



# THE COURT REPORTER

Newsletter of the  
Walnut Creek Racquet Club

January 2004

**WCRC's 2004 "Mardi Gras" Party  
Friday, January 23, 2004  
Shadelands Arts Center, Walnut Creek  
Last chance to register...inside**

## Inside this issue...

In the Spotlight - Pam Maloney ...	2
USTA Norcal News .....	3
Winter Doubles Update .....	4
Siebel Open Bus Trip .....	4
Little Siebel Tourney Form .....	5
Valentine's Day Tourney Form ....	6
Treasurer's Report .....	7
Winter Party Form .....	9
NTRP Tournament Schedule ...	10



## Walnut Creek Racquet Club

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

### OFFICERS

<b>President</b>	<b>Jennifer Scriabine</b> 939-4328 scriabine@astound.net
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Robert Young</b> 906-0614 robert@canterburytrails.com
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Karyn Hoyer</b> 256-9942 karyn@walnut-creek.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Gabriel Goldstein</b> 798-2036 gagea@naea.org

### ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

<b>Mailing</b>	<b>Marilyn Concepcion</b> 937-2169 concepcions2@aol.com
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Marty Tedlock</b> 256-9313 marty.tedlock@jmmmdhs.com
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Tammie Snyder</b> 957-0604 tammie@gte.net
<b>Leagues (Non USTA)</b>	<b>Judy Stillman</b> 933-9351 jstillma@pacbell.net <b>Kent Lindeman</b> 943-5745 jklindeman@astound.net
<b>Publicity/ Website</b>	<b>Shari Huber</b> 691-9196 shari_huber@sbcglobal.net
<b>Tournaments</b>	<b>Tammy Chan</b> 837-0227 tammychan@sbcglobal.net <b>Josh Svendsen</b> 962-1782 joshsvendsen@attbi.com <b>Greg Lane</b> 837-7715 beverlywl@aol.com
<b>USTA Women</b>	<b>Pam Maloney</b> 939-1403 pam4tennis@hotmail.com
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<b>USTA Mixed &amp; Seniors</b>	<b>Pam Maloney</b> 939-1403 pam4tennis@hotmail.com
<b>Women's Interclub</b>	<b>Rita Utz</b> 935-3365 ritau@aol.com

## In the Spotlight



## Pam Maloney to be 2004 WCRC Chief

As many of you know, Pam Maloney will be taking over as the Walnut Creek Racquet Club president for 2004. Given how involved Pam is with tennis I was amazed to discover that she only picked up the game five years ago as a means of stress relief and a way to get out of the office.

Pam started playing tennis at a community class in Danville. As a result she met several other players (Patty May, Darcy Lopes, Heidi Belton and others) who now also all play out of Heather Farms. In just her second year of playing, Pam ended up captaining a team in Pleasant Hill. As she laughingly said, "No team would take me since, I was too new of a player so I had to form my own team in order to play". As their team improved, they decided to move to Walnut Creek to be able to draw on a broader base of membership and to enjoy increased competition with the other teams. Pam has been captaining or co-captaining ever since.

After Pam retired 15 months ago she now spends even more time on the tennis court. She is involved in almost every league and many times you'll find her down at the courts playing multiple matches in one day.

Pam has also been very active in the Walnut Creek Racquet Club and has served on the board for the past two years as the primary USTA coordinator. With the addition of the new 50 Mixed and the Combo leagues, coordinating all of our teams has become quite a feat. Pam maintains a positive attitude and works to ensure the court allocations are fair. She also helped architect some new guidelines to ensure all USTA team players join the Walnut Creek Racquet Club. She routinely volunteers to coordinate other events and she helped put together the Friday night team tennis program this past summer.

Pam is very much looking forward to taking over as the president. As she said "I love the club, the people, in the game of tennis. It is a great sport for any age". Given Pam's level of enthusiasm, the club is in for a great year!



# USTA Norcal News

by Robert Young

## TENNIS PLAYER INDEX (TPI), WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

Norcal has been granted the use of this pilot program by USTA National for the 2004 Combo and 50 Mixed season. To be eligible to play in the upcoming Combo and 50 Mixed season, players and Member Organizations are required to participate in the pilot program. TPI is not going to cover the other upcoming National leagues like Adults, Super Senior, and Mixed.

In a nutshell, TPI requires all clubs to turn over a list of their membership, both league and non-league players, to Norcal along with their individual ratings in order to generate a database of tennis players. If a club member doesn't have a rating, one is to be assigned to them by the System Administrator. All league players are then required to post ALL their matches with other TPI members at the USTA Norcal website. YES, ALL THEIR MATCHES!!..(Practice, singles league, doubles league, turkey tournament, Siebel tournament and on and on). Players will only be allowed to join a Combo or 50 Mixed team after they have entered a minimum of 10 matches into the system (a match is defined as at least a set with a score higher than 6).

TPI's intent is to address the problems with self-rating in league play. Additional information about the new program can be found at Norcal's web site. <http://www.ustanorcal.com>. Just click on the Tennis Player Index icon at the top of the page and read all about it.

WCRC's Board voted not to send Norcal a list of its' membership at the last monthly meeting. The reasons supporting the vote were many, but the biggest concern was exposing our club to a lawsuit by any member not wanting their name and association to WCRC made public on the Norcal site. Remember, WCRC would be REQUIRED to upload our entire membership list to Norcal, not just the USTA league players. The board did commit to help any WCRC team wanting to play in Combo or 50 mixed leagues to create a League Member Organization with Norcal under the WCRC umbrella. This seems to be the only way to avoid sending Norcal our primary membership list.

The board may revisit this issue again if Norcal drops its full membership requirement, and someone volunteers to be the System Administrator.

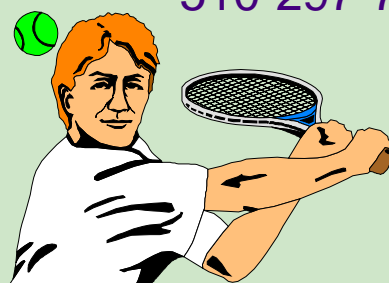
Comments and questions can be sent to [Robert@canterburytrails.com](mailto:Robert@canterburytrails.com).

# WANTED

## 3.0 Men Players

for Walnut Creek  
Racquet Club Team

Contact: Gerry Brown  
[G\\_RBrown@pacbell.net](mailto:G_RBrown@pacbell.net)  
510-297-7881



# 2004 Women's & Men's Winter Doubles - What's Next?

The schedule for the 2004 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](mailto:jstillma@pacbell.net) or if you have technical issues please contact Shari Huber at [shari\\_huber@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](mailto:jstillma@pacbell.net) or Shari Huber at [shari\\_huber@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shari_huber@sbcglobal.net).

## CHECK AND UPDATE YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Go to [www.wcrc.net/events/index.asp](http://www.wcrc.net/events/index.asp)

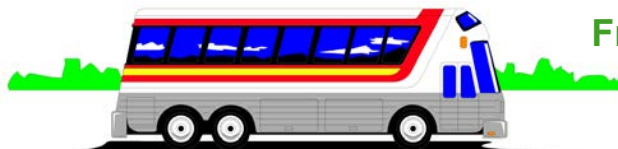
2. Click on the Player Tools link.
3. Click Update My Personal Information.
4. Login if needed and then make sure that your information is current and accurate and click Make Changes.

## 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](http://www.wcrc.net/events/index.asp)
3. Click on the "My Matches" link that is just underneath the Player Tools link.
3. Login if needed.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. Click the "Save" button at the bottom of the score entry page.
8. 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.

## Siebel Open Bus Trip Registration Form



**Friday, February 13, 2004**  
**5:30 pm - 11:00 pm**  
**\$65.<sup>00</sup>/each**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_  
No. of tickets \_\_\_\_\_

*Tickets will be sold on a first-come, first served basis. Cancellations after February 9 are not eligible for refunds unless tickets can be resold to those on a waiting list.*

*Please make a check for \$65 per ticket payable to WCRC and send to: Jennifer Scriabine, 2416 Encinal Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94597.*

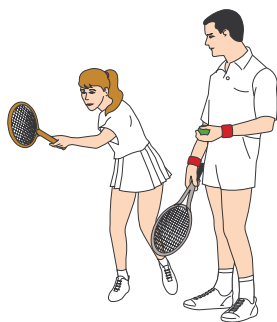
**Registration deadline is February 9, 2004.**

*Questions? Call Jennifer Scriabine at (925) 939-4328 or email [scriabine@astound.net](mailto:scriabine@astound.net).*



The WCRC will be holding its 4th Annual Little Siebel Mixed Doubles Tournament to be held Saturday, January 17. The Little Siebel has quickly become a social tournament favorite, with its round-robin format and prizes for finalists in all divisions: tickets to the Siebel Open at the HP Pavillion in San Jose. Cost is \$25 per team -- see registration form below. Deadline to enter is January 13, 2004.

## Little Siebel Tournament Registration Form



**Date: Saturday, January 17, 2004**

**Time: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm**

**Cost: \$25.00 per team**

### Player 1

### Player 2

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

We would like to enter the following division:       Mixed 6.0     Mixed 7.0     Mixed 8.0

Finalists in each division will win tickets to early round action of the Siebel Open, February 9-15, 2004. Format will be round robin with starting times posted on the WCRC website on January 15. Cancellations after January 13 are not eligible for refunds. Please make a check for \$25 payable to WCRC and send to : Jennifer Scriabine • 2416 Encinal Drive • Walnut Creek, CA 94597. **Registration deadline is January 13, 2004.** Questions? Call Jennifer at (925) 939-4328 or email scriabine@astound.net.





# *Valentine's Day Tournament Registration Form*

*When: Saturday, February 14, 2004*

*Where: Walnut Creek Tennis Center*

*Cost: \$20.00*

*Start: Times posted after 4pm on Thursday, February 12th*

♥ 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 9, 2004**

**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](mailto:scriabine@astound.net)**

## LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER FOR WCRC WINTER PARTY

Don't miss your chance to sign up for the WCRC's 2004 Winter Party to be held Friday, January 23 from 6:30 pm - 11:00 pm at the Shadelands Arts Center in Walnut Creek. The event will feature a Mardi Gras theme— dress up and wear beads, masks, black tie, whatever you like — with a reception, dinner, a Silent Auction (to benefit the Mt. Diablo High School tennis program), trivia contest, dancing and a door prize raffle. Trophies will also be awarded to all 2003 Club Champions during a short presentation.



Cost is \$30 per person. Registration deadline is Tuesday, January 20. If you would like to register please contact Jennifer Scriabine at 925-939-4328 ore scriabine@astound.net.

Below are some of the items features at this year's **AUCTION**:

- Doubles tournament for 16 friends
- Oakland Raiders Autographed Pictures, some framed
- Oakland Warriors Autographed Basketball
- Oakland Warriors Game Tickets
- Hitachi Impact Driver donated by California Lumber
- Tennis Bags donated by Jim Farber at Heather Farms
- Helicopter ride donated by KGO Radio

Below are some of the items features at this year's **RAFFLE**:

- Restaurant gift certificates from McCovey's, Crogan's, Tatsu Sushi, Lark Creek, Legends & Heroes and Massimo's
- Green fees from Diablo Creek Golf Course
- Free stringing/including strings from Jim Farber



If you would like to still donate an item for the auction, please contact **Kent Lindeman** at (925) 943-5745 or via email at jklindeman@astound.net.

**Party details on pg 9...**

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Gabe Goldstein



Income Statement:  
as of November 30, 2003

### Income

Club Championships '03	1,452.80
Little Siebel Tournament '03	500.00
Awards Banquet	2,500.00
Bank Interest	19.45
Advertising Income	780.00
Incentive Award-USTA	1,355.00
Membership Dues	10,670.00
Silent Auction	1,741.00
Board Dinner	230.00
Siebel Open Trip '03	2,994.00
Summer Singles League '03	11,590.00
Winter Doubles League '03	6,660.00
Friday Night Team Tennis	8.00
Calcutta Tournament	5,919.50
Mixed Doubles Club Championships	665.00

**Total Income 47,084.75**

### Expenses

Awards Banquet '04	300.00
Club Championships '03	982.11
Nationals 3.5 Women's	500.00
Little Siebel '03	211.22
Dues & Subscriptions	125.00
Donations	785.00
Light Fund Payment	3,000.00
Insurance	325.00
Membership Brochures	42.22
Member Directory	1,477.61
Newsletters - Court Reporter	6,353.25
Non-Profit Fees	51.55
Outdoor Heater	134.19
Postage	1,972.20
Printing & Duplicating	25.97
Supplies	714.26
Website	1,195.13
Awards Banquet '03	2,250.42
Board Dinner Expenses	707.54
Siebel Open Trip '03	4,238.90
Summer Singles League	9,187.31
Winter Doubles League '03	4,196.75
Friday Night Team Tennis	154.08
Calcutta Tournament	5,666.23
Club Championship '02	828.60
Mixed Doubles Club Championships	381.46
Valentines Tournament	193.83
New Member Night Mixer	96.15

**Total Expenses 45,995.98**

**Profit (Loss) 1,088.77**

**Balance Nov. 30, 2003 \$7,783.73**



## For Better, or for Worse...

"For better, or for worse", not a phrase that you usually associate with tennis, but maybe one you should. As we approach what, for many of us, is the slow part of our tennis season we might want to take stock of where our tennis games are and what we need to do to give them a jump start looking ahead to 2004. Instead of considering this the "down season" maybe you should be thinking of it as the "planting season". With the days getting shorter and the rain and cold upsetting our tennis plans, it's easy to write off this time of year, stick the rackets in the closet and have someone wake us up in mid-March. If you do that, you may be missing out on a great chance to improve your game.

During the warm weather months when we're playing on USTA teams, entering tournaments, and playing what we consider the serious part of our tennis year most of us are reluctant to make any significant change in our tennis games. As a teaching pro I understand why students shy away from any major change in their games when they're playing important matches. Any new method of hitting the ball, grip change, or pattern of play is going to seem alien to you and when you start making these changes you're going to get worse, not better. That's a tough pill to swallow and not one most of us want to subject a partner or a team to, as we go through it, but that's the catch 22. If we're not willing to "regress

before we progress" how are we ever going to significantly improve? The answer is the tennis off-season. While the pros seem to play a twelve month a year schedule, for most of us, these next few months offer us a time to shore up our games. Years ago tennis actually had an off-season when the players went home after Forest Hills (The US Championships) and didn't get back together to compete until early spring at Roland Garros (The French). Hardly anyone bothered taking the long trip down under to Australia in late December to play in the Australian Championships.

A true story about the tennis off-season. From 1915 to 1919 "Little Bill" Johnston, from San Francisco ruled the American courts. At 5' 8" he didn't seem imposing but with a monster Western Forehand he could hammer his much bigger opponents into submission. On the East Coast was a tall player who had kicked around the game for a number of years but hadn't even played number one for his college team at Brown University in Providence, RI. At age 27, this player seemed destined to be going nowhere and a weak backhand grip was the major reason. He had played Little Bill on a number of occasions but that weak backhand was an obvious target that Johnston was able to exploit. In the winter of 1919-1920 this Philadelphian disappeared from the tennis scene. No one could find him. Where he could be found, spending the winter, was at a single indoor tennis court in East Providence, RI. Three to four months of intense work later, and by the time the birds of spring started to sing, the world was introduced to Big Bill Tilden. With the new backhand in place Tilden ruled the tennis world for the next ten years. Johnston never beat Tilden in an important match again. Tilden later talked about how important those few months away from competition had been in shaping his tennis future. He knew he couldn't make the change in his backhand overnight and if he had continued to play through the winter months trying to incorporate those changes into his game during the indoor tournament season, he'd have lost to players who shouldn't be beating him. So for four months he just disappeared. For the next ten years his opponents were wishing he'd take that new backhand and disappear again.

So how are you going to spend the next few months? Maybe you could lose a pound or two, or maybe gain five pounds of muscle. Maybe your court coverage could improve a bit, or that backhand volley could use a little more "stick". How about increasing that second serve by 5 MPH? There's always something we can be working on. Get started on that New Year's resolution this year. It's your choice when it comes to the kind of a game you'll have in the Spring. "For better, or for worse".....

Till next time,

*Lee Draisin*

Lee Draisin  
USPTA Tennis Pro  
USRSA Certified Stringer

**Good tennis starts with good stringing**

*Improve your game in 30 minutes...no sweat!*

**\$10 OFF Racquet Stringing\***

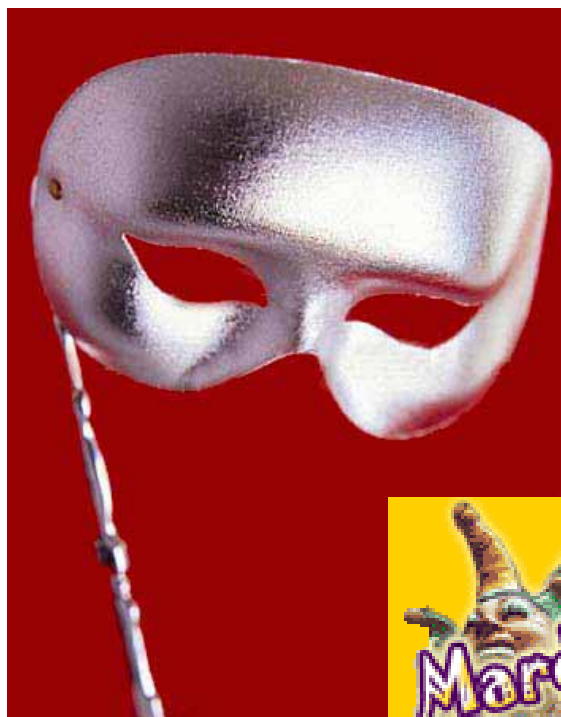
Lee Draisin  
(925) 229-3380  
kayleemt@webtv.net  
Located at the 680 - 4 interchange

uspta  
USRSA  
CERTIFIED STRINGER

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



# WINTER PARTY



**When:** Friday, January 23, 2004  
6:30 pm - 11:00 pm  
**Where:** Shadelands Art Center  
**Dress:** Masks, beads, black tie (optional)  
**Cost:** \$30.00  
**Deadline:** Tuesday, January 20, 2004  
**Questions:** Jennifer Scriabine at 925-939-4328

Join your tennis friends and colleagues "off the court" as the WCRC celebrates its individual and team achievements over the past year. Tickets are \$30 per person and include cocktails & hors d'oeuvres, dinner, dancing and the opportunity to participate in the club's Silent Auction (to benefit the Mt. Diablo High School boys and girls varsity tennis teams).



MT. DIABLO HIGH SCHOOL

Tickets are \$30 per person.  
Guests are welcome.  
Please make checks payable to WCRC  
Send to: Jennifer Scriabine  
2416 Encinal Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94597.

**Registration deadline is January 20, 2004**

If you have questions or you want to reserve a table for your USTA team, please call Jennifer at 939-4328 or via email at scriabine@astound.net.

## Schedule of Events

6:30 pm - 7:00 pm	Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Silent Auction
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Dinner
8:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Award Presentations
8:30 pm - 11:00 pm	Dancing

## Party RSVP

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

No. of reservations \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**WCRC**  
**P.O. Box 4574**  
**Walnut Creek, CA 94596**  
**www.wcrc.net**

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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Walnut Creek, CA  
Permit No. 432

## ***NTRP TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE • 2004***

### **January 17-19, 24-25**

CLUBSPORT FREMONT 3.0 & 4.0  
NMW(3.0,4.0)d; NX(3.0,4.0)d  
ClubSport Fremont, Fremont  
Entry deadline: January 8  
TOUCH TONE/TENNISLINK #500001204

### **January 31 - February 1, Feb. 2-8**

CHABOT CANYON 5.0 NTRP  
NMW(5.0)sd; NX(5.0)d  
Chabot Canyon Racquet Club, Oakland  
Entry deadline: January 12  
TOUCH TONE/TENNISLINK #500001104

### **January 31 - February 1, Feb. 7-8**

LAKE MERCED 3.5 & 4.5 NTRP  
NMW(3.5,4.5)sd; NX(3.5,4.5)d  
San Francisco State University, San Francisco  
Entry deadline: January 14  
TOUCH TONE/TENNISLINK #500001304

### **February 14-16, 21-22**

14TH ANNUAL SOLANOT NTRP CHAMPIONSHIPS  
NMW(3.0-5.5)sd; NX(3.0-5.5)d  
Solano Athletic Club, Fairfield  
Entry deadline: January 26  
TOUCH TONE/TENNISLINK #500001704

### **February 14-16, 21-22**

52ND ANNUAL CHALLENGE CUP SENIORS  
M(35-75)sd; W(35-70)sd  
Oak Park Tennis Center, Stockton  
Entry deadline: February 4  
TOUCH TONE/TENNISLINK #508300904

### **February 28-29, March 6-7**

SLUG TENNIS NTRP  
NMW(3.5,4.5,5.5)s; NM(4.5,5.5)d; NW (4.5)d; NX(4.5)d  
UC Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz  
Entry deadline: February 16  
TOUCH TONE/TENNISLINK #508306404