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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**VNB MEN'S PROFESSIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RETURNS TO  
BOAR'S HEAD FROM OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 7 WITH INCREASED PURSE AND  
NEW CHARITABLE TIE TO SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

**INDOOR COURT USTA \$75,000 EVENT TO FEATURE OUTSTANDING ARRAY OF  
TOP PLAYERS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE**

**All Ticket Sale Proceeds from Event To Go To Special Olympics Virginia**

**Charlottesville, Virginia, October 14, 2011:** The third annual Virginia National Bank Men's Pro Championship will return to The Boar's Head from October 29 through November 6, with an increased purse that will attract even more world-class players and will also have a unique charitable partnership with Special Olympics Virginia.

The prize money for the indoor court USTA event has been increased this year to \$75,000, and The Boar's Head and Virginia National Bank have announced a new charitable partnership with Special Olympics Virginia, through which all proceeds from ticket sales at the event will go directly to the charity. This represents a

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continuation of a growing bond between Special Olympics Virginia and The Boar's Head, which each January hosts "The Xperience," a unique tennis tournament that attracts Special Olympics players from around the state, region, and country.

"We could not be more excited about this year's tournament," said James Neiderer, Club Manager at The Boar's Head. "What a great opportunity it is to deepen further our relationship with Special Olympics Virginia, which is truly one of the most extraordinary organizations in the world today. We can't think of a better way to celebrate and shine light on the work they do in this community and throughout Virginia than by bringing them into the fold for what is now an even greater high-profile USTA event that is destined to attract an even higher caliber player here to Charlottesville."

This year's increase to the \$75,000 prize money level, Neiderer said, is evidence of The Boar's Head's commitment to sharing the very best in professional tennis with the Charlottesville community. "As anyone who has been out here for these events knows, the USTA Challenger Series attracts the best young players in the game. The chance to move up a level and raise this bar even higher is tremendously exciting for us and for this community. We are extremely grateful to our partners at Virginia National Bank for their generous support."

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The field for the VNB Men's Professional Championship will be headed by number one seed Somdev Devvarman, 2008 University of Virginia graduate, ranked 84 of the Top 100 player on the USTA Pro Circuit. Somdev is one of only three collegiate players since 1950 to have made three consecutive finals at the NCAA Singles Championships (2006- 08), winning it back to back in his junior and senior years. His best achievement to date on the ATP World Tour has been reaching the finals of the [Chennai Open](#) in 2009, as a wild card entry. In 2010, Somdev won the Gold medal in the [Men's Singles](#) event of [XIXth Commonwealth Games](#) in New Delhi and followed it up with both Men's Singles and Doubles Gold in the [2010 Asian Games](#) in China. Somdev played in last year's Virginia National Bank Men's Professional Championship.

Play at The Boar's Head Sports Club will take place on a limited number of courts, thereby ensuring plenty of tennis action for fans both day and night. Qualifying play begins on Saturday, October 29 and wraps up on Monday, October 31, with main draw matches starting at 1 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday and noon on Friday. Featured matches will be presented throughout the week and will start at 6:00 p.m. The semifinal matches will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 5 and the finals will be played on Sunday, November 6 at 1:00 p.m.

This year, admission to all qualifying round matches on Saturday and Sunday is free of charge. Beginning on Monday, tickets will be \$12 per day (\$8 for Boar's Head

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Members). Week-long passes covering play from Monday through the finals on Sunday are available for \$75.

“The past two years have generated a lot of excitement and drawn great crowds to see some of the best young players in the game,” said Boar’s Head Sports Club Tournament Director Ron Manilla. “Now, with the jump to the \$75,000 level and the exceptional tie-in with Special Olympics, we hope that even more people will take advantage of a chance to come out to see phenomenal tennis while supporting an extraordinary organization that can teach all of us a lesson or two about the true spirit of the game.”

“All of us at The Boar’s Head are excited once again to welcome the USTA and its elite athletes back for another year of great tennis,” said Matt Harris, The Boar’s Head General Manager. “We would also like to thank our partners at Virginia National Bank, who this year have not only helped us to raise the profile of the event, but have also assisted us in benefiting our longtime friends at Special Olympics Virginia.”

“Our partnership with The Boar’s Head continues to grow and we are proud to be involved with the Virginia National Bank Men’s Pro Championship,” added Rick Jeffrey, President for Special Olympics Virginia. “Just as the VNB Men’s Pro Championship has a world class field with a local touch so will our Special Olympics invitational, **The ‘Xperience’**, as the two top players in the world, Jon Fried from Crozet and Mark Soder

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from Switzerland, will highlight the field. Special Olympics Virginia and the Boars Head Sports Club: *Transforming Lives Together Through the Joy of Sport Everyday.*”

This tournament is one of only 29 men’s professional tournaments featuring players who will quickly rise in the ATP tour. Representing over 100 countries, tournament participants include some of the best young talent in the game. Past tour participants who have earned their starts on the USTA Pro Circuit Futures Tour have included Andre Agassi, James Blake, Todd Martin and many others.

Ranked one of *TENNIS* Magazine’s Top 50 Tennis Resorts, The Boar’s Head boasts 26 USTA-regulation tennis courts (10 Har-Tru clay courts, 12 indoor DecoTurf hard courts and 4 outdoor DecoTurf hard courts). The Boar’s Head Sports Club was also recognized as the 2008 Private Facility of the Year by *Racquet Sports Industry Magazine*.

The Boar’s Head, a 173-room resort set on 573 acres in the Virginia countryside, offers Four-Diamond dining, a state-of-the-art sports club, world-class tennis, championship golf, a luxurious spa, 22,000 square feet of meeting space, and 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.

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For more information on the Virginia National Bank Men's Pro Tennis Championship at The Boar's Head or to make reservations call 800-476-1988. Visit The Boar's Head online [www.boarsheadinn.com](http://www.boarsheadinn.com) or like The Boar's Head on Facebook.

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