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# Mouratoglou center aims to add prestige to tennis scene

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*Celebrity coach Patrick Mouratoglou says his company was attracted to Noblesville because the city wants “to build a complete sports ecosystem.” (Photo courtesy of Mouratoglou Tennis Centers)*

In the biggest tennis facility news in central Indiana since the Indianapolis Tennis Center stadium closed in 2010, Mouratoglou Tennis Centers announced plans last month to open a location in Noblesville.

Patrick Mouratoglou, a celebrity coach known for working with Serena Williams, Coco Gauff and Simona Halep, operates tennis centers in Italy, Greece, Spain, the United Arab Emirates and other countries. Noblesville will be home to the 10th Mouratoglou Tennis Center in the United States.

Seeing the prominent tennis personality set up shop in suburban Indianapolis wasn't expected, according to Bren Vasalakis, men's tennis coach at Indiana University Indianapolis.

“Having that come to Indianapolis is kind of crazy, a little bit,” Vasalakis said.

Ross Guignon, regional manager for Mouratoglou Tennis Centers in the United States, said the expansion represents a strategic move into new territory.



*Bren Vasalakis (IBJ file photo)*

“The Midwest is a part of the country we haven’t tapped into yet,” said Guignon, who grew up in Kansas City and played tennis at the University of Illinois. “We have a presence on the East Coast, a strong presence in Florida, two centers in California, one in Texas and one in Atlanta. This is expanding our footprint in an area that’s going to be crucial for us.”

Guignon said players in the Midwest should have access to top-tier coaching.

“The Midwest has developed some of the strongest tennis players in all of the country and honestly could be the strongest region if some of those players weren’t lost to Florida and other places at a young age,” Guignon said.

Michael Chang, the 1989 men’s French Open champion, spent his early years in Minnesota. Madison Keys, the 2025 women’s Australian Open champion, is a native of Rock Island, Illinois. Taylor Townsend, a women’s doubles champion at Wimbledon in 2024 and the Australian Open in 2025, was born in Chicago.

Chang, Keys and Townsend all moved to warmer climates to train before they were teenagers.

Chicago native Andrea Jaeger (a No. 1 seed at Wimbledon in 1980) and Michigan’s Todd Martin (a men’s singles finalist at the 1994 Australian Open and 1999 U.S. Open) are two

examples of elite players who developed their skills in the Midwest.

In recent years, Carmel High School produced a pair of Midwestern standouts: Rajeev Ram and Nishesh Basavareddy. Ram was a silver medalist at the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics (mixed doubles) and 2024 Paris Olympics (men's doubles). Twenty-year-old Basavareddy reached the top 100 in ATP Tour ranking during his rookie season of 2024.

Those are the kind of players Guignon said could benefit from Mouratoglou Tennis Center, which is projected to open by September in an existing warehouse at Deer Creek Business Park, 14469 Olio Road.

Guignon said the indoor setting won't be a disadvantage for player development.

"Obviously, tennis is an outdoor sport at its core," Guignon said. "But there are plenty of examples of successful players who have trained indoors for the majority of their careers."

Tara Moore, a player who reached No. 77 in Women's Tennis Association Tour doubles rankings in 2022, will serve as racquet sports facilities director at the Noblesville center.



*Tara Moore (IBJ file photo)*

"Mouratoglou is a high-end boutique brand that brings high-quality training to nice areas that need it," Moore said. "Noblesville is an up-and-coming area where tons of sports are coming in."


Deer Creek Business Park is northwest of Innovation Mile, a master-planned campus that's home to Riverview Health Arena at Innovation Mile where the Noblesville Boom of the NBA's G

League plays. Innovation Mile also will be the future home of the USA Gymnastics Training & Wellness Center.

Patrick Mouratoglou, a 55-year-old native of Paris, noted Noblesville's growing sports hub when announcing the tennis center.

"Bringing Mouratoglou Tennis Center to Noblesville is an exciting step in our international expansion," he said in a written statement. "What makes this project truly special is the ambition of the city to build a complete sports ecosystem where performance, education and community come together."

## What's inside

The tennis center will occupy 113,000 square feet of the 239,000-square-foot warehouse. To the west of the building, Noblesville-based  [Gared Performance Sports Systems](#) is the planned occupant of a 285,000-square-foot warehouse that's under construction. Gared makes basketball backboards, football goal posts and other sports equipment.

Six indoor tennis courts, eight padel courts and four indoor futsal pitches are planned for the Mouratoglou facility. Padel is a doubles-focused sport that's been described as a mix of tennis and squash. In January, NorthPoint Padel opened in Westfield as Indiana's first facility dedicated to the sport. Futsal is an indoor variation of soccer that features five players per team instead of 11.

Of Mouratoglou's U.S. sites, the Noblesville tennis center will be first to be fully indoors.

A center in Concord, Massachusetts, features seven indoor courts and four outdoor courts.

Three Mouratoglou centers are affiliated with resorts, including Ritz-Carlton destinations in Naples and Amelia Island in Florida and the Horseshoe Bay Resort about 50 miles northwest of Austin, Texas.

The Horseshoe Bay location was Mouratoglou's first in the United States, opening in 2024.

Two centers are classified as academies affiliated with schools: the San Domenico School in San Anselmo, California, and the Atlanta International School in Atlanta.

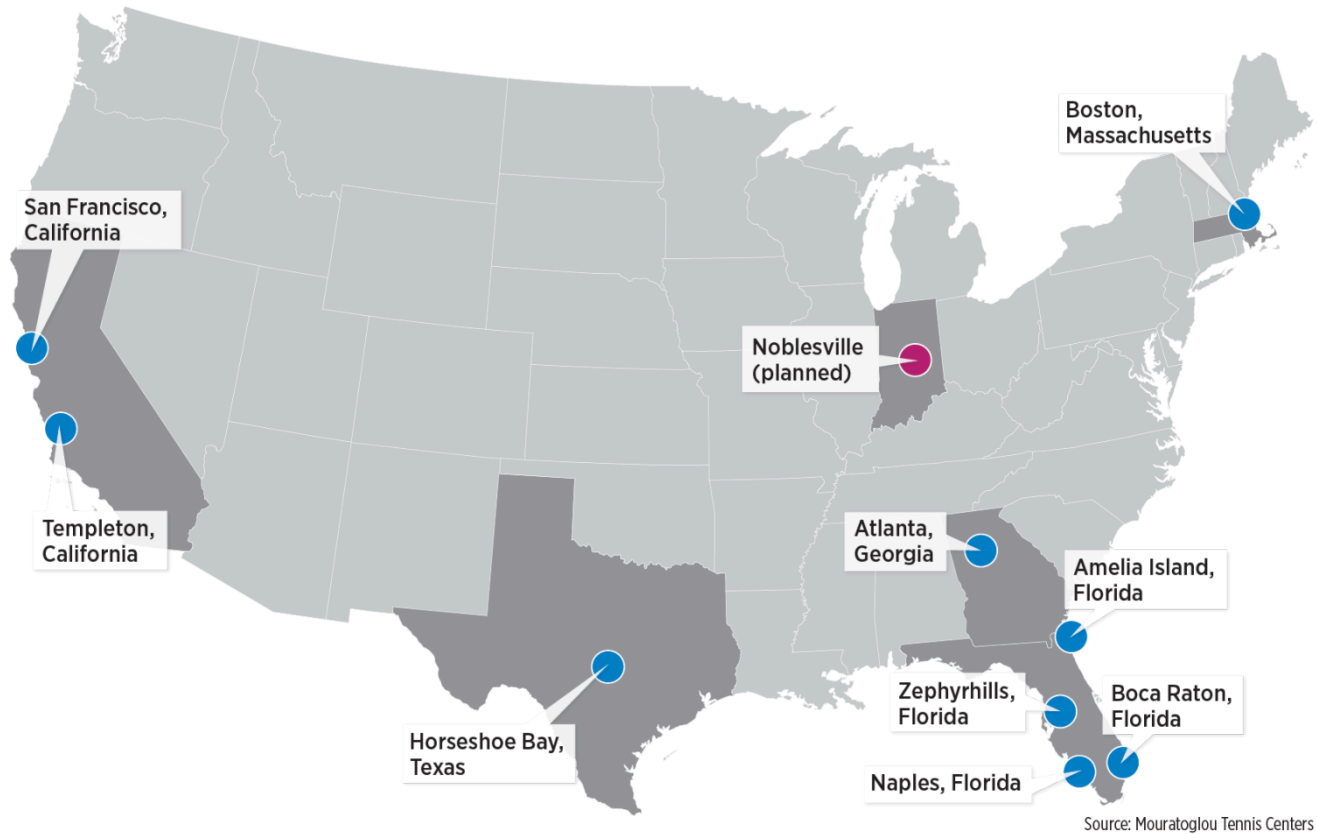
Guignon said a fitness center and a restaurant are planned as part of the Noblesville center.

Membership pricing has yet to be determined, he said. At the Mouratoglou center in Zephyrhills, Florida, the standard membership rate is \$149 per month. At the Texas center, tennis clinics are available for \$40 per hour.

"Our goal is to have enough amenities that you could justify having a membership in a place where families and kids want to spend time," Guignon said.

## On the map

*Noblesville will become the 10th U.S. site, and first in the Midwest, for a Mouratoglou Tennis Center.*



## ‘Not an easy climb’

Moore, 33, was born in Hong Kong. As an adolescent, she attended the Florida academy of famed tennis coach Nick Bollettieri. Moore lived in the United Kingdom during her professional playing career.

She described the hard work required to become a world-class player.

“It’s not an easy climb, that’s for sure,” Moore said. “A lot of sacrifices need to be made. Having the right coaching base around you is something that can make or break you. When you’re younger, you obviously look for role models and people you can look up to who have been on the journey or understand the process to take on this journey.”

In 2024, Moore told Indianapolis Monthly magazine that she moved to Fishers after being assessed a four-year playing ban that began when she tested positive for steroids in 2022 while on the WTA Tour. Moore filed a \$20 million lawsuit this year against the WTA, accusing the governing body of negligence for not warning players about the risk of steroid contamination from eating meat at tournaments in Colombia.

Moore, who joined Mouratoglou's staff in 2025, said she encouraged the company to open a center in Indiana.

She told IBJ a return to professional competition isn't in her future.

"I'm a little too old now, and I really enjoy coaching and giving back to the tennis community," Moore said. "This is my passion right now. I'm trying to invest all of my time and energy into this. It's exciting for me."

Patrick Mouratoglou's thoughts on coaching are outlined on the Horseshoe Bay facility's website: "Over the past 25 years, the guiding principle of the Mouratoglou Coaching Methodology & Philosophy has been centered on a joyous play experience and on the performance improvement of everyone's game."

Guignon said he witnessed Mouratoglou's approach while accompanying him during visits to the United States.

"When training coaches, there's not a lot of talk about, 'Here's how you have to teach a forehand or a backhand,'" Guignon said. "It is way more about how you present yourself as a coach and how you communicate. It's not all about being the strongest tennis player. You don't necessarily need that to be a great coach."

## Courting Indianapolis

IU Indianapolis coach Vasalakis said the arrival of Mouratoglou Tennis Center is an encouraging sign for central Indiana.

“Whenever a facility goes up, it’s a win for tennis,” Vasalakis said. “It shows that tennis is still growing, even though it feels like it’s not as popular as it once was. Having a big name come to the Indianapolis area is a positive for the sport of tennis.”

Indianapolis is home to the USTA Midwest Section’s headquarters, 1310 E. 96th St.

High-profile indoor courts are found at Indianapolis Racquet Club, Carmel Racquet Club, West Indy Racquet Club, UIndy Tennis Center, and Community Sports and Wellness Center in Pendleton.

Vasalakis works at West Indy Racquet Club, where the IU Indianapolis players train indoors.

“If you’re going to be good, you have to play year-round,” he said.

IU Indianapolis built six outdoor courts along the White River, between Carroll Stadium and IU Natatorium. The school’s campus was home to the Indianapolis Tennis Center from 1979 to 2010, when a 10,000-seat outdoor stadium hosted tournament appearances by Hall of Fame players such as Pete Sampras, Steffi Graf, John McEnroe, Chris Evert and Andre Agassi.

Moore said she wants Mouratoglou Tennis Center to increase opportunities for great players to emerge from the Midwest.

“It’s not really about where you are; it’s about what you can access,” she said.

At the same time, Guignon said the center will accommodate a range of abilities.

“Part of what we’re building is to have an offering for everybody,” he said. “Across our centers, we have a development program, a performance program and a high-performance program. If a parent comes to us and says, ‘Our kid wants to make the varsity high school team this year,’ we have a spot for them. If they say, ‘Our little Johnny wants to be No. 1 in the world,’ we can build out a program for them.”•

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### About the author



Dave Lindquist



Lindquist joined IBJ in October 2021 after working as a reporter, copy editor and page designer at newspapers in Indiana, Illinois and New York since 1991. He’s also host of “The Beat with Dave Lindquist” on WTTS. He lives in Indianapolis, and when he’s not working, he enjoys getting outside with his wife, teenage son and their Aussiedoodle puppy.

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