

VAN DER MEER

TENNIS ACADEMY



Dennis Van der Meer

Founder of Van Der Meer Tennis and Professional Tennis Registry, Dennis was one of the 1st registered coaches of both the ATP and WTA. Recognized worldwide for his innovative teaching techniques, he has received numerous awards for teaching and coaching, including being named “Olympic Developmental Coach of the Year”. He received an honorary doctorate from the University of Greenwich, England, and was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 2021.

Coach of numerous Grand Slam/World Champions, he coached both Billie Jean King and Margaret Court in the Battle of the Sexes. He always had an uncanny knack for finding the best, most efficient way to help players reach their maximum potential, a trait he passed onto his staff professionals.

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ACADEMY OVERVIEW



VAN DER MEER TENNIS ACADEMY

Internationally acclaimed Van Der Meer Tennis Academy is the premier training center for players who want intense tennis practices combined with a strong academic focus. Founded in 1985 by International Tennis Hall of Famer, Dennis Van der Meer, **our goal is to be sure our players have the best base to propel them to the top.** Our students have reached the pinnacle of ATP and WTA rankings, as well as NCAA and National ranking lists.

Many of our students will ultimately be balancing college tennis and academics. Van Der Meer Academy helps prepare them to succeed in high performance tennis, academics, and the demands of independent living. Under the direction of Pat Van der Meer, our highly experienced, certified coaching staff provides a personalized training program designed to push our players to their highest level. We are dedicated to the ideals of our founder, Dennis Van der Meer, known worldwide as the pro's pro. For more than 35 years, VDM Academy in Hilton Head has been the training center of choice for dozens of top 100 WTA and ATP players, as well as National and Collegiate champions.* (see Past Players list)

Our mission at the Van Der Meer Academy is to build tennis stars who are also life champions. Whether the goal is playing on the Pro Tour, earning a college scholarship, or aspiring to get those first national points, our players are given the tools to succeed. Our code of conduct ensures that all the hard work is productive and fun. A typical training week includes mental toughness, fitness and conditioning for injury prevention, lots of competitive match play, and drills designed to instill effective patterns of play. Many players opt for extra lessons to work on specifics, which have been identified in their video sessions. Our expert coaches keep time open for full time academy players.

Tournament scheduling is another critical area of expertise we offer. In order to get on the fast track, it's important to get good advice about collecting the points needed to get into bigger tournaments. Van Der Meer students get a potential group tournament schedule each semester, and individual coaching requests are fulfilled whenever possible.

*Top hundred global tour players who have trained full or part time at Van Der Meer Academy during their careers include among many others: Amanda Coetzer (WTA #3, South Africa), Liezel Horn Huber (WTA doubles #1, formerly RSA, now US), Virginia Ruano Pascual (WTA doubles #1, Spain), Naoko Sawamatsu (WTA #14, Japan), Li Fang (WTA #92, China), Marcos Ondruska (ATP #27, RSA), Grant Stafford (ATP #56, RSA), David Wheaton (ATP #12, US), Neville Godwin (ATP #90, RSA), Lan Bale (ATP doubles #27, RSA), Aniko Kapros (WTA #45, Hungary), Alison Riske (WTA #32, US), KJ Hippensteel (ATP #152, US), Julie Ditty (WTA #66, US), Joannette Krueger (WTA #21, RSA) and Mercedes Paz (WTA #39, Argentina)

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VAN DER MEER TENNIS ACADEMY

LOCATION

Conveniently located, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina is easily accessible from The Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport in Savannah, GA, as well as our very own Hilton Head Airport. Ground transportation options are available at both airports providing comfortable door-to-door service.

Nestled in the heart of Hilton Head Island, Van Der Meer Tennis facilities are just steps away from pristine beaches, lush forest biking paths, coastal marine life, and local southern hospitality. When not on the tennis courts, our players enjoy strolling to nearby restaurants, exploring the Atlantic Coastline, and shopping with their friends. Hilton Head is a safe barrier island with a casual lifestyle nicely removed from the tumult of the modern world.

CLIMATE

The subtropical climate on Hilton Head Island allows players to train year-round. Carolina blue skies and gentle ocean breezes provide the perfect venue for our Academy.

FACILITIES

Van Der Meer Tennis has been recognized by Tennis Magazine as a Top 50 Resort and mentioned in USA Today as a Top 10 Learning Vacation Program worldwide. In addition, Van Der Meer proudly partners with elite tennis industry sponsors.

Players at Van Der Meer Tennis Academy train primarily at the Tennis Center showcasing 14 hard courts. Four of the courts are covered, allowing practice even on a rare inclement weather day. Just a few minutes away at nearby Van Der Meer Shipyard Tennis Resort, additional practice opportunities are available on 13 clay courts. Three climate-controlled totally renovated indoor hard courts and four outdoor hardcourts at the Shipyard facility complete the offerings at this ultimate tennis destination. No other site in the region provides the opportunity to play tennis 365 days a year.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Condos are available for families to rent and have the convenience of Island living at an affordable rate while their kids participate in the Academy, conveniently located within a few minutes walk. Individual rooms are also available for players over 18. Each condo contains a small common area with oven, microwave and refrigerator, washer and dryer, and three bedrooms with a bathroom in each bedroom. Another bonus is a 2 minute walk to the beach, plus a swimming pool to cool off in after a hot day on the tennis courts. Contact the Sales Office for more information 1-800-845-6138,

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FROM ON-COURT PLAY, TO MENTAL TOUGHNESS, TO FITNESS AND CONDITIONING, THE VAN DER MEER INTEGRATED APPROACH INSTILLS A COMPETITIVE EDGE THAT MAXIMIZES TENNIS PERFORMANCE

ACADEMY TRAINING SCHEDULE

DAY	AM	PM
Monday	Off	3:00–5:30
Tuesday	8:00 - 10:00	3:00–5:30
Wednesday	8:00 - 10:00	3:00–5:30
Thursday	8:00 - 10:00	3:00–5:30
Friday	8:00 - 10:00	3:00–5:30
Saturday	8:00–10:00	Off
Sunday	Off	Off

NOTE: SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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Brian DeVilliers

is a Co-Academy Director and has travelled the world training coaches and players with Dennis and Pat Van der Meer and helped launch the VDM Academy as a travel coach on the WTA tour. He has developed and coached 5 top 40 WTA players including the 2011 US Open Mixed Doubles Champion, Melanie Oudin. He joined Dennis Van der Meer in being honored as US Olympic Development Coach in 2008. He was named USPTA Southern touring coach of the year in 2010, and is PTR and USPTA certified. Brian also holds IPTA, USTA High Performance, and USTA Sports Science certifications.



Derek Porter

is a Co-Academy Director and Director of college placement. He was a top nationally ranked junior and played on the #1 ranked high school team in the country at Boca Raton Preparatory Academy, where he teamed with Andy Roddick and Mardy Fish. Following his high school career, he was a 4 year starter and captain of the University of North Carolina Men's tennis team from 2002 - 2006. Derek is an experienced coach at all levels. In 2006, Derek won the UNC Men's Tennis Sportsmanship Award. Derek is a USPTA Elite Certified Professional and is a great team player in all senses of the word.



Tommy Shimada

was based at VDM Academy for most of his ATP Tour career. He played Davis Cup for Japan and reached a career high of 40 in doubles. He has wins over the Bryan Brothers and Roger Federer, and he also participated in the 2000 Sydney Olympics. After his retirement from professional tennis, he earned his degree in finance and real estate from the University of South Carolina and returned to Hilton Head. He worked as a Mens' National Coach for the Japan Tennis Association in preparation for the Tokyo Olympic Games. He and his family are back in Hilton Head once again and Tommy is sharing his doubles expertise with our VDM Academy players.



Aurandrea Payne

Aurandrea was a former WTA player. She traveled to Asia, South America and Europe, to achieve a world ranking of 196. In 1998 she competed in the US OPEN and won two 10k events. After she retired, she traveled to Asia and Europe with top level ITF juniors. Later, she worked in the private sector and helped players achieve their dreams of playing at Elon, Michigan State, University of Kentucky, University of Alabama, and LSU. In 2020 She coached and traveled all over the US and Europe with the top competitive girls group at one of the most prestigious academies in the world and most recently helped her players achieve D1 scholarships to top colleges and universities. Aurandrea is hard-working, driven and passionate about sharing her knowledge and experience with players of any level.



David Anderson

is a Head Pro and graduated from the U. of Notre Dame. He received a tennis scholarship and was a 4-year letterwinner. David was based in MA where he was ranked #1 in New England and was in the Top 25 in the country for the USTA 18 and under division. He spent his high school junior year training at VDM and credits this time for his jump in level and ranking. He was a National Open Champion, NE Sectionals Champion, and received the NE Sportsmanship Award. He was undefeated during his high school tennis career and won in 2005 the MA State Individual tournament. He majored in finance at ND and worked on Wall Street for 8 years before making the decision to pursue his passion of tennis.



Elizma Nortje

is a former WTA player, and competed in tournaments such as Wimbledon and the French Open. Having been based as a player at VDM Academy, she launched her coaching career after taking the TennisUniversity course with Dennis Van Der Meer. Elizma played NCAA Div 1 and graduated from United States International University, San Diego, CA. A certified ITF Level 3 High Performance Tennis Coach she worked with many top Spanish tennis academies and players such as David Ferrer (ATP#3) and his team. As the ITF International Touring Coach she worked with the best European, Asian and African players such as Alexander Zverev - ATP #4 (Ger), Grigor Dimitrov (Bul) - ATP#23, Junior Wimbledon & U.S Open champion (2008)

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2026-2027 ACADEMY CALENDAR



VAN DER MEER TENNIS ACADEMY

August 7, 2026	Hilton Head High School Classes Begin
August 10, 2026	VDM Academy On-Court Training Begins Heritage Academy Classes Begin
August 11, 2026	Hilton Head Prep Classes Begin
November 23-30, 2026	Thanksgiving Break – No Classes Hilton Head Prep
November 25-29, 2026	Thanksgiving Break – No Classes Heritage Academy & Hilton Head High School
December 15, 2026	Heritage Academy Winter Break
December 18, 2026	Hilton Head Prep Winter Break VDM Academy Training Last Day
December 23, 2026	Hilton Head High School Winter Break
January 4, 2027	VDM Academy On-Court training resumes
January 5, 2027	Hilton Head Prep classes resume
January 6, 2027	Hilton Head High School classes resume
January 7, 2027	Heritage Academy classes resume
March 1-8, 2027	Spring Break - No classes Hilton Head Prep
March 8-12, 2027	Spring Break - No classes Heritage Academy
April 12-16, 2027	Spring Break - No classes Hilton Head High School Heritage Golf – No classes Hilton Head Prep
April 15-16, 2027	Heritage Golf - No classes Heritage Academy
May 22, 2027	Heritage Academy Graduation
May 21, 2027	Hilton Head Prep Last Day of School Last Day of VDM Academy On-Court training
May 25, 2027	Hilton Head High School Last Day of School

Schedule subject to change

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Along with helping players strive to meet their professional tour goals, Van Der Meer Tennis Academy takes great pride in developing scholar athletes. Understanding the importance of partnering with a diverse selection of academic programs, Van Der Meer Tennis Academy is pleased to list the following educational opportunities available to our players.

Recognizing the importance of maximizing on-court time with strong academic performance, Van Der Meer Tennis Academy encourages academic support when needed. Players can usually arrange additional instruction through the schools we work with in the following areas:

ESL and TOEFL for international students • SAT and ACT strategies and instruction • Subject-related support
Skill development • Distance Learning support

Hilton Head Prep

Hilton Head Prep is also a more traditional prep school that is nationally accredited on Hilton Head Island.

Website: www.hhprep.org

Address: Hilton Head Preparatory School,
8 Foxgrape Road, Hilton Head, SC 29928

Admissions Contact: Sarah DeMaria 843-671-2286

Heritage Academy

This nationally accredited private college-preparatory school offers the most flexible schedule and personalized education for the primarily golf and tennis students who comprise the student body.

Website: www.heritagehhi.com

Address: Heritage Academy,
11 New Orleans Road, Hilton Head, SC 29928

Admissions Contact: Sandy McGuire 843.842.8600

On-line Learning

Students who want to maximize their training and tournament play at the most reasonable price select On-line Learning. This 21st century approach to education allows Van Der Meer players the most flexibility to combine the ultimate tennis program with strong academics. If you would like to learn more about enrolling in online courses or combining online learning with traditional classroom learning, please contact the Admissions Coordinator.

Students living on Hilton Head with their parents or an approved guardian may also choose to attend Hilton Head Christian Academy (www.hhca.org) or Hilton Head Public High School (<http://web.beaufort.k12.sc.us/education/school/school.php?sectionid=17>). Since these schools are located so close to Van Der Meer Tennis Academy, training options include personalized after-school and weekend programs.

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PROGRAMS OFFERED

AM & PM Program

Highly ranked state, sectional, national, ITF, collegiate, ATP, WTA tournament and High School players

SESSION SCHEDULE

Monday	3 - 5:30pm
Tuesday	8 - 10am and 3- 5:30pm
Wednesday	8 - 10am and 3- 5:30pm
Thursday	8 - 10am and 3- 5:30pm
Friday	8 - 10am and 3- 5:30pm
Saturday	8am-10am

CONTRACT RATES

Program	Full Year	Fall/Spring Semester
Day Students - AM/PM Sessions	\$27,600	\$14,600/\$17,100
Day Students - PM Sessions	\$22,450	\$11,800/\$13,800

** PM Program includes Saturday AM

All contract rates are good for one Academy year - 8/10/2026 - 5/21/2027

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SESSION SCHEDULE

Monday	3:00–5:30pm
Tuesday	8-10am and 3-5:30pm
Wednesday	8-10am and 3-5:30pm
Thursday	8-10am and 3-5:30pm
Friday	8-10am and 3-5:30pm
Saturday	8:00am-10am

VISITOR RATES

Training Time	Rate
AM Sessions (8:00 - 10:00)	\$100
PM Sessions (3:00-5:30)	\$145
All Day	\$225
Saturday AM Sessions (8:00-10:00)	\$100
Weekly (All Sessions)	\$995

NOTE: Contract rates are a better value than the visitor rates All contract rates are good for one Academy year - 8/2026 - 5/2027

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The ultimate goal for many young athletes is to receive a partial to full athletic scholarship to the university of their choice. At Van Der Meer, we strive to build life champions in the classroom as well as on the court. Our players are encouraged to commit to a rigorous scholastic program so that outstanding tennis performance is coupled with strong academics. Most of our past players have earned the title Scholar Athlete and received scholarships to prestigious universities. Whether interested in attending an Ivy League college, playing Division I Tennis, or beginning at a Junior College level, Van Der Meer coaches assist players so that dreams come true.

Testimony to the success of our college placement program is evidenced in the following list.

COLLEGES ATTENDED BY GRADUATES

Alabama University	Jacksonville State University	Southern Methodist University	University of Iowa
Auburn University Baylor	James Madison University	Stanford University	University of Indiana
University Bucknell	Lehigh University	Temple University	University of Kentucky
University Clemson	Liberty University	The Citadel	University of North Carolina
University Coastal Carolina	Louisiana State University	Tufts University	University of Notre Dame
University Colgate	Miami of Ohio	Tulane University	University of Pennsylvania
University College of	Michigan State University	University of Alabama	University of Richmond
Charleston Columbia	North Carolina State University	University of Arkansas	University of South Carolina
University Davidson College	Northwestern University	University of Colorado	University of Tennessee
Duke University	Pennsylvania State University	University of Florida	Vanderbilt University Virginia
Emory University	Princeton University	University of Georgia	Polytechnic Institute Wake
Harvard University	Rutgers University	University of Illinois	Forest University West
Iowa State University			Virginia University

