

ThanksUSA Veterans Tennis

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

When Air Force veteran Chris first joined ThanksUSA's adaptive tennis clinic, Coach Brenda Gilmore had to teach him how to grip a racquet. In just over 10 months, Chris is now volleying, serving, and drilling with his fellow Veterans on the court. After a debilitating motorcycle accident in 2010, doctors weren't sure if Chris would ever walk again, let alone hold his own on a tennis court!

Chris says, "When I come to tennis, I hang out with my friends and I feel good."

When Tennis Thanks the Troops and JTCC first envisioned Tennis Corps, we wanted to bring Veterans and Junior Players together on and off the court. Chris and his partner Mackenzie, a high school senior, are a great example of this. She says, "Working with Chris, I have come to learn the importance of appreciating the little things. Each week I find that it is these little things, such as him remembering my name or all the lines on the court, that make all the difference."

