



HORSESHOE BAY RESORT.

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## **National Premiere of Children's Tennis Program: Andy Roddick USTA Kids' Courts at Horseshoe Bay Resort**

Horseshoe Bay, Texas —Horseshoe Bay Resort, the United States Tennis Association (USTA) and U.S. Open Champion Andy Roddick announced the completion of the *Andy Roddick USTA Kids' Courts at Horseshoe Bay Resort*, the first-ever tennis courts specifically designed for children up to age 10 in the United States. The arrival of the customized tennis courts at Horseshoe Bay Resort marks the national debut of the USTA-designed pilot program is known as "QuickStart Tennis."

USTA's "QuickStart Tennis" focuses on scaling tennis down to the size and abilities of young players. The program is based on six key specifications: court size, net height, ball speed and weight, request size and scoring. A 36-foot court is used by children ages eight and under and the 60-foot courts are for children ages 10 and under.

The goals of "QuickStart Tennis" are to increase the number of beginning tennis players, raise the retention, and to improve the technical, tactical and physical development of athletes between the ages of five and 10. The program is a collaborative effort between the USTA Player Development and Community Tennis departments, Tennis Industry Association, US Professional Tennis Association, the Professional Tennis Registry as well as tennis equipment manufacturers.

Director of Community Development for the USTA, Virgil H. Christian, Jr., shared, "It has been a pleasure to work with the folks at Horseshoe Bay Resort and with Director of Tennis Michelle Stallard. The USTA is proud to have assisted with the design and construction of the first permanent 60-foot courts in the country. It is with great pleasure they are here at the exquisite Horseshoe Bay Resort."

Home to the first tennis courts in the country, Horseshoe Bay Resort offers members and guests three 60-foot specialized courts, equipment and rules for children, including tennis racquets up to 25 inches, orange low-compression tennis balls, a net height of three feet and unique scoring practices.

Horseshoe Bay Resort President and COO G. Michael Thomas stated, "The arrival of the *Andy Roddick USTA Kids' Courts at Horseshoe Bay Resort* and the USTA's pilot program is a privilege and an honor for the resort. 'QuickStart Tennis' will serve to introduce, educate and encourage children of our members and guests to play the great game of tennis."

The new USTA-sanctioned courts complement other Horseshoe Bay Resort tennis programs for men, women and juniors of all levels, including:

**Group Tennis Tournaments** –Professionals organize and oversee guest tournaments ranging from one to three hours and accommodating up to 50 players, doubles or singles.

**Group Tennis Clinics** – Clinics consist of drills, stroke analysis and strategy (minimum of three people per clinic).

**Fall & Spring Junior Tennis Programs** – Junior programs include drills, point situation, conditioning and mental toughness training. Summer Camps are also available at the junior level.

\*\*\* Photos available upon request.\*\*\*

### **About Horseshoe Bay Resort**

Founded in 1971 and purchased by the Jaffe Group in 1996, Horseshoe Bay Resort is Texas' original lakeside resort. Located in the exquisite Hill Country, the 7,000-acre Resort offers three championship Robert Trent Jones, Sr. golf courses, and scheduled to open in the fall 2008, a Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course, Summit Rock. Horseshoe Bay Resort also offers a made-to-scale, 18-hole, par 72 Bermuda grass putting course, a jet center with a 6,000-foot runway, private charter jet service via *Air Horseshoe*, four swimming pools, a spa and fitness facility, a full-service marina, four dining facilities, 12 adult tennis courts, three USTA-sponsored kids' tennis courts, a 349-room Marriott Hotel and luxury waterfront villas available for rent at The Waters at Horseshoe Bay Resort.

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