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**PRESS CONTACT:**

Sarah Stockton-Brown  
Grimm & Grove  
Communications  
Cell: 484.919.9883  
sarah@grimmandgrove.com

## **Philadelphia Freedoms Announce Unique Events and Special Appearances to Celebrate the 2012 Season**

**Philadelphia, PA** (June 21, 2012) – The Philadelphia Freedoms have released the full schedule of special events and unique promotions to take place throughout the 2012 season home matches at The Pavilion at Villanova University. This season features fun for the whole family and not-to-be missed celebrity appearances, including tennis legend Chris Evert, Philadelphia Union soccer stars, and Freedoms owner Billie Jean King. These events provide the opportunity for fans to interact with the players and get in the Freedoms spirit for the evening's match.

The fun kicks off on **Tuesday, July 10<sup>th</sup>** when the Freedoms host their **Meet the Team Party** during the first match of the season versus the Sacramento Capitals, featuring marquee player and fan favorite James Blake. Season ticket holders will mix and mingle with the 2012 Freedoms team while enjoying live music provided by Brandywine Valley Entertainment.

The youth rules the courts on **Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>** during **Macy's Kids and Teen Night**. During the match's half time against the Boston Lobsters, teens will present a fashion show after receiving Macy's mini makeovers. Kids can test their skills for free at the USTA QuickStart court, and Ronald McDonald will be on-hand to meet and greet. The first 400 kids aged 14-and-under will receive a free racquet, courtesy of The Beneficial Foundation.

On Bastille Day, **Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup>**, the Freedoms celebrate with French flair during a party sponsored by *Philadelphia Magazine*. All monsieurs and mademoiselles will enjoy live French music and a cooking demonstration by Chef Jean-Marie Lacroix. A French inspired menu includes sweet and savory crepes, salad nicoise, and signature crème brûlée, plus complimentary beer and wine provided by Yards Brewing Company and Tableleaf Wines. Tickets are \$60 and include a box seat to the match.

Also on **Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup>**, the Freedoms play the Springfield Lasers. The Freedoms will honor the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Billie Jean King's French Open win with a special presentation. To celebrate the occasion, the first 250 fans will receive a Billie Jean King bobble head (limit one per family).

Multiply the fun during **Twin Night** on **Monday, July 16<sup>th</sup>** featuring one of the world's best doubles team, Bob and Mike Bryan, and twin tennis stars, Karolina and Kristyna Pliskova, playing for the Freedoms against the Kansas City Explorers. Select Philadelphia Union soccer players will sign autographs, and help with a game of soccer-tennis during half-time. All twins in attendance will be recognized at Center Court with a photo alongside the Bryan brothers and Pliskova sisters.

**Thursday, July 19<sup>th</sup>** boasts a special appearance by WTT legend **Chris Evert**, featuring a reception including "A Conversation with Chris Evert." Attendees will enjoy tasty bites—asparagus tarts, caprese bites with fresh mozzarella and basil, and more—plus, complimentary beer and wine provided by Yards Brewing Company and Tableleaf Wines. Tickets to the reception are \$60 and include a box seat for the match.

Also, on **Thursday, July 19<sup>th</sup>**, the Freedoms take on the Orange County Breakers, with the first 500 fans receiving a Fidelity seat cushion. The Freedoms will present The Billie Jean King Character Award Scholarships to ten local tennis players, made possible by The Hamlin Family Foundation.

**Guys' Night Out** takes place on **Friday, July 20<sup>th</sup>**, as the Freedoms play the New York Sportimes with John McEnroe and Martina Hingis on the docket. Guys will enjoy a buffet grill station with delicious burger and salmon sliders, a pigs-in-a-blanket station, flatbread pizzas, and more, plus complimentary beer and wine provided by Yards Brewing Company and Tableleaf Wines. Tickets for Guys' Night Out are \$60 and include a box seat to the match.

But don't forget the ladies—**Wednesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>** is **Macy's Girls' Night Out**, while the Freedoms go up against the Boston Lobsters. The Freedoms' Mark Philippoussis and Jan-Michael Gambill of the Boston Lobsters serve as the evening's marquee players. The Macy's Girls' Night Out package will include an exclusive reception sponsored by Sweet Street Desserts with a buffet of hors d'oeuvres, complimentary beer and wine provided by Yards Brewing Company and Tableleaf Wines, hibiscus iced tea, and treats by Sweet Street Desserts. Ladies will also have their photo taken with Mark Philippoussis. Tickets are \$60 and include box seats to the match. All ladies who attend the match will be treated to Macy's makeovers and a Macy's half-time fashion show.

Visit [www.philadelphiafreedoms.com](http://www.philadelphiafreedoms.com) for the Freedoms' full 2012 schedule. Individual match tickets, season tickets, and group ticket packages are available at [www.philadelphiafreedoms.com](http://www.philadelphiafreedoms.com) or by calling (877) 4-FLY-TIX. All seats are reserved.

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**About Philadelphia Freedoms:**

The Philadelphia Freedoms will play 14 matches during their 2012 regular season schedule in the WTT Pro League presented by GEICO, including seven home matches this July at The Pavilion at Villanova University. The Freedoms are owned by Billie Jean King and led by Head Coach Josh Cohen. 2012 team members include former No. 8 **Mark Philippoussis** and fan-favorite **James Blake**, plus the top overall pick in the WTT Roster Draft, doubles team of twin sisters **Karolina and Kristyna Pliskova** as well as **Luka Gregorc** of Slovenia, and doubles standout **Jordan Kerr** from Australia.

Freedoms events feature world-class tennis in an innovative, fast-paced World TeamTennis coed team format. Each evening includes exciting Block Parties featuring USTA Quick Start Tennis, live music, inflatables, mascots, kids' games, prizes, food and much more.

The 2012 Philadelphia Freedoms are presented by Beneficial Bank and hosted by Cancer Treatment Centers of America. Generous support is also provided by official sponsors 23K, Bulova, CBS3/CW Philly, Color Reflections, DoubleTree by Hilton Philadelphia – Valley Forge, Drexel Sport Management, Excel/Apex Physical Therapy, Fast Signs of Delaware, Fidelity Investments, Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, Fromuth, Grimm & Grove Communications, Hamlin Family Foundation, Macy's, McShane Sports Medicine, Philadelphia Magazine, Play Gr8.com, Secrets Limousine Service, Sweet Street Desserts, Tableleaf Wine, Tennis Farm, USTA Middle States and Yards Brewing Company. The official caterer of the Philadelphia Freedoms is Brûlée Catering.

Visit [www.philadelphiafreedoms.com](http://www.philadelphiafreedoms.com) and [www.facebook.com/PhiladelphiaFreedoms](http://www.facebook.com/PhiladelphiaFreedoms) for more information.

**About Beneficial Bank**

Founded in 1853, Beneficial Bank is the oldest and largest bank headquartered in Philadelphia. It is a community-based, full-service financial services company that has served individuals and businesses in the Delaware Valley for 159 years. With over 60 offices in the greater Philadelphia and South Jersey regions and approximately \$5 billion in assets, Beneficial offers a full array of financial products that includes commercial, consumer and real estate lending, insurance and wealth management. Visit [www.thebeneficial.com](http://www.thebeneficial.com) for more information.

**About WTT Pro League presented by GEICO:**

The World TeamTennis (WTT) Pro League presented by GEICO showcases the best in professional team tennis with the innovative coed team format co-founded by Billie Jean King in the 1970s. The WTT Pro League has featured virtually every major champion of the Open era over the League's past 36 seasons.

Official WTT Pro League national and regional sponsors for the 2012 season include Cancer Treatment Centers of America, DecoTurf, GEICO, Kraft, Sims Recycling Solutions, UBS, and Wilson Racquet Sports. The United States Tennis Association (USTA) is a minority owner and promotional partner of World TeamTennis.

For more information on the WTT Pro League, visit [www.WTT.com](http://www.WTT.com).