



*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ***

Red Ball Tennis League Kicks Off (Finally!!!)

Charlottesville, Virginia (4/30/2019) – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia, Inc. (QCV) is very pleased to report the first Red Ball Tennis League in Albemarle County kicked off Sunday, April 28 at the Jack Jouett Middle School courts, after a year’s delay and many cancellations due to uncooperative weather. The initial session this year on April 14 was also rained out. The League is led by QCV President Alina Ackenbom of Camp Friendship and Ellen Markowitz of SuperStarters Sports, with an assist from Elizabeth Barker of USTA/Mid-Atlantic.



Red Ball Tennis League for kids 6 to 8



After on-court activities to warm up the kids and assess their current tennis skills, the kids engaged in simulated match play — singles, doubles and mixed doubles. The end of session shoutout was to “respect” and what it means to be a good teammate. The kids will be split into two teams at the next session for match play. Team names under consideration are the Backhand Bananas, Courtside Carrots, Volley Veggies and

Forehand Fruits — all names to connect Red Ball Tennis to healthy eating habits and life skills QCV promotes through its Go Bananas for QuickStart! campaign. The next session is scheduled for Sunday, May 5.

QuickStart Coordinator Lynda Harrill says, “Finally, is about all I can say. We had so many false starts due to weather and scheduling conflicts. We had twelve kids come out — the perfect number to form two teams. In addition to 90 minutes of on-court FUN, each kid was given a Go Bananas! tennis ball goody bag with a Go Bananas! poster, bracelet and cards for bananas, carrots, grapes, water, sunscreen and sunglasses, a GAMMA wristband and Net Generation sunglasses. We all are looking forward to the next session and the start of team play, with a watchful eye on the sky.”

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 208 schools with 95,000 kids, 15 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 36 additional schools with 15,000 students in communities outside our service area.

Visit QCV at: www.quickstartcentral.org and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/quickstartcentral).

For additional information, contact quickstartcentral@comcast.net



A racquet in every hand! A smile on every face!



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