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*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ***

Fluvanna Junior Tennis Team in Virginia State Championship

Charlottesville, Virginia (7/29/2015) – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia ([QCV](http://www.quickstartcentral.org)) is pleased to report the 14U Intermediate Junior Team Tennis Team from Fluvanna County recently participated in the USTA Regional Tournament in Norfolk. They were one of eight teams from across the state that advanced in the 14U Intermediate Division. Team members Tyler Ackenbom, Alex Brandon, Caleb Buglia, Adora Gamage, Isabelle Rieber and Sarah Schulte are coached by Alina Ackenbom, USPTA, of Friendship Tennis Academy at Camp Friendship in Palmyra.



Coach Alina says, “There were eight teams in our division. Our team had a great two days. They played a lot of matches — three team matches on Saturday and two team matches on Sunday. As there are only six kids on the team, everyone played at least two matches per team match. That was a lot of experience for these kids as most of them are younger than many of the players on other teams.

“I am very proud of these kids. They were so motivated. They all showed up on time, fully prepared and they played hard. It's a good success for Fluvanna tennis to be able to have enough kids to play in a Junior Team Tennis League and to have a team

advance to State Championships. All these kids started tennis with the QuickStart format and now they are playing full-court yellow ball.”

QuickStart Coordinator Lynda Harrill adds, “All the tennis ‘seeds’ we have planted are blooming. Having a 14U team compete at the state level shows the tennis pathway we have constructed is succeeding in helping kids succeed. Coach Alina started at ground zero when she founded Friendship Tennis Academy. I remember fondly her kickoff event on a cold, rainy Saturday morning in March 2012. We set up portable QuickStart nets under a covered basketball court at Camp Friendship and introduced 30+ kids and their parents to kid-sized tennis. Now some of those kids have played in a State Championship. That’s a big accomplishment! Congratulations to Alina and her team.”

QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia is an all-volunteer, grassroots Community Tennis Association established in 2009 as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization to promote, develop and grow QuickStart Tennis in the heart of Virginia for all beginners, especially underserved youth, using the kid-sized QuickStart Tennis format.

QCV’s service area includes Albemarle, Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Charlotte, Culpeper, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fluvanna, Franklin, Greene, Greenville, Halifax, Henry, Louisa, Lunenburg, Madison, Mecklenburg, Nelson, Nottoway, Orange, Patrick, Pittsylvania, Prince Edward, Powhatan and Rappahannock counties and the cities of Charlottesville, Danville and Martinsville. We currently serve 141 schools with 67,000 kids, nine parks & recreation departments, three Boys & Girls Clubs and two YMCAs in 27 counties and three independent cities. We have also gotten tennis into PE classes in 30 additional schools with 14,000 students in southwestern and eastern central Virginia as part of the Mid-Atlantic Supercharge School Tennis Task Force.

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