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Passing Shots

Cupertino Tennis Club Newsletter



My Spin On Things by Bob McCord, CTC President

The game of golf is often called a “gentleman’s game” because players are expected to call penalties on themselves. Except for professional tournaments, there are generally no referees. USTA play is very similar in that matches are un-officiated. Players are expected to call balls in or out fairly and accurately, giving the benefit of any doubt to the opponents. The “**Friend at Court**” rulebook has a section called “**The Code, The Players’ Guide to Unofficial Matches.**”

If you haven’t read it or read it recently, please do so. Directions for finding it on-line are on page two. “The Code” sets the tone

for USTA matches. It addresses everything from warm-ups to correcting a call to disagreements on calls – disagreements with your opponents as well as with your partner.

There is another important section of rules on the NorCal website called the **Local League Area Regulations (L.L.A.R.)**. The L.L.A.R. covers some topics not found in “The Code” such as asking for a court monitor. At some point, you may encounter a situation that requires a court monitor and it is important to know how it works. I certainly hope that our opponents never have a need to call a court monitor because of our

Did you know that CTC is organizing a **CLUB SOCIAL** scheduled for Sunday, **October 7th**? Details next month.

calls; questionable calls due, at best, to poor eyesight or, at worst, because of poor sportsmanship or cheating. Neither of those, nor anything in between, is good. I spoke with someone who felt that calling a monitor was a good thing because it relieved them of the responsibility for calling lines. It is not a good thing.

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SENIOR LEAGUE 2008 MIXED LEAGUE 2008

Team Registration July 25, 2007 - August 19, 2007

Season Starts September 24th!

Early Start Ratings will be published in July and apply to these leagues

My Spin On Things continued from page 1:

You can be pretty sure that if your opponent(s) call for a court monitor it will be because they think you are cheating. It makes for an unpleasant situation all around.

Competition is fun but it can bring out negative traits in people who are otherwise wonderful. Be fair, follow the guidelines and rules, be forgiving of an occasional

bad call, but don't let someone use marginal calls to win or get into your head.

Play well and have fun,
Bob McCord

The Code: www.usta.com, Select About Us, Rules, The Code (this is a 7 page pdf)
L.L.A.R. : www.norcal.usta.com. Select "Leagues", "League Home", Local League Area Regulations.

Friend at Court : www.norcal.usta.com . Select Adult Tournaments, Friend at Court. Please note: this pdf is 307 pages.



Let's Get Some Light On the Subject!

By Ed Hirshfield, Community Liaison

At the Cupertino City Council meeting on June 19th, the budget for 2007-2008 was approved. This budget is for the city's fiscal year from July 1, 2007 through July 1, 2008. There are three items in the budget for the Sports Center. Project number one is \$25,000 for upgrading the lower court lights and adding lights to the upper courts. We have campaigned for this for many years and the planning has now been approved for the coming year.

The next step will be for the Public Works Department to go through a competitive process to hire a design and engineering company to write a specification, statement of work and request a proposal. When Public Works has these, they will probably be presented to the community for comment. Once this process is complete, Public Works will "compete" the construction bid. When construction bids are received, Public Works will go to the City Council again to approve the contract. Hopefully, we will have new lights by Spring, 2008.

Two other projects at the Sports Center were approved. They are replacing the sound wall between the upper courts and the condo's (\$300,000) and demolishing the pool house, filling in the pool, and covering it with a general purpose court for activities such as basketball, badminton, or tennis (\$500,000).

All of these dollar values are estimates by Public Works. The rubber hits the road when real bids come in. The City Council will then have final approval. Let's hope all of these make it through the process.

CTC and CSC occasionally need representation at the City Council meetings by members of CTC who are also Cupertino residents. If you would like to attend meetings that are relevant to CTC/CSC issues, please let Ed know via email:

Community-Liaison@cupertinotennisclub.org

THANKS!



QUICK TIPS:
From Tennis Pro Tom Veneziano

There are 5 basic returns of serve in doubles:

1. Back to the server
2. Angle by the server
3. Down the line or to the net player
4. Lob over the net player
5. Lob back to the server

Out of all of these returns, which one gives you the highest percentage chance of a win, a return you should you hit 60% of the time ?

Answer: back to the server



CTC needs volunteers to work the **Cupertino Summer NTRP Classic** tennis tournament. Jobs are available on August 11, 12, 18 and 19. Many 3hour shifts are open. Training supervisors, Bob Larocca and Candace Danielson are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Positions available:

- Tournament desk help** – no experience necessary – will train.
- Court Monitors** – good eyesight preferable – experience watching a ball hit the line (or not) a plus.

Apply in person or email Bob Larocca at r_larocca@yahoo.com.

UP the Ladder *By Bob Gonzales*

Calvin Pang is leading the pack on the ladder. He only needs one more win to be a qualifier for the October prizes on the Men's Singles Ladder. As can be seen by his scores, he has been working very hard to get where he is. No time to rest, Calvin.

We need to see more scores from the women's ladders. Don't stop now.

Also, we have not had any matches from the

Men's Doubles Ladder.

The Ladder is a good way to get some practice time with your combo or mixed partners against someone other than players on your team. Come on, challenge other players. You can only get better by playing and there are prizes to win, too.

Remember, in each ladder, anyone at any level is fair game for any other player or players to be challenged!

QUICK TIPS
From Tom Continued:

IMPORTANT

If the server stays back after the serve, you should return higher and deeper. If the server comes up to the net after the serve, you should return low at the feet. Any high ball hit to the net-rushing server will be an invitation to pummel the ball at your partner now helpless at the net!

The remaining returns of serve should be mixed among all the other returns. Although the down the line is a good return to keep your opponents balance, it can be dangerous.



The Larocca Report

USTA playoffs, season updates, and upcoming league registrations

The **Adult regular season** just finished and we have several teams that qualify for the local league playoff beginning the weekend of July 13-15.

Congratulations to George Bassi and his first place finish in the 3.5 league. Reza Kafi went undefeated in 9 matches and Hal Zamzow had 8 wins for the team. George's team was the master of the 3-2 victory, winning 7 matches in a row by that score early in the season.

Other men's teams that qualified are Ron Lee's at the 4.0 level and Bill Kahng in the 4.5's. Both teams finished strongly to get into the finals. Ron's team had key contributions from several players, with Rick Kawamura leading the way. Bill's team is made up of mostly 4.0 players, so making the playoffs is a huge accomplishment for them. Nice going guys.

The ladies teams had good news too. Joan Martin's 4.0 squad won their final three matches by a 3-2 score to qualify. Shu-Hui Chu, Lori Cruz-Spray and Kim Motzny all had outstanding records. Rookie captain Anne Leung-Stevens and her 3.5 team overcame a rough start to win six of their last eight matches. They didn't make it to the playoffs, but they showed lots of moxie for a 3.5 team with mostly 3.0 players. Julie Gordon and Lynn Stark were a combined 16-1 for Anne's team!

The short **Fifty Mixed season** is drawing to a close. We only fielded three teams this year, mainly due to a shortage of captains. We could sure use some more volunteers for next season, since we have lots of people who would like to play in this league. Diane Detig and Irene Nishimoto's teams have a chance to advance to the playoffs if they win their last couple of matches.

The **Super Senior 60 league** is in the early stages of the season and all three teams are doing well thus far.

In the **Super Senior 65 league**, Nebojsa Avdalovic's 7.0 men's team finished in 3rd place and will play a first round playoff match at Cupertino Hills, 1:00PM on July 13th.

We have eight teams entered into the upcoming **Combo Doubles League**. The season starts July 23rd. If you are interested in playing, please contact one of the team captains before registering to make sure there is room for you.

Tad Yoshikawa and Hal Zamzow are currently ranked 4th in the NorCal Mens 70 Doubles Grand Prix race.

Natalya Bach and Jessica Ma won 2 tournaments in May and are ranked #1 in 3.5 doubles.

Anthony Brittis and partner E.G.Kim have won several tournaments this year, including the Santa Clara tournament in April and the Fremont and AVAC tournaments in May. They are in 3rd place in the Grand Prix doubles rankings.

Miss 'Meg

Chicken Salad Sandwiches

Submitted by one of our favorite tennis chicks, Arlene Hanson



More sandwich recipes, please.

A. Ingredients:

- 3 cans Kirkland Seasoned Chicken Breast Meat (buy at Costco)
- 1 cup celery, thinly sliced
- 1/2 red onion, grated
- 1 head leaf lettuce
- 16 small croissants

B. Dressing:

- 2 tbsp Gourmet Rice Vinegar
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 tbsp honey
- 2 tsp dill weed

C. Mix and Assemble:

In a large bowl, mix chicken breast, celery, and grated onion. In a separate bowl, mix the dressing ingredients together. Combine dressing with chicken salad. Place chicken salad and lettuce on small croissants. Makes 16 servings

What you need to know about C.S.N.T.R.P.C.*

Who: Singles, doubles or mixed at levels 3.0 - 4.0.

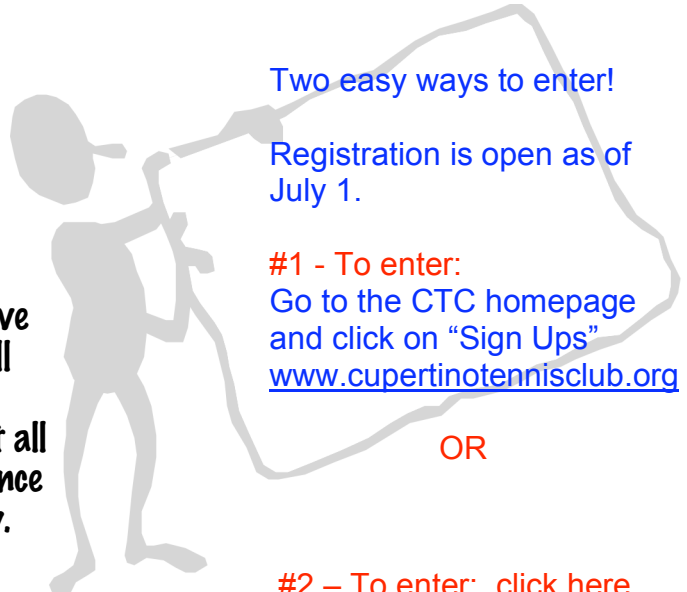
By John Sperinde, Tournament Director

What: * The Cupertino Summer NTRP Classic

When: August 11-12 and August 18-19.

Where: Cupertino Sports Center

Why: It will be fun, competitive tennis! Singles players, here is your chance to play some competitive tennis now that the Adult USTA season is over. All you doubles players, find a partner quick and get signed up. Otherwise, your favorite partners might all have other plans. You don't want to miss this chance to play with a partner of your choice. Don't be shy. Everyone likes to be asked to play.



Two easy ways to enter!

Registration is open as of July 1.

#1 - To enter:

Go to the CTC homepage and click on "Sign Ups"
www.cupertinotennisclub.org

OR

#2 - To enter: [click here.](#)

<http://tennislink.usta.com/TournamentsHome/Tournament.aspx?T=47853>