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THE BOAR'S HEAD PARTNERS WITH PREMIER TENNIS CLUB IN BARCELONA, SPAIN FOR INAUGURAL JUNIOR EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Boar's Head Sports Club and Club Real de Barcelona offer unique tennis experience and cultural exposure to its junior tennis players.

Charlottesville, Virginia, July 25, 2011: Local tennis players aren't the only ones hitting the courts at The Boar's Head this July. This year, the Sports Club at The Boar's Head has incorporated an international exchange to its summer tennis program. In early July, nine Boar's Head Sports Club junior players departed Charlottesville, Virginia and

headed to Barcelona, Spain to participate in an inaugural high-performance, junior tennis exchange program. Now, The Boar's Head is serving as host to nine juniors from Barcelona, Spain.

Boys and girls ages 11 to 17 are receiving instruction and swinging their racquets at The Boar's Head. Of course, Boar's Head Sports Club members have opened their homes to the Barcelona junior players and new relationships among the exchange participants are being formed.

Earlier this year, a Sports Club member approached Jacek Wolicki, Head Tennis Pro at The Boar's Head, about the idea of a potential exchange; a program commonly practiced in Europe and USTA training centers. The concept of having the junior players from Charlottesville and Barcelona train together was very appealing. Further, the opportunity to learn from different pros, receive exposure to a foreign culture, visit and enjoy the beautiful surroundings of each city, and simply make new friends is all well worth the time and energy used to develop this pilot program. Club Real de Barcelona was the ideal sight to partner with for this exchange. It is a top tennis club and high-performance training center. Wolicki and Club Real's director of tennis, Karim Perona outlined expectations, set strategies and objectives, and the kids have not been disappointed.

"It's different," Wolicki said, regarding American tennis versus the tennis played in Spain. "The court surfaces are different, the training techniques are different, and our juniors have learned a lot from playing on red clay in Barcelona."

"We want to help expand these players' minds so they can experience a different country and culture," explained Matt Harris, The Boar's Head General Manager.

"This is a great addition to our junior program and we welcome our new friends from Barcelona," said James Neiderer, Club Manager. "The kids from Spain bring a desire to play hard. And, it is great watching the kids settle in at The Boar's Head and form relationships with our members."

"Next year, we hope to double the number of juniors participating, and possibly add an opportunity for our adult Members to play in Barcelona, in next summer's program," Neiderer added.

Boar's Head Sports Club-player James O'Leary said it was interesting to compete with the players from Spain. "The training we received was intense," he said. "We learned some new drills and worked hard. And, we played at a really nice club, and spent time at the beach. Club Real in Barcelona is amazing! It was an experience I'll remember for my entire life."

"We're doing all kinds of exciting things to inspire our kids to get to the next level," Wolicki said. "Hopefully they'll make some new friends. We knew that creating an exchange would be a win for everyone. And our members are enjoying these kids."

As far as the future is concerned, Wolicki hopes to make the international element of our program a tradition.

The Boar's Head, a 170-room resort situated on 573 acres in the Virginia countryside, offers Four-Diamond dining, a state-of-the-art sports club, award-winning tennis, championship golf, a luxury spa, children's programs. It also has currently 22,000 square feet of meeting space, including our meeting and social pavilion. The Boar's Head lies in close proximity to attractions such as Monticello, the Blue Ridge Mountains, and numerous wineries. The Boar's Head is owned and operated by the University of Virginia Foundation.

For more information or to make reservations, please call The Boar's Head at 434.296.2181 or 800.476.1988, or visit the resort's web site at www.boarsheadinn.com.

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