

# Senior Tennis Times

Newsletter of the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

Jan-Feb 2009

# 2009 highlights

Have you renewed yet? **You must renew** to enjoy the outstanding year ahead:

- Gopher Tennis Mixer. This *free* event will have you meeting, *and playing with,* the men and women student athletes on our Gopher tennis teams. See pages 5-6 for details.
- Winter Mixer. Doubles play at Fred Wells.
- The Dow Tournament.
- The Annual Meeting—free for captains; a fun luncheon event for all.
- The Percy Hughes Clinic. (Formerly Bolger Clinic)
- Grandparent/Grandchild Tournament.
- Halloween Tennis Party.

And, of course, tennis in our winter and summer groups, this newsletter, and the Roster.



# **Upcoming Events**

Golden Gophers tennis mixer January 25, 2009, 3:30-6:00 PM *Free event* at Baseline Tennis Center Details & signup on pages 5-6

Fred Wells Winter Mixer

February 14, 2009, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM Entry form on page 7

#### **Jack Dow Tournament**

May 4-7, 2009 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM For more information, call Ken Landro 763-544-9757, Jean Murdock 612-825-5826, or Ronnae Wagner 952-938-5785

# **Tennis Events**

## By Bob Busch

With this first column of 2009, we extend our best wishes for a *Happy and healthy New Year*.

Some outstanding accomplishments by players with local ties:

- Mardy Fish, originally from Edina, reached the singles quarterfinals of the US Open.
- Bethanie Mattek of Rochester is ranked #35 in the world in singles after reaching the 4th round at Wimbledon and the 2nd round at the US Open.
- Eric Butorac of Rochester, ranked #47 in the world in doubles, reached the mixed doubles semifinal at the US Open with partner Jill Craybas.
- Travis Helgeson of Wayzata was a member of the University of Georgia NCAA tennis championship team.
- Niltooli Wilkins of Burnsville won the ITA singles tournament in Manhattan, Kansas

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

Roger Boyer, Executive Director of the InnerCity Tennis program reports that the ICT program continues to serve approximately 5,000 kids annually. The free Saturday afternoon winter program continues to draw over 300 kids every Saturday from 1:30 to 4:30. In addition, ICT operates the following outreach programs in the community:

#### Head Start

Fraser Center, 100 Humboldt Ave N. (Tuesdays 10:00-11:30). Also McKnight School, 4225 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave S. (Thursdays 10:00-11:30)

Head Start provides early childhood development services to low income infants, toddlers and preschoolers. ICT works with 3-to-5-year-old classes comprised of Somali, Hispanic and African American kids.

#### WISE Charter School

Tuesdays 3:30-4:30 at 2620 Russell Ave N.

ICT serves a group of 5-7 year olds at this K-7 school. Groups are comprised of 99% African-American kids.

Learning for Leadership Charter School

(Tennis events—continued on page 8)

#### 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.

Club Founder: Jack Dow

#### **Board of Directors**

President: Fred Jurewicz952-496-1019
Vice President:

Dorothy Rossing......612-926-9199 Secretary: Joan Thomas .......... 651-483-9808 Treasurer: Marv Schneider......952-975-1895 New Members:

Dottie Gardner ......612-827-4918 Renewing Members:

Ronnae Wagner......952-938-5785

**Events Directors:** 

Dorothy Rossing......612-926-9199 Bev Sinniger......651-578-1345

Minneapolis tennis schedules:

Rod Johnson ......763-588-2107

Tournaments director:

Mark Mudra ......952-833-1469 Paul Joyce ......952-927-8782 Shirley Pratt ......651-291-1493

Charlie Robbins 952-934-0209

#### Other positions

Advisor: Mary Kaminski......612-781-3271

St. Paul tennis schedules:

Thue Rasmussen ......651-917-0075

Director of Training: Roger Boyer

Ass't Director: Percy Hughes .... 612-866-1102 Percy's email: percychjr@msn.com

#### **Newsletter Editor and Webmaster**

David Sommer

3657 17th Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55407-2805 Phone: 612-276-1313

David's email: <u>dsommer7@usiwireless.com</u>

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: 1557 Jan-Feb 2009, Volume 22, Number 1



Letters to the Editor are wanted! This is your space to express an opinion or relate an interesting experience.

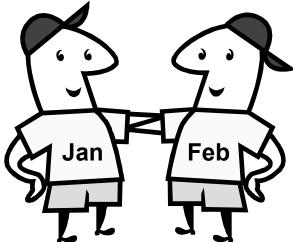
But your editor is heart-broken! No one wrote to him, so what can he do? Listen to sad music and chew on an old tennis ball?

Please, help your editor recover from his deep depression. Send him letters, on tennis, on love, on anything!



# Two-month issue!

This is a two-month issue. for January and February. This newsletter published 10 times a year, with January-February and June-July as double issues.



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 South, Minneapolis, MN 55407-2805.

Email: dsommer7@usiwireless.com.

We need help and input from writers, artists, and photographers.

# Percy's tennis rhythms



# **By Percy Hughes**

Well now, we must first wish all the friends and members of our great club a healthy Merry Xmas, and a Happy New Year! Hopefully, a new can of tennis balls, new shoes, and even a brand-new tennis racquet might be under your tree. Possibly,

most of us have provided our grandchildren with some of the same types of presents.

This coming Thursday's 8:30 AM class at RSFTC will (as usual) celebrate the birthday of our mentor, **Roger Boyer**. We try to do it the closest Thursday to Xmas, in hopes that Santa will also participate with us... (**Ha!** Not as yet). Roger, to me and many, many others, is

like a total physician of the game of tennis, a total PhD of the game. For many years I've purchased a birthday cake (thank you, **Mary DeLong**), and we all sing Happy Birthday to Roger, then class goes on. The cake is on a lobby table for everyone, whenever you wish to get a piece, or better, when the class has ended.

Next month I will have a list of all of our teaching Pros. We have some new ones—they're all certified, and have become certified through Roger, who is also our testing pro. We're quite "bullish" on all of our staff being certified instructors. Well team, let's wish each other the best of health and happiness for all our loved ones this coming 2009, and please try to also remember, *no foot faults!* 

Percy

# Thank you, STPC donors

# By Marv Schneider, Treasurer

As the Christmas season draws to a close, we would like to thank those members who made a donation of money to Senior Tennis Players Club (STPC) during the year 2008. This includes:



James Dow - \$1000

Christine Salmen - \$100

Alton Accola - \$25

Ethel Trebil - \$25

Lois Bunday - \$20, in memory of Jim Duffey

Sue Larson - \$25, in honor of Irma Brink

Teena Fletcher - \$25, in memorial to Helen Livingston

# **Players wanted**

# Baseline, Wednesdays 10:30-noon

Need subs, men and women, for a 3.0 group playing at

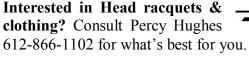
FOR

SALE

Baseline. Baseline, on the U of M campus, is just 3 minutes from 35W or I94. Parking is right behind the building. Total cost, with parking, is comparable to Reed-Sweatt. Call Louise Halverson 612-722-7132.

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

Rent Jan-Feb, spacious Carefree, AZ townhouse 2BR, 2½BA, garage, furnished, spa, free tennis 651-631-1044.

Handyman: Get that To-Do list taken care of. Basic



Seniors. Amenities, balconies, garages, in unit laundry, storage, cable TV. 3790 Lawndale Lane N, Plymouth, MN. 763-478-4661 for tour.

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

**Understanding Sergers** instruction & reference book. \$8.75. 612-276-1313; <u>dsommer7@usiwireless.com</u>

Edina community woodworking shop, new members wanted. Contact at <a href="mailto:schissel1088@comcast.net">schissel1088@comcast.net</a>

**Professional interior painting**—quality work at reasonable prices. Call Ron Leonetti at 763-593-9005.

### 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	Mon	10:00-11:00 "Owies"	All	\$7.50	Dilcia Pederson	612-824-6099
4005 Nicollet Ave S Minneapolis	Tue	1:30-3:00 PM	All	\$5.00	Dilcia Pederson	612-824-6099
612-825-6844					Duncan Welty	952-933-8592
	Thu	8:30-10:00AM	All	\$5.00	Percy Hughes	612-866-1102
					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	651-246-0077
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.

# ● 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

<sup>\*</sup>Additional classes for all skill levels available, open to seniors and younger players.

# Those annoying late calls By David Sommer

The situation: "Fred" was serving to me. Ball landed near service line, and I returned it. My partner called "fault" after I hit the return (meaning the service was beyond the service line). Fred was irritated, feeling that the call was late. From the <u>Rules of Tennis</u>:

#### 11. BALL IN PLAY

Unless a fault or a let is called, the ball is in play from the moment the server hits the ball, and remains in play until the point is decided...

USTA Comment 11.2: Must an out call on a player's shot to the opponent's court be made before the opponent's return has either gone out of play or been hit by the first player? Yes.

In this case, my return had not gone out of play, nor had opponent hit my return before the "fault" call. So by the rules, there was nothing for Fred to object to. That said, we should always try to make our "fault" and "out" calls as promptly as possible, consistent with accuracy. It makes for a happier game.

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

# **Gopher tennis**

# By Tyler Thomson and Geoff Young

Greetings from Tyler and Geoff, coaches of the University of Minnesota women's and men's tennis teams, respectively. It wasn't until a few weeks ago that we became aware of your organization. While we see some of your members playing at the Baseline Tennis Center on weekday mornings, never did we imagine that such a vibrant and thriving club existed for senior tennis players. It is our sincere hope that we can get to know all of you, and that we may be able to promote interaction between two groups who both very clearly love the game of tennis. We'd like to extend an open invitation to all of our upcoming matches this spring. If you haven't yet seen the Gophers play tennis or experienced the thrill of a nailbiting collegiate tennis match, we think you would be amazed by the intensity and skill that our young women and men display it's very special. (Of course, we are biased!) And, unlike many of our counterparts on campus, there is no admission fee to our tennis contests.

If you enjoy watching athletics of any level—high school, college or professional, then I'm sure you'd agree that watching competitors who you actually **know** personally truly adds to the experience. This is what we hope might come to be—that you might watch the Gopher tennis players and feel that you have some personal connections. On January 25 (see next page) we look forward to meeting many of you, and introducing you to the 2009 Golden Gophers.

There's no shortage of interesting and well-rounded student-athletes on our teams. In addition to our seven players from Minnesota we also have team members from Wisconsin, Kentucky, Florida, New Mexico, and many countries around the globe.

Once again, we truly hope to meet each of you, introduce you to our student-athletes, and to see you in the stands at our matches. Happy New Year and Go Gophers!

Gopher Men's Scho	edule (Baseline)		
Marquette	Jan 30 6:30 PM		
Depaul	Jan 31 6:30 PM		
SMU	Feb 13 3:00 PM		
Wisconsin-Green Bay	Feb 15 2:00 PM		
Wake Forest	Feb 20 5:00 PM		
Binghamton	Feb 22 9:00 AM		
Drake	Feb 22 2:00 PM		
Western Michigan	Feb 28 10:00 AM		
East Tennessee State	Feb 28 4:30 PM		
Michigan	Mar 21 12:00 PM		
Michigan State	Mar 22 12:00 PM		
Indiana	Apr 3 3:00 PM		
Illinois	Apr 5 12:00 PM		
Iowa	Apr 17 2:00 PM		
Purdue	Apr 18 12:00 PM		
Gopher Women's Schedule (Baseline			
Iowa State	Feb 6 6:00 PM		
Miami (Ohio)	Feb 8 11:00 AM		
Carleton	Feb 8 4:00 PM		





# **Breaking news!**

Senior Tennis will have a mixer involving play with the Gophers on January 25. Signup next page!





Marshall

Washington

Penn State

Ohio State

Northwestern







Feb 13 6:00 PM

Feb 15 11:00 AM

Mar 27 5:30 PM

Mar 29 11:00 AM

Apr 11 11:00 AM



# Gopher tennis mixer

Sunday, January 25, 2009 3:30 to 6:00 PM Baseline Tennis Center, U of M 1815 4th St. S.E., Minneapolis



This **FREE** event is hosted by the Men's and Women's Gopher tennis teams! Meet and play with these student-athletes. Schedule:

3:30 PM. Registration begins

4:00 PM. Group of 30 seniors, three per court with one Gopher. (We're using all 10 courts.) Other 30 enjoy snacks and conversation with Gopher players in the stands.

4:45 PM. Second group of 30 seniors go on courts.

5:30 PM. Exhibition play on two courts by Gopher players.

Only first 60 registrations will be accepted. Sign up, be there!

**Parking:** There is a lot behind Baseline, on 5th St. Also meter parking on 5th St. If those are full, use the ramp at 4th St. and 17th Ave.

Please detach and mail in this registration form.

	Name	_Rating	Phone (	)
)	Name	Rating	Phone (	)
	I agree that any participation by me in the activities of, or spo profit organization, including, but without limitation, activities trips, playing in or attending tennis games, tournaments, gro lease and hold harmless STPC and its officers, directors, mer facilities used or licensed by STPC, and all independent con of damage, whether due to injuries to person or property; to nonfeasance or malfeasance, or otherwise, arising out of, or STPC or such Associated Others.	s such as tennis les oups or social even mbers, employees, tactors with STPC o any direction, co	ssons, clinics, drills ts, shall be at my s agents, tennis pros (all being "Associat nduct, scheduling o	, rating sessions, camps, sole risk; and I hereby rest, tennis clubs, courts and ted Others") for all claims or claimed discrimination.

Signature\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_

Signature\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_

No cost, but you must mail this form **by January 17** to: Mark Mudra • 5008 Nob Hill Drive • Edina, MN 55439 • 952-833-1469

# Fred Wells Winter Mixer

Saturday, February 14, 2009 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center



Send check for \$13 per person payable to STPC before February 6 to:

Virginia Morse • 708 N 1st St. Apt 414 • Minneapolis, MN 55401 • 612-288-9121

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

Jan-Feb 2009

Nonprofit Organization US Postage PAID Minneapolis, MN Permit No. 3270

(Tennis events—continued from page 1)

Friday 9:30-11:30 at 3300 5th St NE.

This K-12 charter school has a student population comprised of 40% Somali, 30% African-American and 30% Hispanic and Caucasian.

#### Golden Eagle

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the Month 5:45-6:30 at the American Indian Center, 1530 East Franklin Ave.

ICT serves this year-round after-school program for American Indian youths, ages 5-18.

Following retirement, my volunteer work with ICT has provided some of the most enjoyable and rewarding experiences of my life. In addition to working with many preschool kids, it has led to a very enjoyable high school tennis coaching experience involving seven varsity teams.

Thanks to all the STPC members who volunteer for these programs. They know how rewarding their involvement can be. If you are not involved, call Paul at 612-824-6099 or visit the website at <a href="https://www.innercitytennis.org">www.innercitytennis.org</a>. It is a privilege to share time with these kids and help them develop real life skills.

#### Gopher Tennis

Remember that the best tennis in the Twin City area is free Gopher Tennis at the Baseline Center at the U of M. Get the details at gophersports.com. See the Gopher's home schedule on page 5.

# **Dead ball**

# [from <u>Tennis</u> magazine]

**Q.** During a USTA singles match, my opponent picked up a stray ball and used it to serve. It turns out the ball was old—it barely bounced and I couldn't return it. I realized it wasn't a match ball and asked that we replay the point, but my opponent refused. Was she correct?

**A.** If you attempted to play the ball, you accepted it as being in play (even if you couldn't reach it because of

its low bounce). If you questioned the condition of the ball and didn't try to hit it, you were entitled to a let if it was found to be broken (which means it "has no compression" according to Rule 3, USTA Comment 3.1). However, the rules distinguish between broken balls and soft balls. Both broken and soft balls should be removed from play, but only a broken ball, not a soft one, is cause to replay a point. That would be true regardless of whether the server accidentally used a ball from another court.



# Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc. New Member Application January 1 – December 31

# **Member Benefits**

Convenient locations
Year-round play
Meet people – make friends
Volunteer opportunities
Tournaments & tennis parties
Newsletter and Roster
Support youth tennis
Keep in great physical shape
Tennis lessons and drills
Web site

Name	Web site				
Address	WNL				
City	Con other side for directions to				
State/Zip	See other side for directions to help you fill this out.				
Primary Phone					
Other Phone	Any suggestions for improving				
Email	our program, please write on the back of this sheet.				
☐ Male ☐ Female	the buck of this sheet.				
Work experience					
Skills / hobbies					
Newsletter delivery:  US mail  Email  No newsletter needed  (Newsletter also available on our website)					
Roster delivery in:  March May No roster needed					
Tennis rating $\square$ 1.0 $\square$ 1.5 $\square$ 2.0 $\square$ 2.5 $\square$ 3.0 $\square$ 3.5 (definitions next page)	<b>□</b> 4.0 <b>□</b> 4.5				
Age group $\Box$ 50-59 $\Box$ 60-69 $\Box$ 70-79 $\Box$ 80+					
I would like to help with:  Annual meeting  Tennis parties  Board members					
Annual Dues: \$25 (after September 1 includes following year)  Please sign and return with Dottie Gardner 5145 Portland Av S Minneapolis, MN 55417	check payable to STPC to				
Membership Condition:  As a condition of my membership, I agree that any participation by me in the activities of, or specific condition of my membership, I agree that any participation by me in the activities of, or specific conditions, Inc. (STPC), a nonprofit organization, including, but without limitation, activities such as to sions, camps, trips, playing in or attending tennis games, tournaments, groups or social events release and hold harmless STPC and its officers, directors, members, employees, agents, tenrities used or licensed by STPC, and all independent contactors with STPC (all being "Associate whether due to injuries to person or property; to any direction, conduct, scheduling or claimed contact or otherwise, arising out of, or occurring in connection with, any such activities or conduct.	ennis lessons, clinics, drills, rating ses- s, shall be at my sole risk; and I hereby his pros, tennis clubs, courts and facili- d Others") for all claims of damage, discrimination, nonfeasance or malfea- act of STPC or such Associated Others.				
Signature X	_ Date				

### Some frequently asked questions:

# Q. Why the Email choice on Newsletter delivery?

**A.** If you have email, you can receive your newsletter this way. You get it 15-20 days sooner, and you save the club money. Not recommended for dial-up.

### Q. Why the choices on Roster Delivery?

**A.** You can get your Roster in March, May, or not at all. The "None" choice is for couples—one of you can receive the Roster and share it. The "May" choice is mostly for snowbirds. If you are having your mail forwarded when the Roster is mailed, it is trashed by USPS, because it is sent as bulk mail. So we're giving the choice of May delivery to those who anticipate being gone in March.

# Q. What is "Primary phone" and "Other phone"?

**A.** "Primary phone" is the phone you want people to try first. "Other phone" is an alternate phone number.

#### Q. Why do we want your email address?

**A.** Four or five times this past year we've sent email to members alerting them to things like **free tickets** to Twins games or openings in one of our special events. We don't use emails much, so it's not "junk". We respect your privacy!

# Q. Why "Work experience" & "Skills/Hobbies"?

**A.** We enter this in our database, so when we need to find members with special talents we can find you!

# Q. Why "Age group"?

**A.** We want to understand our members' age distribution so we can see if we are finding enough new (younger) members, and also to be sure our programs meet the needs of our various age groups.

## Q. Why the questions about volunteering?

**A.** STPC depends on its members to do the work of the organization. We need to know where you would like to help.

## **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.

Your comments?

# **Rating Definitions**

- 1.0 You are just starting to play tennis.
- 1.5 You have limited experience and are working primarily on getting the ball in play.
- 2.0 You lack court experience and your strokes need developing. You are familiar with the basic positions for singles and doubles play.
- 2.5 You are learning to judge where the ball is going, although your court coverage is limited. You can sustain a short rally of slow pace with other players of the same ability.
- 3.0 You are fairly consistent when hitting mediumpaced shots, but are not comfortable with all strokes and lack execution when trying for directional control, depth, or power. Your most common doubles formation is one-up, one-back.
- 3.5 You have achieved improved stroke dependability

- with directional control on moderate shots, but need to develop depth and variety. You exhibit more aggressive net play, have improved court coverage and are developing teamwork in doubles.
- 4.0 You have dependable strokes, including directional control and depth on both forehand and backhand sides on moderate-paced shots. You can use lobs, overheads, approach shots and volleys with some success and occasionally force errors when serving. Rallies may be lost due to impatience. Teamwork in doubles is evident.
- 4.5 You have developed your use of power and spin and can handle pace. You have sound footwork, can control depth of shots, and attempt to vary game plan according to your opponents. You can hit first serves with power and accuracy and place the second serve. You tend to over-hit on difficult shots. Aggressive net play is common in doubles.