



## USTA Southern

5685 Spalding Drive  
Norcross, GA 30092

Telephone: 770.368.8200

Fax: 770.368.9091

E-mail: [info@sta.usta.com](mailto:info@sta.usta.com)

<http://www.southerntennis.com>

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### PRESS RELEASE

## South Carolina Dominates 2011 USTA Southern Super Seniors Section Championships

**HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. – Dec. 5** – South Carolina used its home-field advantage to score four champions in the 2011 USTA Southern Super Seniors Section Championships Dec. 2-4 in Hilton Head Island, S.C.

The Palmetto State also had six finalists among the 14 levels contested. Charlotte, N.C. had two champions and all nine states in the USTA Southern had at least one team place in the top two positions.

The 60s teams battled for the right to represent USTA Southern in the USTA League Super Seniors National Championships in Surprise, Ariz. over two weekends next April. There are no national championships for the 70s.

There were 110 teams entered with 54 men's and 56 women's teams. Teams were scheduled to play more than 230 team matches consisting of more than 690 matches of doubles. The following levels were contested: men's and women's 60s, levels 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5 and men's and women's 70s, levels 3.0, 3.5 and 4.0.

This year's event drew the top teams from throughout the section's nine states: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. The teams – which represent various clubs, parks, recreational departments and organizations – have finished at the top of their local leagues and advanced through state tournaments.

Matches were played at five sites: Van Der Meer Shipyard Racquet Club (main site), Palmetto Dunes Racquet Club, Port Royal Racquet Club, Sea Pines Country Club, South Beach Racquet Club and Long Cove Club.

Champions and finalists are:

LEVEL	CHAMPIONS	FINALISTS	Score
Men's 60s 3.0	Sun City, S.C. (B) Captain: Frank Franlel	Sun City, S.C. (A) Captain: Thom Jankovic	4-0 in round robin
Men's 60s 3.5	Roswell, Ga. Captain: Jim Meidl	Knoxville, Tenn Captain: Ross Badgett	3-0
Men's 60s 4.0	Memphis, Tenn. Captain: Paul Fultz	Shreveport, La. Captain: Jay Boyd	2-1
Men's 60s 4.5	Atlanta, Ga. Captain: Hugh Thomson	Myrtle Beach, S.C. Captain: Michael Jones	4-0 in round robin
Men's 70s 3.0	Northern Kentucky	Sun City, S.C.	4-0 in

	Captain: Howard Lung	Captain: Gerald Marvin	round robin
Men's 70s 3.5	Myrtle Beach, S.C. Captain: Larry Brown	Jackson, Miss. Captain: Clarence Foreman	3-0
Men's 70s 4.0	Charlotte, N.C. Captain: Vern Hebert	Fairhope, Ala. Captain: Perry Thomas	2-1
Women's 60s 3.0	Nashville, Tenn. Captain: Sandy Lovett	Little Rock, Ark. Captain: Vickey Alleman	2-1
Women's 60s 3.5	Chattanooga, Tenn. Captain: Lind Davis	Jackson, Miss. Captain: Ronnie Bates	2-1
Women's 60s 4.0	Hilton Head Island, S.C. Captain: Dottie Bass	Atlanta, Ga. (A) Captain: Marlene Holben	2-1
Women's 60s 4.5	Charlotte, N.C. Captain: Marla Figard	Charleston, S.C. (A) Captain: Susie Peiffer	3-0
Women's 70s 3.0	Hot Springs Village, Ark. Co-Captains: Sally Crowin, Caroline Lefler	Bluffton, S.C. (A) Captain: Sondra Goldberg	3-0 in round robin
Women's 70s 3.5	Birmingham, Ala. Captain: Martha Deane Giles	Hilton Head Island, S.C. Captain: Mary Ellen Arboe	2-1
Women's 70s 4.0	Charleston, S.C. Captain: Margo Heyd	New Orleans, La.. Captain: B.J. Johnson	4-0 in round robin

Team photos are available on request.

This year marks the 31<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the USTA League. Established in 1980, it has grown from 13,000 participants in a few parts of the country in its first year, to over 625,000 players across the nation today, making it the world's largest recreational tennis program.

The USTA League was established to provide adult recreational tennis players throughout the country with the opportunity to compete against players of similar ability levels. Players participate on teams in a league format, which is administered by the USTA through its 17 Sections. The league groups players by using six NTRP levels, ranging from 2.5 (entry) to 5.0 (advanced). USTA League is open to any USTA member 19 years of age or older. It features Adult and Mixed Doubles divisions, as well as a Senior Division (age 50) and a Super Senior Division (age 60).

For more information about USTA League program or the USTA as a whole, visit [www.usta.com](http://www.usta.com).

The **USTA** is the national governing body for the sport of tennis in the U.S. 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. It owns and operates the US Open, the largest annually attended sporting event in the world, and launched the **Olympus US Open Series** linking 10 summer tournaments to the US Open. In addition, it owns the 90 Pro Circuit events throughout the U.S., and selects the teams for the Davis Cup, Fed Cup, Olympic and Paralympic games. A not-for-profit organization with more than 740,000 members, it invests 100 percent of its proceeds in growing the game. It is divided into 17 sections, of which **USTA Southern** is the largest. The 187,000+ USTA members living in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee make up USTA Southern, and account for approximately 25 percent of the total USTA membership. The section owns and operates the **Atlanta Tennis Championships**, an ATP World Tour 250 tournament. A professional staff housed in Norcross, Ga., carries out USTA Southern's daily operations, but policy is formed and much of the organization's work is executed via a board and committee structure of over 200

volunteers. For more information about the types of programs and services offered by USTA Southern, visit [www.southerntennis.com](http://www.southerntennis.com).

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**Media Contact:**

Ron Cioffi, USTA Southern  
770-368-8200 x112  
cioffi@sta.usta.com