



Senior Tennis Times

Newsletter of the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc. October 2011

Membership renewal

In October you'll receive a very important letter from Senior Tennis. It's your annual renewal. **Don't put it away in the "deal with sometime" pile!** Every year some members do that, and then discover after January 1 they are no longer members! That means they can't play in STPC groups, can't come to STPC events, their name doesn't appear in the Roster, and they don't get a Roster. So why be late? Send it in right away!

A few notes on filling in your renewal:

- The renewal form will ask for your **birth date**. This is to replace the "decade" formerly used. Your birth date will be used for statistical purposes only, and will never be publicly revealed.
- Some members have been getting their **Roster** by email. They get it in March, followed by updated Rosters in June and September. The email Roster has several advantages **and** you save the club money. There is a full explanation on the reverse of the renewal form. Try it!
- Consider getting your **newsletter** by email. You get it quicker, and this saves the club money. **Bonus:** the email edition is in color!

On the inside

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Tennis events

By Bob Busch

Thanks to all the volunteers that make the Fred Wells, St. Paul Urban and InnerCity Tennis programs some of the best in the USA. According to the Corporation for National and Community Service, Minneapolis-St. Paul volunteers lead all US cities for the 5th consecutive year with over 37% volunteering.



Cal and Joyce Schadel are examples of the long-term volunteers that help make the Saturday InnerCity Tennis program so successful. They are from Bloomington and have been members of STPC for over 11 years. They have been ICT volunteers for over 10 years because they enjoy working with youth to teach them to listen and pay attention and stimulate their interest in sports. Cal, 82 years young, is a retired Korean and Vietnam Air Force veteran, a former Special Education Teacher in Bloomington and a multi-sport recreational athlete. He was featured in the "Health & Wellness" column of the Sunday, September 4 Star Tribune. Cal was a pitcher in the Brooklyn Dodger farm system in the 1950's and was a member of two national volleyball championship teams and a slow pitch softball team that won a national title.

Volunteer for InnerCity Tennis

The free InnerCity Tennis Saturday program runs from October through April. The program serves approximately 1,500 youth in the 21 sessions at the Reed-Sweat Family Tennis Center. It will again offer four levels of participation scheduled as follows: Level I

(Tennis events—continued on page 5)

Upcoming Events

October 15: Oakdale October Mixer
Details and signup age 6

November 12: Public Indoor Mixer
Details and signup page 8

January 15, 2012: Gopher Tennis Mixer
Details and signup on our website
This is a *free* event, but limited attendance

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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Thue Rasmussen 651-917-0075

Newsletter Editor and Webmaster

David Sommer 612-276-1313

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 cover 125/100

Quarter page (3.7x4.9) 70/50

Eighth page (3.7x2.4) 45/30

Business card special 30/20

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 dsommer7@usiwireless.com.

Membership total: 1387

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nis Players Club.

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served.



Letters to the editor

Editor's note: We welcome letters, and also Peeves. I invite readers to submit their own Peeves. It's OK to be peevish—anonymity protected if you wish. **No letters this time! Help me!**



Wrong, Johnny Mac!

By David Sommer

Women's Final, US Open. After two weeks of the TV commentators declaring "No one can stop **Serena Williams** from winning the US Open," we had the final, in which **Samantha Stosur** decisively beat Williams.

Stosur wins the first set. First game, second set, Stosur serving at 40-30. Williams hits a likely winner, but **screamed** well before the ball reached Stosur. Stosur did get her racquet on the ball, but looked awkward, possibly because of the scream. The chair umpire awarded the point to Stosur, following rule 18: "If a player is hindered in playing the point by a deliberate act of the opponent, the player shall win the point."

John McEnroe commented at considerable length, saying first that Serena should have been awarded the point, then that maybe a let should have been played. When the rule was pointed out to him, he said "well, it's a gray area." And finally, "the rule should be changed." **No, John, it's not a gray area, and the rule is a good one.**

We might hope that McEnroe had the grace to admit he was wrong. But that's not his way.

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 a 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.

Mark's corner

By Mark Mudra

Sometimes members or prospective members ask, "Why should I belong to Senior Tennis? I can play on my own with a few friends." STPC does a number of things for you—makes arrangements with clubs so you get favorable rates, holds tennis parties, etc. But this month, I want to concentrate on:

The best value in town—Senior Tennis drills!

1½ hours of tennis and instruction for only \$7.00! That's inside, fall/winter season. Spring/summer, **free**.

See page 4 of our newsletter for times and places (there are classes available Monday through Friday)

My typical class consists of :

- 1/3 coach feed drills. The main focus is the stroke of the month. For October, it's the **serve**. See page



4 for details. Look for the "stroke of the month" each month.

- 1/3 drills/games relevant to that stroke. For **the serve**: start at service line game; serve/volley game; shadow doubles; serve straight ahead game—helps in creating better spin on serve.
- 1/3 rotational doubles

Drills are very convenient and you-friendly:

- Don't have to call and re-register
- Drop in—can miss or attend when you want
- All levels welcome. We have two courts available at all locations except Williston, so we are able to divide the class so the drills are level-appropriate.

All classes are taught by USPTA professionals.

Any questions, please call or email me.

Mark Mudra 952-833-1469 markmudra@aol.com

Players wanted

Fred Wells, 3.5-4.0 MW, Wednesday 10:00-noon

Regulars and subs needed. Captain Marty Plitnick 612-247-7412, mplitnick@comcast.net.

Matchpoint, 3.0-3.5 W, Tue/Thu noon-1:30

Subs needed Tuesdays and Thursdays for women's 3.0-3.5 groups. Captain Pat Judge 651-452-1124.

PublicIndoorTennis.com, 2.5-3.0 MW, Thu

Players needed. We play Thursdays, 10:30-noon. Call Diane Lehman 651-488-6147.

Williston, 3.0-3.5 W, Fridays 2:00-2:30

Looking for new players and subs. Contact Ginger Stees, 952-476-2547.

Fred Wells, 3.0-3.5 MW, Fridays 9:00-11:00

Great team of men and women wants full-time women. Substitutes, both men and women, wanted also. Call Caryl Minnetti 952-884-5136.

Baseline, 2.5 W, Thursdays 10:00-11:00

Looking for regular and subs. Contact Brenda Zimmerman, 651-645-1662 or bzimm003@yahoo.com

Baseline, 3.5 MW, Tuesdays 8:30-10:00 & 8:30-10:30

Regulars & subs. Captain Bob Williams, 763-754-0747.

Williston, 2.5-3.5 MW, Tuesdays 2:30-4:00

Subs needed. Captain Peg Woellner 952-935-6187.

Reed-Sweatt, 3.0-3.5 MW, Thursdays 10:00-11:30

Men subs needed for mixed doubles. Contact Sandy Clarke 612-374-3159.

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.

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

Time for spring/summer project? Kitchen, bath, paint, lighting/electrical, plumbing, tile. High quality attention to detail. Home Improvement Specialist 612-710-7055, ericostergaard@yahoo.com.

2 Greek homes 3BR 2.5BA near Nafplio. €585-€780/wk. MN owner Sally Howard 612-340-9706 for details.

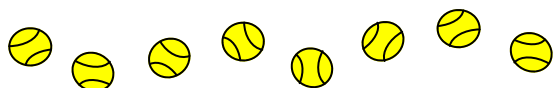
Rent Villages FL. Activities for all. 2BR, 2BA, den, garage. \$1100/month Sep-Dec. Vernon 952-935-5670.

Condo \$329,000, Longboat Key (Sarasota, FL) 2BR, 2BA, bay view, gated commun. Call Bud 612-333-4810.

Personal Gardener—garden help in Bloom., Edina, S. Minneapolis & near areas. Lee Peterson 952-270-9472.

Snowbird Alert! 2BR/2BA furnished condo available in East Blmgt. 6 month rental. Call 612-243-1300.

www.tampaareavacationrentals.com Mention Al Holter for 10% discount. 1 BR-5 BR.



●● STPC lessons and drills—September through April—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. 12	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 Start Sept. 15	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. 13	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 Start Sept. 14	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 Start Sept. 16	All	\$7.00	Mark Mudra 952-833-1469 markmudra@aol.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
PublicIndoorTennis.com 7833 Hwy 65 N.E., Spring Lake Park	Mon	\$18	7:00-8:30 PM Two groups: 2.5-3.0 NTRP 3.0-3.5 NTRP	Call 763-231-3109 for reservation. Each group limited to six players.
Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center 4005 Nicollet Ave S, Minneapolis	Tue Thu	\$9.00	9:00-10:00 AM	Call 612-825-6844 for reservation.
Williston Fitness Center 14509 Minnetonka DR. Minnetonka, MN 55345	Mon	Williston member \$8, non-member \$10	3:00-4:00, 2.0-2.5	Call front desk to sign up: 952-939-8370
	Wed		8:00-9:00 am, 3.0-3.5	
	Fri		8:00-9:00 am, stroke & play	

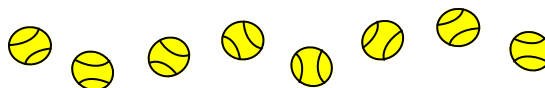
Drills for October

Note: each month all our instructors will place greater attention on one subject. For October:

The serve

- Grip continental.
- Toss 1 foot in front of you, 1 foot in court.
- Toss high so that you extend racquet to meet ball at top of arc.

- Shoulder tilt.
- Point with left (non-dominant) hand to contact point.
- No spin on toss.



(Continued from page 1)

(ages 3-6) 1:30-3:00, Level II (ages 7-11) 3:00-4:30, Level III (junior high) 3:00-4:30, Level IV (high school).

High school girls

The Star Tribune again ranked Edina #1 in the Metro rankings of September 13. Fourteen consecutive Class 2A team championships and 29 titles in 33 years have been recorded by the Edina Hornets. They lost only two seniors from the 2010 championship team and have two of the top singles players in the Metro area in Meghana Vasireddy and Caroline Ward. Other top teams were Mounds View, Wayzata, Minnetonka and Eagan.

Tennis is popular not only in Edina. The Minnesota State High School League reported that 224 teams and 5,700 athletes participated in girls tennis in 2010. That's more than participated in girls hockey and more teams than in girls soccer. The August Dominican Cup Tournament in Madison, Wisconsin is considered an indicator of high school girls tennis quality, since it normally includes some of the best teams in the Midwest. Edina again won the Cup and other Minnesota teams captured the top four places with Rochester Mayo, Mounds View and Minnetonka demonstrating the strength of girls tennis in Minnesota.

Strong out-state players include: Kelsey Frechette, Rochester Century, Class 2A Champion and 7th grader

Jessica Aney, runner-up; Ingrid Neel, Rochester Mayo; who was on the boys team that won the Class 2A title last spring as a 7th grader; Sierra Halverson, Burtrum, a top 10 player in 18 & under; and Alexis Nelson of St. Paul, a top ranked 14-year-old. Be sure to see some of this talent play this fall and include some girls high school matches in your sports schedule. Watch for the Girls Sectional and State High School tournaments in late September and October. See you at the courts!

US Open

Novak Djokovic won his first US Open title with a convincing four set victory over 10-time Grand Slam Champion Rafael Nadal 6-2, 6-4, 6-7, 6-1. The match featured spectacular shot-making and many unbelievable rallies. Djokovic's US Open title match followed a very exciting five set, come-from-behind win over former world #1 player Roger Federer in the semi-finals. Djokovic's record for the year reached an amazing 64-2 and 6-0 over Rafael Nadal. Samantha Stosur of Australia shocked Serena Williams, a 13-time Grand Slam Champion, 6-2, 6-3 to win her first Grand Slam title. Stosur overwhelmed Williams with her forehand and serve. She played Serena's second serve very aggressively and won 67% of her second serve points. She became the first Australian woman to win a major since Evonne Goolagong at Wimbledon in 1980. Serena had not lost a set coming into the championship.

Book review

"Sports and All That Jazz—The Percy Hughes Story" by Jim Swanson

Finally, a book about "our own" Percy Hughes. We've known him for his wonderful and patient coaching. But what most of us don't know is Percy's amazing record as musician and band leader. Leigh Kamman says, "I regard Hughes as one of the best band leaders and innovators of jazz music in the Twin Cities."

This book is the story of his life: growing up in South Minneapolis, experiences in an often racist army during World War II, how he became the leader of the talented group of black musicians he met in the army, his career as a band leader from the late '40's until his retirement, and his life-long involvement in sports. Besides his skill at tennis, he was a fine infielder, possibly good enough to have played pro ball. Percy still plays with the Normandale Community Band.

The book includes a CD sample of Percy's music. Available to Senior Tennis members for \$18. Author Jim Swanson will be at our November Mixer. Or call him at 651-430-1464.

Exploring poetry

David Brink, who has contributed wonderful poems to this newsletter, will share his knowledge in a short course this November. Brink says, "Love poetry? Want to understand poetry better? Find your way past the rocks and shoals of meter, rhyme, blank verse, etc. For appreciation of the beauty, wit and wisdom of poetry."

When: Wednesdays, November 2, 9, 16, and 30, 10:30-noon.

Where: Conference Room, 6715 Minnetonka Blvd

Sponsor: St. Louis Park Senior Program

Cost: members \$17, non-members \$21

Register by October 26

Contact 952-928-6444, www.slpcommunityed.com

Chivalry? Tennis? WHAT?

The days of chivalry on the tennis court are gone. In the 1930s, Baron Gottfried von Cramm refused to hit the ball where an opponent might have the sun in his eyes. [Supplied by Florence Halverson.]

Oakdale October Mixer

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

Time: Saturday October 15, 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.

You will be notified as to the time you are scheduled to play. If any questions, please call Ann Barten 612-724-0712 or 612-751-7252 or Mary Ann McGuire 612-929-2038 .

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: LifeTime Fitness Oakdale is at 1201 Ford Rd, Hopkins, 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.

Oakdale October Mixer Reservation Form

Name: _____ Phone _____

Skill Level: 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0

Send check, payable to STPC, and this form by **October 10** to:
Ann Barten 5333 Nokomis Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55417

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 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: _____

Team Tennis

Ken Landro reports: "It was a tough summer with several rain-outs and even a heat-out one Tuesday. We couldn't quite get all the matches in with the weather conditions on many Tuesdays." Champions—Team Harnish, Finalist—Team Landro. Other teams: Schneider, Weiss, and Wagner.



Team Harnish. Front row: Adrienne Alexander, Ardie Hollenbeck, Sheila Bjore, and Pam Gerlach. Second row left to right: Don Harnish, Ed Hollenbeck, John Deneka, and Jerry Kneisl. Also helping out the team this year were; Linda Aasen, Jo Rollings, John Dickinson, and Victor Chan.



Team Weiss. Larry Stevens, Alice Anderson, Jon Weiss, Al Johnson, Belinda Stevens, Bonnie Ross, Roger Stevens, and Lois Bergerson. Not pictured are Tom Campbell and Joe Lofrano.

Photos of Teams Schneider and Wagner not available.



Team Landro. Jan Du Bois, Gary Molnau, Carol Rothe, Larry Nelson, Norma Schaefer, Barb Lewis, Ghulam Quraishi, Ken Landro

FINALLY, THE "FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH" HAS BEEN BOTTLED

Healthy Aging, Active Joints, Younger Looking Skin. JUSURU is the only product to combine BioCell Collagen II, Hyaluronic Acid (HA) and Chondroitin Sulfate that promotes the health of synovial joints, helping joints become more fluid and mobile. With anti-oxidant-rich phytonutritional fruits abundant with RESVARATROL (2 OZ EQUAL TO 4 BOTTLES OF RED WINE), xanthonenes, catechins, flavonoids and polyphenols. With four U.S. and one Intl patent, **Jusuru** is a cutting-edge product vital to our skin and joints.

Will do small meetings at your place, short DVD, 3 brochures and paper.

www.jusuru.com/alvinholter 763-537-1843

November 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 November 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.

You will be notified as to the time you are scheduled to play. Questions? Call Ann Barten 612-724-0712 or 612-751-7252. Or call 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).

November 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 **November 7** to:

Ann Barten, 5333 Nokomis Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55417

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: _____

Doubles Strategy Questions

By Paul Stormo

1. Your partner has hit a very wide shot to your opponents. Your partner then moves to cover the down-the-line shot which has him standing very near the doubles alley. Where do you go?

- Halfway between my partner and opposite alley to cover the rest of the court.
- Wait to see where the opponents hit the ball.
- Ten feet from my partner and closer to the net.
- Move back in the court to cover the expected lob.

2. At a social tennis gathering you, a 4.0 player, are paired with a 4.0 partner playing against two 3.0 players. It is obvious very early in the match that you can win 6-0, 6-0. What do you do?

- Win the match quickly so that you and your partner can move on to the next match.
- Suggest that you change partners so that each team has a 4.0 and a 3.0.
- Goof around with silly shots to make the match interesting.
- Hit no winners, but keep the ball in play.

3. Player A hits a short lob while his partner, player B, is at the net. What does player A do after hitting the lob?

- He moves toward the center of the court and gets in the ready position.
- He runs toward the net with his racquet in front of him.
- He yells "short".
- a and c.

4. You and your partner like to play at the net, but your opponents are hitting ground strokes at your feet which you either hit into the net or up high which allows them to pass you. What do you do?

- Move back closer to the service line.
- Move closer to the net.
- Go back to the base line.
- Try hitting drop shots.

5. Player A, at the net, steps over the center line to poach a return. What are the next moves by player A and his partner player B?

- A moves back to his side of the court and B stays on his.
- A stays where he is after poaching the ball and B

moves to the other side of the court.

- A stays where he is after poaching the ball and B crosses behind A and moves toward the net.
- A stays where he is and B moves toward the center of the court in anticipation of the lob.

Answers to the doubles questions:

1. (c) is the correct answer. In doubles you should imagine that you and your partner are attached together with a 10 foot chain. Every move by one partner requires a corresponding move by the other. Let me point out that most senior doubles teams cannot cover more than about two thirds of the court. That means that you have to give up about one third. The key to winning is to always give up the one third that is most difficult for your opponents to hit which is usually the angled cross court. Never, never, never let your opponents hit the ball between you. That is the reason for the ten foot cord.

2. I strongly prefer (d). This was how Arthur Ashe played when he played with his wife as his partner against inferior players. I would consider (a) and (c) to be quite insulting if I was the 3.0 player. In tennis it is usually obvious who is the better player. There is no need to rub it in. (b) would be a good alternative to (d) if the 3.0 players would accept the suggestion. Some might not. Most tennis players like to play with players better than they are, but only if the better player is a good sport. Arthur Ashe is a good example of a good sport.

3. My preference is for (d). If you hit a short lob it is likely that your opponents will respond with an overhead. Your partner, at the net, is very vulnerable. To yell "short" in that situation is to warn your partner to get out of the way or at least be prepared to receive the overhead. The statistics show that most overheads are hit down the middle of the court so moving to the center gives you a chance of returning the shot. One word of caution: Keep the yell to your partner down to one or two words. Any more can be considered a hinder by your opponents.

4. My preference is for (b). The closer to the net, the lower the chances that your opponents can hit at your feet. Drop shots will work when your opponents are deep, but you must be very good to pull it off. Seldom do players have that much touch.

5. This situation is very common on the doubles court. Very often it results in an "I" formation with one partner near the net and the other near the baseline on

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the same half of the court. Opponents can hit a winner to the empty half. (c) is the preferred answer, but if player B is very slow footed then (b) is better than the alternatives.

Comment: Unless you know your opponents lob often, do not try to anticipate lobs. If you and your partner are

slow footed, stay farther from the net so that if a lob is hit you can get to it. Don't start backing up because you expect a lob. This will leave you vulnerable to a reasonably well-hit ground stroke, which is a more likely shot. In my 40 years of playing tennis, I have never played against or with a really good lobber. Three reasonably good lobs in a row is the maximum I have ever seen. After three the lob is usually short or long.

STPC new members, renewals, and changes

Name	Rating	Primary phone	Other phone	Address, Email, Member #
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[member information restricted on our website]

Tennis quotes—Ilie Nastase

“Nasty’s done a lot of terrible things—there’s no denying that. But he’s done more for the game than any single player who has ever lived... You wouldn’t

believe how many people come to see him.”

—John McEnroe

“Whoever stole it is spending less than my wife.”

—Nastase, on why he didn’t report the loss of his American Express card.

Senior Tennis Times
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Hopkins, MN 55343

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Virginia open tournament

George Erickson, author, philanthropist, and former STPC member again organized a fun tournament in Virginia, MN. Senior Tennis participants were: Ed and Ann Bader, Louise Halverson, CJ Lee, Marv Schneider, and David Sommer. Many participants came from Grand Marais, and as far west as Perham.

Virginia, MN has a great tennis tradition, with the high school boys and girls teams regularly winning their region. George has helped in that success by raising the funds, including his own generous gifts, to build the excellent indoor courts that are used by the teams and were the venue for the Tournament.

Below left, Ann Bader returning serve. Right, Ed Bader serving.

