



# Senior Tennis Times

Newsletter of the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc. March 2010

## 15<sup>th</sup> annual Jack Dow Event

By Gary Roth, event coordinator

Soon it will be time for the annual Jack Dow, with play dates of Monday, May 3 through Thursday, May 6. Thanks to the past players and volunteers who have stepped up to make this event happen the past 14 years.

Changes this year: (1) your partner can be of different player level, e.g., a 3.5 player can have a 4.0 partner to make combined doubles 7.5; (2) all matches will be best of three sets with Super-Tie Breaker for third set; (3) full consolation play will be available to those who lose their first match; and (4) Monday and Tuesday matches will be at about the same time, with Wednesday and Thursday finishing early each day, due to fewer matches. The draws will be posted on the Senior Tennis Players website and posted at Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center on Thursday, April 29 2010.

**Details and signup on page 9.**

Let's make the 15<sup>th</sup> Jack Dow Tennis Event 4 days of tennis with lots of laughs and good memories and new friendships.

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## Ads in this newsletter

Ads help pay for printing this newsletter, and therefore help keep your dues low. You can help sell ads! If you know any person or business with services or products our members would be interested in, contact that person. Have them call the newsletter editor for details. Ad rates are on page 2, as is the contact info for the editor.

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## Captains—your help please!

In the next issue of Senior Tennis Times we'll publish the preliminary summer schedule. Please let us know **now** of any changes. You can get the schedule on our website—click Schedules. Report changes:

- Minneapolis area to Rod Johnson at 763-588-2107 or E-mail him at [r-john@umn.edu](mailto:r-john@umn.edu)
- St. Paul area to Thue Rasmussen at 651-917-0075 or E-mail him at [thueor32@comcast.net](mailto:thueor32@comcast.net)

We also need your help to insure that **all your players** are members of Senior Tennis. You'll receive your Roster soon—take a few minutes to check that your players have joined. If not, speak to them and explain that they must join to play. **Thanks!**

## Tennis Events

By Bob Busch

Great to see so many Minnesota players participate in the West Coast of Florida Super Senior Grand Prix in January. Fourteen senior men with Minnesota connections participated in one or more of the four weekly tournaments. They won 5 championships or consolation titles in the 65 and 70 age brackets in tournaments that included 150 to 350 participants. Minnesota participants included David Nash, Tom Fridinger, Tony Williams, Bill Robertson, Tom McCune, Dave Spilseth, Skip Hills, Ed Hoffman, Ralph Lieber, Roger Avelsgaard, Bruce Deger, Dan Moen, Harvey Ratner and the writer. The four tournaments were played on clay in Fort Myers, Cape Coral and Naples and include players from all over the world.

### Australian Open

USA players duplicated their strong performance of 2009 by again winning three titles: Serena Williams in women's singles, Bob and Mike Bryan in men's doubles and Serena and Venus Williams in women's doubles. Roger Federer won his fourth Australian Open title and extended his Grand Slam record to 16 with a three-set win over Andy Murray. The final lacked the drama of the Nadal five-set, 4:41 victory over Federer in 2009. Federer controlled the first two sets against Murray and finished the match in 2:41 by winning a tie-breaker 13-11. The remarkable Federer played in his 18th of the

*(Tennis events—continued on page 7)*

## Upcoming Events

### March Tennis Mixer

Saturday, March 13, 2010, 6:00-9:00 PM

Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center

Details and signup on page 6.

### Jack Dow Tennis Event

May 3-6, 2010

Details and signup on page 9

### Captains Dinner & Annual Meeting

May 15, 2010 11:00-2:30

Town & Country Club, St. Paul

Details and signup on page 11

Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.  
A nonprofit corporation, P.O. Box 5525  
Hopkins, MN 55343  
On the web: [www.seniortennismn.com](http://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: Charlie Robbins.....952-934-0209  
Vice President: Rod Johnson...763-588-2107  
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Shirley Pratt.....651-291-1493

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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 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 to Ronnae Wagner: [howard5326@aol.com](mailto:howard5326@aol.com)

Membership total: 1343  
March 2010,  
Volume 23, Number 2



## Protect Your Eyes – You Might Need 'Em

By Louise Halverson

A few days ago, I was subbing in a Senior Tennis group. It was the first or second point of a 2-hour session. I wear glasses, and was hit straight in the left eye with an unexpected line drive (from a little guy older than me that I didn't expect had that much power). I had to take a few minutes to recover. My glasses were bent out of shape, and there was a wet imprint of my eye on the inside of the left lens! Talk about not seeing it coming! Luckily, I had a pair of goggles, made over a year ago and almost never worn, that I switched to, and was able to continue playing seemingly unharmed.

However, that night, I noticed a new floater in my left eye. After visiting Urgent Care, I was urged to see an eye doctor that could do a

more thorough exam. He spotted the floater and thought the retina looked good. Of course, I also had my glasses fixed. Now I use the goggles when playing.

Here's a story my husband told me: Dick Peik wears an old pair of glasses for tennis-playing. The other day, he hit himself in the face with his racquet and shattered a lens, leaving glass shards on the court. Fortunately he didn't injure himself. At least new lenses don't shatter.

So, for everyone who thinks "it can't happen to me," you're wrong. It can happen anytime. Do something about it before it happens. **RecSpecs** is a brand of sports goggles with many different looks and can be prescription. lens In fact, just visit your glasses store, which has catalogs. For those of you without glasses, tennis shops and SportMart have smart-looking goggles. Prescription or not, they're cheap!

*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](mailto: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.

# Doubles rotations

By David Sommer

I sometimes get calls asking for help with rotations of players in doubles. The following has been on our website [www.seniortennismn.com](http://www.seniortennismn.com) for some time, on the Schedules page.

The table below gives good pairings for doubles. Explanation: In period 1, 1&2, 3&4, 5&6, 7&8 are partners. 1&2 vs 3&4. Etc. This accomplishes the following: no player ever has the same opponent twice.

But you sometimes get a previous opponent as partner, or a previous partner as opponent.

The four court rotation (last four lines) was contributed by **Ann Barten**. It has a property that the two and three court rotations don't have: it works for mixed doubles—the player numbers 1 through 8 can be men; 9 through 16, women.

Of course, you can use any of these rotations for fewer than the indicated number of periods. For example, you could use the two court rotation for just two periods – just ignore the “Period 3” line.

Period	Court 1	Court 2	Court 3	Court 4	
1	1&2 vs 3&4	5&6 vs 7&8	♣ For 8 players on two courts, three periods		
2	1&3 vs 5&7	2&4 vs 6&8			
3	1&5 vs 2&6	3&7 vs 4&8			
1	1&2 vs 3&4	5&6 vs 7&8	9&10 vs 11&12	♣ For 12 players on three courts, three periods	
2	1&4 vs 7&10	2&5 vs 9&12	3&11 vs 6&8		
3	1&7 vs 5&12	4&10 vs 3&6	2&9 vs 11&8		
1	1&9 vs 2&10	3&11 vs 4&12	5&13 vs 6&14	7&15 vs 8&16	♣ For 16 players on four courts, four periods
2	5&14 vs 7&16	6&13 vs 8&15	2&9 vs 4&11	1&10 vs 3&12	
3	1&13 vs 4&16	5&9 vs 8&12	7&11 vs 6&10	3&15 vs 2&14	
4	7&10 vs 4&15	1&16 vs 6&11	3&14 vs 8&9	5&12 vs 2&13	

# Weird bounces

By David Sommer

Most of us know that if a ball bounces back over the net (due to spin or wind) that a player may reach over the net to hit it. But the other day I hit a desperation shot, intended as a lob, that landed just over the net and bounced back. It ended up landing out of bounds on my side of the court.

Opponent *could have* run around the net and played the ball, but didn't, thinking that “you can't pass the net.” But it turns out he could! “Rule 24, Case 4: Does a player lose the point if an imaginary line in the extension of the net is crossed before or after hitting the ball? Decision: The player does not lose the point in either case provided the player does not touch the opponent's court.”

# 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](mailto:rthompson123@gmail.com).



**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

**For Sale: 3BR 2.5BA townhome,** end unit, lake view, new carpet, dbl gar, pool, tennis. Andy 763-571-3740

**Rent Villages FL.** Activities for everyone. 2BR 2BA gar. \$1000/mo & up. Avl Dec, May on. 952-935-5670.

**Great unique tennis jewelry**—Saworski crystal tennis ball pendant, earrings, in birthstone colors. Reasonably priced. Exclusive at Mike Lynne's tennis shop. Miracle Mile. [www.mltennis.com](http://www.mltennis.com).

**Health & anti-aging** glutathion product. Patent pending by ex-Mayo MD. Videos & Info [www.alholter.com](http://www.alholter.com).

**●● 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
<b>Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center</b> 4005 Nicollet Ave S Minneapolis 612-825-6844	Mon	10:00-11:00 "Owies" <b>Suspended!</b>	All	\$7.50	Dilcia Pederson Call for info on resumption!	612-824-6099
		1:30-3:00 PM Start 9/14/09	All	\$7.00	Dilcia Pederson Duncan Welty	612-824-6099 952-933-8592
	Thu	8:30-10:00AM	All	\$7.00	Percy Hughes	612-866-1102
					Duncan Welty	952-933-8592
					Paul Stormo	952-944-6286
	<b>Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center.</b> 100 Federal Drive, Minneapolis	Tue	11:00-12:30	All	\$7.00	Tony Rodriguez
<b>Williston Fitness &amp; Sports</b> 14509 Minnetonka Drive Minnetonka 952-939-8370	Wed	5:30-7:00PM	All	\$7.00	Duncan Welty	952-933-8592
<b>PublicIndoorTennis.Com</b> 7833 Highway 65 N.E. Spring Lake Park, MN 55432	Fri	1:00-2:30 PM	All	\$7.00	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 \$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
<b>Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center</b> 4005 Nicollet Ave S, Minneapolis	Tue Thu	\$8.00	9:00-10:00 AM	612-825-6844 Call for reservation.
<b>Williston Center</b> , 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 (starts January 4, 2010)
	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
<b>Baseline Tennis Center.</b> Visit our website and click Tennis Schedule, then click to get a map and parking information.	Fridays: Mar 5, 19	\$15	8:30-10:00 AM	Senior drill for 3.5-4.0 players. Reserve by email to Dana Young: <a href="mailto:danayoung7@yahoo.com">danayoung7@yahoo.com</a> .

# SAVE THE DATE

## Tennis Festival of the North



April 9-11, 2010

Eden Prairie High School

Eden Prairie, Minnesota

### THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

Player exhibition featuring Martina Navratilova and Lindsay Davenport.

On-and-off-court sessions, outstanding speakers, vendor fair, equipment demos, prizes and much, much more.

For more information and to order tickets, visit [www.tennisfestivalofthenorth.com](http://www.tennisfestivalofthenorth.com)

Also scheduled to appear: David Wheaton, Luke Jensen, Ginger Helgeson-Nielsen, Martin Blackman, Ajay Pant, Joe Dinoffler and other industry greats.



**MARTINA NAVRATILOVA**  
18-Time Grand Slam  
Singles Champion &  
All-Time Winningest  
Female Tennis Player in  
WTA Tour History

**LINDSAY DAVENPORT**  
Three-Time Grand Slam  
Singles Champion &  
1996 Olympic Gold  
Medalist

## Annual spring luncheon

It's coming May 15! Captains will receive a mailed invitation—look for it in March. Others should sign up using the form on page 11 of this newsletter. This is a great chance to get together with all your tennis friends. You get to see what we look like **OFF** the court!

**Important:** if you make reservations and then can't come, please be sure to cancel. Every year several captains, who attend free, make reservations and then don't show. That costs the club \$22. You can cancel as little as 24 hours ahead. **Thanks for helping!**

## January Tennis Mixer

By Carol Brant

The mixer was held at Public Indoor Tennis in Spring Lake Park. There was a good turnout of 32 players dividing time on 4 courts. Everyone had a good time playing and enjoying snacks provided by STPC. Special thanks to Tim Jachymowski, the owner of the facility, for his hospitality. Also thanks to Marv Schneider for organizing the player line-up and overseeing a smooth movement of players every half hour. Thanks to Ardelle Hanson for helping with sign-ins and food handling, and to Diane Lehman for contributing her delicious chocolate chip cookies (there were no leftovers!).

## Parkway Cooperative of Burnsville

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- Units available
- Low purchase price and low monthly charges
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(952) 895-8526

115 E. Burnsville Parkway  
Burnsville, MN 55337



# Fred Wells March Tennis Mixer

Mixed doubles. Rotating partners. 56 players only! You do not need to bring a partner.

Time: Saturday March 13, 6:00-9:00 PM. Play one 90 minute session (either 6:00-7:30 or 7:30-9:00).

Place: Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center—see directions below.

Cost: \$13/person. Guests welcome.

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

Limited to first 56 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.

**Directions:** The Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center is located 1 mile north of the Minneapolis airport and ½ mile southeast of the Veterans' Administration Hospital on the south side of Highway 55 (opposite Historical Fort Snelling site).

From the West: From the 62-35W interchange, take 62 East. Go approximately 4 miles and take the Bloomington Road Exit (not Bloomington Ave!) Our building is 100 yards ahead on the left side. Parking is on the south side of the building.

From the East: Take 494 West to HWY 5 East, as if you were going to the airport. Go past the airport exit and take HWY 55

West towards Minneapolis. Go ½ mile and take the Bloomington Road Exit. Horseshoe back under HWY 55 and turn right on the south frontage road. You will see the facility 200 yards up and on the left. Parking is on South side of building on the left.

From St. Paul: Take 35E to 7th Street. Take West 7th Street south towards Minneapolis airport. Take 55 West towards Minneapolis. Go ½ mile to the Fort Snelling exit. Horseshoe back under HWY 55 and turn right on the south frontage road. You will see the facility 200 yards up and on the left. Parking is on South side of building on the left.

## March Tennis Mixer Reservation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rating \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rating \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Send check \$13/person, payable to STPC, and this form by **March 8** 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 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 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 \_\_\_\_\_

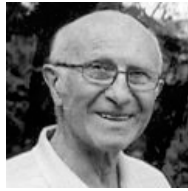
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# In Memory...



## Bob Arndt

Arndt, Robert P. age 80, of Mpls, died January 2, 2010. Survived by wife of 32 years Norma Crockett. Memorials preferred in lieu of flowers to Reed-Sweat Inner City Tennis Program, or donor's choice. Bob was a member of Senior Tennis from 1996. Lois Bunday remembers: "Bob loved tennis and golf, skiing and camping. He was looking for people to play with, so he started a group - match singles, which is still going. Organized ski trips. Then Bob and Norma met—she wanted to play tennis. Ned Bunday and I, Bob and Norma would play together. They did all kinds of things—even had a camping group that Bob organized. Norma had to stop playing because of a knee, so Bob and I played together, even winning some tournaments.



## Bob Hoover

Bob, age 82, of Mounds View, former longtime resident of New Hope, passed away Dec. 22, 2009. Preceded in death by wife, Donna and son, Gary. Co-Founder of Hoover Wheel Alignment. Bob enjoyed dancing, tennis, golfing, and fishing. Bob was a member of Senior Tennis from 1992.



## Trudy Hughes

Born in St. Paul, Trudy moved to Minneapolis when she began teaching in the Minneapolis Public Schools. Preceded in death by her beloved husband, Rich Hughes. In retirement, Trudy became an aerobics instructor, lifetime member of Senior Tennis Players Club, and singer with Richfield Silvernotes Chorus. She played piano for special occasions. *Editor's note: see the article about Trudy on page 12 reprinted from our January/February 2008 newsletter.*



*(Tennis events—continued from page 1)*

last 19 Grand Slam finals.

Serena Williams won her 5th Australian Open title with a three-set win over Justine Henin, who made a remarkable comeback from retirement. With this win Serena matched Billie Jean Kings' career total of 12 slam wins in singles. In the second set Henin started a run by winning 20 of 22 points to even the final at one set each. She took the lead in the third set. The unranked Henin fell short of duplicating the feat of Kim Clijsters comeback at the US Open last September, when she beat Serena in the semis before taking the title in only her third tournament back from a two year retirement.

## Australian Open results

**Mens Singles.** Roger Federer[1] over Andy Murray[5] 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 (11).

**Womens Singles.** Serena Williams [1] over Justine Henin 6-4, 3-6, 6-2.

**Mens Doubles.** Bob & Mike Bryan

[1] over Daniel Nestor & Nenad Zimonjic[2] 6-3, 6-7, 6-3.

**Womens Doubles.** Serena and Venus Williams[2] over Cara Black and Liezel Huber[1] 6-4, 6-3.

**Mixed Doubles.** Cara Black and Leander Paes[1] over Ekaterina Makarova and Jaroslav Levinsky 7-5, 6-3.

## Jack Dow Tournament

Select your doubles partner and get ready for the STPC Dow Tournament in May. We are looking forward to another exciting tournament offering men's, women's and mixed doubles at Reed Sweat Family Tennis Center. Be sure to check this newsletter for further details.

Gopher Men's Tennis	
Fri, Mar 05, 5:00 pm	New Mexico
Sun, Mar 07, noon	Washington
Fri, Apr 02, 3:00 pm	Penn State
Sun, Apr 04, noon	Ohio State
Fri, Apr 16, 3:00 pm	Northwestern
Sun, Apr 18, noon	Wisconsin

## Minnesota Gopher tennis

Be sure to attend a Gopher tennis match this spring season. The Baseline Tennis Club on the campus of the U of M features the best tennis in the Twin Cities and with no ticket charge!! Visit [www.gophersports.com](http://www.gophersports.com) click on "Teams", and than select "M" Tennis or "W" Tennis.



Gopher Women's Tennis	
Fri, Feb 26, 6:00 pm	Iowa
Sun, Feb 28, 11:00 am	Princeton
Sun, Feb 28, 4:00 pm	Carleton
Sat, Mar 27, 11:00 am	Michigan State
Sun, Mar 28, noon	Michigan
Fri, Apr 09, 6:00 pm	Indiana
Sun, Apr 11, 11:00 am	Illinois
Sun, Apr 25, noon	Purdue

# 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. The Jack Dow Tennis Event honors 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 exceeds 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.

## PEARLS BEFORE SWINE STEPHAN PASTIS







# Senior Tennis Players Club

## 15th Annual Jack Dow Tennis Event

### May 3–6, 2010



**Registration ends:** Postmark by Monday, April 19, 2010 or division is full.

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

**Time:** 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Check-in starts at 7:30 AM each day.

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

**Draws Published:** Thursday, April 29, 2010 on the STPC website and posted at Reed-Sweatt. **Reed-Sweatt staff is not responsible for incorrect times given over the phone.**

**Rules:**

1. Only STPC members can participate.
2. No partner substitution after the 1<sup>st</sup> match begins.
3. 2<sup>nd</sup> event must be Mixed Doubles.
4. 2009 1st place winners must move up one level from 2009 Event for 2010 Event.
5. Participants must play at or above their STPC ranking as in the March 2010 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 April 26, 2010**

**Event Director:** Gary Rother, Phone: 612-724-5515, E-mail: [garyrot@aol.com](mailto:garyrot@aol.com)

**Donations Needed!!** Individuals or organizations.

**Please sign release form upon 1<sup>st</sup> check-in at the Event Desk.**

" ----- (Detach here) ----- "

### 15th Annual Jack Dow Tennis Event Entry Form

(Please print clearly or use return mailing label)

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\_\_\_

1st Doubles Partner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \* STPC Rating: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Doubles 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).

Please type address on envelope or use label. Handwritten address can take up to 10 business days for delivery.

Send check payable to STPC and entry form to: Gary Rother  
 Jack Dow Tennis Event  
 5208 16th Avenue South  
 Minneapolis MN 55417-1814

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# Tennis doubles—a challenge

By Paul Stormo

One thing that has bothered me in the last few years is how much more fun the game of doubles would be if it were better understood by the players. I include all levels of play when I make this statement. I assume I can exclude those who were well coached in high school or college, but I suspect my statement applies to most.

In order to bring better understanding to the doubles game I have created a series of questions that I hope you will answer. We won't keep score. It is for your benefit only.

1. On a doubles team, which partner has priority in taking the shot?
  - a. The player hitting the forehand.
  - b. The player hitting the backhand.
  - c. The player closest to the net.
  - d. The better player.
2. You arrive to play a doubles match and your new partner announces that she/he does not come to the net. What do you do?
  - a. Ignore partner and play your usual attacking game.
  - b. Stay back at the baseline with partner during the match.
  - c. Compromise by playing the match in “no man's land.”
  - d. Refuse to play.
3. What do the lines mean on a tennis court?
  - a. They define the boundaries for the players.
  - b. They define whether a shot is in or out.
  - c. They mean nothing.
  - d. They define “no man's land” which is “no-no” territory.
4. You are playing a match and your partner is having trouble returning the ball away from your opponents' net man. You suggest to your partner that a lob return might work. She/he responds that lobs are for sissies. What do you do?
  - a. Get in a better ready position to try to return the volley from your opponent.
  - b. Back up a few feet to give you more space to return the opponents volley.
  - c. Move back to the base line with your partner.
  - d. Argue with your partner that a lob is a perfectly legitimate shot.

## Answers

### 1. Which partner has priority in a doubles match?

In almost all cases (c) is the correct answer. The person closest to the net has total authority to cross over the entire width of the court to take a shot if she/he believes they can make it. The partner farthest from the net can see the cross and can cover the empty court behind her/his partner. One of the exceptions to this rule is the lob which we will cover in a later question.

### 2. Partner says she/he won't come to the net. What to do?

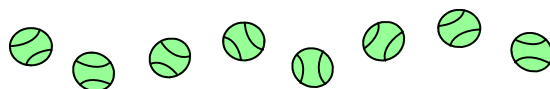
You could try (a) your usual attacking game, but if your partner will not come to the net, you are left “naked.” Your opponents will repeatedly drive the ball through the very large gap between you and your partner. Accept your partner's choice (b) and go back to the baseline. If you are good, you and your partner can drive your opponents crazy with lobs. Incidentally, “no man's land” is definitely a misnomer. Ernie Green who played in many national senior tournaments played his entire match from “no man's land”. By moving in from the baseline closer to the net he was able to narrow the court. As we get older we will take any help we can get.

### 3. What do the lines mean on a tennis court?

Lines on the tennis court mean only one thing: (b) they define whether a ball is in or out. If you said the lines mean nothing you are not wrong. In terms of player positions on the court they mean nothing. Too often players feel they must get to a certain spot to hit a shot. That is true, but it has very little to do with the lines. I think we might be better off teaching tennis if the only lines we have on the court are the outer doubles lines. Players would have to learn position based on where your opponents will hit from and where the likely shot will go.

### 4. Partner says lobs are for sissies. What to do?

Never, never, never argue with your partner on the tennis court. The only words you should have for your partner are words of encouragement and support. No matter how bad she/he is playing. It is not likely that getting in a better ready position or moving back a few feet will do much good if your opponents are teeing off on your partner's return. If your partner won't change, then you must change. (c) is the right answer. Move back to the baseline to give yourself a chance.





# STPC Annual Spring Luncheon

## Y Captain's Recognition

## Y Jack Dow Trophy

Saturday, May 15, 11:00 am - 2:30 pm

Town & Country Club Y 300 Mississippi River Boulevard N. Y St. Paul, Minnesota

### Schedule of Events

- 11:00 am Social Hour
- 12:00 pm Luncheon
- 1:00 pm Annual Meeting, Introduction of new Board members, and Jack Dow Trophy award. Thank retiring Board members.
- 1:45 pm Musical entertainment

### Luncheon Menu

- Steak Diane—sautéed medallions of beef tenderloin with shallots, new potatoes*
- Alternate: Butternut squash ravioli*
- Salad of mixed greens, peppercorn ranch or balsamic vinaigrette dressing*
- Raspberry sherbet and cookies*
- Regular or Decaf Coffee, Hot or Iced Tea*

#### Directions to Town & Country Club

From I94: Take the Cretin Avenue/Vandalia Street exit (exit 237) and turn south onto Cretin Avenue. Turn right onto Marshall Avenue. Turn right onto Otis Ave, then left into parking.

From south suburbs: I494 east to Hwy 5. East across river and exit to Edgcumbe. Follow Edgcumbe to left on St. Paul Ave, which becomes Cleveland by Ford Parkway. Cleveland to Marshall. Turn left onto Marshall. Turn right on Otis Ave. Clubhouse parking is first driveway on left.

From Minneapolis: Take Lake Street east across river. It becomes Marshall. Take left on Otis Ave (one short block from river). Clubhouse parking is first driveway on left.

Send reservation form **by Monday May 10** with check for \$22 payable to STPC to:  
 Ronnae Wagner Y 5326 Rogers Dr Y Minnetonka, MN 55343 Y 952-938-5785

Please call to cancel if unable to attend.  
 (Cancellations accepted up to 24 hours prior to event)

Captains: you will receive a mailed invitation—do not use this reservation form!

STPC Luncheon Reservation form for Non-Captains and guests only  
 Saturday, May 15, 11:00 am - 2:30 pm. Cost: \$22 per member or guest

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Check if want ravioli

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Check if want ravioli

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Important:** Butternut squash ravioli is the *alternate* entrée.

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## Trudy Hughes

By Mary Kaminski

*Editor's note: Trudy died recently. We reprint this article from the January/February 2008 newsletter in her memory.*

In the early nineties, the Senior Tennis Times monthly published an "up Close and Personal" feature article which really was a biography of a member. Trudy Hughes was the subject in the February, 1991 issue.

Trudy was one busy lady then, with an interesting life of many activities besides tennis. So here it is seventeen years later when I heard that she wrote a book last year, a children's book.

Trudy was an elementary school teacher until she retired. She joined the Senior Tennis Players Club, learned tennis, and became a lifetime member in 1986. She served a two-year term on the executive committee, played lots of tennis, and participated in all Club events. Trudy still plays tennis, though not regularly with a group.

Let's go back a few years. Richard Hughes, Trudy's husband, learned to sail on White Bear Lake as a teenager with his teenage cousin. He fell in love with sailing, and dreamed of owning his own sailboat some day. Years later, still dreaming about owning a sailboat,

he said to Trudy and to their two children, then nine and twelve, "Why don't we build a sailboat?" Trudy thought he was "crazy". But build a 20' sailboat they did, complete with a mahogany cockpit! It took four years of hard work for the four of them, in the garage of their Lake Nokomis home, and it was a proud day, indeed, when the Hughes family launched their sailboat on White Bear Lake where Richard's dream started!

With encouragement from her son and daughter (Richard died many years ago), Trudy wrote a book, "A Sailboat for Dad" which was published in 2006. Besides the memories of the adventure, Trudy has a collection of twenty water colors painted by her husband, his portrayal of their experiences in building their sailboat. All through the years, they sailed, and the boat is now docked in the San Francisco Boatyards near Trudy's son's home.

This incredibly energetic woman has taken up bowling and is a member of the Southtown Bowling League. She entertains groups while singing with the Silver Notes, and plays piano at the VFW. She also plays piano at church. Not too long ago, she took tap-dancing lessons. She still loves to dance, and goes dancing at the Lennox Community Center.