

TennisPlex Honored With a 2014 USTA National Facility Award

Montgomery TennisPlex in Boyds, Md., is one of 12 winners of the 33rd annual USTA Facility Awards Program, which recognizes excellence in the construction and/or renovation of tennis facilities throughout the country. Representatives from Montgomery TennisPlex were honored at the USTA Semi-annual Meeting at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York City on Aug. 30. (A second Mid-Atlantic Section facility, Army Navy Country Club in Northern Virginia, was also honored as this year's Green Facility for its environmentally friendly features.)

Prior to the opening of the Montgomery TennisPlex in 2012, the Germantown area of Maryland had virtually no tennis history. In the two years since opening its doors, approximately 500 kids are playing tennis weekly in the area and roughly 350 of those kids are playing at the PLEX.



Through their outreach program, Montgomery TennisPlex offers a 10 and under "Kids Club" at five area schools with 100 to 150 students participating in before and after-school classes.

With the tagline "Tennis everyone", Montgomery TennisPlex has no membership or guest fees meaning people of all ages and income levels can enjoy the eight year-round, air-conditioned bubbled courts and four outdoor lighted courts on a spacious 9.3 acres in a beautiful 695-acre park.

To be considered for an award, facilities must be under the jurisdiction of a parks and recreation



department, an educational institution, a non-profit corporation, or private or commercially owned and operated facilities that offer both USTA and public programming designed to help grow tennis.

Each of the winning facilities was praised for implementing USTA initiatives like youth tennis utilizing 36' and 60' courts.

Facilities were judged upon 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 upon 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; Educational Institutions; and Private Facilities that support the USTA and other "growth of the game" programs open to the public.

All 2014 award winners receive a wall plaque and an all-weather sign, which can be mounted at the facility. Certificates of award will be made available to park and recreation departments, schools, and those professionals responsible for the design, construction, and maintenance of the facility. In addition, a one-year complimentary membership to the USTA will be awarded to each winning facility.