

THE COURT REPORTER

Newsletter of the Walnut Creek Racquet Club

March, 2025



Lena Larionova looks to hit the perfect volley.

Dan Kaplan Photography

Walnut Creek Racquet Club

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THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy March!

So many things going on tennis-wise right now, it's hard to juggle everything all once it seems. This is especially true with all the make-up matches we have going on right now, so let's get to it.



Garvin Tom
2025 WCRC President

Our WCRC Fall Mixed season winded down with the end of season tournament this past

weekend, so I hope you were able to come out and catch some of the matches. The weather did look iffy as of this writing, so hopefully everyone got all of their matches in. I would also like to thank our coordinator, Lynne Weinshelbaum, who ran another successful season. This year will be her last as Fall Mixed coordinator, and I can't thank her enough for managing one of our more popular leagues. Taking her place will be Dave Wong, who I'm sure will do a fantastic job as well. Welcome Dave!

We also have our WING Singles and Winter Doubles leagues going on as well, and we could use more teams for Winter Doubles, so if you're interested, please visit our website and sign up.

On the USTA side, I want to wish Steve Lehmer and his 55+ 7.0 Mixed team, who are heading to Nationals this month in Scottsdale, AZ. And have fun! Hopefully some of you can also enjoy some Giants Spring Training action or stop by Indian Wells on the way back.

We're also nearing the end of the USTA 18+ Mixed and 40+ Adult seasons, but there is still a lot going on between the two seasons with all of the make-up matches that we have. And just around the corner, we have the 18+ Adult and 55+ Adult seasons. We have 24 18+ Adult and 13 55+ Adult teams signed up out of Walnut Creek, so the courts will definitely be busy this Spring. Told you there are so many things going on!

See you on the courts!

Garvin Tom



M EMBERSHIP

Welcome to Our **39** New Members
Current Membership: **1,184**

Alejandro Aguilar	Walnut Creek	4.0	Kao Saetern	Walnut Creek	4.0
Arash Azarkhish	Pleasant Hill	4.5	Melvin San Pedro	Concord	3.5
Bill Belhumeur	Lafayette	4.0	Kelly Sanchez	Concord	4.0
Lori Belhumeur	Lafayette	3.5	Michele Sbrana	Danville	N.A.
Amy Bull	Pleasanton	3.5	CC Schwab	Lafayette	5.0
Amy Burrill	Danville	4.0	Nathan Schweller	Walnut Creek	3.5
Minh Cannon	Union City	3.5	Sarah Shapiro	Alamo	3.5
Fion Cho	Dublin	4.5	Nicole Shay	Danville	4.0
Kris Courtney	Concord	3.5	Sharon Sintchak	Moraga	3.5
Subha Ghoshal	Danville	2.5	Carl Taibl	Danville	3.0
Debra Goettsch	Lafayette	4.5	Mika Tsuchiwa	Richmond	4.0
Theresa Goodwin	Oakland	3.5	Zora Voss	Davis	3.5
Beth Hostettler	Walnut Creek	4.5	Irina Weintraub	Castro Valley	4.5
Alexis Kirkland	Novato	4.5	Erica Winnicki	Orinda	3.0
Brian Kuritsubo	Walnut Creek	4.0			
Erik Lee	Walnut Creek	4.0			
Mike Lee	Alameda	4.0			
Donald Lewis	Orinda	3.5			
Matt Lourens	El Dorado Hills	4.5			
Cy Lucas	Alamo	3.5			
Nichole Markiewicz	Walnut Creek	5.5			
Siddharth Naik	Alameda	4.0			
Kiran Narsinh	Piedmont	4.5			
Harish Natarajan	Alamo	4.5			
Brian Robles	Walnut Creek	4.0			

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:

Lucas Askew



MDUSD is pleased to announce the selection of Mt. Diablo HS CTE Patient Care Pathway teacher Dr. David Pintado as our District Teacher of the Year. David will advance to the Contra Costa County Office of Education Teacher of the Year competition.

She has the Winning Hand

Julia Petrov

Interview and article by Glenn McBee

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.

Julia was born and raised in Moscow Russia where she learned and was trained in tennis. She focused her education in finance and business before making her way to California and the Bay Area. .



Julia's tennis journey started in her teens when her mom thought it would be the best way to get her to overcome her dislike of gym class and physical exercise. Little did mom know that after a while Julia found the sport boring and started to take leave of the training class and found alternative activities to partake in. Mom caught on and tennis training took a hiatus.

Julia's older brother made his way to California and the Bay Area first; he urged others in the family to join him in the Bay. It wasn't until after their mother had passed that they decided to move to the US. Julia's 90-year-old Grandma was pivotal in the family's concern, but all Grandma wanted to know was "How many suitcases can I bring?" It was then decided, and they all were on their way to the US with only a day's notice. Julia left a good job in finance and her boyfriend. She still wonders how things might have gone if she had stayed. But she is very grateful to her elder brother for bringing them all to the US, as they all found success and happiness. "Well, we won't be shoveling snow anymore." Julia was happy to find the silver lining. Grandma stayed with her brother while Julia found her way through several different Bay Area cities starting in Hayward, then San Jose, Albany, Point Richmond, and ultimately to Concord, where she has called home for over 20 years.



In 2010 Julia rediscovered tennis by taking lessons at Willow Pass Park. Her coach helped her find her way to USTA and tennis at Heather Farm where she was under the tutelage of some of our finest captains, Carolyn Spady and Lisa Italia. But it was another well-known captain who got her involved in the role of captain, Gerry Brown persuaded her to give it a shot. And she has 28 times!

One of her notable tennis experiences came in the season of 2014 when she was pregnant (with Kate, her now 10-year-old





Aquanaut). Julia not only kept playing while preggies, she played 4 weeks prior to delivering and then resumed play 4 weeks after! Her team made it to districts and Sectionals that season and Julia was winning at singles. When she returned to the court, she was often bringing Kate in her carrier. Amazing!

Julia works in the wine industry, currently as CFO, when she isn't chaperoning her daughter to training at the Walnut Creek Swim Center for Aquanaut practice and events for the last 5 years. Their other favorite activities include traveling internationally (Japan this spring) and skiing and staying at their cabin in Arnold. But



did you know that Julia also spent 4+ years as a professional poker player? After work during the day, she was off to the Casino in Napa, and many weekends flying to Reno or Las Vegas for some cash play. She competed in the World Series of Poker Main Event and finished the big tournament in 2007 in 19th position out of a draw of over 6,000! That's a winning hand Julia, Congratulations! ▲



SECTIONALS

Deuces Wild 5.5 and 6.5 Combo Women Teams Unite at Sectionals.

by Cara Mia Barnacascel

Deuces Wild 5.5 and 6.5 both made it to combo sectionals in Folsom this year, always a fun experience when multiple teams are able to make it and support each other! Thankfully our locations were close together at Broadstone and Gold River, and we secured a cute house where a group of us bunked together.

The 5.5 team faced the toughest team first, Bay Club Fremont, I thought we had a really good chance of beating them but the weather and start time made it tough. The match started at 8am when it was freezing out (32 degrees), and I don't think my ladies had enough time to really



warmup. (Tennis and body temperature!) All 3 lines went to a tiebreaker but we managed to only take 1 line. From there we won the next 2 matches, and the final match was rained out with the decision coming by weighted draw in which we won. But Bay Club Fremont swept and moved on to the finals and beat Sunnyvale in the finals. So Deuces Wild 5.5 lost to the team that won sectionals.

The 6.5 team looked like they had an easier flight, but boy was I wrong! I did have to split some of my players between 2 teams but I thought I had a great lineup for both teams, unfortunately we faced a Rolling Hills team that was very competitive and determined to win. We had great matches with strong players but just didn't quite eke this one out. Still everyone had a great time and we enjoyed our weekend together.





TENNIS NEWS



Walnut Creek Racquet Club Members chip in for Mt Diablo High School Boys Tennis Team

Dear friends,

You are all AMAZING!!!!

I want to thank God first for bringing you into my life.... thanks to your generosity, the boys of the Mt. Diablo High School team will be wearing brand-new court tennis shoes (none of them had court shoes before).

You sent enough money to purchase also healthy snacks for practices and overgrips!!!

God bless you and your families!!!

David Pintado

New
Team
Shoes



WCRC Men's & Women's 2025 Winter Doubles League



Available Divisions

ATTENTION: There are NEW divisions!!! Players with different ratings can now pair up just like in mixed (e.g. a 3.0 and a 4.0 can pair up to play in the 7.0 division). Note: any pairings where the difference between players' ratings is more than 1.5 ratings points is not eligible for the tournament (a pairing with a 3.0 and a 5.0 cannot play the 8.0 tournament)

6.0	☐ Men's	☐ Women's
7.0	☐ Men's	☐ Women's
8.0	☐ Men's	☐ Women's
9.0	☐ Men's	☐ Women's

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

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. 6.0 and 7.0), 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, 2025 - May 18, 2025.

The tournament is scheduled for May 30 - June 1, 2025.

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

WCRC Men's & Women's 2025 Winter Doubles League

(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	_____	_____

Are you a WCRC Member? ☐ YES ☐ NO Partner WCRC Member? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Division for which you are registering (please check each division):

6.0	☐ Men's	☐ Women's
7.0	☐ Men's	☐ Women's
8.0	☐ Men's	☐ Women's
9.0	☐ Men's	☐ Women's

Registration Fees (note - if you are interested in joining the Racquet Club, please register for membership here <http://www.wcrc.net/membership>).

* \$50 per team (both WCRC 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.

League Information: Players may enter the WCRC Winter Doubles League in more than one division (i.e., 6.0 and 7.0), 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, 2025 - May 18, 2025.
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OPERATING HOURS AT WCTC

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

SPRING CLASSES + SUMMER CAMPS ARE OPEN FOR REGISTRATION

Classes and camps are filling up fast. If you are interested in trying out a tennis or pickleball class in Spring (starting the week of March 10th) or want to sign up your kids for a week of tennis and activities this summer, registration is still open and we still have room.

Check out our offerings and register at: <https://www.lifetimeactivities.com/walnut-creek/>

MARCH PASSHOLDER SPECIAL

This month we are celebrating our passholders with a month-long 10% discount on all pro shop items, excluding strings/labor, snacks and drinks, and balls.

Try your luck on St Patrick's Day! We will hold a drawing for all passholders on March, 17th and the winner will receive an Annual Plus Pass!

**SPRING FORWARD!**

Reminder Sunday March 9th is daylight savings time so set your clocks ahead one hour!

LEAGUE MATCH SCHEDULE WIDGET

View upcoming USTA League and Day League matches [here](#).

HAVE YOU SET UP YOUR COURTRERESERVE ACCOUNT YET?

Use Lifetime Activities CourtReserve App to access your account, make reservations, register for programs and use credit cards for pro shop purchases. Opt in to push notifications to get real-time information on court reservation confirmations, cancelations due to inclement weather, and court waitlist updates. League Captains can also share these QR codes with their players to make sure everyone can easily check in for their matches.



App Store



Google Play Store

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 or 925-945-1102.

CALENDER OF EVENTS

2025

Mar — Apr — May

Mar 1-2	WCRC Fall Mixed Doubles Tournament
Mar 14	USTA 40+ DT Season Closes
Mar 16	USTA 40+ Season Closes
Mar 16	USTA 18+ Mixed Season Closes
Mar 17	USTA 55+ Season Opens
Mar 24-28	USTA 40+ DT Playoffs Round 1
Mar 27-30	USTA 18+ Mixed Playoffs Round 1
Mar 31-Apr 4	USTA 40+ DT Playoffs Round 2
Apr 3-6	USTA 40+ Playoffs Round 1
Apr 3-6	USTA 18+ Mixed Playoffs Round 2
Apr 7	USTA 18+ Season Opens
Apr 7	USTA 18+ DT Season Opens
Apr 7-11	USTA 40+ DT Playoffs Round 3
Apr 7 -11	USTA 18+ Mixed Playoffs Round 3
Apr 11	USTA 65+ DT Season Closes
Apr 10-13	USTA 40+ Playoffs Round 2
Apr 17-20	USTA 40+ Playoffs Round 3
Apr 21	USTA 40+ Mixed Team Registration Opens
Apr 21-25	USTA 65+ DT Playoffs Round 1
Apr 25-27	USTA 18+ Mixed Sectionals
Apr 28-May 2	USTA 65+ DT Playoffs Round 2
May 2	Calcutta Party & Auction
May 3	Calcutta Tournament
May 9-11	USTA 40+ Sectionals Opt 1
May 9-11	USTA 40+ DT Sectionals Opt 1
May 16-18	USTA 40+ Sectionals Opt 2

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cara Mia Barnacascel

January 2025



Income

Income	
Membership Dues	35.00
Total Income	\$35.00
Gross Profit	\$35.00

Expenses

League Expenses	
Total Summer Singles Expenses	\$974.75
Total League Expenses	\$974.75
Nationals Fee	1,068.00
Office Supplies	42.68
Total Printing and Reproduction	\$59.99
Tournament Expenses	
Calcutta Expenses	
Total Calcutta Expenses	\$500.00
Total Tournament Expenses	\$500.00
Website	80.00
Total Expenses	\$2,725.42
Net Operating Income	-\$2,690.42
Net Income	-\$2,690.42

Balance through January, 2025	\$68,105.77
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WCRC LEAGUES/EVENTS

Fall Mixed Doubles Tournament - Mar 1-2

WING Singles League Closes - April 13

Calcutta Dinner & Auction - May 2

Calcutta Tournament - May 3

WING Singles Playoffs - Apr 13 - May 31

Winter Doubles Tournament - May 30 - Jun 1

Mid-Summer Tournament - August 2

Mixed Doubles League - Standings

6.0

Dave Wong/Brigitte Shaw
Mary Soe/Mark Keeling

W

L

1

0

1

0

7.0

Sandra Harris/Eugene Beyder
Karlene Steelman/Phillip Johnson

3

0

3

0

8.0

Christine Tudor/Brian Hennessy

4

0

9.0

Jill Van Slyke/Thomas Lyhne

1

0



WING Singles League - Standings



Men's

3.0

W

L

Kaveh Moraghebi

1

0

3.5

Jim Wray

2

0

Denis Golovin

2

0

4.0

Adam Chacksfield

10

1

4.5+

Kenny Widmann

2

0

50+

Michael Rogers

1

0

Women's

3.0

W

L

Veronika Mora-Mieszkowski

1

0

Miho Kanauchi

1

0

3.5

Jing Wu

2

0

4.0

No matches played yet

4.5+

No matches played yet

50+

No matches played yet