



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Hilton Head, SC: Public Tennis Inc. Awarded
USTA South Carolina Community Tennis Association of the Year**

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Beaufort County's Public Tennis, Inc. (PTI) was among a group of tennis coaches, players, and volunteers from across the state to be honored for their tennis achievements by the United States Tennis Association of South Carolina on December 8th. The 501(C)(3) non-profit organization was named the *Community Tennis Association of the Year*. Receiving the award on PTI's behalf were board members Larry Beckler, Judy Mattoon (Treasurer), and Wayne Lilley (President). Asked about PTI's wide range of accessible and affordable programming, Mr. Lilley explained, "We are fortunate to have passionate volunteers and coaches who breathe life into our programs and allow us to offer quality tennis training and play opportunities at little or no cost. We are also grateful for productive relationships with Beaufort County's two Parks and Recreation organizations and the USTA."

About PTI

Public Tennis is committed to making tennis accessible, to engaging players, and to growing the sport at public facilities. PTI builds its network of coaches and volunteers by apprenticing and training. A number of PTI's volunteer coaches are high school players who have come through Public Tennis programs over the years.

PTI's tennis programs, across Beaufort County, are as follows:

- *Youth Clinics at Chaplin Park for Hilton Head Island Recreation*
- *Youth Clinics in Bluffton and Beaufort for Beaufort County Parks and Recreation*
- *USTA Junior Team Tennis (JTT)*
- *Adult Team Tennis in Hilton Head and Bluffton*
- *Primary School "USTA Net Generation" Introduction-to-Tennis Programs*
- *7 Special Olympics Clinics across Beaufort County*
- *Clinic for Beaufort County Disabilities and Special Needs (DSN)*
- *USTA Tennis on Campus for students*
- *USTA Tennis Apprentice for beginner adults*
- *Volunteer Coach Training Programs, Special Olympics Coach Certification Program*
- *Free "Fit-for-Tennis" Evaluation and Screening for Youth and Adults in partnership with Wellness Institute, Bluffton*

For information on current and upcoming programs, visit www.publictennis.org.

Volunteer Opportunities, Upcoming PTI Clinics for Youth

With a wide range of programs across the county, PTI is always looking for volunteers, and offers training courses for volunteer coaches interested in working with youth, adults and players with special needs. Call PTI at (843) 310-6060 for more information about programs and volunteering.

Registration for PTI's Winter youth (ages 7-13) tennis clinics is underway! On Hilton Head, signup at www.islandreccenter.org. In Bluffton and Beaufort, sign up at www.bcscrec.com.

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