



For Immediate Release

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Waterville Valley Tennis Center Earns World Ranking from *Tennis Resorts Online*.

May 1, 2019, (Waterville Valley, NH) – The Waterville Valley Tennis Center has once again been selected a *Gold Medal Resort* in the annual ***Tennis Resorts Online*** rankings of tennis resorts across the globe, achieving a ranking of #13. In addition, they were recognized in the poll as #3 for *Best Value for Dollar* and #4 for *Best Overall Recreation*. The Waterville Valley Tennis Center was only one of two tennis centers in the northeast recognized as a Gold Medal Resort.

Waterville Valley Tennis Center Owner and USPTA Director Tom Gross, Jr. states, “We are so honored to once again receive a top 15 ranking as a *Gold Medal Resort in the World*, but to be ranked #13 is a wonderful tribute to Waterville Valley and our staff! A resort in the White Mountains of New Hampshire being ranked #13 in the World! That is very cool! We know we are not the biggest or a year-round facility but we know we are special and I feel Roger Cox, founder of Tennis Resorts Online and the most well-respected tennis travel editor in the world said it best - “Anyone who's ever been to a great tennis resort or camp can tell you that it is somehow greater than the sum of its parts. Yes, the staff and the programs and the creature comforts matter, but beyond those elements that you can easily point to lies something intangible: an ineffable sense of "tennis atmosphere" that adds immeasurably to the allure. Almost from the moment you enter the pro shop or stroll around the courts you can feel an enthusiasm for the game and its

players. Somehow you know, from that very first encounter, often before you even set foot on court, that this is going to be a great tennis holiday.”

Gross continued, “There is an excellent vibe between our members and guests! From mixed doubles socials, to match making, the staff and members really put the effort into making it fun for everyone! We also take great pride in our clinics and private lessons, taking the stroke foundation our guests have and making them better in one lesson. And I have to think the 18 red clay courts surrounded by 4,000 foot mountains and the beautiful resort village really add to the overall experience.”

Since 1884 guests have enjoyed tennis in Waterville Valley and this summer their ranking continues the long tradition of providing a first-rate tennis center for vacationers.”

General Manager Rene Schwartz stated, “The overall #3 ranking for Best Value for Dollar and #4 ranking for Best Overall Recreation is an indication of our commitment to guests who have many choices in a crowded summer vacation market. Guests staying in participating lodges here in the valley receive a *Freedom Pass* which includes unlimited tennis court time and a variety of other recreational amenities, including golf, boats, mountain bikes and access to the White Mountain Athletic Club.”

Without two-time Grand Slam Champion Rod Laver bringing his Laver-Emerson Tennis Holiday’s to Waterville Valley in 1975 it’s quite unlikely the 18-clay court complex would exist today.

When reached for comment, Rod stated, “When I heard about Waterville Valley’s #13 world ranking I was thrilled to see tennis is still thriving in one of the most beautiful settings I have ever played in! I know how hard it is to achieve a ranking like that from Tennis Resorts Online and I think it is a tribute to Tom and the staff. Tom was a tennis pro with the Laver-Emerson Tennis Holiday’s and my Director of Tennis for the Rod Laver Tennis Holiday’ so to see him continue what has been a very successful operation is a credit to his love of the game and a love of the Valley. Waterville Valley will always be a special place to me! “

Writes Roger Cox, editor of *tennisresortsonline.com* “What the top resorts all have in common, ... is a passion for tennis and a proven ability to cater to the needs of avid players.” He continues, “Terraced into a grassy hillside and surrounded by forested mountains, Waterville's 18 red-clay courts rank among the most beautiful places I've played.”

Former touring pro Clare Grabher and her husband Kurt of *New England Tennis Holidays* will once again operate their very high quality, 5-hour-a-day summer tennis camps on those same red-clay tournament courts. States Kurt, "As founders of *New England Tennis Holidays*, we are very excited about our relationship with Tom Gross, Jr. and the Waterville Valley Resort and Tennis Center. This is our 31st year of tennis in New England and our 9th season in Waterville Valley, NH."

The Waterville Valley Tennis Center (<http://www.tennisnh.com/> 603-236-4840) opens in mid-May (weather permitting) and continues through Columbus Day Weekend. A variety of clinics, lessons, round robins, kid's programs, racquet stringing, tournaments and pro shop apparel are available. Reservations inquiries can be made thru <https://www.visitwatervillevalley.com>

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White Mountain Athletic Club, Inc. (WMAC), with headquarters in Waterville Valley, NH, owns and operates the *White Mountain Athletic Club* - a full service athletic club featuring indoor and outdoor 25m swimming pools, a children's Splash Pad, cardio and weight rooms, indoor tennis, racquetball, the *Coyote Grill Restaurant*, sauna & steam rooms & whirlpool spas, programs, massage, and more.

WMAC also owns and operates the *Waterville Valley Tennis Center* (WVTC)- an award-winning 18-clay court outdoor tennis facility named by Tennis Magazine as one of the 50 Greatest Tennis Resorts in the U.S. and also chosen as one of the Top Five Family Resorts in the United States. Since 2005, the WVTC has been named a Gold Medal Resort by *tennisresortsonline.com*, with ranking consistently in the Top 20 in the World and a most recent ranking of #13 in 2019. *The 41st New Hampshire Open*, held in Waterville Valley this July 12-14th, is New Hampshire's most prestigious tennis tournament.

In 2011 the resort garnered *Yankee Magazine's* Editors Choice Award for "**Best in New England-- Best Family Resort**".

WMAC, Inc. provides modern, four-season recreational opportunities, currently in the form of the WMAC and the WVTC, to property owners, vacationers, and local townspeople in Waterville Valley and the greater Waterville Valley area. WMAC, Inc., an equal opportunity employer, is an advocate in the preservation and well being of Waterville Valley and the White Mountain National Forest.