



Senior Tennis Times

Newsletter of the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

November
2009

Membership renewal

You've received your membership renewal letter. **Don't procrastinate! Return it now! We need your help to get the renewals done in a timely way so that everyone can play and everyone is in the Roster.** A few notes on filling in your renewal:

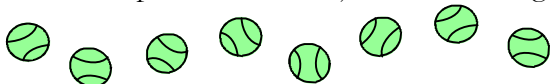
- You can now get your **roster** by email. It's actually better than the printed version, in that it is updated three times a year to include all added members. There is a full explanation on the reverse of the renewal form. Try it!
- And of course getting your **newsletter** by email saves your club money and you get it quicker.
- Look at that bright yellow sheet in your renewal letter explaining the special offer to renew your STPC membership **and** join USTA.

October tennis mixer

By Dorothy Rossing

The October Social/Mixer was a great evening of tennis, socializing and food. We tried a new venue at Life Time Fitness Oakdale, on the west side of the metro area near the intersection of 169 and 394. The six courts were available, along with a nice lounge/kitchenette area with big screen TV for socializing before or after we played for 90 minutes. Everyone was called as to what their time of play was, and partners were changed every 30 minutes in a "king of the hill" format. It all went so smoothly, with Duncan Welty at the desk to answer any questions and to make us all feel welcome. Thanks also to Marv Schneider for doing the initial pairing, and to Carol Brant and Mary Ann McGuire for the refreshments and registration.

It was such fun that we decided to have another one at the same place in November. Some members mistakenly thought it was in the suburb of Oakdale, way east near St. Paul, but this was on the west side of the metro. Plan on sending in your reservation for November 14 with the form in this newsletter. We will have another fun Saturday evening of tennis—after Halloween but before Thanksgiving, when the extra calories tend to pile on. Come join us, but register soon.



Tennis Events

By Bob Busch

Nicklaus endorses the game we love

Jack Nicklaus, the golf legend, was quoted in the October issue of Tennis.com as saying, "Tennis is a better game than golf because it takes less time, provides more exercise, demands as high a level of skill, is intensely competitive, can be played mixed, and has fewer financial barriers." Jack Nicklaus, the golden boy of golf, plays golf once or twice a month and tennis every Saturday and Sunday. He watches a lot of tennis on TV and very little golf.

For kids starting in sports, he doesn't believe in specializing in any one sport but recommends playing as many as possible, including tennis and golf: the two best sports for a lifetime.

Wicklund Wins in California

Greg Wicklund of Edina defeated Anthony Smith of San Diego 1-6, 6-1, 6-2 to win the USTA sanctioned Pacific Southwest Championship in 50 Singles. The tournament was held in Newport Beach, California. Former Minnesota Gophers Wicklund and doubles partner Brian Biernat of Woodbury lost to David Norwick and Bruce Totten, both from California, 6-3, 6-4 in the doubles final.

High school girls

In early October, the State High School Tennis coaches ranked Edina, Rochester Mayo and Minnetonka as the top three tennis teams in Class 2A. Mounds Park Academy, Blake and Staples-Motley

(Tennis events—continued on page 5)

Upcoming Events

November Tennis Mixer

Saturday, November 14, 6:00-9:00 PM

Life Time Fitness Oakdale

Details and signup, page 6

Gopher Tennis Mixer

Sunday, February 14, 2010, 4:00 to 6:00 PM

Baseline Tennis Center, U of M

Details and signup for this **free event** may be found on our website. Click Events.

Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

A nonprofit corporation, P.O. Box 5525

Hopkins, MN 55343

On the web: www.seniortennismn.com

Senior Tennis Times

The Senior Tennis Times is published ten times annually by and for the members of the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

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Advertising

Send by email or USPS to the newsletter editor by the 15th of the month for publication the following month. **Please send all payments to the newsletter editor.**

Ad rates (first month/additional months):

Full page (7.5x10).....\$110/90

Half page (7.5x4.9)85/65

Quarter page (3.7x4.9).....60/40

Eighth page (3.7x2.4)40/25

4-line ad (members only).....10

2-line ad (members only) First three months: free, then \$5/issue.

Strip ads: \$40 first two inches; \$12 each additional inch.

Membership information changes, newsletter delivery problems, etc.,

can be made by writing Senior Tennis Players Club, P.O. Box 5525, Hopkins, MN 55343 or email to Ronnae Wagner: howard5326@aol.com

Membership total: 1505

November 2009,

Volume 22, Number 9



FLYING MCCOYS GLENN AND GARY MCCOY



"You've been charged with racketeering. How do you plead?"

As a non-profit organization, the Senior Tennis Players Club gratefully accepts donations, memorials and estate gifts.



Mission Statement

The primary purpose of the STPC is to provide tennis playing opportunities to people 50 and older for their mental, physical, and social well-being; and to support the growth of tennis.

Newsletter Submissions

To help make the newsletter as correct as possible, please submit all items in writing only, by mail or email. The deadline is the 17th of the month for publication the following month. All material submitted for publication is subject to editing. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope if you want materials returned.

Send your submissions to: David Sommer, 3657 17th Avenue S, Minneapolis, MN 55407-2805.

Email: dsommer7@usiwireless.com.

Opinions expressed in articles or letters are those of the author, and do not necessarily represent views of the newsletter editor or the Board or officers of STPC.

Percy's tennis rhythms

By Percy Hughes

Well, dear friends, I'm sure we are through with outdoor tennis for the rest of 2009, so check the newsletter for where and at what time the lessons will be held through the winter months. As I've become older (!) I find that I do enjoy indoor play **a lot!**



The summer class I had at the Bryant courts (85th and Bryant South) was a real pleasure for me, because of a wonderful person, one of our former presidents, **Chuck Supplee**. He was a superb coach, and the

students really listened to him, and they learned from him. Chuck, dear friend, I owe you—thanks for being there for me. Chuck and his partner, **Ray Ranallo**, prepared their game for the **National Senior Games** at Stanford University, Palo Alto, Ca. They **won!** Yes, they won the Gold in the 85-90 doubles, and Chuck won 4th place in the 90-95 singles. **Marilyn Cuneo**, one of our most faithful members, was there and carried the flag representing our Minnesota state. Great, dear Marilyn. There were 1,072 players—that's quite a tennis tournament.

Meanwhile, enjoy the coming months, keep fresh balls and racquets, and please—

No foot faults!

Perc

Want ads

These two-liner want ads are available to all STPC members. Your ad is free for three issues. After that, there is a charge of \$5 per publication.

Interested in Head racquets & clothing? Consult Percy Hughes 612-866-1102 for what's best for you.

Expert Racquet service. Fred Jurewicz 952-496-1018 (H); 612-250-3185. *10% STPC discount.*

Handyman: Get that To-Do list taken care of. Basic repairs and maintenance. Friendly, affordable and flexible. SW Metro area. Bob Thompson, 952-929-0844 / rthompson123@gmail.com.

For sale or rent: Spacious Carefree, AZ townhouse. Free tennis. Interested? Let's talk. 651-631-1044.

Bike carrier: Thule Roadway 4-Bike Rear Hitch



Rack. \$80 or BO. Compare REI: \$240. 612-276-1313.

For sale: Condo heaven, relaxing view, ready-to-move-in top-floor 2 BR 2 BA New Brighton. 612-781-3271.

For Rent: 2 BR upper duplex, garage. 1 block from Lake of Isles. On bus. Available now. 612-377-1352

Players wanted

Men & women 3.0-3.5

Regulars and substitutes wanted for group at 98th Street Life Time Fitness 8:00-10:00 AM Wednesdays starting October 7, 2009. Call Caryl at 952-884-5136.

Spring Lake Park, Thursdays

PublicIndoorTennis.com in Spring Lake Park is looking for senior players on Thursdays to be regulars and substitutes. 3.0 to 3.5 players should contact Mike Schleeter at 651-631-2482 and 2.5 to 3.0 players should contact Diane Lehman at 651-488-6147.

Tie-breakers

The father of tennis tie-breakers is **James Van Alen** (1909-1991). Feeling the game's scoring should be simplified and deuce done away with, he lobbied tirelessly on behalf of his creation, VASSS: Van Alen Streamlined Scoring System. Among the elements were single point scoring and 21-point or 31-point matches (a la table tennis), and no-ad (games scored 1-2-3-4, maximum 7-points, sudden death at 3-3). VASSS was used in a few tournaments in the 1960's and then abandoned. No-ad is still used, most notably in ATP and WTA doubles matches.

But the Van Alen innovation that truly changed tennis, making it far more **TV-friendly** was the tie-breaker. His version was the 5-point: first to 5 wins. This was

“sudden death” in that you could win a set by 5-4. Amazingly, this breaker was accepted by the USTA, and used in U.S. championship events from 1970 through 1974. Thereafter the USTA embraced the current ITF-approved “lingering death,” as Van Alen disparagingly called the 7-point tie-breaker that requires a 2-point margin for victory, which can extend into double digits.

Van Alen was born and died in Newport, Rhode Island. His greatest legacies are as the inventor of the first tie-breaker in tennis and as founder and primary benefactor of the International Tennis Hall of Fame and Museum at the Newport Casino, which he gave to the United States Tennis Association in 1954, saving the national landmark from a proposed car park. He

(Tie-breakers—continued on page 5)

●● STPC lessons and drills—all levels ●●

Some court locations are subject to change during the season. No reservations necessary.

Location	Day	Time	Skill	Cost	Instructor	Phone
Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center 4005 Nicollet Ave S Minneapolis 612-825-6844	Mon	10:00-11:00 "Owies" Suspended!	All	\$7.50	Dilcia Pederson Call for info on resumption!	612-824-6099
		1:30-3:00 PM Start 9/14/09	All	\$5.00	Dilcia Pederson Duncan Welty	612-824-6099 952-933-8592
	Thu	8:30-10:00AM	All	\$5.00	Percy Hughes	612-866-1102
					Duncan Welty	952-933-8592
					Paul Stormo	952-944-6286
	Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center. 100 Federal Drive, Minneapolis	Tue	11:00-12:30	All	\$5.00	Tony Rodriguez
Williston Fitness & Sports 14509 Minnetonka Drive Minnetonka 952-939-8370	Wed	5:30-7:00PM	All	\$5.00	Duane Ryman	612-865-9517
PublicIndoorTennis.Com 7833 Highway 65 N.E. Spring Lake Park, MN 55432	Fri	1:00-2:30 PM	All	\$5.00	Tony Larson	303-808-7809

Free or low-cost lessons* are offered as part of your STPC membership. New members are encouraged to take advantage of them.

* Lessons are free during outdoor season; they cost \$5 when indoor (to pay for court time). You may continue taking lessons as long as you are a member of the club.

●● Private Club Drills Open to STPC Members ●●

Location	Day	Cost	Time	Phone
Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center 4005 Nicollet Ave S, Minneapolis	Tue Thu	\$8.00	9:00-10:00 AM	612-825-6844 Call for reservation.
Williston Center , 14509 Minnetonka Drive, Minnetonka, MN 55345	Thu	\$8.00 (\$7 members)	3:00-4:00 PM Band-aid bunch	952-939-8370 Pat Allar

Tennis hand signals

By Wanda Davies

The last newsletter mentioned that audible calls should be loud given that many Senior Tennis members don't hear quite as keenly as they once did. For this reason I try to use hand signals as well as voice calls to clearly and swiftly communicate. Some signals are well established. For example one hand raised means the ball was out, both hands held low (the baseball "safe" signal) means the ball was good. There are still some situations which do not have hand signals that I'm

aware of. The most common is a serve that hits the net and goes over. Shouting "Let!" sounds a good deal like "Out" or "Fault". Two fingers raised could indicate either take two serves or it's now second serve. I suggest using the same hand signals used to call any other ball in or out. Therefore a raised hand indicates fault, not a let serve, and the hands held low indicate a let serve. The other situation in need of a hand signal is when there is a delay between the first and second serve and the gracious receiver wants to let the server start again at first serve. In this case I suggest holding up the index finger while calling "first serve".

were ranked as the top teams in Class 1A.

The rankings in individual play rated Aria Lambert, Minnetonka, and Emilie Renault, Rochester Mayo, as tops in Class 2A. Taylor and Amber Washington of Mounds Park Academy were ranked #1 and #2 in Class 1A. The State High School tournament is scheduled for the last week in October.

Taney leading Michigan

Former Edina High School star, Whitney Taney is captain of the tennis team at the University of Michigan. Taney, who finished her high school career undefeated at 166-0 is a junior on the Wolverine tennis squad and plays both singles and doubles. Through mid-October she has a 15-10 singles record and 18-5 in doubles.

Davis Cup – Six Hour Match

Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic defeated Ivo Karovic of Croatia in a match that lasted 5 hours and 59 minutes. In 1982, John McEnroe and Mats Wilander played in the longest Davis Cup match which lasted 6 hours and 22 minutes.

Gopher tennis

Gopher men’s and women’s tennis teams are playing at various tournaments in the fall season—none in town.

However, starting January you can see the best tennis in town, **free**, at the Baseline Tennis Club on the U campus. See the schedule this page. **Also** be sure to sign up for the **Gopher Mixer** (see **Upcoming Events** on page 1, or visit our website).

Thank you

Thank you Captains, Facility Coordinators, and Area Directors Thue Rasmussen (St. Paul area) and Rod Johnson (Minneapolis area) for scheduling the many tennis playing opportunities for STPC members in our metro area during the fall and winter indoor season. A special thank you to

the six Lifetime Fitness and the other tennis clubs for sharing their indoor facilities with our members.

Facilities available for the current indoor season:

Minneapolis Area

- Lifetime Fitness Clubs:
 Crosstown – Eden Prairie
 Eden Prairie Athletic Club
 Lakeville
 Oakdale – Minnetonka
 98th Street Racquet & Swim – Bloomington
 Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center
 Baseline Club U of M
 Daytona Club
 Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center
 Hopkins North Junior High
 Match Point Tennis Center, Lakeville
 Public Indoor Tennis, Spring Lake Park
 Williston Fitness & Sports, Minnetonka

St. Paul Area

- St. Paul Indoor Tennis Club
 Life Time Fitness White Bear
 Wooddale Recreation Center

See September, 2009 STPC newsletter or our website: www.seniortennismn.com, for schedule details.

Gopher Men’s Tennis at home		Gopher Women’s Tennis at home	
Fri, Feb 05, 5:00 PM	Louisville	Sat, Jan 16, 1:00 PM	Alumni Match
Sun, Feb 07, 10:00 AM	St. Mary’s (Calif.)	Fri, Jan 22, 6:00 PM	Kentucky
Sat, Feb 20, 5:00 PM	Drake	Sun, Jan 24, 11:00 AM	North Carolina
Fri, Mar 05, 5:00 PM	New Mexico	Sat, Feb 13, 1:30 PM	Missouri
Sun, Mar 07, Noon	Washington	Sat, Feb 13, 6:00 PM	Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Fri, Apr 02, 3:00 PM	Penn State	Fri, Feb 26, 6:00 PM	Iowa
Sun, Apr 04, Noon	Ohio State	Sun, Feb 28, 11:00 AM	Princeton
Fri, Apr 16, 3:00 PM	Northwestern	Sun, Feb 28, 4:00 PM	Carleton
Sun, Apr 18, Noon	Wisconsin	Sat, Mar 27, 11:00 AM	Michigan State
All matches at Baseline Tennis Center. For Away matches and Tournaments, visit www.gophersports.com, click on “Teams”, then select “M Tennis” or “W Tennis”.		Sun, Mar 28, Noon	Michigan
		Fri, Apr 09, 6:00 PM	Indiana
		Sun, Apr 11, 11:00 AM	Illinois
		Sun, Apr 25, Noon	Purdue

(Tie-breakers—continued from page 3)

died after striking his head in a fall at his home. That day, in a Wimbledon semi-final, Stefan Edberg lost to Michael Stich 4-6, 7-6 (7-5), 7-6 (7-5), 7-6 (7-2). Edberg didn’t lose a single serve. Later, after hearing of Van Alen’s death, Edberg said: “If he hadn’t lived,

Michael and I might still be out there playing.”

Tie-breakers currently recognized by the USTA:

- 7-point set tie-breaker.
- 10-point match tie-breaker in ATP and WTA doubles, in lieu of a third set, and in other tourneys.

Oakdale November Tennis Mixer

Mixed doubles. Rotating partners. 48 players only! You do not need to bring a partner.

Time: Saturday November 14, 6:00-9:00 PM. Play one 90 minute session (either 6:00-7:30 or 7:30-9:00).

Place: LifeTime Fitness Oakdale—see directions below.

Cost: \$13/person. Guests welcome.

Light snack food and beverages. Bring your own water bottle.

Limited to first 48 who sign up. No refund for no-shows.

You will be notified as to the time you are scheduled to play. Questions? Call Carol Brant 612-627-0464 or Marv Schneider 952-975-1895.

The Oakdale facility is also offering the following amenities for the tennis players: an exercise room with a treadmill, showers and towels, and a big screen TV.

Directions: Life Time Fitness Oakdale is at 1201 Ford Rd, Minnetonka, MN 55305. This is just west of Hwy 169 and just south of I394.

From the east: Go west on I394. Take exit 3 for General Mills Blvd. Turn right at General Mills Blvd. Turn right at Wayzata Blvd. Turn left at Ford Rd.

From the west: Go east on I394. Take exit 3 to merge onto US-169 S. Exit onto W 16th St. Turn right at Ford Rd.

November Tennis Mixer Reservation Form

Name: _____ Phone (____) _____

Skill Level: 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0

Send check, payable to STPC, and this form by **November 9** to:
Carol Brant 110 Bank St. S.E. #1403 Minneapolis, MN 55414

All players must sign the Release Form below:

RELEASE FORM

I agree that any participation by me in the activities of, or sponsored by, the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc. (STPC), a non-profit organization, including, but without limitation, activities such as tennis lessons, clinics, drills, rating sessions, camps, trips, playing in or attending tennis games, tournaments, groups or social events, shall be at my sole risk; and I hereby release and hold harmless STPC and its officers, directors, members, employees, agents, tennis pros, tennis clubs, courts and facilities used or licensed by STPC, and all independent contactors with STPC (all being "Associated Others") for all claims of damage, whether due to injuries to person or property; to any direction, conduct, scheduling or claimed discrimination, nonfeasance or malfeasance, or otherwise, arising out of, or occurring in connection with, any such activities or conduct of STPC or such Associated Others.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Senior Tennis Times
P.O. Box 5525
Hopkins, MN 55343

November 2009

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