Center.

Today also marks the grand opening of the USTA PNW's 2nd facility – the Galbraith Tennis Center in Tacoma, a rejuvenated (six-court) facility that had been closed for eight years.

Opening the Vancouver Tennis Center and Galbraith Tennis Center is part of the USTA PNW's larger mission-based effort to build a sustainable future for tennis in the Pacific Northwest by



fostering community spaces in which everyone, regardless of age, economic status and ability levels can play tennis together. More court space allows USTA PNW to welcome and recruit more players in order to continue growing the game of tennis. By offering a best-in-class on court and off court experience, along with robust programming, and need based scholarships these rejuvenated tennis centers will naturally generate more access opportunities to a wider population and will keep both facilities fiscally sound.

General Manager, Facilities Operations and Services Patrick Dreves sums it up like this: "We don't need 100 people playing 1,000 hours of tennis; we need 1,000 people playing 100 hours of tennis."

About USTA PNW

Established in 1904, the United States Tennis Association Pacific Northwest (USTA PNW) is a 501c3 non-profit organization and one of 17 sections of the United States Tennis Association, the national governing body of the sport of tennis. Based in Beaverton, Oregon, USTA PNW's mission is to promote and develop the growth of tennis in the Pacific Northwest by providing access to tennis for all. For more information, visit <u>www.ustapnw.com</u>.

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