



JCYS Gala in the Garden

Honoring JCYS Man of the Year: Jon Vegosen

JCYS is thrilled to honor **Jon Vegosen** as our “Man of the Year.” This honor is bestowed upon an individual who, consistent with our mission, has excelled in supporting both services to children and/or leadership development over an extended period of time. In naming Jon “Man of the Year,” the agency is recognizing his significant accomplishments for children not only within JCYS but also nationally.

JCYS and Jon

Jon served on the JCYS Board of Directors from 1977 – 1984, and is a JCYS Director for Life. He has been influential in the agency’s efforts to create and support initiatives that instill a love of tennis, recreation, and education in the children and individuals with disabilities that JCYS serves. Among Jon’s accomplishments for JCYS:

- Instrumental in creating both the **Max Davidson Tennis Courts** at Camp Henry Horner and the **Max Davidson Tennis and Swim Center** in Highland Park.
- Founded and chaired for six years the **JCYS “Max Am” Event** – a pro-am which brought in critical funds for tennis programming.
- Founded the **JCYS Gala and Auction** and Chaired or Co-Chaired the event for five years.
- Through his law firm, **Funkhouser Vegosen Liebman & Dunn Ltd. (“FVLD”)**, has conducted several staff development workshops and seminars and continues to update staff with regard to important employment laws and HR issues.
- Being a mentor for JCYS Board Members and Designates.

Jon credits his leadership development experience as a JCYS Board Member for preparing him for his position as **Chairman of the Board, President, and CEO of the United States Tennis Association** (the “USTA”) for the 2011-2012 Term.

Education

Jon’s parents, neither of whom attended college, instilled in him the importance of obtaining an excellent education, the importance of community service, and the joy of sports.

In 1973, Jon received his undergraduate degree in Political Science from Northwestern University, graduating Phi Beta Kappa and with Departmental Honors. While at Northwestern, Jon was on the Varsity Tennis Team and was Captain his Junior and Senior years. After college, Jon attended Northwestern University School of Law and graduated Cum Laude.

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Professional Career

Jon is a founding member of **FVLD**, a Chicago-based corporate and litigation firm primarily serving owner-managed businesses. Jon and his firm provide broad representation for clients in industries that include media, health care, food and beverage, manufacturing, and service companies. Jon works closely with companies, executives, professionals, and celebrities, with particular emphasis in labor and employment, estate planning, trademark, First Amendment, and general corporate work. His labor and employment practice includes collective bargaining negotiations, employment and separation agreements, mediations, arbitrations and agency proceedings. Jon also frequently counsels employers on a day-to-day basis about hiring, discipline, and termination issues and is a great believer in taking a proactive and preventive approach to labor and employment matters.

Jon has a Peer Review Rating of “AV” (highest certification) by Martindale Hubble. Jon’s peers selected him as a “Leading Lawyer” in employment law, and he has earned a “Superb” (10 out of 10 rating) from AVVO. Jon is also a long-time member of CEO-mentoring organization VISTAGE and is a VISTAGE Speaker.

Other Community Service

Jon volunteered for five years on the Chicago Bar Association Judicial Evaluation Committee. He has served and continues to serve on the Board of Directors of various corporations and charitable organizations as well as the trustee of charitable foundations. For the 2013-2014 term, Jon is Immediate Past President of the USTA, serves on the USTA Board of Directors, and is Chairman of the Major Construction Oversight Committee. Jon is a Vice President and a member of the Board of Directors of the International Tennis Federation (“ITF”). He Chairs the ITF Joint Media Commission and serves on the Finance Committee. Jon is also a Board member of USTA Serves and the International Tennis Hall of Fame. Jon serves on the Board of Advisors of the Chicago Sports Commission. He is a Past President of the Chicago District Tennis Association and a former Vice President and Board Member of the USTA/Midwest Section.

Personal

Jon and his lovely wife and life partner, Shari, were married in 1976. They are the proud parents of two sons, Jared (31) and Spencer (24). Jared, co-founded and operates a successful global proprietary trading company headquartered in Chicago. He and his wife Christy have one daughter, June, and live on the North Shore. Spencer was ranked No. 1 in the nation in the USTA boys’ 16s rankings in 2004 and won 11 sportsmanship awards, nine of them national awards, during his junior tennis career.