

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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WINNERS ANNOUNCED 2016 “LITTLE MO” INTERNATIONALS FOREST HILLS, NEW YORK

presented by

The Wilson logo is displayed in a bold, red, sans-serif font. The letter 'W' is significantly larger than the other letters, and the 'i' has a distinctive dot.

The youngest and brightest stars in tennis played in the 5th annual “Little Mo” Internationals at the historic West Side Tennis Club in Forest Hills, New York from August 21-27, 2016. Approximately 180 players from 15 countries worldwide participated in the “Little Mo”. To view all results, please visit: www.littlemoforesthills.com.

Congratulations to the following winners:

Boys 12 - Andres Mercedes (Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic)

Boys 11 - Kevin Edengren (Stockholm, Sweden)

Boys 10 - Jordan Reznik (Great Neck, New York)

Boys 9 - Yubel Ubri (Miami Beach, Florida)

Boys 8 - Zen David Uehling (Alpine, New Jersey)

Boys 8 (green dot) - Sebastian Bielen (Glen Cove, New York)

Girls 12 - Olivia Lincer (Windsor, Connecticut)

Girls 11 - Theadora Rabman (Port Washington, New York)

Girls 10 - Isabella Marquart (Pewaukee, Wisconsin)

Girls 9 - Akasha Urhobo (Lauderhill, Florida)

Girls 8 - JoAnna Kennedy (Denver, Colorado)

Girls 8 (green dot) - Kayla Moore (Brooklyn, New York)

The “Little Mo” Sportsmanship Awards were given to Olivia Zuba (Morganville, New Jersey) and Liam Carpenter (Greenbrae, California). The Kindness Awards were presented to JoAnna Kennedy (Denver, Colorado) and Jesse Hubbs (Long Beach, New York).

The festivities began with an exciting tennis clinic with prizes at The West Side on Sunday, August 21. The Opening Ceremony was held later that day with the players parading onto the stadium court waving their country flags. Callie Todd sang the national anthem and former “Little Mo” champion Jamie Loeb (#220 WTA) was the guest speaker. We were also pleased to have Maureen Connolly’s daughter Cindy Brinker Simmons and granddaughter Connolly Bottum to speak to the players and present the trophies.

Maureen “Little Mo” Connolly was known for her good sportsmanship on and off the court. To honor her legacy, the “Little Mo” offers colorful “Mo Coins” to players who display good sportsmanship, help others, and are respectful and kind. It is also a “Little Mo” tradition that players exchange a small gift that represents their city, state or country with their first round opponent. The players enjoy the gift exchange, as they are able to meet a new friend on the first day of play.

A fun player party was held at The West Side on Tuesday, August 23 for all “Little Mo” players and parents. The activities included laser tag and a video game trailer. Also, a beach tennis tournament was held for players whereby the winners received a complimentary beach tennis set including a net and two racquets from Beach Tennis USA.

The “Little Mo” tournaments are sponsored by the Maureen Connolly Brinker Tennis Foundation in memory of its tennis champion namesake Maureen Connolly. Known by her nickname “Little Mo”, she was the first woman to win the Grand Slam of tennis at only 18 years of age in 1953. Maureen Connolly is still the youngest and the only American woman to have accomplished this magnificent feat. The “Little Mo” is designed to be fun and provide good competition for the younger player at the sectional, regional, national, and international level. The foundation has promoted junior tennis development for the past 45 years and continues to benefit countless numbers of boys and girls throughout the country.

“Little Mo” Slam

A special congratulations to JoAnna Kennedy (Girls 8), Akasha Urhobo (Girls 9), and Yubel Ubri (Boys 9) for winning their divisions at the "Little Mo" Internationals - New York and 2nd leg of the “Little Mo” Slam. All three players will be competing at the "Little Mo" Internationals in Florida at the PGA National Resort & Spa from December 2-7 for the 3rd and final leg. If they win their division in Florida, each player will take home the tallest trophy in junior tennis - 6' tall. There have been four “Little Mo” players who have accomplished this great achievement in the past three years.



Maureen Connolly wins the Grand Slam in 1953.



Maria Drobotova wins “Little Mo” Slam in 2014.