



## PRESS RELEASE

### **OAK LAWN RACQUET, FITNESS & GYMNASTICS CENTER IN OAK LAWN, ILL., ONE OF 24 TENNIS FACILITIES HONORED FOR EXCELLENCE AS A 2018 USTA FACILITY AWARD WINNER**

**WHITE PLAINS, N.Y., July 23, 2018** – The USTA today announced that the Oak Lawn Racquet, Fitness & Gymnastics Center in Oak Lawn, Ill., is one of 24 winners in the 37<sup>th</sup> annual USTA Facility Awards program, which recognizes excellence in the construction and/or renovation of tennis facilities throughout the country. The Oak Lawn Racquet, Fitness & Gymnastics will be honored at the USTA Semi-annual Meeting at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York City on Aug. 30.

The Oak Lawn Racquet, Fitness and Gymnastics Center in Oak Lawn, Ill., built in 1972, consists of five indoor lighted courts and 16 Outdoor tennis courts, two of which are lighted. Nine professional tennis players teach and play at Oak Lawn, and some players started their tennis career here. Lessons and leagues are available here for players of beginner to advanced levels. The facility made \$100,000 worth of improvements as recently as 2018. The facility hosted one tennis tournament in 2017 with 18 participants.

“Great tennis facilities like the Oak Lawn Racquet, Fitness & Gymnastics help us to grow the game at the grass-roots level, and we are proud to recognize them for their ongoing impact on the sport of tennis,” said Kurt Kamperman, Chief Executive, USTA National Campus. “The Oak Lawn Racquet, Fitness & Gymnastics has embraced many of our tennis initiatives and kept the sport at the forefront of its community each year.”

To be considered for an award, facilities must be under the jurisdiction of a park and recreation department, an educational institution, a nonprofit corporation or be a private or commercially owned and operated facility that offers both USTA and public programming designed to help grow tennis.

Facilities were judged on the following criteria: overall layout and adaptation to site; excellence of court surface and lights; ease of maintenance; accommodations for players, spectators and press/officials; aesthetics; graphics (including the use of signs and landscaping); amenities such as casual seating for spectators, food services and social areas; and the facilities’ participation in USTA programs.

Nominated facilities were voted on in the following categories: **Public Courts** that are either small tennis centers with 2-10 courts or large tennis centers with 11 or more courts; and **Private Facilities** that support the USTA and other “growth of the game” programs open to the public.

All 2018 award winners will receive a wall plaque and an all-weather sign, which can be mounted at the facility. In addition, each awardee will receive a one night stay at the Grand Hyatt New York and two US Open Grounds passes.

The 2018 USTA Facility Awards Program winners are:

**Public Courts: Small Tennis Centers (2 to 10 courts)**

Club de Tennis de Isla Verde, Carolina, Puerto Rico

Oak Lawn Racquet, Fitness, & Gymnastics Center, Oak Lawn, Ill.

Fort Boise Tennis Courts, Boise, Idaho  
Kings County Tennis League – Sumner Tennis Club, Brooklyn, N.Y.

**Public Courts: Large Tennis Centers (11 or more courts)**

Southeast Tennis & Learning Center, Washington, D.C.  
McFarlin Tennis Center, San Antonio  
Mercer County Park Commission Tennis Facility, West Windsor, N.J.  
John Mott Tennis Center, Utica, N.Y.  
Jekyll Island Tennis Center, Jekyll Island, Ga.  
Case Tennis Center at LaFortune Park, Tulsa, Okla. (Featured Facility)  
Palmetto Tennis Center, Sumter, S.C.  
A.C. Nielsen Tennis Center, Winnetka, Ill.

**Private Facilities**

YMCA Lamar Tennis Center, Baton Rouge, La.  
Twos Athletic Club, Toledo, Ohio  
Long Reach Tennis Club, Columbia, Md.  
Aspen Racquet Club, Wooster, Ohio  
James Creek Tennis Center, Cumming, Ga.  
Five Star Tennis Center, Plainfield, Ill.  
Greene Ridge Racquet Club, Snow Hill, N.C.  
Chelsea Piers Connecticut, Stamford, Conn.  
Eagle Tennis Club, Eagle, Idaho  
White Bear Lake - Life Time, White Bear Lake, Minn.  
Southern Oaks Golf & Tennis Club, Burleson, Texas  
Woodfield Country Club, Boca Raton, Fla.

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**The USTA** is the national governing body for the sport of tennis in the U.S. and the leader in promoting and developing the growth of tennis at every level -- from local communities to the highest level of the professional game. A not-for-profit organization with more than 655,000 members, it invests 100% of its proceeds in growing the game. It owns and operates the US Open, one of the highest-attended annual sporting events in the world, and launched the US Open Series, linking seven summer WTA and ATP World Tour tournaments to the US Open. In addition, it owns approximately 90 Pro Circuit events throughout the U.S. and selects the teams for the Davis Cup, Fed Cup, Olympic and Paralympic Games. The USTA's philanthropic entity, the USTA Foundation, provides grants and scholarships in addition to supporting tennis and education programs nationwide to benefit under-resourced youth through the National Junior Tennis & Learning (NJTL) network. For more information about the USTA, go to [USTA.com](http://USTA.com) or follow the official accounts on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat.

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