



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jackson State Women, North Carolina Central Men Capture 2025 HBCU National Tennis Championships

CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GA (Sept. 29, 2025) – Following a four-day competition that featured 27 teams from 14 elite historically black colleges and universities, Jackson State University and North Carolina Central University emerged victorious in the 2025 HBCU National Tennis Championship at the South Fulton Tennis Center in South Fulton, Georgia. The championship was held Sept. 18-21st.

"This championship is more than just a competition—it's a celebration of heritage, excellence, and opportunity. We're proud to expand the event this year with the alumni mixer, recruiting showcase, USTA Coaching, and college fair reflecting our commitment to honoring the past and investing in the future of HBCU tennis," said Tournament Director Carl Goodman.

More than 216 student-athletes from NCAA Divisions I and II, NAIA programs, and conferences including the MEAC, SWAC, SIAC, and CIAA participated in the 24th Annual HBCU National Tennis Championships. The sport included both women's and men's singles and doubles action in several flights.

A number of new elements were added to the 2025 championships to improve the HBCU tennis community experience. These included a Mini-College Fair that brought together HBCU leaders and potential students, a High School Recruiting Showcase, an Alumni Red Ball Mixer Doubles Tournament, and a USTA coaching engagement.



Kathryn Earley, Tourism Manager for the City of South Fulton Convention and Visitors Bureau, said the City of South Fulton was honored to welcome the HBCU National Tennis Championships and help elevate the experience for athletes and families this year.

"Our team was excited to support meaningful new elements. These innovations truly reflect our city's commitment to championing student opportunity, tennis excellence, and the thriving HBCU community," Earley said.

All of these student athletes summoned their best tennis to seal each win.

Individual Champions Summary

Men's Singles Champions:

- Flight A: Taj Hibbert (Tennessee State University)
- Flight B: Naresh Mithran Bharathy (North Carolina Central University)
- Flight C: Loris Gueli (Alabama State University)

Men's Doubles Champions:

- Flight A: Taj Hibbert / Adler Germinal (Tennessee State University)
- Flight B: Naresh Mithran Bharathy / Antoni Pankowski (North Carolina Central University)

Women's Singles Champions:

- Flight A: Paula Corbalan (Jackson State University)
- Flight B: Alicia Owegi (Alabama A&M University)
- Flight C: Isabella Benavides (Jackson State University)

Women's Doubles Champions:

- Flight A: Diana Craciumn / Melisa Mekic (Alabama State University)
- Flight B: Selah Stibbins / Lauren Oliver (Howard University)

Final Team Standings

Men's Division:

1. North Carolina Central University - 82 points
2. Alabama State University - 57 points
3. Tennessee State University - 52 points
4. Xavier University of Louisiana - 49 points
5. Alabama A&M University - 45 points
6. Jackson State University - 44 points
7. Howard University - 34 points
8. Alcorn State University - 9 points
9. Bluefield State University - 8 points
10. Rust College - 1 point

Women's Division:

1. Jackson State University - 122 points
2. Alabama A&M University - 71 points
3. Howard University - 53 points
4. Alabama State University - 53 points
5. Florida A&M University - 39 points
6. Xavier University of Louisiana - 29 points
7. Alcorn State University - 23 points
8. Tennessee State University - 19 points
9. Bethune-Cookman University - 12 points
10. Clark-Atlanta University - 8 points
11. Bluefield State University - 2 points
12. Rust College - 0 points



For more information about the annual HBCU National Tennis Championships, visit hbcutennis.com.

About the City of South Fulton

The City of South Fulton, Georgia, is one of the newest and fastest-growing cities in the state, offering a vibrant community and a welcoming environment for residents, businesses, and visitors alike. Incorporated in 2017, the City of South Fulton is strategically located just minutes from downtown Atlanta and Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, providing easy access to world-class amenities and transportation.

The city is home to diverse neighborhoods, thriving businesses, and a rich cultural heritage. With a commitment to innovation, sustainability, and inclusivity, the City of South Fulton prioritizes enhancing the quality of life through exceptional public services, robust economic development initiatives, and a dedication to preserving its natural beauty.

The City of South Fulton is where community, opportunity, and progress intersect. For more information, visit visitcityofsouthfultonga.com.

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