



THE COURT REPORTER

Newsletter of the
Walnut Creek Racquet Club

January 2005

Tom Jur and Herb Koss
give Roundhill all they
can handle at a recent
4.0 senior match.

Inside this issue...

President's Message	2
Winning the Match in the Warm-Up...	3
Casino Night & Reservation Form	4
Winter Doubles - What's Next?	5
New Members	5
Valentines Day Tournament Form	6
Calendar of Events	7
Treasurer's Report.....	7
Tennis News	8

Walnut Creek Racquet Club

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THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Adios · Hasta Luego Sayonara I'm Outta Here!



Pam Maloney
2004 WCRC President

I've never been particularly superstitious but this is my 13th message to you and I fully anticipate it is my last. Not because I haven't loved every minute of being your ever-loving Pres (well, almost every minute) but my time is up, my patience is gone and my husband is sure to commit me if I don't step aside. Since we don't have a new President for 2005 though, I agreed to do one last message. This is it!

Some of you who have already renewed your membership for 2005 have noticed that the Board increased dues by \$5. Renewal for WC residents is \$20 and non-WC resident is \$25. New membership is \$30 for WC residents and \$35 for non WC residents. There are three drivers of the need for this increase.

First, postage has increased in the last couple of years and so we're playing some catch-up there. Second, we've added some fabulous enhancements to our web site that include some on-going costs which need to be covered. Last, due to a lack of volunteers, we hired some people to help with tournaments in 2004 and we expect this to continue in 2005.

You may not receive this newsletter before our annual party on January 14, but if you do I encourage you to go to the web site (www.wcrc.net) quickly and sign-up to join us for what promises to be a REALLY FUN evening.

We've put the Club's calendar for 2005 together so check out all the fun activities and tournaments we have planned. The web site has the full year's activities posted. The Board commits to holding the events because we think you enjoy them, but please remember it takes effort to put them on. Your help would be greatly appreciated and each event always has a primary organizer who would be happy to put you to work.

The Board has been discussing the possibility of going to a quarterly newsletter which you receive via the mail and focusing more on keeping information on our web site more current. The longer term goal would be to eliminate the mailed newsletter completely in favor of an online version. Continuing to produce a mailed newsletter and keeping the web site more current would not save the Club money, but in the long-run going to web-only news would produce a savings. Look for an opportunity on the web site to give the Board your opinion on this important change.

Well ya'all, that's it for me. It's been fun and I'll continue to volunteer to help the Club that's done so much for me! I hope your 2005 is happy, peaceful and brings you kindness equal to what you give. See ya on the courts...

Pam

I've heard that old chestnut for over forty years, so you figure by now I'd believe it. Guess what, I don't—and you shouldn't either.

What happens during the warm-up very often determines how the match will play out. Now this doesn't mean the match is totally over before it begins, but psychologically, you can go a long way toward winning the match before the first ball is hit. The warm-up deserves a strategy of its own.

As the name implies, the warm-up is a time to warm the body up for what is to follow. Unfortunately, in USTA matches and tournament play, you may be restricted to a limited time period before play commences. Often you're given only five minutes to hit and a couple of minutes to practice your serves. If you know this is the case, then you probably should find a court and hit for 30-45 minutes before the official warm-up. Another reason to do this is because you don't know how your opponent is going to hit the ball. If they're a wild basher type of player, they may not give you enough balls to hit to adequately warm you up.

Assuming you do have enough time to warm-up, here is a plan that Stan Smith, the former US Open and Wimbledon Champ used. The first ten to twenty strokes should be hit at 50% of your normal game pace. This will guarantee that you're successful with these early strokes and will be hitting the ball cleanly and centering the ball in the middle of your strings. This should give you confidence because everyone should be capable of rallying at half speed. As the warm-up continues, you move your pace up 5% to 10% at a time, monitoring your success as you go. Keep moving your pace up toward the speed of shot you usually like to play, but be aware of one thing along the way. Today's game speed may not be the same as yesterday's speed. You need to determine how hard you can hit the ball TODAY without self destructing. That speed might be higher or lower than yesterday's, but you'll find it in the warm-up as you gradually increase the pace. Then when you find it, you want to make sure you stay just slightly below that speed in the match. Now you're hitting the ball smoothly and feeling good about what you're doing.

OK, that takes care of your side of the net. Now let's go get some valuable information from the other side of the net. What's our opponent up to? If your opponent has a favorite shot they're not going to hide it during the warm-up. They're going to want to make sure it's well warmed up before play starts. Your job is to identify it. You'll want to avoid giving them this shot at key moments. If you do, it's a little like presenting lions with large pieces of red meat at feeding time.

What isn't your opponent showing you? Maybe they only came to the net briefly during the warm-up and then maybe you had to ask

them if they wanted a few lobs. If they said, "no thanks" on the lobs then that should tell you something. If that's the case, then the first time they come to the net in the match, I'm hitting up a lob.

The main thing you want to accomplish in the warm-up is to send a very clear message to the other side of the net; here is what that message should be; "I'm a very solid, consistent and fit player. I'm not going to roll over and die for you, and it's going to take a heck of an effort on your part to get by me today. I'm willing to hit balls till the cows come home and you're going to have to hit very aggressively at the lines to win points. Everything else I'm going to run down. I hope you're ready to play today because I am."

If you walk on the court with this kind of a warm-up strategy you may have secured a victory before you hit the first ball. I've seen good players beaten before the match has begun. Don't miss your chance to put your stamp on the match during the warm-up.

Till next time,

Lee Draisin

USPTA Teaching Pro

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CERTIFIED STRINGER

*One racquet only. Limited to first-time customers. May not be combined with other offers.

Annual Awards Banquet & Casino Night

When: Friday, January 14th • 6:30 -10:30

Where: Shadelands Art Center (111 N. Wiget, WC)

Cost: \$25/in advance • \$30/at the door*

Questions: Tammy Chan at 324-0524

***(includes \$25 chips) Additional chips will be available**

Casino Night RSVP

\$25/advance • \$30/door

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

No. of reservations: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please send check to:

WCRC c/o Tammy Chan
2984 Bonafacio Street • Concord, CA 94519

Questions? Call Tammy at 324-0524
or email her at: tammychan@sbcglobal.net



Food • Drinks • Dancing

Raffle • Awards Ceremony

Las Vegas Games • Fabulous Prizes

2005 Women's & Men's Winter Doubles - What's Next?

The schedule for the 2005 Winter Doubles league is now on-line. Instructions on what to do next are below. If you have any questions please contact Judy Stillman at jstillma@pacbell.net or if you have technical issues please contact Shari Huber at shari_huber@sbcglobal.net. Good luck and have a great season!

ACCESSING YOUR SCHEDULE ON-LINE

1. You can access league schedules, on-line player tools, on-line score entry and the league standings by logging onto www.wcrc.net and clicking on the "WCRC Leagues" tab at the top of the page or more directly by typing in www.wcrc.net/events/index.asp. We recommend that you bookmark this URL in your browser for convenient access.
2. Click on the "Player Tools" link at the top of the page.
3. Click the "Printout Schedule of Play for this Season" link.
4. Login to the site using your User Name and PIN. Your User Name is the first initial of your first name and your last name (e.g. jsmith for John Smith).
5. Once logged in you can either email all of your opponents by clicking the Email all Opponents link, or you can contact them individually.
6. If you do not know your PIN number you can have the system email it to your registered email address by entering your User Name in the Login field on the login page and clicking the Please Email My PIN button.

Note: If you have problems logging into the site your last name may be spelled incorrectly or you may have an old or incorrect email address registered so please contact the League Administrators Judy Stillman at 925-933-9351 or jstillma@pacbell.net or Shari Huber at shari_huber@sbcglobal.net.

CHECK AND UPDATE YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Go to www.wcrc.net/events/index.asp
2. Click on the Player Tools link.
3. Click Update My Personal Information.
4. Login if needed and then make sure that your information is current and accurate and click Make Changes.

PLAYING MATCHES

Remember, winners are responsible for reporting match scores and take home the unopened can of tennis balls!

1. Once you've played a match that you scheduled at a mutually agreed upon date, time and place with your opponents follow the steps below to enter your scores.
2. Go to www.wcrc.net/events/index.asp
3. Click on the "My Matches" link that is just underneath the Player Tools link.

4. Login if needed.

5. Once the password has been successfully entered, a screen will appear with all of your scheduled matches for the season. To enter scores, find the match that you just played and click on corresponding "Enter Score" link at the far left of that row.

6. Enter the match scores using the pulldown menus provided. Remember to enter tiebreaker scores in the space provided if applicable as well as the date the match was played.

7. IMPORTANT! For the system to accept defaults due to injury or a player retiring, you must enter the default as 6-0, rather than the point of the match when the default occurred. Example: A player retires leading 4-1 in the first set, the winner must go to the website and enter it as 6-0, 6-0. Using that same example, a player retires at 5-7, 6-4, 3-2, the score should be entered as 5-7, 6-4, 6-0.

8. Click the "Save" button at the bottom of the score entry page.

9. Click on the "View Leagues & Enter Scores" link at the top of the page and then on your division and you will notice that the standings have been updated as a result of the score you just entered.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to Our 4 New Members
Current Membership: 817

Mark Chase	Walnut Creek	
	3.5	
Daniel Haight	Lafayette	3.0
Greg Kalustian	Pleasant Hill	
	3.5	
Sally Van Oosbree	Lafayette	
	2.5	



Membership questions contact:
Marty Tedlock at 925-256-9313
or email at: marty.tedlock@jmmhdhs.com



Valentine's Day Tournament Registration Form

When: Saturday, February 12, 2004

Where: Walnut Creek Tennis Center

Cost: \$20.00

Start: Times posted after 4pm on Thursday, February 10th

♥ PLAYER 1 ♥

♥ PLAYER 2 ♥

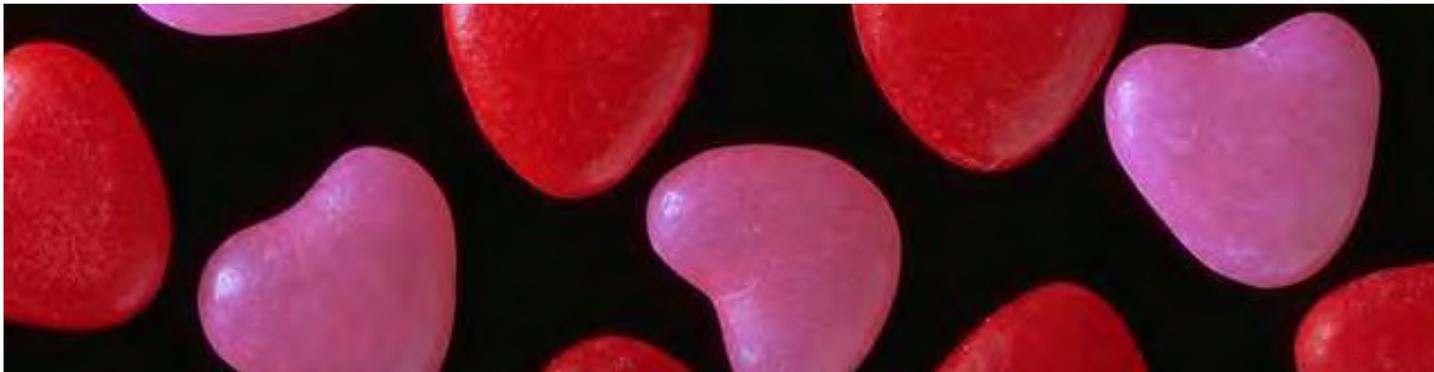
Name	_____	_____
Mailing Address	_____	_____
City	_____	_____
ZIP Code	_____	_____
Home Phone	_____	_____
E-mail address	_____	_____
NTRP level	_____	_____

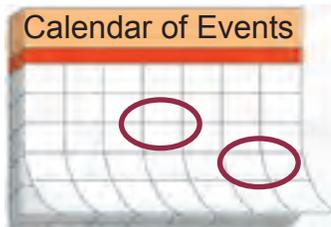
"Secret Lovers" format (to be explained at event). Play will include three 8-game pro sets.
Prizes to be awarded to First, Second and Dead Ass Last places.
Results will be announced at the end of the event. Food and drinks will be provided.

Registration deadline is Monday, February 7, 2005

**Please make a check for \$20 payable to WCRC
and mail to: 2416 Encinal Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94597**

Questions? Call Jennifer at (925) 939-4328 or email scriabine@astound.net





MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Jan



Sign up for discounted tickets to SAP Open in San Jose

Register on-line for Valentine's Day Tournament

Ladies Spring League daytime matches begin

Winter Doubles play begins

10: Registration for USTA Adult League Season opens

14: Annual Awards Banquet and Casino Night

17: Registration for USTA Super Senior 65 opens

Feb



7-13: SAP Open at HP Pavilion, San Jose

12: Mixed Doubles Valentine's Day Tournament

20: Registration for USTA Adult League Season closes

22-25: WCRC court assignment meeting for USTA Adult League matches, Team Captains must attend
Exact date TBD

25-27: Local League Playoffs - USTA Mixed

27: Registration for USTA Super Senior 65 closes

Mar



4-6: Senior League - USTA Local Playoffs

9-20: Pacific Life Open - Indian Wells, CA

11-13: Mixed League - USTA Local Playoffs

18-20: Senior League - USTA Local Playoffs

19: St. Patrick's Day Tournament

The WCRC's purpose is to promote the game of tennis in Walnut Creek and Contra Costa County by providing a wide variety of activities (tournaments, league play, clinics and social events) for enthusiasts of all ages and skill levels. The club is sponsored by the City of Walnut Creek.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Gabe Goldstein

Income Statement:
as of November 1, 2004



Income

Awards Banquet	3,106.00
Singles/Doubles Club Championships	810.00
Siebel Bus Trip	2,015.00
Little Siebel Tournament	200.00
Winter Doubles League	1,975.00
Interest	15.62
Turkey Tournament	24.00
Advertising	780.00
Membership Dues	11,339.00
Silent Auction	1,610.00
Board Dinner	270.00
Summer Singles	2,025.00
Friday Night Team Tennis	52.00
Calcutta Tournament	1,610.00
Valentines Tournament	485.00
Mixed Doubles Club Championships	420.00

Total Income **26,736.62**

Expenses

Siebel Bus Trip	2,898.50
Commission	13.06
Singles/Doubles Club Championships	1,200.39
Little Siebel Tournament	94.82
Turkey Tournament	714.52
Winter Doubles	5,552.50
Awards Banquet '04	3,428.71
Dues & Subscriptions	25.00
Donations	943.80
Light Fund	3,000.00
Membership Brochures	54.13
Membership Directory	1,326.06
Newsletter	5,853.82
Non-Profit Fees	44.92
Postage	1,273.54
Printing/Duplicating	146.86
Supplies	956.87
Website	668.28
Board Dinner	705.54
Friday Night Drop In Tennis	329.65
Calcutta Tournament	1,631.64
Valentines Tournament	216.81
Mixed Doubles Tournament	627.30
Awards Banquet '05	1,095.00
Nationals - 7.0	500.00

Total Expenses **33,901.72**

Profit (Loss) **-7,165.10**

Balance October 31, 2004 **\$5,734.22**



WCRC
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Tennis News

Sponsorships & Prizes Needed

The annual party is going Vegas. Yes, we are hosting a Casino Night! This year we are asking for sponsorship donations which will benefit a local needy high school tennis program. In appreciation of your sponsorship you will receive the following recognition:

A placard placed on one of the casino tables during the event. (Attendance is estimated at over 100). A thank you in the Court Reporter prior to and following Casino Night.

If you are interested in sponsoring a gaming table please contact Jennifer Scriabine at 939-4328 or by email at scriabine@astound.net.

We are also looking for prizes for the raffle. For prize donations please contact Tammy Chan at 324-0524.

2005 Membership Dues

It's that time of year again to re-new your WCRC membership. The calendar year ends on December 31st. Get a jump on renewing and ensuring your information in the directory by renewing on line at www.wcrc.net.

Walnut Creek residents are \$20.00 and non-Walnut Creek Residents are \$25.00 for the whole year! You can also send a check to WCRC, PO Box 45774, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. If you have any questions please contact Membership chair Marty Tedlock at 925-256-9313 or via email at marty.tedlock@jmmmdhs.com.