



**Dennis Van der Meer**  
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**Pat Van der Meer**  
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**Marcos Ondruska**  
*Academy Director*

**Thomas Richter**  
*Head Professional*

**Tommy Shimada**  
*ATP Pro/Coach*

**Sally Droop**  
*Quickstart Instructor*

**Heinrich Bremer**  
**Maggie Ekert**  
**Christian Ranguelov**  
**Michael Stevenson**  
*Academy Coaches*

**Meaghan Miller**  
*Fitness Coordinator*

**Tammy Pett**  
*Admissions Coordinator*

**Russ Crandall**  
*Head of Housing*



## Positive Growth

By November, we are seeing many positive changes in our Academy players' games. They have generally played several tournaments with our coaches watching, and we have had the opportunity to see what information has been processed well in terms of strategy, tactics, and stroke production. We are able to point out in practice the areas they must improve in order to get consistently good results, and drill them in point play situations geared to hone necessary skills.



All kids mature at different rates, and their tennis reflects this. If they learn to deal with adversity and challenges in their tennis, they will be well prepared for pressures in daily life. Turning out competent, confident, self-reliant, strong and well-respected young athletes has always been our overall goal. This process is enhanced through teamwork with parents who also want their children to be successful in their future, on and off the court. We want to take this opportunity to say thanks to all our families, past and present, who have given us wonderful support and communication. We look forward to continued physical, intellectual and emotional growth in our students, as 2012 draws to a close, and 2013 approaches.

## College Signings

Seniors are starting to sign for college, and we have two all set so far.

- **Scarlett Walston** - Eastern Carolina
- **Carola Pederzani** - Clemson



Pat Van der Meer and Marcos Ondruska are pictured with Scarlett Walston committing with Eastern Carolina



Carola will play for Clemson next semester



## Tournament Results

### Kiawah Island Tournament

The K-SWISS Kiawah Island Junior Championships was a great success for Van der Meer, with several championship trophies brought home. 16 year old Jared Woodson won the 18's Boys' Singles RED division. Olga Zavarotnaya, 13, captured the Girls' 18's Singles White division. Yuriko Ono also performed extremely well, placing third in the Girls' 18's Singles Red division. In the playoff for third place, Yuriko was able to take out the number one seed Samantha Light 7-6(4), 6-4. Yuriko also performed well in the Red division of the Girls 18's Doubles, partnering with Julie Clark to reach the semifinals where they fell 8-6 to the winning team of Christensen and Lucas. Kate also made SF of the 18's back draw, beating the 2 seed. Ellie Czura reached the semis of 16 doubles with Samantha Schuster, and made semis of the back draw of singles, as did Valerie Droop.

### Dennis Van der Meer Championships

This home court tournament was great for some of our younger academy players. Matthew Oliver was able to capture the Boys' 12's White Division title. On his way to the final, he defeated the # 1 seed in the first round. In the semi final round, he dispatched the 4<sup>th</sup> seed 6-1, 6-1. In the final, Matt faced the two seed Alex Likins. He edged out the first set 7-6 and won the second 6-1. Also in the Boys' 12's was 2<sup>nd</sup> seed Will Danzell, who made his way to the final losing only two games. In the final, Will had to withdraw due to a back injury. Tristan Puehse battled his way to the final of the Boys' 14 back draw.

In the older divisions, 16 year old Jared Woodson again had an impressive run in the Boys' 18's Singles, beating the 3<sup>rd</sup> seed and the 2<sup>nd</sup> seed before falling to the 1 seed in the final. Valerie Droop, 14, made the quarters of the girls' 16. Kate Christensen went through the back draw of girls' 18.

### Hilton Head Prep State Championship

Two VDM Academy Students were part of the State Championship Hilton Head Prep Tennis Team this fall. Taylor Childress and Ellie Czura helped the Dolphins bring home the trophy.



The VDM travel team travelled to Atlanta for the ITF



After Atlanta, they hit the road again to Lexington for the SC ITF



Coach Thomas Richter with outstanding 18's players Yuriko, Jared and Olga at Kiawah



Matt Oliver wins the VDM Championships Boys 12's