



THE COURT REPORTER

Newsletter of the Walnut Creek Racquet Club
October, 2021



Calcutta!

Walnut Creek Racquet Club

P.O. Box 4574 • Walnut Creek, CA 94596
(925) 945-0105 • www.wcrc.net



OFFICERS

President	Sally Krapf - 415-290-6466 sallykrapf@gmail.com
Vice President	Tammie Snyder - 202-7000 tammie4tennis@gmail.com
Secretary	Deanna Fong - 330-8295 deanna_fong@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Cara Mia Barnacascel - 413-2871 sakuraiiko@gmail.com

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

Club Photographer	Bob Satcher - 672-2110 bsatcher@astound.net
Newsletter	Tammie Snyder - 202-7000 tammie4tennis@gmail.com
Website	J. Patrick Forden - 415-205-3515 forden@percepticon.com
Calendar/ Newsletter Reporter	Lynne Weinshelbaum - 285-9503 lweinshelbaum@yahoo.com
Tournaments	Nicole Leong - 407-243-8645 nhlphoenix@gmail.com
	Sally Krapf - 415-290-6466 sallykrapf@gmail.com
USTA Leagues	Tammie Snyder - 202-7000 tammie4tennis@gmail.com
Membership	Pam Maloney - 787-3970 pam4tenis@gmail.com
City of Walnut Creek Liaison	Glenn McBee - 984-6710 glennmcbec@gmail.com
Mixed Doubles Leagues	Lynne Weinshelbaum - 285-9503 lweinshelbaum@yahoo.com
Doubles League	Garvin Tom - 209-696-5445 gtom12@hotmail.com
Summer Singles	Cameron Coltharp - 510-717-2107 ccoltharp@telecarecorp.com
WCRC Leagues Gift Coordinator	Priyanka Holmes - 609-647-3326 priyanka.holmes@gmail.com
Social Media Coordinator	Garvin Tom - 209-969-5445 gtom12@hotmail.com

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy Fall!

We had a lot of tennis playing over the summer with multiple USTA leagues, Sectionals and WCRC events. We were excited to host **Calcutta** in September, with the Friday night auction held outside on courts 4 & 5, a little different from



Sally Krapf
2021 WCRC President

previous years when it was hosted inside at the Lakeside Room. Thank you to all the players and members who came out and to the board members and volunteers who made the event a success! We had a great time with lots of food, beverages and competitive tennis.

There were 2 rounds of USTA sectionals in September, Adult 40+ and Mixed, congrats to all the teams who made it this year!

The weekend of October 1-3 we have the **Winter Doubles tournament**, good luck to all the teams who are playing! If you aren't playing in the tournament stop by to watch some matches and enjoy some food and drinks. We have matches scheduled Friday at 6pm, Saturday from 8:30-2:30, and Finals held Sunday morning at 8:30 and 10am.

The **WCRC Mixed Doubles League** is underway with matches being played; if you haven't signed up yet there is still time!

Have a great October and a Happy Halloween!

Have fun and see you on the courts!

Sally Krapf



MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to Our **27 New Members**
Current Membership: **1477**

Cynthia Abel	Moraga	4.5	Anita Lifson	Walnut Creek	3.0
Priscilla Zielenski Behidj	San Ramon	3.0	Jeff Machle	Piedmont	4.5
Joan Beltran-Franey	Clayton	3.5	Scott McCaughin	Alamo	3.5
Ninette Bittner	Lafayette	4.0	Flor Navarro	Richmond	3.5
John Boral	Walnut Creek	4.0	Chiara Schwab	Lafayette	4.0
Maria Boukhval	Walnut Creek	4.5	Edward Shaffer	Lafayette	3.0
Curtis Brennan	Walnut Creek	N.A.	Marcy Sharafian	Piedmont	4.5
Louis Castaneda	Antioch	3.0	Nicholas Stahl	Walnut Creek	3.5
Maria DeBenedetti	Danville	3.0	Stephanie Stieber	Walnut Creek	4.0
Peter Fong	Walnut Creek	3.5	Heidi Temkin	Alamo	3.5
Tiffany Fong	Walnut Creek	4.5	Tedd Tollivoro	Walnut Creek	4.0
Diana Hong	Walnut Creek	3.5	James Tucker	Walnut Creek	3.5
Joseph Kennedy	Danville	4.5	Stephen Wullschlegler	Atherton	4.5
Shin Koo	Dublin	4.0			



Membership questions contact:
Pam Maloney at 925-787-3970 or
email at: pam4tenis@gmail.com



Lifetime Activities

What's Happening at the Courts?

OPERATING HOURS AT WCTC

Monday – Friday: 8am-10:00pm • Saturday & Sunday: 8am-8pm

Masks Rules at the Courts

Masks are recommended to be worn by all patrons. Masks are no longer required to be worn by vaccinated patrons. Please be safe and we're excited to see the smiles of all our vaccinated patrons!

Masks are required for everyone when entering the Pro Shop!

Northgate High School

For information on our Fall hours please call our office at (925)945-0105 or email laithk@lifetimeactivities.com.

Fall Youth and Adult Class Registration

Missed out on Fall Session 1? No worries, there are still plenty of spots in our Fall session 2 classes that you can still sign up for, and start classes on 10/23!

Holiday Camps

Check out Holiday camps that are coming up in November and December!!! Further info can be found online!

Winter 2022 Youth and Adult Class Registration

Save the Date! Winter Session Registration Starts 10/18/2021!!! Winter 2022 Flyers will be posted on www.Lifetimeactivities.com, for any further questions please feel free to call the office

Visit us online at www.lifetimeactivities.com or stop by the the office at 1751 Heather Drive.
Please call with any questions at 925-945-0105.

Member Spotlight

Stephen Buchholz What's a Team??

Interview and article by Cameron Coltharp

As an effort to get to know our membership the Board has decided to start a new monthly column "Member Spotlight". We will be interviewing WCRC members and getting to know them. This article will help us find out how they got introduced to tennis, their background, any favorite memories, etc. We hope you enjoy this new commentary.

Players who frequent Heather Farm may already be familiar with Stephen Buchholz, who goes by Steve. He's a friendly and outgoing guy who has a unique game that stands out in the men's divisions. But there is more to him than his long rallies and his two handed forehand and backhands. He is a dedicated family man, long time community servant, professional architect, and enthusiastic game player and designer. So, let's dive in and learn more about him!



Stephen was born in Mountain View, California, and relocated to the small town of Cave Junction, Oregon when he was seven and his parents divorced, and his mother was diagnosed Manic Depressive. He then moved to Medford, Oregon and remained there until his sophomore year in high school when his Mother remarried and relocated to Citrus Heights. There he found himself enrolled at Mesa Verde High School, a year-around school! Stephen describes that experience as okay after the initial shock of the transition. After graduating from high school, he was accepted into the highly regarded architecture program at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

While at Cal Poly he had the good fortune to meet his wife of 34 years, Richelle. Stephen and Richelle got married while they were still in school and lived in married housing for his senior year of college. After graduating he accepted an entry level architectural position with Heller Manus Architects in San Francisco, and they relocated to the Bay Area. His career would see him hold various positions at the firm and thirty-three years later he is now the CEO. The firm's primary market sector is commercial, residential, and mixed-use high-rise design.



Richelle and Stephen went on to have three children, Jennifer, Craig, and Jodie. Stephen describes a tight-kit family and while the children were growing up, they spent lots of time together and loved to play games. A lot of games! Board games, pickleball, ping-pong, golf, and tennis, just to name a few. Are you seeing a pattern here?

Stephen's interest in tennis grew from an occasional outing with the family to a more serious interest after his oldest daughter made the high school tennis team and started to beat him. Always the competitor, he said to himself, I must get better, and headed off to Heather Farm to hit the ball more frequently. Shortly thereafter, he had his first organized tennis experiences when he played in father daughter tournaments with his daughter, Jennifer.

It didn't take long for him to be spotted at Heather Farm by Tammie Snyder who offered him a spot on a team. Stephen remembers asking, "What's a team" and the rest is history. Despite never taking a lesson he has now amassed an impressive competitive record. Beginning in 3.5 and then moving to 4.0, he has played in over 300 hundred USTA

matches, and was the WCRC Summer Singles M4.0 tournament finalist in 2015 and 2017 and 2020 and Champion in 2018 (you know I had to put in a plug for our Summer Singles leagues!).

Stephen's love of sports is not limited to tennis. He was previously a racquetball player and that presented some challenges during his transition to tennis. Try as he might, he could not master the traditional tennis forehand. He started to utilize a two handed forehand to help keep his stroke level and he found that it worked for him. And he has opted to stick with that ever since! I don't think anyone today would identify that as a significant weakness of his game given the success he has had during competitive play.



Stephen is also an avid golfer, having played on Friday mornings for the last twenty years. At one point his golf group consisted of up to twenty people and they hosted their own tournaments every month. At those events it was not uncommon for them to play thirty-six holes a day. Today the group has reduced in size to around eight guys but they're still at it every Friday morning. And speaking of tournaments, have you heard about his ping-pong tournaments? Stephen and Lloyd Hohenstein have been teaming up to organize a very popular annual ping-pong tournament. As it turns out there are some exceptionally talented ping-pong players in the WCRC, the surrounding areas, and even in his family. In fact, his youngest daughter, Jodie, once placed second in the tournament! The tournament fell victim to COVID the last few years but Stephen vows to have it up and running again next year.

But life is not all sports and games to Stephen. In fact, he has been a dedicated community servant that has actively given back to his community for many years. During that time, he coached 13 seasons for ASYO soccer (2 Select Teams) and some CYO basketball and he volunteered at his church's high school youth group for more than a decade. As a High School Student Leader at Hillside Covenant Church, he was part of the Leadership of an annual Student Mission Trip over Thanksgiving, spending a week in Mexico doing project work at an orphanage named Rancho de sus Ninos. While at Hillside he also has acted in most of the Church Drama productions (Magi) and even starred as Pharoah (Elvis) in "Joseph, The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." He was quoted as saying that if he wasn't an Architect then he would have been an Actor.

Stephen and Richelle are now empty nesters and he recently retired from the church's youth group. I would like to think that he will take a much-deserved rest. But I suspect he'll invest that time and energy into additional sports and games. In fact, he has invented a 6-12 player game called Scalawag that many WCRC members have tried and enjoyed. During Covid he and some computer developers converted the game to be completely remote access. Other new game designs are sure to follow.



Look for his two handed forehand on a court near you soon!



Calcutta Tournament

THANK YOU to everyone who put in their hard work to make this very special event so amazing. This tournament and party takes a lot of work behind the scenes to come off so flawlessly. I would like to thank the following people personally for their assistance...

Our amazing board who helped handicap this event: Deanna Fong, Garvin Tom, Glenn McBee, Cara Mia Barnacascel, Sally Krapf and Pam Maloney. Thanks to the ladies who ran and picked up and/or ordered all the food (or made it!) and alcohol for the party and the tournament: Sally Krapf, Priyanka Holmes, Pam Maloney and Cara Mia Barnacascel. Thank you to everyone who helped set up and clean up at the party: Mike Yurkus, Byron Bardy, Robin Elawady, Garvin Tom.



Thanks to Logan Snyder for his bartending skills, Sally and Garvin for emceeing with style and humor. We had a new venue this year, (courts 4-5 at Heather Farm) and although it got a little chilly I feel like it worked out well over all.

Thanks to those who help set up early Saturday morning as well as throughout the day filling up coolers, rotating food, and breaking down and clean up after the tournament: Robert Mimaki, Mike Yurkus, Pru Pruden, Kevin Kyono, Glenn McBee, Justin Snyder, Byron Bardy, Robin Elawady, Sanjay Backliwal, Garvin Tom, Sally Krapf, Teri Frangie, Chris Lau, Jeff Gear, Jill Van Slyke, Nancy Wilson, Kim Caison and Catherine Sampietro. Thank you to Bob Satcher for coming down to take photos of the tournament. See I told you it takes a lot of people to make this tournament run smoothly.

A shout out to Logan Snyder who made his Calcutta Tournament Director debut. He rocked it running a smooth tournament that ran on time! Thanks to Cara Mia for helping run the tournament desk as well. You two are a great team together!

Additionally I'd like to thank all the participants who played with integrity and fairness throughout the event. Without you guys we would not have a tournament. Thank you to all the players who stepped up to score keep as you know it is a necessity.

We had quite a lot of new faces this year and from what I heard from the feedback that everyone had a great time. On Friday night we raised \$3,500 at the auction. We had 14 matches decided by 5 points or less and 4 matches decided by a single point!

There was a lot of excellent tennis this year. Overall I thought this event really brought our club back together.

I have also posted the photos from the event here: <https://wcr.zenfolio.com/p313130366>

We look forward to another successful Calcutta next spring!

Thank you for participating!

Tammie Snyder



Photos by Bob Satcher



Calcutta

Photos by Bob Satcher



Calcutta

Photos by Bob Satcher



Calcutta

Photos by Bob Satcher



Calcutta

Photos by Bob Satcher



Calcutta

Photos by Bob Satcher



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Photos by Bob Satcher

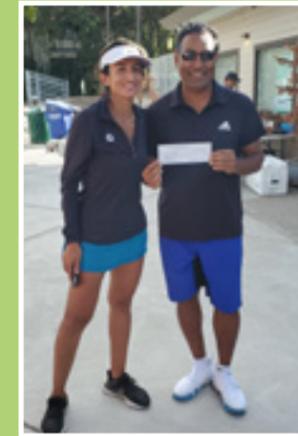
Winners

Main Draw:

Daljeet Singh bought her husband Harish Natarajan for \$130 and won an impressive \$1,155 for her investment.

Harish and his partner Arwa Kadoura had a +11 handicap and barely edged out Claire Jackson and Patrick Beauchemin +5 handicap in the finals with a score of 31-30. Pat and Claire fought an uphill battle with 7 match points against them at 24-30 down. They tied it up to 30-30 before succumbing to a perfectly placed lob that Pat hit a smash overhead that just tipped the net!!!!

Harish and Arwa split \$315 as the winners of the main draw. Pat and Claire split \$245 while their owners (Alan and Nancy Chan, Kevin Kyono, KK Tappita and Teri Frangie) split \$700 off their \$270 team purchase!



Winners

Consolation Draw:

Pru Pruden (and crew) smartly bought herself and Alan Chan for a bargain deal of \$70.

They finished in first place in the Consolation Round defeating Catherine Sampietro and Troy Rondeau 31-29 in the finals. For their effort Pru and Alan split \$210 while Pru and her team owners split \$525.

Troy and Catherine split \$105 and their team owners Jill Van Slyke, Nancy Wilson and Garvin Tom split \$245 for their \$150 investment.



WCRC Fall Mixed Doubles League Registration Form (Also on-line at www.wcrc.net)

MALE PLAYER

FEMALE PLAYER

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____

ZIP Code _____

Home Phone _____

Work or Cell Phone _____

E-mail address _____

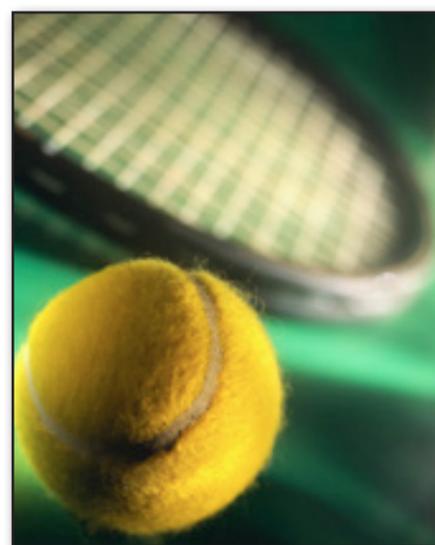
NTRP level _____

WCRC Member? YES NO YES NO

Division for which you are registering (please check one): Fill out a new form for additional levels.

- Mixed 6.0 Mixed 7.0 Mixed 8.0 Mixed 9.0

If you would like to register by mail, return this form by **December 1, 2021** with a check for registration fees (payable to Walnut Creek Racquet Club **NOT** WCRC) mail to: WCRC, P.O. Box 4574, Walnut Creek, CA 94596



Questions?

**Call Lynne Weinshelbaum at 925.285.9503
or via e-mail lweinshelbaum@yahoo.com**

Find detailed information on next page...



League Information: Players may enter the WCRC Mixed Doubles League in more than one division (i.e. 6.0 and 7.0), as long as he/she is not playing below his/her level. If a player is entering in more than one division, he/she may enter with the same partner or a different partner but may not enter with different partners at the same level.

2021 WCRC Fall Mixed Doubles League Registration Form (Also on-line at www.wcrc.net)

Don't forget that the league registration fee includes unlimited regular season doubles matches, a league gift and may include an end of the season tournament dependent upon weather and court scheduling.

LEAGUE COMMISSIONER Lynne Weinshelbaum: 925.285.9503

DATES August 1, 2021 - January 26, 2022

ENTRY FEES

WCRC Members	
On-Line Registration:	(\$40 per team)
Mail In Registration:	(\$50 per team)

Non WCRC Members	
On-Line Registration:	(\$60 per team)
Mail In Registration:	(\$70 per team)

FORMAT Mixed Doubles
(players grouped by combined NTRP level; ie. 7.0 can be a 4.0 man and a 3.0 woman or two 3.5 players)

NTRP LEVELS Mixed 6.0-9.0*

SCHEDULING This is an open schedule. Players are responsible for scheduling their own matches. Players will be provided with a contact list of participants within their division.

MATCH FORMAT Best two-out-of-three set format.
A super tiebreaker can be played if all players agree, otherwise full third.
Both teams responsible for bringing balls to match; winning team gets the unopened can.
Matches should be played according to the "Rules of Tennis."

TOURNAMENT End of season tournament with draw determined by league standings to be held over the weekend of Feb 4-6, 2022* dependent upon court scheduling and weather. To qualify for the tournament, teams must have completed and reported at least 6 matches during the regular league season. Depending on the number of entrants tournament play may include Friday night play. In addition, draws with large numbers of players may be required to play matches prior to the tournament weekend. Seeding for the tournament will be based on regular season standings of the top 4 teams in each division. The more matches you and your partner play, the higher your ranking will be. A minimum of 4 teams are required to generate a draw.

*Teams with ratings more than 1 full step apart (i.e. 3.0 & 5.0 to make up an 8.0 team) are not eligible to play the end of season tournament.

***Tournament Dates are tentative as of 7/28/21**





Sachika proudly displaying her championship trophy.

Cindy Brinker Simmons giving the \$500 travel grant to Sachika for winning the championship



Sachika Kamath did what she had promised her dad/coach and long time WCRC member Shashi Kamath on his birthday in August, to win Little Mo Nationals 12. What a delightful gift for her proud parents to see Sachika win the championship just a day after Daughter's Day!

Sachika's journey through Little Mo began with the West regionals championship title in August to secure her entry into the Nationals in Austin, Texas, as the #1 seed. At the nationals, she had straight set wins in round of 16s through her semis. Her final opponent, Scarlet Gates, #2 seed from Missouri, and she gave a terrific fight in the finals. Sachika triumphed as the champion in the third set with the match score of 6-2; 4-6; 6-3.

MCB Tennis Foundation started by Maureen Connolly Brinker AKA Little Mo, organizes the Little Mo Championships for young and upcoming tennis players. This has been a coveted and memorable tennis experience for Sachika which she will always remember and cherish.



Proud Dad/Coach Shashi holding the trophy, with Sachika, and Mom Aparna

CALENDER OF EVENTS

2021

Oct

- Oct 1-3 WCRC Winter Doubles Tournament
- Oct 4-10 WCRC Summer Singles Round of 16
- Oct 11-22 WCRC Summer Singles Quarter Finals
- Oct 23-24 WCRC Summer Singles Semi's/Finals

Dec

- Dec 3 USTA 70+ Team Season Closes
- Dec 5 USTA Mixed 55+ Team Season Closes
- Dec 5 USTA Combo Team Season Closes
- Dec 9-12 USTA Mixed 55+ Team Playoffs
- Dec 17-19 USTA Mixed 55+ Team Sectionals

WCRC LEAGUES

Winter Doubles Tournament - Oct 1 - 3

Summer Singles Tournament - Oct 23 - 24

Fall Mixed Doubles Aug 1 - Jan 22, 2022

Fall Mixed Tournament Feb 4-6, 2022

WING Singles - Oct 25 - April 15, 2022

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cara Mia Barnacascel
January 1 - August, 2021



Income

League Dues	
Summer Singles League	3,577.81
WING singles	507.40
Winter Doubles League	2,953.04
Total League Dues	\$7,038.25
Membership Dues	9,810.75
Tournament Dues	0.00
Calcutta Tournament	25.00
Mid-Summer Night Tournament	20.00

Total Tournament Dues	\$45.00
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Total Income \$16,894.00

GROSS PROFIT \$16,894.00

Expenses

Board Meeting	228.57
Captains Meetings	456.19
Equipment	42.39
League Expenses	0.00

Total Summer Singles Expenses	\$701.11
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Total Winter Doubles Expenses	\$538.73
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Total League Expenses	\$1,239.84
Office Supplies	301.93
Postage and Delivery	54.74

Total Printing and Reproduction	\$189.05
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Rental Deposit	500.00
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Rental Fees	800.00
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Sectionals Fees	\$1,380.00
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Taxes	25.00
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Tournament Expenses	0.00
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Total Mid Summer Tournament Expenses	\$974.07
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Total Tournament Expenses	\$974.07
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Total Website	\$919.65
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Total Expenses	\$7,111.44
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Net Operating Income	\$9,782.56
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Net Income	\$9,782.56
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Balance through August, 2021	\$60,008.78
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Summer Singles League - Standings

Men's

	W	L
3.0 Matthew Derby	5	0
3.5 Alexander Michael	9	3
4.0 Jeffrey Smith	15	4
4.5 Jeff Magidson	5	0
50+ Peter Sullivan	2	0
Jeff Magidson	2	0
John Zentner	2	0

Women's

	W	L
3.0 Karlene Steelman	6	0
3.5 Andra Lee	2	0
4.0 No matches played		
4.5/5.0 No matches played		
50+ No matches played		

Winter Doubles League - Standings

Men's

	W	L
3.5 Michael/Zakari	4	1
4.0 Bains/Xue	7	0
4.5 Lyhne/Teixeira	3	0

Women's

	W	L
3.0 Weiss/Sanchez	6	1
3.5 Snyder/Kim	5	0
4.0 Spanos/Westergard	2	0
4.5/5.0 No matches played		