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Kids Hone Skills at Club Med’s Elite Tennis Academies this Summer

All-inclusive Junior Summer Camps Launch at Club Med Sandpiper in June

Miami (April 16, 2009) – On June 29, Club Med Sandpiper in Port St. Lucie, Florida will begin welcoming children 12 years and older to participate in full-time [Elite Tennis Academy](#). Geared towards junior players aspiring to play on the pro tour circuit or to receive a Division NCAA scholarship, the camps will run in one and two week sessions.

“The camps challenge players on a daily basis, preparing them to compete with other top-ranked juniors in national and international tournaments,” comments [Jean-Philippe Fleurian](#), camp director and tennis professional. “But, after the players have met those challenges, Club Med encourages them to become kids again and participate in afternoon activities like sailing, flying trapeze, archery and rollerblading. This helps players achieve balance and become well-rounded adults.”

The tennis programs will run for eight weeks, from June 29 to August 21, 2009, with coursework running Monday through Friday during the seven night stay. Juniors must register in one of the four levels of instruction: beginner, intermediate, advanced and elite.

Grand Slam Tennis Partners, a world class tennis management company, has assembled a team of international experts to coach the aspiring players. Coaching staff includes Manny Dominguez, coach of ATP (Association of Tennis Professionals) player Nuno Marques and former tennis director at the Doral Country Club; Luis Miguel, coach of Portuguese national champion Pedro Cordeiro; Antonio van Greichen, private coach for Victoria Azarenka and several other notable tennis figures.

For five hours daily, the players will follow a comprehensive program that improves technique, endurance, competition, athletic performance, fitness and mental conditioning. Working with the same core group of coaches everyday in a one-to-four instructor to student ratio, juniors will focus on improving all aspects of their game with consistency. Students will also train with their peers and engage in ladder and practice games to gain experience competing against players of different levels and styles.

After an early morning breakfast, players will hone their skills in three hour morning sessions and two hour afternoon sessions. From the late afternoon until lights out, Club Med staff will engage the juniors in a variety of on-site activities tailored to ‘tweens and teens. Professional camp counselors will provide 24 hour supervision of the players and enforce a strict rules and regulations policy.

Seven–night, all-inclusive Elite Tennis Academies at [Sandpiper](#) start at \$1,285 per junior based on occupancy of four participants per room. Local juniors looking to improve their tournament results may attend a day camp starting at \$650 per player. Call Gabriela Medves at 1-800-232-3413 to request an application and complete registration.

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In an effort to help build community before the camp's launch, Club Med's recently launched social media site, ClubMedInsider.com, invites participating juniors to create a profile, post questions and meet other players before the academy begins.

About Club Med Sandpiper

Between Miami and Orlando on Florida's east coast, Club Med Sandpiper stretches along the lush St. Lucie River. Club Med Sandpiper features 17 hard tennis courts (eight of which are lit in the evening), four mini courts that cater to younger players, top-of-the-range equipment and both individual and group lessons for adults. For the youngest set, the resort offers Petit Tennis, a unique curriculum for players as young as three and a half years old. Club Med Sandpiper hosted the Nike Junior Tour International Masters in 2008 and will again in 2010. Tennis stars such as Rafael Nadal and Serena Williams started their careers winning Nike Junior championships. Club Med Sandpiper is also well-known for its golf program which offers group and individual lessons, a nine-hole pitch and putt and an 18-hole championship course designed by Mark Mahanna. Club Med recently partnered with Crayola to develop the Crayola Creativity Program featuring age-appropriate arts and crafts activities for all kids, from toddlers to teens. The resort offers children's programs for ages four months to 17 years old.

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