



**TAKING THE GAME TO THE COMMUNITY!**

**Woods** PARK TENNIS



## Our Campaign Goals

- Continue Woods Park Tennis Center's comprehensive, inclusive court availability and programming, particularly for traditionally under-represented communities.
- Replace two indoor bubbles, which are in poor condition and have exceeded their life expectancy.
- Meet a growing demand for youth and adult programs in the community, which is near capacity or plateaued due to limited court availability.
- Provide ADA-compliant facilities and meet an increased demand for courts for wheelchair players.
- Provide community meeting space and additional viewing opportunities.
- Host regional and national clinics, which attract visitors, players and families to Lincoln.
- Strengthen Woods ability to host local and regional tournaments, LPS and parochial high school matches and practice time, other high school tournaments, Nebraska Wesleyan, Concordia and Doane collegiate matches, over 50 USTA Adult League teams, Madonna wheelchair lessons and tournaments and more than 1,400 junior lesson participants each year.

### Design Team

Sinclair Hille and Brester Construction

### Timeline

This campaign is expected to run 12-15 months (early 2014 to early 2015).

### Steering Committee

Marg Lincoln Donlan, *Advocate for Woods Park Tennis*  
 Carmen Grant, *President, Friends of Woods Tennis*  
 Lynn Callahan, *Secretary, Friends of Woods Tennis*  
 Rebecca Schultz, *Treasurer, Friends of Woods Tennis*  
 Kile Johnson, *Attorney, FOWT Board of Directors*  
 Tara Tesmer Paulson, *Attorney, FOWT Board of Directors*  
 Todd Peterson, *Financial Advisor, FOWT Board of Directors*  
 Kevin Heim, *Director of Woods Park Tennis*  
 Lynn Johnson, *Lincoln Parks and Recreation Director*

### Honorary Campaign Chairs

Henry Cox  
 Jack Sock

### Contributions

Contributions can be made to the Lincoln Parks Foundation, a 501 (c) 3 organization. All contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law and may be made over a multi-year period.

### To get involved, contact:

Susan Larson Rodenburg  
 Campaign Organizer  
 402-440-3227  
 Susan@SLRCommunications.com



***"Woods Tennis should be one of Lincoln's pillars. It's a diamond in the rough. It is in dire need of improvement and it's time to make it happen."***

**Todd Peterson, Campaign Leader**

[www.takingthegame.com](http://www.takingthegame.com)

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## History of Woods Park Tennis

- A generous donation in 1957 by the Woods Family of Lincoln made possible the beautiful 47-acre Woods Park at 33rd and J Streets, which serves as the home of Woods Park Tennis Center. Woods Park is a community facility in the heart of Lincoln's gateway neighborhoods, which are home to many of the young people and families who benefit from the opportunities at Woods Park Tennis Center.
- Woods Park Tennis Center is Lincoln's largest public tennis facility and the only public facility that offers indoor courts.
- It is owned by the City of Lincoln and operated by the Friends of Woods Tennis, a nonprofit organization incorporated in 2008.
- Woods Park Tennis Center is a wonderful example of a successful public-private partnership.

**W**oods Park Tennis Center provides opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy the game of tennis. Whether a child trying tennis for the first time, a junior looking for that edge to obtain a college scholarship, or an adult looking for the challenge of raising their game to the next level or staying in shape with cardio tennis, Woods Tennis has it. As a public facility, Woods Tennis offers what each individual needs in an extremely welcoming environment.

**When people come to Woods, they feel at home.  
Woods Park Tennis is that place for all of us.**

## Taking the Game to the Community!

"Taking the Game to the Community" is a \$5.6 million capital campaign to replace the aging bubbles and improve the facilities at Woods Park Tennis Center. An improved facility is needed to continue Woods Park Tennis Center's comprehensive, inclusive court availability and programming, particularly for traditionally under-represented communities.



### Our Community Outreach

- Provides opportunities to those who wouldn't normally have a chance to learn tennis.
- Youth programs have grown from 36 participants in 2008 to more than 1,400 in 2013, under the direction of Kevin Heim.
- Partnerships with LPS Community Learning Centers, Lincoln Parks and Recreation, nonprofit community centers, Madonna, Lighthouse and others.
- Free racquets have been given to more than 3,000 children who could not afford them or were first-time players.

### Proposed Improvements

- 6 indoor courts as part of the new permanent structure and 3 additional outdoor courts for a total of 18 courts: 6 indoor and 12 outdoor lighted courts.
- Upper and lower level gallery viewing spaces for approximately 900 spectators.
- Flexible community space for after-school mentoring, study time, meetings, off-court training, special event rentals, etc.
- Expanded locker room space and restrooms for men and women.
- Additional office and storage space.
- Handicapped compatibility.
- New heating/cooling systems for increased efficiency and reduced utility costs.
- Enhanced landscaping that is part of the Woods Park Master Plan.

# Tennis for the community. Tennis for life.



*"By learning the game of tennis, young people become interested in pursuing their passions and they end up learning powerful lifelong lessons such as the importance of physical fitness, mental toughness and academic achievement."*

**Marg Lincoln Donlan**  
Woods Park Tennis Center Patron since 1978

