

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE
HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS**



NEWS RELEASE

**NFHS Partners with USTA to Promote No-Cut Policy
for High School Tennis Teams**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INDIANAPOLIS, IN (April 12, 2013) — The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) – the national leadership organization for high school athletic and performing arts programs – is partnering with the United States Tennis Association (USTA) to support and promote the USTA’s “no-cut” policy for high school tennis teams. The “no-cut” policy allows every student who wishes to play high school tennis to be a member of a team.

The USTA and NFHS have aligned efforts to recruit and recognize coaches who commit to these inclusive efforts, which can have a positive impact on the students who participate.

The goal of the partnership is to attract new supporters of the no-cut policy through the 51 NFHS member state associations, which includes more than 19,000 high schools and almost 7.7 million participants in high school sports. With the resources and network of the NFHS, the USTA hopes to achieve a greater penetration of no-cut programs nationwide by extending its reach to high school coaches and administrators.

“We are honored to join efforts with the NFHS,” said Kurt Kamperman, USTA Chief Executive, Community Tennis. “Ensuring students are given an opportunity to be part of a team will make a lasting impact on the lives of our youth, as well as on the sport of tennis.”

“Philosophically, the ‘no-cut’ concept fits our mission of involving as many young people as possible in high school sports and performing arts programs,” said Bob Gardner, NFHS executive director. “We are pleased to assist the USTA in encouraging more coaches and administrators to consider implementing a no-cut program in their schools.”

Since the inception of the no-cut program in 2006, the USTA has registered more than 3,600 coaches who have implemented a no-cut initiative, affecting more than 130,000 high school students.

The organizations will promote the initiative through their respective online and educational resources. The USTA will track and register the no-cut interscholastic tennis programs utilizing its registration system. To register as a no-cut coach or learn more about the program, visit www.usta.com/no-cut.

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About the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)

The NFHS, based in Indianapolis, Indiana, is the national leadership organization for high school sports and performing arts activities. Since 1920, the NFHS has led the development of education-based interscholastic sports and performing arts activities that help students succeed in their lives. The NFHS sets direction for the future by building awareness and support, improving the participation experience, establishing consistent standards and rules for competition, and helping those who oversee high school sports and activities. The NFHS writes playing rules for 16 sports for boys and girls at the high school level. Through its 50 member state associations and the District of Columbia, the NFHS reaches more than 19,000 high schools and 11 million participants in high school activity programs, including more than 7.6 million in high school sports. As the recognized national authority on interscholastic activity programs, the NFHS conducts national meetings; sanctions interstate events; offers online publications and services for high school coaches and officials; sponsors professional organizations for high school coaches, officials, speech and debate coaches, and music adjudicators; serves as the national source for interscholastic coach training; and serves as a national information resource of interscholastic athletics and activities. For more information about the NFHS, visit www.nfhs.org. Access and order NFHS Coach Education courses at www.nfhslearn.com.

The United States Tennis Association is the national governing body for the sport of tennis in the United States 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 770,000 members, it invests 100 percent of its proceeds in growing the game. It owns and operates the US Open, the highest-attended annual sporting event in the world, and launched the Emirates Airline US Open Series, linking nine summer 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 national charitable foundation, USTA Serves, provides grants and scholarships and helps underserved youth and people with disabilities. For more information on the USTA, log on to usta.com, "like" the official Facebook page, facebook.com/usta, or follow [@usta](https://twitter.com/usta) on Twitter.

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