



BTC Open Tournament results
Learn to return powerful serves!
New openings on the board!



Board approves \$10 dues increase

The Board of Directors voted last month to approve a fee increase of ten dollars a year for adult and senior memberships. The increase is the first in ten years, and is aimed to meet the rising cost of business and help fund improvement projects.

The increase is scheduled to take effect on the first day of September.

The increase was overwhelmingly supported by the membership, according to the data collected in a survey put out in the April newsletter. Over eighty percent of the respondents approved the fee increase.

The price of a new adult membership will go from \$115 a year to \$125. Adult renewals will rise ten dollars as well, from \$95 to \$105.

New senior memberships will go from \$75 to \$85, and renewals will be \$65, up from \$55.

Day passes will rise one dollar, from \$4 to \$5 for adults and from \$2 to \$3

Youth program is growing up

The goal of the Balboa Tennis Club Youth Program is to promote, teach and support the growth of tennis with the youth of BTC members' families and the community.

The goals of the committee (BTC members, Geoff Griffin and parents) are to:

- Get parents involved with the program.
- Create "Kid Court Time" by designating special courts and times to promote play.

• Have a yearly YOUTH KICKOFF DAY involving the youth, parents, and pros (this year it will be in September but next year June will kick off the program and help enrollment for the summer camps).

- Maintain attendance list and track the development of returning students as they progress through the program.
- Train our own group of "ball persons" to support our tournament play at the club.
- Provide T-shirts to identify these



inside...

President's message from Robin Rodger	page 3
Tennis Tips from the pros	page 4
Spotlight by Roz King	page 5
BTC Open Tournament Results	page 7
Calendar of events	page 8

Increase to take effect September 1

(Continued from page 1)

\$4 to \$5 for adults and from \$2 to \$3 for seniors. Junior fees will stay the same for both memberships and day passes.

The board of directors were very interested in finding a balance between the need to keep fees low and the need to insure this tennis facility will be well run and kept in excellent condition.

A survey of some of the other public tennis clubs in the area revealed that our prices will still be lower, even considering the increase. This is a great source of pride, especially since our facility is one of the nicest public tennis clubs in the nation.

The City of San Diego approved the proposed rate increases in June.

The rates were under review as a regular part of the process of renewing the lease the Balboa Tennis Club has with the City of San Diego, an agreement which is updated every five years.

All memberships purchased or renewed in August will be started or renewed at the current rate.



Robin Rodger President

Ray Gottell Vice President

Ron Celeste Treasurer

Pam Fullerton Secretary

Richard Barndt

Darice Carnaje

Dominque Gambale

Brad Hasper

Roz King

Yolanda Owens

Will Tappen

Board Members

Kent Sligh

Geoff Griffin

Roz King Editor, Center Court

Volunteers needed to assist pros

(Continued from page 1)

• Provide T-shirts to identify these youth as being a part of the Balboa Tennis Club Youth Program.

• Obtain outside funding.

Come see this youth program in action, every Tuesday at 4 p.m. Geoff has 60-plus kids every week learning to love the game of tennis!

Here's how you can help to Benefit Balboa T.C. Youth Program.

1. Donate for tee shirt's for Juniors use as ball girls and boys. We wish to purchase 100 for on going use and a better price. The cost is \$400.00. (Make checks for any amount payable to "BTC Junior Fund." We have a separate account for this program and every penny goes to help kids to

learn tennis. Donations can be given to the club manager.)

2. Volunteer to assist pros, especially with kids under 6 years old. No teaching experience necessary, just ability to hand

toss a ball! Volunteers are needed on Tuesdays at 4 p.m.

3. Volunteer to make list of students name and telephone number before class. Volunteers needed Tuesdays at 4 p.m.

As Chairperson, Roz King (619-262-0357, e-mail: rozkng@webtv.net) will be asking you personally for support... but don't wait to be asked because this is a good thing... step forward! Look for the sign up calendar/sheet at the reservation desk.

Board meetings are at 7 p.m. every third Tuesday of the month in the BTC Clubhouse. All members are welcome.

The BTC Main Office is open Monday through Friday.

The reservations desk is open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday; 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

The club is closed on New Years Day, Thanksgiving, and $\operatorname{Christmas}\nolimits.$

Office	295-4242
Reservations	. 295-9278
Pro Shop	. 291-5248
Snack Shop	295-1431

Submissions and Ads to the newsletter are welcome.
Call 295-4242

Promoting tennis to kids

By Robin Rodger, Balboa Tennis Club President

"Balboa Tennis Club was the hallowed grounds for tennis not just in the United States but in the world." These words, spoken by a local tennis professional, caught my attention and peaked my interest. What was different then compared to now? How can we get there again?

Tennis has dropped in popularity from third to twenty-fifth among sports. The USTA is trying very hard to turn the tide on that issue. For our part we can help tennis overall and ourselves in particu-

lar by fostering a love of the game and filling the air at Balboa with enthusiasm and excitement.

We, as a board, want to encourage a family atmosphere at Balboa. We are very interested in the future of tennis and realize this means encouraging our younger players. Due to the fact Geoff's free clinics have increased in popularity, we have decided to put a new emphasis on our youth program.

A youth committee has been created to expand our focus. This committee is chaired by Roz King. We are beginning what we will call "Kids Courts". Courts 5 and 6 will be devoted to youth play on the weekdays during off peak times, from 3 to 5pm. Children can just show up and play.

We also hope that adults will take some time every now and then to play with our younger players. Geoff will be developing some of his devoted clinic players into "ball persons." We will use these boys and girls during the tournaments we host. They will make their debut at the Metro Tournament in October.

We will also be experimenting with a "new" additional challenge court, referred to as the Ultimate Challenge Court. The purpose is to provide an arena for higher level competition. This court will operate

only on the weekends from 10 until 2:00pm. There will be no rule forcing the winner to sit after two sets – the winner will stay on until they lose. We hope this will generate excitement not only among the players, but the spectators as well. We encourage players from throughout the San Diego area to test their skills on the battlefield. We will still have the regular challenge court on court 9.

The patio space is an area of concern for many of us on the board. The fixtures are weathered and

outdated, and we feel we aren't making the best use of that area.

We would like to redo this space for increased socialization and comfort. We would like to apply for funds from the matching funds program with the Park and Recreation. To do this we need a plan and bids to submit.

Are you talented in design or space configuration or patio landscape? We need your help. Please call me at home 619-222-5479 or leave a note

with the reservation desk indicating you interest.

Our dues have remained constant for 10 years, but the cost of doing business has increased. A modest increase across the board is necessary to keep up with inflation and have a little extra for improvements. The park and Recreation Department has approved our new fee schedule, which will go into effect on September 1, 2000.

As one of the finest public tennis facilities in the nation, and the center of tennis in San Diego, we have a unique opportunity and responsibility to foster an atmosphere that promotes the growth and the love of the game of tennis.

You can do your part by volunteering to serve on the Board of Directors.

Petitions will be available at the reservation desk beginning September first.



Five seats up for grabs on the BTC Board of Directors

For anyone who is interested in serving on the board of directors, this can be an exciting time.

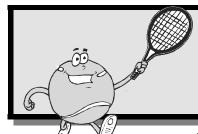
There are five openings on the board this year, and hopeful candidates should start lobbying their friends at the club for support.

Petitions will be available at the reserva-

tion desk beginning September first – that's less than a month away!

Petitions must be turned in to the director of the club by October 15. Ballots will be mailed out in October for the membership to vote.

The new board members will begin their term in January.



Tennis Tips... ...from the pros

By Geoff Griffin

A consistent return of serve is important at any level. The ability to consistently return powerful serves will make you a great player. Here are my basics for returning big flat serves:

1. Learn to split step. Returning tough serves takes quick reactions. Great returners, like great shortstops all split step. In tennis, move forward slowly as opponent tosses ball. Right before contact make a slight hop into a crouch so that your legs are in a maximum "spring" position. As server makes contact your reactions will now be

their quickest.

- 2. Short back swing. All your efforts are now in front of your body. Any back swing will cause a great deal more errors and poorly placed shots. You must concentrate on using your opponents power. Very little of your own!
- 3. *Freeze your eye level*. If your eye level moves so does your head. This will really hurt your placement.
- 4. *Keep the return low*. Direction is not nearly as important as height. If you can keep the ball within a foot of the net the server's volleying partner will not be able to hurt you.

Griffin Tennis Services

Our Pro Shop hours have changed!

Monday — Thursday 9 to 1 and 3 to 6

Friday 9 to 1 and 3 to 5

Saturday 8 to 4 Sunday 10 to 4

Our Summer Junior Mini-Camps are still running throughout August.

Questions? Call 291-5248!

Spotlight



Courtside Chat

By Roz King

Many of **Paul Buskeys** friends from Balboa Park were in attendance at Fort Rosecrans for a full military ceremony. The beauty of the ceremony and tributes were most befitting of a very gracious man whom we will miss very much. BTC will be the new home of the "Paul Buskey Memorial Super Senior Tournament."

Many of our members are seasoned globe trotters and some sail. **Inga Morton,** one of the members of Balboa I. A Team, is an ardent

surfer, and an accomplished sailor who was selected to crew on a commemorative voyage from Portugal to Brazil. She completed part of the voyage and then flew to Brazil to greet the crew and be with family and friends. Inga had an impressive tennis career in Brazil prior to moving here after many other stops all over the world. She now has a year old granddaughter who keeps

her busy in between waves... What's up with **Melinda Ainsley-Murray** and **Venus Williams** taking pictures and all at Wimbledon. I think Venus gave her some pointers...players beware! **Ginny Blanchard, Amy Schmitt, Judy Janc** and new member, **Carol Butler**, were all part of a winning 4.5 World Cup Senior Team.

Masako Beppu

won a national W/D tournament in New York and

will compete internationally in Japan later this year. Beth Hyde and Mookda West are on the tournament trail and Susan Davis is still on a winning streak. Yoko Anderson is on the courts in between flights to Fresno... FRESNO!!! Good to see Hazel Higgins back out playing. "Hello," "Hello," evening players are you out there??? Give me some news about the after hours. I know there are some tough matches. We wanta know!!! Drop me a note and leave it at the reservation

desk!!! You can also e-mail me (rozkng@webtv.net). As I write, we are entering the final weekend of the Balboa Open. Kent and Geoff have been burning the midnight oil many a night with data entry using the computerized Tennis Management System (TMS), and all the tournament results and scheduling

are accessible through the inter-

net. Fran Wakefield keeps a committed tournament desk crew to manage and schedule the courts. These are some of the loyal crew that are always there for you, Lynne Beerle, Phyllis Webster, Jessie Coffey, Pete Sullivan, Tad Yamaguchi, Ulla-Britt and Frank Miller.

SDHS courts offer alternative during national tournament

By Kent Sligh, BTC Director

The tournaments we host here can be exciting and prestigious as well as being a good way to earn money to support the club – but they can also make it tough to get a court.

We have arranged for San Diego High School to make their brand new courts available to our members during the huge National 4.0 tournament that is being held here beginning September 21.

The courts will be available to BTC members on a first come, first serve basis beginning at 3 p. m. on Friday September 22 and all day Saturday and Sunday, September 23 and 24. Directions to these courts will be available at the reservation desk the week prior to the tournament.

Depending on how it works out, we will try to make these courts available during more tournaments in the future.

I want to remind everyone that, due to a number of complaints, we are strictly enforcing the 3ball rule that has been in effect here for many years.

The only courts you can use to hit a basket of balls are the teaching courts and the stadium court. No exceptions.

I want to join the Board of Directors in thanking Charlie Pope for his service on the board. Charlie had to step down from his position as Treasurer due to the birth of his twin boys, Bryce and Michael! If you see Charlie you should thank him and congratulate him at the same time.

We also want to announce Brad Hasper as Charlie's replacement — he heads the Employment and Personnel Committee and the Ethics Committee. Ron Celeste has moved into the position of Treasurer and heads the Budget and Finance Committee.

Tournament and Web Site Committees seek volunteers...

Board member Darice Carnaje is involved in two new and exciting committees that promise to make a big difference here at BTC.

The two committees are the Tournament Committee and the new Web Site Committee. There is still time for you to get involved in either one of them.

The BTC Tournament committee is working to get sponsorship for larger and broader event money awards for our tournaments. This will attract more players, especially to some of the events with smaller draws.

Darice is seeking more members for this committee, as well as the Web Site committee. The Web Site committee is involved in every aspect of BTC's internet presence, and they have a lot of ideas about things we can do.

Have you had a chance to visit our web site? The address is www.balboatennis.com. Darice is working to make it work for you. She would like your feedback even if you don't have time to join the committee.

She can be reached by e-mail at BTCTennis@hotmail.com.

BTC Directory Update

Is your phone number incorrect in the directory? Would you like the correct number published here? Call 619-295-4242 and we'll include your correction in the next issue. Here are two corrections:

Nina Nguyen 619-229-2884

Dennis Jasper 858-459-5333



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Members Helping Members

Do you have something you'd like to offer to other club members???

If so, you can put an ad in BTC's newsletter. This newsletter goes out 4 times a year to over 1400 members. The fee is \$25.00 for a business card.

Please call the Director's office for more details: 295-4242.

Balboa Open Tournament Results

Men's Open Singles

Redondo defeated Pongsrikul

Men's Open Doubles

Barbarie—Shen defeated Chanfreau—Redondo

Men's 30 Singles Riveroll defeated Gill Men's 35 Singles Turner defeated Ramos

Men's 40 Singles Johnson defeated Clingo

Men's 40 Doubles

Hulbert—Lievers defeated Gerson—Glass

Men's 45 Singles

Belinsky defeated Hutchison

Men's 45 Doubles

Lackritz—Schmersal defeated Hagey—Hutchison

Men's 50 Singles

Cernousek defeated Hasper

Men's 50 Doubles

Glass—Kelly defeated Loehr—Moog

Men's 55 Singles Housman defeated Bise Men's 65 Singles Perry defeated Albares Men's 65 Doubles

Neuman—Snyder defeated Bacon—Scull

Men's 70 Singles Kessler defeated Markley Men's 75 Singles Watters defeated Norwood

Men's 75 Doubles

Darling—Gibson defeated Brock—Kohman

Men's 80 Singles Asher defeated Catalano Men's 3.0 Singles Sayour defeated Smith Men's 3.0 Doubles

Cisneros—Cisneros defeated Fletcher—Merkel

Men's 4.0 Singles Wutke defeated Jarvis Men's 4.0 Doubles

Nelson—Newborn defeated Juvenal—Salazar

Men's 5.0 Singles Herscher defeated Serna Men's 5.0 Doubles

Le-Vo defeated Damasco-Sellona

Mixed 3.0 Doubles

Brodersen—Koermer defeated Ramdat—Seline

Mixed 4.0 Doubles

Villar—Villar defeated MacDonald—Vega

Mixed 5.0 Doubles

Damasco-Podney defeated Monteforte-Nelson

Women's Open Singles

Elliott-Herrmann defeated Burkett

Women's Open Doubles

Maebara—Whitwell defeated Heppell—Jones

Women's 35 Singles

Darrough defeated Winkleman

Women's 40 Singles Reasons defeated Schram Women's 45 Singles Morkan defeated Davis

Morkan defeated Davis Women's 50 Singles Cohen defeated Nichols Women's 55 Singles

Steel defeated Konoski
Women's 60 Singles

King defeated Schneider Women's 70 Singles Kibbey defeated Wakefield Women's 3.0 Doubles

Karuzas-Richins—Stevens defeated Garcia—

Navarro

Women's 4.0 Doubles

Aguilera-Vega defeated Davis-West

Women's 5.0 Doubles

King—Marshall defeated Hilsdorf—Pittarelli

Father-Son Doubles

Pongsrikul—Pongsrikul defeated McDaniel—

McDaniel

Father-Daughter Doubles

Rice—Rice defeated Hurtado—Hurtado

Mixed Men's 45/Women's 40

Sheridan—Tansey defeated Benning—Devoe

Mixed Open Doubles

Fritz-Fritz defeated Ainslie-Murray-Ray

Women's 3.0 Singles Charman defeated Vega Women's 4.0 Singles Vega defeated Villar Women's 5.0 Singles Ide defeated Pittarelli

Did you know you can register for BTC tournaments on line? Go to www.active.com and select "tennis" from the drag down list on the left side of the screen (where it says "More Sports"). If we have a tournament coming up, you'll find it there. Just click on the name of the tournament and click "REGISTER NOW" to register! While you're on line, check out our site at www.balboatennis.com for a complete list of all of our upcoming tournaments and lots of other useful information.

Calendar of events

August

1-4 BALBOA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS
15 BTC BOARD MEETING
18-20 HENDRICKSON WHEELCHAIR CHAMPIONSHIPS
25-27 DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS

September

2-4 DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS 17-20 SENIOR OLYMPICS 19 BTC BOARD MEETING 21-24 4.0 NATIONALS

October

6-8, 13-15 METROPOLITAN CHAMPIONSHIPS 17 BTC BOARD MEETING 20-22, 27-29 CLUB FALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

November

4-9 NATIONAL 25 HARDCOURTS 21 BTC BOARD MEETING

Center Court

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inside...

President's message from Robin Rodger Tennis Tips from the pros Spotlight by Roz King BTC Open tournament results

page 3 page 4 page 5 page 7