



Senior Tennis Times

Newsletter of the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc. Jan/Feb 2011

Membership renewal

Over 3/4 of our members have already renewed! **But have you?** Time is running short—after January 1 if you haven't renewed you can't play, can't attend our special events, and you won't get the Newsletter or Roster. Why wait? Only \$25: **the best deal in town.**

Copyright

Boring topic, right? But we need to protect member information from misuse. Therefore, the next Membership Roster will have this notice:

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No commercial use allowed without the explicit permission of the club. Senior Tennis members may use the information in the Roster for communication on tennis matters, but should not send unsolicited messages on other topics to those outside their immediate circle of friends. Members may not make copies of the material in the Roster for anyone outside the club.

We urge members to take this notice seriously. It's for our own protection!

User-friendly Dow tourney

The 2010 event was a success, but 2011 will be even better. Two changes:

- You know in advance the days you play, so you can plan around it. May 2-3 8:30-3:00 for men's and women's doubles. May 4-5 8:30-3:00 for mixed doubles.
- New service to help you find a partner **before** you send in your application! We'll have a page on our website for people seeking partners. To post your notice there, email dsommer7@usiwireless.com stating name, skill level, event (men's, women's, or mixed), and any comment you want to appear.

Egad! More mixers!

Our mixers have been fully subscribed, so we're adding more! We especially encourage those still working to attend—all are on weekends. See box to right.

Tennis Events

By Bob Busch

Happy New Year. As we begin the new year let's reflect on what we have to be happy about. I'm always thankful for good health and the ability to continue to play the game I love. Playing tennis helps maintain a level of healthy fitness that:

- Lowers stress levels
- Decreases your vulnerability to sickness
- Builds self-esteem and confidence
- Reduces the possibility of becoming a burden on the family you love.

Keep swinging in 2011!

2010 highlights

Some of the 2010 highlights for players with a Minnesota connection follow:

Mardy Fish, formerly of Edina, accounted for all three points in the 3-1 USA Davis Cup win over Columbia. Fish won both singles matches and was part of the winning doubles team in September on red clay in Bogota, Columbia. Fish became the first American to win three times since Pete Sampras did it in Moscow in 1995.

(Tennis events—continued on page 6)

Upcoming Events

Saturday, February 12, 6:00-9:00 PM
Tennis Mixer at PublicIndoorTennis.com,
Spring Lake Park. Signup page 7

Saturday, February 26, 2:00-5:00 PM
Tennis Mixer at Reed-Sweatt Family
Tennis Center. Signup page 9

Saturday, March 19, 6:00-9:00 PM
Tennis Mixer at Fred Wells Tennis and
Education Center. Signup on our website

Dow Tournament

May 2-3: men's and women's doubles
May 4-5: mixed doubles.
See story this page! Signup page 11

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)\$165/135

Half page (7.5x4.9)110/85

Half page on back cover125/100

Quarter page (3.7x4.9)70/50

Eighth page (3.7x2.4)45/30

Business card special30/20

Horizontal strip ads: \$55 first two inches;
\$20 each additional inch. Vertical: \$75
first two inches; \$25 each add'l inch.

4-line ad (members only) \$10

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

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: 1501

Jan/Feb 2011,

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Letters to the editor

Charleston dance revival



The Charleston dance style became popular in 1923. It peaked in popularity in 1927. It was then considered to be immoral and provocative. The style has continued and evolved over the years. It is integrated into the current hip-hop dance genre. The dance, often solo by a young woman, consists of balancing on one foot while kicking the other foot sideways, simultaneously bending the kicking leg knee.

I now see a mutation performed by Senior Tennis ladies. The player will entrap a ball that is lying on the court, by pressing the ball with a racquet against the side of one foot. Then with a Charleston-like kick, flips the ball up off of the court surface and retrieves it with a hand or racquet motion. The routine is done with or without the rotary hand-arm motion of some Charleston styles. The intent is to avoid the effort of bending at the waist. But bending at the waist is a beneficial exercise that is common in tennis play. I am not complaining about this lack of health commitment, as, with a little added sensuality, the motions could become erotic. However, considering the age category of the male viewers in most of my tennis groups, I doubt that this is the intent.

Arrivederci, felix perry

Editor's comment: *This ball pickup technique is not confined to women, though*

(Letters—continued on page 3)

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

(Letters—continued from page 2)

Felix wouldn't notice that, as he is so fixated on the fair sex. Editor also believes in bending down for ball pickup, preferably flexing the knees—helps keep the body limber.

Sportsmanship—male and female

I have observed several tennis groups that have a wide variation in the skill levels of the individuals, maybe a 2.0 or less playing with 3.0's. The lack of sportsmanship occurs when one side with both skilled players directs 80% of their shots at a weak player on the other side. The result is many two-shot points, no deep drives and the more skillful partner of the weaker player getting no action except for being the target of point-blank volley returns of cripples lofted by his/her partner. This scenario provides little fun or exercise for one player. The selfish motivation is **winning**, ignoring the other reasons for the activity. Who cares five minutes later if a senior citizen wins a tennis game?

Tennis has a way of revealing many aspects of a person's character, the good as well as the bad.

Arrivederci, felix perry

Your editor observes that there are many aspects to sportsmanship. Felix advocates for one such, which all may not agree with. We invite comment. To stimulate discussion:

- *Is deliberately directing shots at the weaker player sporting? If so, under what circumstances?*
- *Is it sporting to **hit at a player**? If so, when?*
- *Why do we play tennis? Exercise? Sociability? The challenge of improving our game?*
- *Is it selfish and wrong to want to win? What (if anything) is the benefit of trying to win?*

Notable quotables

When I was forty, my doctor advised me that a man in his forties shouldn't play tennis. I heeded his advice carefully and could hardly wait until I reached fifty to start again.

—Hugo Black, Supreme Court Justice

Ask Nureyev to stop dancing, ask Sinatra to stop singing—then ask me to stop playing tennis.

—Billie Jean King

Well, one player in the junior draw here, I played against her mother.... Her *mother*."

—Martina Navratilova, on pro tour at age 46

I was lucky enough to be a ball boy [at the Davis Cup]. I thought I had died and gone to heaven, and that really sparked my lifelong love for the sport.

—George Herbert Walker Bush

A Wish for the Season

*Our hopeful race seeks ever-brighter light –
A candle, lantern, beacon, pilot ray.
Some glimpse it on the old year's darkest night;
Some see it on the new year's brightest day.
As Akhenaten found his god – the Sun,
Or Homer's torch lit up the Trojan night.
Like Shakespeare's shining verse, so deftly done,
Or Einstein's particles in rays of light.
Such heroes lead us with their brilliant flare,
But yet we daily kindle our own spark.
Our self-lit lamp and fire devoid of glare
Can light our way through gloom, however dark.
So may you never need to wander far
To find and follow your own guiding star.*

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Players wanted

Fred Wells, 3.5-4.0 men

Subs wanted. Strong 3.5 to 4.0 group plays Mondays at Fred Wells from 7:00 to 8:30 am. Need subs for winter and spring (January through May). Check us out for regular play also. Call Rick Van Doeren 952-897-3888.

Fred Wells, 3.0-3.5 men and women

The snowbirds are flying south! Two women needed for a great mixed doubles group, 3.0-3.5 level. We play Fridays from 9:00-11:00 AM at Fred Wells. Competitive and friendly members. We also need subs, both men and women. Call Caryl Minnetti: 952-884-5136.

Pelican Bay/Naples Florida, February

I am looking for people who will be in Pelican Bay/Naples area in February and who would like to play 3.0 doubles or mixed doubles. E-mail me at mhickem@yahoo.com Thanks, Mary Hicken

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.

DVD player (standard, not Blu-Ray). Includes manual, RGB cables, remote. \$10. David 612-276-1313

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



●● 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, Email
Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center 4005 Nicollet Ave S Minneapolis 612-825-6844	Mon	1:30-3:00 PM Start Sept. 13	All	\$7.00	Dilcia Pederson 612-824-6099 dilcia.pederson@innercitytennis.org
					Duncan Welty 952-933-8592 idwelty@q.com
	Thu	8:30-10:00AM	All	\$7.00	Duncan Welty 952-933-8592
					Paul Stormo 952-944-6286 pjstormo@aol.com
Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center. 100 Federal Drive, Minneapolis	Tue	12:30-2:00 Start Sept. 14	All	\$7.00	Brandon Heath 612-252-8367 ext 2 brandon@fwtec.org
Williston Fitness & Sports 14509 Minnetonka Drive Minnetonka 952-939-8370	Wed	5:30-7:00PM	All	\$7.00	Duane Ryman 612-865-9517 dhrtennis40@hotmail.com
PublicIndoorTennis.Com 7833 Highway 65 N.E. Spring Lake Park, MN 55432	Fri	1:00-2:30 PM	All	\$7.00	Tony Larson 303-808-7809 tonyl@publicindoortennis.com

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 \$7 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	Information
Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center 4005 Nicollet Ave S, Minneapolis	Tue Thu	\$9.00	9:00-10:00 AM	612-825-6844 Call for reservation.
Williston Center, 14509 Minnetonka Drive, Minnetonka, MN 55345. Call 952-939-8370 to reserve. Members may call 1 week in advance; non-members 4 days in advance. All classes are \$8 members; \$10 non-members.	Mon	\$8/\$10	3:00-4:00 PM	Senior Clinic 2.0-2.5
	Wed	\$8/\$10	8:00-9:00 AM	Senior Clinic 3.0-3.5
	Fri	\$8/\$10	8:00-9:00 AM	Senior "Focused Play & Critique" 3.0-3.5

Drills for January/February

Note: each month all our instructors will focus their lessons on one subject. For December:

Ground stroke

The January drill is **forehand ground stroke**. February is **backhand ground stroke**. For both:

- Target: 4' x 4' square in court corner, 2' from sideline and baseline.
- Slight shoulder turn.

- Keep head down through the shot.
- Push palm through contact point.

The Bud Collins History of Tennis, Second Edition

Reviewed by David Sommer

This big (8½ x 11, 800 page) book has everything: history from the beginning, highlights of every year from 1917, the majors, team play (Davis, Fed), top ten rankings from 1913, and much more.

Praise for the book (from the back cover):

"If you know nothing about tennis, this book is for you. And if you know everything about tennis—Hah!—Bud knows more, so this book is for you too!

—Martina Navratilova

"We can't move forward if we don't understand and appreciate our past. This book not only provides us with accurate reporting of the rich tennis history, it keeps us current on the progress of the sport today"

—Billie Jean King

"No tennis encyclopedia could be written by anyone but Bud Collins because Bud Collins is the walking tennis encyclopedia—the game's barefoot professor. The only thing missing about the sport from his new edition is a section about Bud himself. But everything else is there—and it's easy to open and use for the whole family."

—Frank Deford, author, commentator, Sports Illustrated contributor

"Did you ever see an encyclopedia walking? That's Bud Collins (who sometimes runs, too). Plunge into his book and swim joyfully through the history of tennis. It's all here.

—Dick Enberg, CBS Sports, ESPN

List price of Collins' book is \$35.95, but I got it for \$23.73 at Amazon. Amazon also has some tennis classics, used, at great prices. Those prices quoted below are real, and shipping cost is reasonable (typically \$2-3). Here are some of my favorites:

- Open: An Autobiography (Vintage) by Andre Agassi (Aug 10, 2010). Used from \$6.54. Most sports autobiographies are recitals of the epic matches by the player. This one is about the whole man, an extraordinary human being.
- Tennis for the Future by Vic Braden and Bill Bruns (Jul 13, 1981). Used from \$.01. Yes, it's old, but still very relevant. Vic used stop-action photography and experts on bio-mechanics to help all of us players hit better shots. He explodes common myths, like "to get topspin, roll your wrist over the ball" and "prepare for a forehand by

bringing your racket straight back and low."

- The Inner Game of Tennis: The Classic Guide to the Mental Side of Peak Performance by W. Timothy Gallwey, Zach Kleiman, and Pete Carroll (May 27, 1997). Used hardcover for as little as \$.08.
- You Can Quote Me On That: Greatest Tennis Quips, Insights And Zingers by Paul Fein and Billie Jean King (Jan 31, 2005). Used from \$3.55.
- Winning Ugly: Mental Warfare in Tennis—Lessons from a Master by Brad Gilbert and Steve Jamison (May 31, 1994). Used from \$1.78.
- Tennis for Dummies by Patrick McEnroe, Peter Bodo, and John McEnroe (Aug 11, 1998). Used from \$.01.

In Memory...

Raymond V. McGraw



Ray, age 94, passed peacefully of natural causes at his home in Arden Hills on Dec 5, 2010 surrounded by loving family. Ray is survived by his wife of 68 years, Frieda; children, Karla A. Williams, Dennis R., Linda Lash, Tom, Joseph (Julie); ten grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. Ray had a long and successful career in the automotive industry beginning in 1942. Between 1969-1984 he was Service Manager for Boyer Trucks, contributing greatly to the growth of a new Ford Truck Center. He was awarded many distinctions for his leadership on national automotive associations. Following his retirement in 1984, Ray remained active with multiple pursuits; wood-working, volunteering for city taskforces, registering patents for his many inventions, and helping Frieda create a picturesque garden, which was a recent feature in Northern Gardener.



Ray was a member of STPC from 1987. Mary Kaminski remembers him: "Ray had been a member of STPC for many years, and a Board member. He was a member of our Reed-Sweatt group for many years and continued to play with the group after I stopped playing. He was always a delight with his unique sense of humor. He made the most outlandish statements with a straight face—if you didn't know him, you would believe him!"

(Tennis events—continued from page 1)

Eric Butorac, a Rochester native, and partner **Jean-Julien Rojer** of the Netherlands Antilles won the doubles title at the 2010 Rakuten Japan Open in Tokyo in October. They defeated Andreas Seppi of Italy and Dmitry Tursunov of Russia 6-3, 6-2 in the final.

Gustavus women dominated ITA Division III Regional play. Sam Frank of Mahtomedi won the singles championship and Megan Gaard, of Edina, and Marianne Barau of St. Peter won the doubles title.

Mickey Maule of Wayzata finished second in the men's 40 national grass court tournament at the West Side Athletic Club in Forest Hills, NY.

Jessie Aney, a 7th-grade Rochester Century player, reached the finals in the Class 1A high school tourney. She is ranked #1 in Girls 12's and 14's in USTA Northern and is also highly-ranked in hockey in her age group. She was recognized in the December issue of "Sports Illustrated For Kids".

Thanks volunteers and contributors

I would like to extend a special thanks to those who support and make our inner city and senior tennis programs successful. Thank you:

- Volunteers who deliver St. Paul Urban, InnerCity Tennis and Fred Wells Tennis & Learning programs.
- Contributors to the October InnerCity and December Fred

Wells and St Paul Urban Tennis fund raising events.

- Captains for coordinating play during the year for senior players.



Davis Cup final

Led by Novak Djokovic, underdog Serbia defeated France 3-2 to take the Davis Cup final in late November. This was only the second time that an unseeded nation won the trophy in its 111-year history.

Gopher men and women tennis

The best tennis in town is free! And sometimes there is even free pizza! Enjoy watching our Gophers. Both teams are stronger this year. Mark your calendar!

Here are the **home** matches for Gopher men and women. All are at Baseline Tennis Center. Map showing parking, etc. is on our website—click Tennis Schedules.

Gopher Men's Tennis		Gopher Women's Tennis	
		Fri, Feb 11, 6:00 PM	Oklahoma
Sat, Jan 22, 6:30 PM	Marquette	Sun, Feb 13, 11:00 AM	Oregon
Fri, Feb 04, 6:00 PM	Virginia Tech	Fri, Feb 18, 6:00 PM	Brigham Young
Sun, Feb 06, noon	Boise State	Sun, Feb 20, noon	North Carolina State
Fri, Feb 25, 6:30 PM	Drake	Sun, Feb 20, 4:30 PM	Carleton
Sun, Feb 27, noon	SMU	Fri, Mar 04, 6:00 PM	Wisconsin
Fri, Mar 25, 6:30 PM	Northwestern	Sun, Mar 06, 11:00 AM	Nebraska
Fri, Apr 08, 3:00 PM	Indiana	Sat, Apr 02, 11:00 AM	Michigan
Sun, Apr 10, noon	Purdue	Sun, Apr 03, 11:00 AM	Michigan State
Fri, Apr 15, 3:00 PM	Penn State	Fri, Apr 22, 6:00 PM	Illinois
Sun, Apr 17, noon	Ohio State	Sun, Apr 24, noon	Iowa

Battles of the sexes

Yes, that's right—it's plural. Many people think there was only one: Bobby Riggs vs. Billie Jean King. But here's the brief history:

May 13, 1973: Margaret Court vs. Bobby Riggs. Riggs was 55. Margaret Court, 30, was the top woman player in the world. I saw this match—Bobby played the MCP to perfection; Margaret Court was nervous; and Bobby's finesse game with drop shots and spin completely undid her. He won 6-2, 6-1.

September 20, 1973: King entered the Astrodome in Cleopatra style, carried aloft in a chair held by four bare-chested muscle men. Riggs followed in a rickshaw drawn by a bevy of scantily-clad models. When the match began, King had learned from Court's

humiliation and was ready for Riggs's game. Rather than playing her usual aggressive game, she mostly hugged the baseline, easily handling Riggs's lobs and soft shots, making Riggs cover the entire court as she ran him from side to side. She beat him at his own defensive game. winning 6-4, 6-3, 6-3.

1985: Riggs, age 67, teamed with Vitas Gerulaitis against Martina Navratilova and Pam Shriver. Women won, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

1992: Navratilova vs. Jimmy Connors. Connors was allowed only one serve, and Navratilova could hit into half the doubles court. Still, Connors won 7-5, 6-2.

1998: Karsten Braasch (ranked 202) took on Venus Williams and beat her 6-2. He also beat Serena Williams 6-1. This was after the Williams sisters boasted they could beat any man ranked 200 or lower.

February Tennis Mixer

PublicIndoorTennis.com at Spring Lake Park

Mixed doubles. Rotating partners. 32 players only! You do not need to bring a partner.

Time: Saturday February 12, 6:00-9:00 PM. Play one 90 minute session (either 6:00-7:30 or 7:30-9:00).

Place: PublicIndoorTennis.com—see directions below.

Cost: \$13/person. Guests welcome.

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

Limited to first 32 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 Mary Ann McGuire 612-929-2038.

From the North: U.S. Highway 10 to Highway 65 South. Take a left on 81st Avenue. Take a quick right at Buchanan Street (you will see the dome straight ahead of you once you get on Buchanan). Take a right on 79th avenue. Take a left on Highway 65 service road.

From the West: Interstate 694 to Highway 65 North. Take a right on Osborne Road. Take a quick left on the service road (follow service road *around* Biff's to dome).

From the East: Interstate 694 to U.S. Highway 10. U.S. Highway 10 to County 10. County 10 to Highway

65 South. Take a left on 81st Avenue. Take a quick right at Buchanan Street (you will see the dome straight ahead of you once you get on Buchanan). Take a right on 79th avenue. Take a left on Highway 65 service road.

From the South: Interstate 694 to Highway 65 North to Osborne Road - take right. Take a quick left on the service road (follow service road *around* Biff's to dome).

February 12 Tennis Mixer Reservation Form at PublicIndoorTennis.com

Name: _____ Phone (_____) _____

Skill Level: ☐ 2.5 ☐ 3.0 ☐ 3.5 ☐ 4.0

Send check, payable to STPC, and this form by **February 4** 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 contractors 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: _____

Butorac Challenge success!

On Sunday, December 5th, 2010, Rochester native Eric Butorac brought the world's #1-ranked doubles team, Bob and Mike Bryan, to Minnesota. The highlight of the evening was a very fast-paced match between the Bryan brothers and Eric Butorac/Jean-Julien Rojer. Bryan/Bryan won 6-2, 6-4. At one point, Butorac/Rojer led in the second set 4-2. But then the Bryan team pulled away, winning four straight games.

A close match was expected, since in regular ATP play, Bryan/Bryan had defeated Butorac/Rojer in a 3-set match 6-7(8-6), 6-2, (10-7) to become the men's doubles team with the most title wins in tennis history.

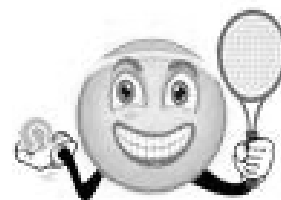
The Bryans' 62nd title came during their 100th career final. They had been tied with Hall of Famers Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde of Australia, who won 61 titles.

Earlier in the evening, Butorac/Rojer defeated Justin Gimelstob and his partner Nick Crossley, both former ATP players. Also, former top Gopher players Eric Donnley and Ishay Hadash had the "privilege" of playing the Bryan brothers. No surprise on the outcome, though our Gophers played tough!

The Challenge produced about \$25,000 net after expenses. This is divided among St. Paul Urban Tennis, Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center, and the Rochester Boys and Girls Club.



Reed-Sweatt Afternoon Mixer



Saturday, February 26, 2011

2:00-5:00 PM

Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center, 40th & Nicollet, Minneapolis

Open to Singles and Couples. Mixed Doubles. Rotating Partners.

Only the first 40 players to enter will play!!

Cost: \$13 for tennis and food; \$3 food only

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

Play will be 1½ hours at a time. You will be called as to when you will play.

Questions? Call Mary Ann McGuire 612-929-2038.

Please detach and mail in this registration form. RSFTC Mixer February 26.

Name _____ Rating _____ Phone (____) _____

(You do not need a partner; this is rotating doubles)

Name _____ Rating _____ Phone (____) _____

No-shows will not receive their money back—sign up, be there!

I agree that any participation by me in the activities of, or sponsored by, the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc. (STPC), a nonprofit 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 contractors 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 _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Send check for \$13 per person payable to STPC before February 18 to:

Carol Brant 110 Bank St. S.E. #1403 Minneapolis, MN 55414

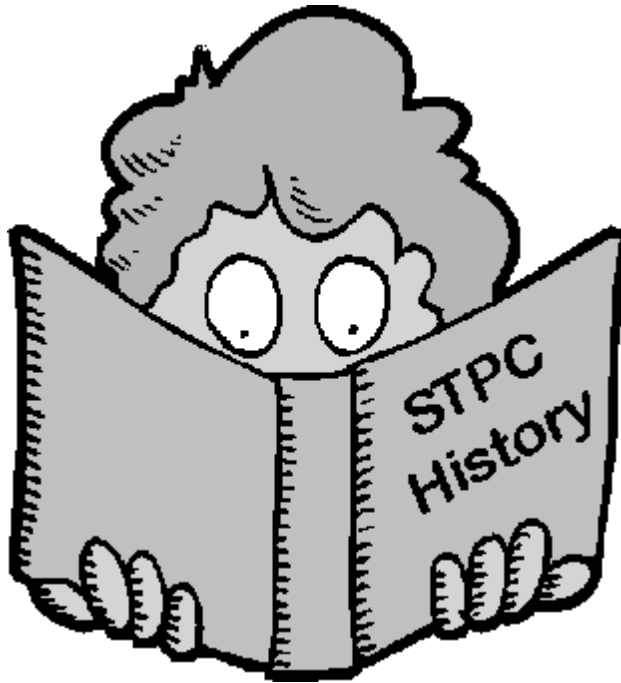
History of the Senior Tennis Players Club

By Carol Hall

Editor's note: we reprint this article from time to time, especially for the benefit of new members. Our annual Jack Dow Tournament is in honor of our founder.

The organization came about in 1982 when Twin Cities businessman Jack Dow brought a small group of senior tennis enthusiasts together to form a club exclusively for their age group. These 60-and-70-somethings incorporated under the name of Senior Tennis Players Club, and proceeded to organize doubles matches for themselves at the old Parade Stadium courts near downtown Minneapolis. Their numbers quickly swelled. Today, the STPC membership is over 1500 members, aged 50 to 80-plus, who participate regularly in organized leagues, playing year-round at outdoor courts during the summer and racquet clubs in the winter. Their playing venues are scattered throughout the greater Twin Cities area.

Jack Dow is credited not only with founding the STPC, but also with its long-term success. An entrepreneur and go-getter who thrived on tennis, Dow, of Edina, was inducted into the Minnesota Tennis Hall of Fame, served as president of the Northwest Tennis Association, and, at his peak, was ranked No. 6 in Minnesota. He initially got the club off the ground by snagging members from among his tennis-playing friends, even giving out some free memberships to increase



the numbers. Somewhere along the way, Dow decided that novices should be admitted to this group of seasoned players and hired senior tennis pros, including Percy Hughes, Virginia Morgan and the late Ernie Greene, to provide them with beginner lessons.

Through the years Dow expanded club activities. Senior tennis camps, parties, drills, clinics and trips were added to the established leagues. Some of these trips saw Dow leading groups to Wimbledon, French Open, and U. S. Open, others to a Florida tennis resort where they played tennis daily.

Jack Dow died in 1996. The club thereafter initiated a tournament in his name, which is held annually. The programs and lessons that Dow began are going strong still today. A program for members to teach tennis to inner city youngsters

was added to the list, as was a yearly grandparent-grandchild competition.

Each year the Jack Dow traveling trophy is presented to a member whose attitude, character, sportsmanship, enthusiasm and service best typify the organization. Long-time member Mary Kaminski of Saint Anthony, who serves on the STPC Board of Directors, was the 1998 trophy winner. Kaminski says of the STPC: "It does much more for seniors than offer tennis. The club creates the opportunity for new friendships; I've

made so many good friends through Senior Tennis. Why, many members who've met on the courts have even found romance, and we've had a number of marriages."

Promoting the sport he so loved for the enjoyment and social opportunities it offers seniors was important to Dow, but more important was its benefit of improved physical health, of which he was keenly aware. Jack Dow played tennis five to seven times a week, continuing well into his eighties, and he lived to be 89.

Because the Senior Tennis Players Club is a nonprofit organization, members volunteer to handle all of its activities. They also serve as team captains for leagues. The STPC Board of Directors elects board members for three-year terms; board officers serve one-year terms. Members are encouraged to volunteer for activities and board positions, and to captain league teams.

Rule change!

Starting January 1, if you initially call an opponent's ball **out**, and then declare it **good**, the point is automatically the opponent's, regardless of whether you have

returned the ball. This is a change to item 12 in The Code, which formerly called for a let if the ball was returned, unless the return resulted in an "easy sitter." This change makes the ITF/USTA rules correspond to collegiate rules.



Senior Tennis Players Club

17th Annual Jack Dow Tennis Event

May 2-5, 2011



Registration ends: Postmark by Monday, April 18, 2011 or division is full.

Play Location: Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center, 4005 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis.

Time: 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM. Check-in starts at 7:45 AM each day. **Note:** Men Doubles and Women Doubles will take place **May 2-3**; Mixed Doubles **May 4-5**.

Costs: \$10 per event per person. Single Elimination (Consolation for 1st match lost).

Draws Published: Thursday, April 28, 2011 on the STPC website and posted at Reed-Sweatt. **Reed-Sweatt staff is not responsible for incorrect times given over the phone.**

Event Director: Gary Rother, Phone: 612-724-5515, E-mail: garyrot@aol.com

Donations Needed!! Individuals or organizations.

Please sign release form upon 1st check in at the Event Desk.

Rules:

1. Only STPC members can participate.
2. No partner substitution after the 1st match begins.
3. 2nd event must be Mixed Doubles.
4. 2010 1st place winners must move up one level for the 2011 Event.
5. Participants must play at or above their STPC ranking as in the March 2011 Roster.
6. Minimum of 3 teams to have an event. If 3 teams, only 1 team gets trophies
7. Maximum number of teams in a division is 16 (e.g., Men Doubles 5.0 is limited to 16 teams)
8. Teams are not fully registered until both players' fees are received.
9. **No refunds after Monday, April 25, 2011**

Find a partner on the STPC website www.seniortennismn.com. Click Events. Still need help? 2.5-3.0 players, contact Bill Kruckeberg 952-926-3397, corvette76@earthlink.net. 3.5+ players contact Jean Murdock 952-941-5362, jeanmurdock@aol.com.

Jack Dow Entry Form (Please print clearly)

Your Name: _____ * STPC Rating: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-Mail: _____

(Example: Men 3.5 player with a Men 4.0 player = Combined STPC Men Doubles 7.5)

Combined STPC Men Doubles 5.0____ 5.5____ 6.0____ 6.5____ 7.0____ 7.5____ 8.0____

Combined STPC Women Doubles 5.0____ 5.5____ 6.0____ 6.5____ 7.0____ 7.5____ 8.0____

Combined STPC Mixed Doubles 5.0____ 5.5____ 6.0____ 6.5____ 7.0____ 7.5____ 8.0____

Doubles Partner's Name: _____ * STPC Rating: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Mixed Partner's Name: _____ * STPC Rating: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

*** See Rules 4 and 5.**

____ Need STPC Partner (list of players looking for partners will be e-mailed to you).

Send check payable to STPC and entry form to —>

Helpful hint: Cut out this name and address and attach with tape or glue to an envelope as a label. This will assure timely delivery, which may not happen with a hand-written address.

Gary Rother
Jack Dow Tennis Event
5208 16th Avenue South
Minneapolis MN 55417-1814



Tennis gang that won't quit!

This picture, dated November 10, shows the group playing at Logan and 66th. Ann Barten said, "Each day we went out we thought it would be the last, but the

weather was so nice that we kept on playing well into November." Left to right: Sally Finnegan, Bob Sharp, Lee Carr, Karron Busch, Kay Harkins, Bill Kruckeberg, Judy Lewis, Ann Barten, Lee Monssen and Irmi Habeck.