

THE COURT REPORTER

Newsletter of the Walnut Creek Racquet Club

April, 2024



Tri-Level Nationals - WINNERS

Walnut Creek Racquet Club

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



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THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy April!

With the weather getting warmer, there's so much going on during this time of year. We have playoffs underway for both USTA 18+ Mixed and 40+ Adult Leagues, so good luck to everyone in the postseason. We also have 65+ Adult League, which is nearing the end of its season, 55+ Adult League, which is in the first few weeks of its season, and 18+ Adult League, which is about to begin its season. I told you there's a lot.



Garvin Tom
2024 WCRC President

There's quite a bit going on the WCRC side as well. We're in the middle of the Winter Doubles season while the WING Singles season is winding down. If you missed the WING season, don't worry because the Summer Singles season is just around the corner. Also around the corner is our big Calcutta event coming up on May 3-4, so circle your calendars. It should be a fun time as always. Look for an email with details next week!

By looking at all the pictures on social media, it looked like everyone had a great time down in Indian Wells. It was great seeing that the WCRC was well represented down there, and I'm looking forward to seeing more pictures in this newsletter.

And finally, there are a rare few in the area who can say that they are national champions, so I would like to congratulate WCRC members Steph Stieber, Tiffany Liew, and Koko Kearney, whose team went on to win the Women's 4.0/4.5/5.0 Tri-Level National Championship down in San Diego last month. This is definitely an achievement to remember and be proud of.

See you on the courts!

Garvin Tom

M EMBERSHIP

Welcome to Our 29 New Members
Current Membership: 1288

Nancy Anderson	Danville	3.0	Hannah Mitchell	Danville	2.5
Allyson Berry	Danville	4.5	Mike Moresi	Alameda	3.5
Jim Collins	Walnut Creek	3.0	Edwin Nakagawa	Walnut Creek	3.5
Isabella Ravanello	Fairfield	3.5	Renee Nickerson	Alamo	4.5
Natasha DeGuzman	Danville	3.0	Michael OBrien	Lafayette	2.5
Dave DeLuce	Lafayette	3.0	Andrew Oliver	Caucasian	4.5
Bradley Garcia	Walnut Creek	3.5	Gary Scott	Danville	3.5
Amber Golini	Concord	2.5	Erin Smith	Danville	3.0
Olga Keselman	Pleasant Hill	3.0	Frank Tan	Pleasant Hill	3.5
Zola Khoroldavga	Walnut Creek	2.5	Rachel Villar	Concord	2.5
Anita Kressner	Berkeley	4.5	Stephanie Wendell	Pleasanton	3.0
Val Lacommare	Danville	4.5	Robert Yee	Dublin	3.0
Natilee Luna	Alamo	2.5	Andrew Young	Castro Valley	3.0
David Mark	Pleasanton	4.0	John Zwerlein	Walnut Creek	3.0
Shirley Benavides	Orinda	3.0			



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

**Scan here to
renew or sign up for
WCRC membership.**



NEW MEMBERSHIP RAFFLE

Each month a random draw will pick a
WCRC member's name to receive free
WCRC membership for a year!

This month's winner is:
Tal Yahud



Save The Date!
The Longest Tennis Rally
Saturday 6/22/24
3:30 to 8:00

Member Spotlight

Going Beyond her Comfort Zone: Rebecca Kay

Interview and article by Ian McLaughlin

As an effort to get to know our membership the Board has decided to have a 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 commentary.

Unlike many players who grew up with the game, WCRC member Rebecca Kay had never played any tennis until 2019, when she enrolled in a group class and became friends with club member Tila Parker. Although she had no history with tennis, Rebecca was quickly hooked and grew to love the new sport almost immediately.

Even though she is relatively new to the game of tennis, Rebecca is a lifelong athlete who played lacrosse and basketball while growing up in San Rafael. She is also an avid outdoor athlete in the more individualized pursuits hiking and snowboarding. Part of Rebecca's love of tennis stems from the fact that USTA league play provides the team dynamic she enjoyed so much while at the same time she is challenging herself individually to learn the complex nuances of a brand new sport.

Starting as so many WCRC members have, on Cara Mia Barnacascel's well-known "Deuces Wild" team, Rebecca has consistently moved up the rankings ladder as she competes in USTA league play and serves on the WCRC Board of Directors. Rebecca is a lefty and describes her playing style as "scrappy" she has partnered in over twenty-five matches with her close



friend Kayla Baier, who provides the duo's finesse, according to ever-humble Rebecca.

From our interview it was clear that Rebecca not only fell in love with the sport of tennis, but also with the close-knit community we all enjoy at Heather Farm. She calls it her "home away from home", and knows that after a stressful day she can go to Heather Farm and see friends who will lift her up, everyone from the collegial office staff to the other players who are like family to her.

Rebecca works in facilities management, and describes her duties as "managing relationships and putting out fires", which is also an apt description for life itself. But her dream job would be to work for the FBI, as an amateur sleuth who's crazy about unsolved mysteries. Rebecca enjoys travel, she was a former Flight Attendant based in Denver, who had a passion for learning about different cultures and exploring the world from an early age. As an





adult she still loves her outdoor sports; she's very close with her nephews, who are on the Sugar Bowl ski team, and she likes to go snowboarding while they compete. Her parents still live in the North Bay Area and will come out to watch some of Rebecca's tennis matches, just like they did when she played lacrosse and basketball many moons ago.

What really jumps out when you get to know Rebecca, however, is her desire and willingness to push herself beyond her comfort zone both on the court and in the other areas of her life where she'd like to grow as a person. As a woman who picked up a new sport as an adult five years ago, her advice for brand new players who want to learn the game is don't let fear hold you back. It's never too late to find a new passion, the best advice I was ever given is "life begins at the edge of your comfort zone". And since she was willing to try something new and outside her comfort zone, WCRC member Rebecca Kay continues to reap the rewards through playing a game she loves with a tight-knit community of close friends. ▲





2024 Men's and Women's Summer Singles Leagues Registration Form

Register
on-line
save \$5

Full Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Email _____

NTRP Rating: _____

Great prize selection for winner and runner-up in
each division!

Keepsake items for all participants!

I would like to enter the following divisions:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Women's 3.0 | <input type="radio"/> Men's 3.0 |
| <input type="radio"/> Women's 3.5 | <input type="radio"/> Men's 3.5 |
| <input type="radio"/> Women's 4.0 | <input type="radio"/> Men's 4.0 |
| <input type="radio"/> Women's 4.5/5.0 | <input type="radio"/> Men's 4.5/5.0 |

I am a: ☐ WCRC Member (\$25)

☐ Non-Member (\$35)

Dates: April 15 - September 8th

Entry Fee: \$25 for WCRC Members (per bracket)
\$35 for non-members (per bracket)

Format: Men's Singles/Women's Singles

Divisions: Men's 3.0 - 4.5/5.0
Women's 3.0 - 4.5/5.0

Note: 4.5/5.0 combined in regular
season, but will have separate
playoffs/championship.

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 best two out of three sets. When
opponents agree, a super tiebreaker
(10 point) can be used in lieu of the
third set. Winner gets unopened can.

Match Site: Any site mutually agreed upon

Scoring: The winner is responsible for
reporting the match score by logging
on to www.wcrc.net.

Standings: Division standings will be updated on
a real time basis as scores are posted

Tournament: End-of-season tournament with draw
determined by league standings.
Tournament will begin in Sept, with 1 round
per week, scheduled by player arrangement.
Hosted tournament at Heather Farm
scheduled Oct 12th/13th for Semis and Finals.
A minimum of 4 players are required to
generate a draw.

Match Min.: 4 matches

Checks to: Walnut Creek Racquet Club
c/o Steve Lehmer
P.O. Box 30173
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Or Online: wcrc.net/login

Questions: Lehmer@pacbell.net 925-285-0028

**Over 160
players
last
season!**

**Join online
and save**

Register on line at www.wcrc.net/login and save \$5.00

OPERATING HOURS AT WCTC

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

DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION EMAIL LIST

Interested in learning about 1 day drop-ins, round robins, and other events? Come into the office and sign up for our Director of Instruction email list. For more information, please email the Director of Instruction, jefff@lifetimeactivities.com.

SPRING 2024 YOUTH & ADULT CLASS REGISTRATION COMING SOON!

Summer 2024 class registration will open on 4/2 @10am for Youth and 4/3 @10am for Adults. Please visit our website for more information, and contact Jeff Forbes (Director of Instruction) at jefff@lifetimeactivities.com for questions.

APRIL PASSHOLDER SPECIAL

During the month of April, 4/1-4/30, all Passholders "open" an Easter Egg for a chance to win a prize! Passholders can open 1 egg per week for a total of 4 prizes during the month. Passholders cannot win the same prize more than once and prizes cannot be combined with any other offers/promotions that may be currently going on at the site.

NOTES FOR 55+ AND 18+ USTA SEASON

Please note that if you are signed up for a 55+ and/or 18+ team that your WCRC membership is separate from any court fees that are associated with Lifetime Activities. While you are required to be a current member with WCRC to participate in USTA leagues, you do not need to have a court pass to play at the Walnut Creek Tennis Center. Match fees are as follows:

- ☐ \$15 for any non-Lifetime Activities Passholder
- ☐ \$6 for any Standard Lifetime Activities Passholder
- ☐ \$0 for any Plus Lifetime Activities Passholder



Interested in a Lifetime Activities Court Pass or want more information? Please visit our main office or email us at walnutcreek@lifetimeactivities.com

**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.**



WCRC Men's & Women's 2024 Winter Doubles League



Available Divisions

(you are eligible to play your level as well as one level above your current USTA rating)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Men's 3.0 | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's 2.5/3.0 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Men's 3.5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's 3.5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Men's 4.0 | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's 4.0 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Men's 4.5/5.0 | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's 4.5/5.0 |

League Cost

- \$40 per team (both Walnut Creek Racquet Club Members)
- \$50 per team (one WCRC Member, one non-member)
- \$60 per team (both non-WCRC members)

League Information

Players may enter the WCRC Winter Doubles League in more than one division (i.e., 3.0 and 3.5), as long as he/she is playing at or above 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.

The league runs from January 1, 2024 - June 2, 2024.

The tournament is scheduled for June 14-16, 2024.

Once league play is complete and registration for the end-of-League Tournament begins, a player may **NOT** enter the Tournament at more than one level.

No exceptions will be made.

**Questions? Call Garvin Tom at (209) 969-5445
or via e-mail gtom12@hotmail.com**



WCRC Men's & Women's 2024 Winter Doubles League Registration Form (Also on-line at www.wcrc.net)

PLAYER 1

PLAYER 2

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): NTRP (check one)

- ☐ Men's 3.0
☐ Men's 3.5
☐ Men's 4.0
☐ Men's 4.5/5.0

- ☐ Women's 2.5/3.0
☐ Women's 3.5
☐ Women's 4.0
☐ Women's 4.5/5.0

Registration Fees (note - if you are interested in joining the Racquet Club, please download a membership form from <http://www.wcrc.net/about/membership.htm> and return it with this application):

- * \$50 per team (both Walnut Creek Racquet Club Members) • \$40 per team for on-line registration
- * \$60 per team (one WCRC Member, one non-member) • \$50 per team for on-line registration
- * \$70 per team (both non WCRC members) • \$60 per team for on-line registration

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

Questions? Call Garvin Tom at (209) 969-5445 or via e-mail gtom12@hotmail.com

League Information: Players may enter the WCRC Winter Doubles League in more than one division (i.e, 3.0 and 3.5), as long as he/she is playing at or above 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.

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Tennis News



Back row: Amy Huang, Vanessa Graciano, Amy Yang, Martha Vanbik, Christy Ma, Caitlin Finnell, Tien-Hsin.

Front row: Arianna Choing, Hurjaine Vongsachang, Amy Huang, Martha Matrisian (Spanos).

The Minions proudly represented NorCal at the 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 USTA Tri-level tournament in San Diego on March 8th-11th. We played great tennis and faced tough opponents all weekend and came into the semifinals as the undefeated team. We lost 2-1 in the semifinals and ended up coming home with a cute little 4th place trophy.

Most importantly, we came home with our hearts full of laughter, love, memories and the fire to do this again and claim our 1st place spot next time.

Jessica Kim's Gritty Grinders found their way to Nationals in San Diego for the 3.5/4.0/4.5 USTA Tri-Level tournament.

The team had a great roster and the 4.0 teams never dropped a match. Great competition and fantastic memories were had by all!



Lisa Snowden, Noa Ramo-Larios, Zuhel Elhan, Tammie Snyder, Tami Lightle, Lani Aurelius, Mai Angsupanich, Cristina Tudor, Chandra Thomas and captain Jessica Kim in front.



Tennis News



*Pictured (left to right): Jeff Wong, Alex Baier, Parag Bhatt, Steve Lehmer, Matt Lourens, Brian Hennessy, Keane Tarrosa
Not pictured: Martin Sanchez*

WCRC boys competed in the 3.5/4.0/4.5 grouping in San Diego, having qualified by winning the Norcal tournament last October. The group was pretty competitive on the court, going 2W/2L against some very solid teams, just missing out on the playoffs by a couple of STB's. Off the court, we all learned a lot about each other, with several in a large house, and others sharing hotel rooms. A couple of fun team meals, proper separation of rooms between those who admit they snore and those who claimed they didn't, and possibly one too many trips to Panera. Bring on next year to take another run at it!





Tennis News



The road to the championship match was not smooth sailing. After starting off the weekend with a sweep, NorCal had two tough losses that put them in a must win situation for the 4th pool play match. Not only did they have to win, an upset amongst 2 other teams had to happen for them to make the playoffs. All the stars aligned and they squeaked into 4th place with a mere 2-2 record. In the semis, they came out strong taking out the #1 and undefeated SoCal, in a revenge match from earlier in the weekend. This booked them a date with the team from the Midwest in the finals, who had also beaten them earlier in the tournament.

With the championship match underway, first off the court were the 4.0's, winning all 6 of their matches for the weekend. The 5.0's, next off the court, fell short with a close loss. With the crowd drawing, everything came down to the 4.5 court, Steph Stieber and Sabrina Thong. They won the first set 6-4, but were on serve 5-6 in the second set. After a long deuce game, Steph and Sabrina were able to hold their





Tennis News



serve to force a 2nd STB. It was a close tiebreaker as both teams were trading points back and forth, much to the delight of the many spectators who flocked to the national championship deciding line. After fighting off a near 20-ball rally to save set point, NorCal was then able to get ahead after an unfortunate double fault by the opposing team. This gave Steph and Sabrina the opportunity to serve out the final point. A strong serve and a few baseline groundstrokes were enough for them to overpower the opponent and claim the 4.0, 4.5, 5.0 Tri-Level National Championship.

Special thanks to the many friends from WCRC in San Diego who came out to support the team throughout the tournament. It made it feel like just another home match back at Heather Farms.





















CALENDER OF EVENTS

2024

Apr

May

Apr 4-7	USTA 18+ Mixed League Playoffs Round 1
Apr 8	USTA 18+ League Opens
	USTA 18+ DT League Opens
Apr 8-12	USTA 40+ DT League Playoffs Round 1
Apr 11-14	USTA 40+ League Playoffs Round 1
	USTA 18+ Mixed League Playoffs Round 2
Apr 12	USTA 65+ League Closes
Apr 14-May 31	WCRC WING Singles Tournament
Apr 15-19	USTA 40+ DT League Playoffs Round 2
Apr 18-21	USTA 40+ League Playoffs Round 2
	USTA 18+ Mixed League Playoffs Round 3
Apr 22	USTA 40+ Mixed Team Registration Opens
Apr 22-26	USTA 40+ DT League Playoffs Round 3
	USTA 65+ League Playoffs Round 1
Apr 25-28	USTA 40+ League Playoffs Round 3
Apr 29-May 3	USTA 65+ League Playoffs Round 2
May 3	WCRC Calcutta Party
May 4	WCRC Calcutta Tournament
May 11-12	USTA 18+ Mixed League Sectionals

WCRC LEAGUES

Fall Mixed Rain Make Up - April 6th

Winter Doubles League - Jan 1 - June 2, 2024

WING Singles Playoffs - April 14 - May 31

Summer Singles - April 15th - September 8th

Winter Doubles Tournament - June 14-16, 2024

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cara Mia Barnacascel

January - December, 2023



Income

League Dues	
Fall Mixed Doubles League	1,474.28
Summer Singles League	4,432.50
WING singles	210.34
Winter Doubles League	1,174.39
Total League Dues	\$7,291.51
Membership Dues	21,215.47
Tournament Dues	
Total Calcutta Tournament	\$6,246.46
Total Tournament Dues	\$6,246.46
Total Income	\$34,753.44
Gross Profit	\$34,753.44

Expenses

Board expenses/Captains meetings	4,206.51
League Expenses	
Fall Mixed League Expenses	
Total Fall Mixed League Expenses	\$3,052.33
Summer Singles Expenses	
Total Summer Singles Expenses	\$4,054.07
Total League Expenses	\$7,106.40
Nationals Fee	1,200.00
Nationals Stipend	1,000.00
Office Supplies	77.82
Post Office Box	216.00
Total Printing and Reproduction	\$525.54
Sectionals Fees	2,030.00
Software	320.00
Supplies	60.87
Tax Preparation	335.00
Taxes	25.00
Tournament Expenses	
Total Calcutta Expenses	\$12,144.75
Inch by Inch	500.00
Total Tournament Expenses	\$12,644.75
Website	1,261.53
Total Expenses	\$31,009.42
Net Operating Income	\$3,744.02
Net Income	\$3,744.02

Balance through December, 2023	\$74,634.92
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WING Singles League - Standings

Men's

3.0	W	L
Sushil Rajendran	2	0
3.5		
Nader Azari	2	0
Sushil Rajendran	2	0
Dorukhan Oguz	2	0
4.0		
Jeff Smith	8	1
4.5+		
Jeff Magidson	2	0

Women's

3.0	W	L
Audra Lutter	2	0
3.5		
No matches played yet		
4.0		
No matches played yet		
4.5+		
No matches played yet		

Fall Mixed League - Standings

6.0	W	L
Miwa Yoneyama/Robert Mimaki	4	0
7.0		
Melissa Bach/Steve Lehmer	5	1
8.0		
Kayla Baier/Alex Baier	4	1
9.0		
Kimiko Kearney/Glenn Teixeira	2	0