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Newsletter of the Walnut Creek Racquet Club April,

April, 2008

Patrick Worrell puts good use to Coach Mac's lessons during a mixed doubles league match this season.

Photo by: Robert Young

Walnut Creek Racquet Club

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THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy April everyone! I can't believe the change in the weather from just a month ago! Lots of great tennis out at Heather Farm nearly every night with our 18 USTA teams practicing and now playing league matches.

Starting in the next Court Reporter issue we are going to be offereing our newsletters as e-documents.



Tammie Snyder 2008 WCRC President

We are trying to save paper, money and the amount of time it takes to put together our newsletter each and every month. If you do NOT have an email address you will still be able to pick up a copy of the monthly newsletter at the club house. If you still would like to receive a paper copy of the newsletter please go to www.wcrc.net and sign in under your member login. Once on your membership page go to Change Contact/ Profile Info under Member Information. On that page you will see various fields and check boxes. Please make sure all of your information is updated. Click on the send newsletter box if you'd still like to receive a paper copy of the newsletter. Please help us reduce waste by taking the time to log in and update your member information.

Thanks to Bret Jones who has taken on the job of keeping the Court Calendar up to date. If you are a USTA Captain and need to change or cancel a home match you will need to contact Bret Jones immediately. If you do not contact Bret for court changes or cancellations you will be subject to loss of all home courts for this USTA season.

An email went out to all those participating in the winter doubles league asking if you will be playing in this year's tournament. If you have not taken the time to respond, please do so as we need a head count for food for the tournament. The tournament will be held April 18-20th.

For those of you who have never participated in our Calcutta Tournament check your calendars and sign up. This is by far the most fun tournament of the year. It's mixed doubles format with handicaps designated for each team. This year's tournament will be May 10th with the Friday night auction/ party on May 9th. Registration for this event can be found on page 4.

See you on the courts...





New Member Information Removed for Privacy

Calcutta Party & Tournament: May 9-10th

Here's your chance to enter the most popular tournament that the WCRC offers each year - the 2008 Calcutta. Enter early, since the event is limited to the first 32 women and 32 men who register. The format is Mixed Doubles, but you enter individually. You will be paired with a partner by blind draw prior to the tournament and the resulting team given a handicap according to their combined playing abilities. At the Friday night party, you meet your partner and teams are auctioned off to the highest bidder - either individuals or syndicate. Start times will also be announced on Friday night.

Cost is \$20 per person (covers the Friday night party **May 9th** and Saturday tournament **May 10th** in which you are guaranteed a minimum of two matches). Guests may attend the Friday night party at no charge.



Entry deadline is April 30th. This is a money tournament, so it is important that you list your current NTRP rating on the registration form below. If you don't have a rating, call us and we can help. If you have any questions or can assist the Tournament Committee with various aspects of this event, please contact Adam Borovkoff at 330-3154 or at aborovkoff@mac.com. All tournament participants must be current WCRC members.

In the WCRC's long Calcutta history, there have been very few instances where the team with the most collective talent ends up winning the tournament.

Sign up and bring home the money!!!!

Sign up on line at www.wcrc.net

Calcutta Tournament Entry Form

Name:
USTA Rating:
Phone:
Email
Number in your party (including guests)
I can help score keep

Please make checks payable to WCRC (\$20 per player) and send with entry form to:

Adam Borovkoff 427 Dogwood Drive Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Questions? Contact Adam Borovkoff at (925) 330-3154 or at aborovkoff@mac.com

\$20 Per Player · Entry Deadline: April 30th



Linda Dow

The two Senior Women 3.0 Walnut Creek teams had a second round playoff match up. They had another very windy playoff day on Sunday March 16th at Heather Farms. Faye O'Hara and Myrl Kan's team met up against Daphne Olson and Beverly McHale's other Walnut Creek team. With the wind leveling the playing field it took a lot of patience and constant footwork to keep up with the wind. Faye's team edged out Daphne's team. All the players were very gracious and both teams celebrated with a glass of wine following the match.

The team will now continue on to Districts April 11-13 in Sacramento at the Natomas Racquet Club.







The Court Reporter • April 2008

Incoming!!!

The first order of business is this, the return of serve is not just an extension of your ground strokes, it's a stroke all its own. You wouldn't consider an overhead just an extension of your serve would you? I don't know of any rule that allows you to run up and back or side to side lining up your body, then smacking the ball as hard as you can anywhere in the court and then claim that you were hitting a serve, no, it's an overhead. Obviously ground strokes and the return of serve have some things in common like the ball bouncing off the ground first, but keep in mind, you're trying to return a ball that was tossed from someone's hand, and hit in a downward projection from 78 feet away into a little box. So, outside of being a beginner whose serves move about as fast as their ground strokes, dump the idea that you're just going to hit a forehand or backhand which ever side it comes to.

Since I've picked on beginners in this article, now I'll credit them for doing something right; they won't move away from their strengths until their opponent makes them move. Even when they've lost a few points the same way, they're still pretty reluctant to abandon what they know they can do. How many times have you heard a parent tell a child "move over", only to find the child back in the same place two or three balls later. Beginners think, "I'll cover that area when I see the ball go over there". You should take



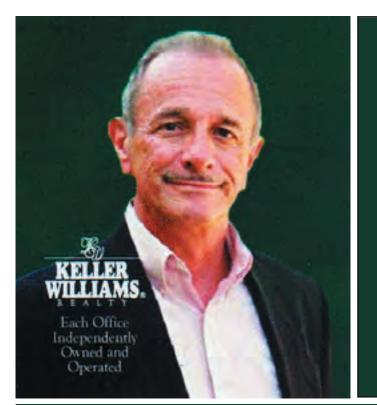
that same approach, why cover an area of the service box that the server never serves successfully to, when it does go there they're just as surprised as you are. Note to returner, don't protect a spot just because the server is trying to serve there,



that's completely different than the server successfully serving there. How many times have you seen a person knock the stuffing out of their first serve over and over and miss over and over, 10% in is 90% out.

It would be an absolute crime against all teaching, coaching, and instructing if I wrote an article about the return of serve and didn't mention the spilt-step. That's where you, with cat like quickness, get up onto the balls of your feet one millisecond before the server contacts the ball and attempt to time the return with a (and here's another must mention) shortened stroke, out in front, low, with a continental grip, cross court; there, I mentioned it.

Excluding tie-breakers, in order to win a match it is imperative that you try to hold serve, but your work has just begun, because an equal amount of effort must be given to the attempt of breaking your opponents serve. Whether it is a high lob or a sizzling forehand winner, the only way to break someone's serve is to return it first.



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Calendar of Events



- **7:** Fifty Mixed USTA Team Reg. Opens
- 7: Super Sr. 60 USTA Team Reg. Opens
- 11-13: Senior USTA Districts
- **18-20:** WCRC Winter Doubles Tournament
- 25-27: Mixed USTA Districts
- **30:** Fifty Mixed USTA Team Reg. Closes



- 9-10: Calcutta Party and Tournament
- **18:** Fifty Mixed USTA Team Reg. Opens
- 18: Combo Dubs USTA Team Reg. Opens
- **16-18:** Senior USTA Sectionals
- **19:** Fifty Mixed USTA Season Opens
- 22: Combo Dubs USTA Team Reg. Closes



- 2: Super Sr. 60 USTA Season Opens
- **7-8:** Mixed USTA Sectionals



- **6:** Super Senior 65 USTA Season Closes
- 11-13: Adult USTA Playoffs Round I
- 14-18: Super Sr. 65 USTA Playoffs Round I
- 18-20: Adult USTA Playoffs Round II
- 21-25: Super Sr. 65 USTA Playoffs Round II
- 26: MidSummer Madness Tournament

TREASURER'S REPORT

Lynne Weinshelbaum



as of February 29, 2008

Income Winter Doubles 08 Income Interest Income Advertising Income Membership Dues Board Dinner	8,781.00 2.80 200.00 6,253.68 233.00
Total Income	15,470.48
Expense Board Appreciation Awards Banquet '08 Expenses Club Championships 07 Expenses Board Meeting Expense Paypal Fees Newsletters-Court Reporter Non-Profit Fees Postage Post Office Box Rental Supplies Website	217.81 3,152.70 475.38 52.00 397.77 969.05 20.00 500.00 70.00 541.22 318.85
Board Dinner Expenses	878.27
Total Expense	7,593.05
Net Income	7,877.43

Balance February 29, 2008

\$15,570.71

If you are looking to advertise, submit an article or photograph for an upcoming newsletter, please contact Tammie Snyder at 925-957-0604 or email her at tammie@gte.net.

Deadline for the May issue is Friday, April 25th.





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