



USC Sumter Hires Kiser as Head Tennis Coach

Sumter S.C. – The University of South Carolina Sumter is proud to announce that Sam Kiser has been chosen as Head Coach of the inaugural Fire Ant tennis program.

“We could not ask for a more qualified leader of this new program,” Athletic Director Lynwood Watts said. “We are thrilled to have Coach Kiser as our new coach.”

As a native of Mayesville, Kiser played tennis at USC Sumter (then Clemson University at Sumter) in 1971-72 under Coach Porter Adams. At the time the program was very successful, winning most conference titles and the Region X championship. The team was nationally ranked for three years, placing fifth one year.

“My goal is to bring this program back to the level where Porter Adams had it in the 70s,” Kiser said.

Kiser will coach both men’s and women’s tennis and will compete in the successful NJCAA Region X Division I program. He has enjoyed a prosperous career in coaching, managing and playing tennis. After playing tennis at both Erskine and USC Sumter, Kiser worked in sales but felt the need to follow his true passion. When the opportunity arose to work in the tennis field, he decided to go for it.

Currently, Kiser serves as Director of Tennis for the Palmetto Tennis Center, a facility he helped grow from construction in 2003 to its present-day success. The Palmetto Tennis Center hosts approximately 12 to 15 tournaments annually and has an economic impact of approximately \$7-\$8 million for the City of Sumter. Kiser is continuously growing the tournaments and programs to include Pro and National events as well as local play. He will serve as both Director of Tennis and Head Coach at USC Sumter.

Fire Ants Tennis will begin their inaugural season in the Fall of 2015 and will call the Palmetto Tennis Center their new home. “We are so fortunate to have such a beautiful facility for our students to use,” Kiser said. “It will definitely have a positive impact on recruiting.”

Kiser feels the most exciting part of this new challenge is building the program from the ground up. “I love teaching tennis and developing players,” Kiser added. “I’m ready to get started.”

Kiser is married to wife Kim and they have two daughters, Margaret and Kimmons. Both daughter played college tennis and were coached by their father.

For more information or to contact Coach Kiser, please visit www.uscsumter.edu.