

**DRAFT LETTER
USTA SC ADVOCACY WEEK
May 6-10, 2024**

**Use as Letter to Editor
Use as Letter to Elected Officials**

Dear xxxxx:

We, at the United States Tennis Association, are all aware that participation in sports is an effective way to enhance your overall health and well-being, and playing tennis adds nearly 10 years to your life -- more than any other sport or activity.

We're excited about this continuous wave of momentum for tennis, and our continued success lies with our partnerships within the tennis industry and with all who have a stake in the health and growth of tennis.

Tennis has enjoyed 4 consecutive years of significant growth. From 2019 to 2023, the percentage of the US population playing tennis at least once in a year bounced up from 5.8 percent to 7.7 percent. And USTA National has set a goal to have 10 percent of the United States population playing tennis by the year 2035, which would make the U.S. the No. 1 tennis-playing nation in the world with 35 million players.

We need your help to continue to make tennis accessible for everyone. Please support our efforts to protect tennis facilities to ensure that quality courts are available.

USTA SC is focused on increasing the number of accessible, public tennis courts across the state. National has pledged \$3 million to refurbish tennis courts across the country, and South Carolina is a part of those plans. We invest our money in local facilities to improve and maintain the quality of courts. And we also harness the resources of National and Southern on behalf of tennis facilities across the state.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. For additional information about how to get involved in tennis in your area, please find us at www.sctennis.com/advocacy/.

Sincerely,

Local Tennis Person
Community Tennis Affiliation
Contact Information