

THE "REESE PROJECT"

WHITEWATER COMMUNITY COURT RESTORATION

Reese Brantmeier



BACKGROUND

Tennis has changed my life in more ways than I can count. I picked up a racket for the first time during my years as a student at Washington Elementary School. I fell in love with the sport from the very beginning. Luckily, I had the privilege to commute for my training and competitions. However, I know that is not the case for many of the kids in this community. They should have the same opportunity to learn and grow from all that tennis has to offer in their own backyard.

Washington Elementary's property contains two tennis courts. Currently, these courts are cracked, worn, weed-filled, and without nets. In other words, they are entirely unplayable. They have sat unused in this condition through all my years of memory. I watched these courts out my classroom windows each day. I watched them sit empty each recess. Families play on the school grounds surrounding the courts, but never within the fences (which are padlocked to keep everyone out). I vowed that someday I would find a way to change that. I am so excited at the possibility to restore these courts and share all the joys that tennis can bring with my Whitewater and Washington Elementary family.

I have teamed with the Patrick W. Ryan Memorial Tennis Foundation, Inc, a 501c3 organization dedicated to promoting the growth of tennis in southern Wisconsin through lessons, tournaments, and tennis court improvement. I have taken the first step in this project by contributing a \$5,000 donation. Your donation of any size in the name of the Whitewater Community Court Restoration would help bring this dream to reality.



BENEFITS

This project would directly benefit over 300 students each year, along with those in the surrounding neighborhood. As a result of this restoration, children will have the opportunity to learn a lifelong sport through the school's physical education program. Tennis allows equal opportunity for students of all ages, genders, and backgrounds. Additionally, this sport is one they can easily access outside of school, as these courts will remain accessible to students and their surrounding community.

I would like to show kids that anything is possible with hard work and dedication. Tennis has given me so much: I have traveled the world. I have competed in Grand Slams, including the 2019, 2021 and 2022 Women's US Open. I have met my closest friends and built countless lifelong relationships. Currently, I continue to play professionally alongside Division I college tennis at the University of North Carolina (most recently winning the 2023 NCAA championships). It may be the dream of a student now to earn athletic scholarships or pursue a professional athletic career. Or, a student may just want to have fun playing with their friends. Either way, I want them to have every opportunity to explore all that the sport has to offer in a safe, inviting environment. Accessibility to tennis should not be a barrier for the children in our community. I am grateful for the platform this sport has provided me, and am incredibly passionate about using it to give back to the city of Whitewater. For your consideration, I thank you.

TOP - 2014, 4TH GRADER AT WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY

BOTTOM- 2023, REPRESENTING THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA IN THE NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP



Washington Elementary Tennis Courts, Current Condition (Unplayable)

I WOULD BE HONORED TO RECEIVE YOUR HELP IN SHARING THE SPORT WITH MY COMMUNITY. THE GROWTH I HAVE EXPERIENCED - PERSONALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY - SINCE THE BEGINNING OF MY TENNIS JOURNEY IS IMMEASURABLE. IT IS MY DREAM TO PROVIDE THIS SAME OPPORTUNITY TO THE NEXT GENERATION.

You can donate through the Patrick W. Ryan Memorial Tennis Foundation (501c3, tax deductible) under **"The Reese Brantmeier Project"** at the link: <https://www.patryantennis.org/the-reese-brantmeier-project> We appreciate donations in any form! There will be a 2.2% processing fee associated with Stripe through online donations. To avoid this, a check directly addressed to the foundation (**including "Reese Project" in the subject line**) guarantees 100% of the funds will go toward the project. Checks can be mailed to 'The Patrick Ryan Memorial Tennis Foundation, % Dave Ryan, 449 South Atwood Ave. Janesville, WI 53545'. Please contact Dave Ryan at dpr449@gmail.com with any questions about donations, or Reese Brantmeier at rs.brntmr@gmail.com for any project related inquiries.