

San Diego Tennis Reporter

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May 2019

President's Report

By Anne Podney



The San Diego District Tennis Association (SDDTA) has been extremely lucky over the years to recruit board members who are dedicated to this community. Recently, two of our members were honored by the Southern California Tennis Association (SCTA) at its 2018 Service Awards Banquet. Jim Winters received the prestigious Henry Talbert Lifetime Achievement Award. Jim founded the San Diego Tennis Federation in 1983 as an outlet for LGBT competition and has also been a terrific supporter of high school athletics and various

key USTA initiatives. Amanda Fink was recognized for organizing the Section's College Knowledge program that offers guidance and support for parents of college-bound tennis players. Amanda also heads San Diego's Tennis Fest this June.

Conan Lorenzo, board member and USPTA coach, was recognized by the USTA and awarded the Janet Louer Junior Team Tennis National Organizer of the Year Award. The fantastic growth of the USTA's Junior Team Tennis (JTT) program is a source of pride for many in the San Diego area. Conan stepped in five years ago, and that has made all of the difference. There are currently more than 80 teams competing with approximately 1,400 players in the various divisions, levels, and age groups.

I recently met with Linda Milan and we spoke of the many ways the SCTA and the SDDTA work together. With the grant monies we receive from the SCTA, we are able to do so much from wheelchair tennis to tournament evaluation to the ever popular Tennis Fest. She mentioned that since Youth Tennis San Diego no longer represents junior tennis in San Diego, many newcomers don't know who to call when they are looking for programs or places for their children to play. (The SDDTA only represents adults in San Diego.) We will soon have a link on our website for parents to access junior programs sponsored by the SCTA, including JTT, of course. In the meantime, if you are looking for a pro or clinic for your child visit our website at www.sandiegotennis.com. Under "Clubs" you can find what a club in your area offers.

One more shout-out: Congratulations to the Tennis On Campus (TOC) team from UCSD! UCSD fields one of three teams that will represent Southern California at the USTA National Championships in Surprise, Arizona, April 11-13. There, 64 teams will compete to be the 2019 TOC national champion.

With summer approaching, many of our biggest tournaments are in the offering. For former high school players home for the summer, please note that several tournaments offer discounted entry fees for college players participating in NTRP events. If you were a strong high school player, we look for you to enter at the 5.0 level as we are especially trying to strengthen our 5.0 divisions. See you on the courts!

District Award Winners Honored

By Lesley Waite



Photo by Hillary Park

2019 Award Winners at Annual Banquet

The San Diego District Tennis Association (SDDTA) Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet was held at the La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club. A sold-out crowd of tennis *aficionados* enjoyed cocktails and dinner. Linda Milan, Southern California Tennis Association (SCTA) Acting Executive Director, lauded the District for its excellent tennis programs including our annual Tennis Fest which SCTA is now using as a template in other SCTA areas.

Jim Lackritz, a former SDDTA president, introduced the SDDTA honorees recognized for their achievements and contributions to tennis in our community. The Jeff Ray family is the Family of the Year. Jeff and son Jake are a top ranked Father/Son team. Jeff also coaches high school tennis.

Liane Bryson and Taylor Fritz were selected as Players of the Year. Liane had outstanding 2018 tournament success and Taylor continues to excel on the tour. Darice Carnaje and Juan Garcia were named the Female and Male Pro/Coach of the Year. Sportsmanship Awards went to Romeo Matias and Lan Wilhelm.

Jim Winters was given the Community Service Award for his decades of volunteering. He founded the San Diego Tennis Federation in 1983, the first gay organized tennis club in San Diego. Jim taught tennis to juniors and adults at no charge and began a junior tennis program in East San Diego in 2009.

Club of the Year is Balboa Tennis Club, a 96-year-old club that has been the center of tennis life in San Diego. The 73rd Annual San Diego Metropolitan Championships received the Tournament of the Year Award. Sqar Milner is Sponsor of the Year.

Selection of award winners is in September. The SDDTA Awards Committee accepts nominations until September 5. A brief bio and contact info of the nominee can be submitted to the SDDTA.

USTA League Tennis

By Randie Lettington

Winter 2019 will go down in history as our rainiest season ever. Many thanks to our hard working captains who scrambled to successfully reschedule matches throughout the season. Congratulations and good luck to these winning teams advancing to Sectionals Events in April and May! Bring on the sunshine for our USTA Spring League play!

USTA Adult 40 & Over League (Winter)

San Diego Local League Winners

Men's 4.0 Tierrasanta Tennis Club - Jerry Lu
 Women's 3.5 WD TBD
 Women's 3.5 WE San Diego Tennis & RC - Lorena Monzon
 Women's 4.0 La Jolla Tennis Club - Terri Bourne
 Women's 4.5+ La Jolla Tennis Club- Kim Johanson

North County San Diego Local League Winners

Men's 3.5 Fairbanks Ranch Country Club - Andrew Dewey
 Men's 4.0 Valley Center Tennis Club - Kenny Hawkins
 Men's 4.5+ Fallbrook Tennis Club - Keith London
 Women's 3.0 Morgan Run Resort - Dr. Janet Lapp
 Women's 3.5 WD La Costa Resort - Dee Dee Zielinski
 Women's 3.5 WE La Costa Resort - Julia Applebaum
 Women's 4.0 TBD
 Women's 4.5+ Carmel Valley Tennis Club - Kellie Jaquez

USTA Mixed Doubles 18 & Over League (Winter)

San Diego Local League Winners

7.0 Level San Diego Tennis & Racquet Club - Margot Linde
 8.0 Level ECCTA - Wender Hwang
 9.0 Level TBD

North County San Diego Local League Winners

7.0 Level Orange Glen High School - Anne and Danh Dang
 8.0 Level Kit Carson Park - Mark Warren
 9.0 Level Carmel Valley Tennis Club - Becky Kuba

Upcoming USTA/SCTA League Seasons:

See SanDiegoTennis.com/Leagues for more details.

Summer Season: mid June - early September

USTA Mixed Doubles 40 & Over (IRD* 5/15/19)

Combination levels: 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0

New! Mixed Team Tennis (age 18-39) (IRD* 6/1/19)

Season: late June - mid-August

3 lines of combination level doubles - 1 men's doubles, 1 women's doubles, 2 mixed doubles.

Perfect for recent grads, older JTT players or those home for summer. Small team size of 4-8 players.

SCTA Tri-Level Doubles 18 & Over (IRD* 5/15/19)

Men's and Women's Leagues: Season: late June - August

3 lines of doubles at 3 different NTRP rating levels.

5.0/4.5/4.0 level - new!

4.5/4.0/3.5 level

4.0/3.5/3.0 level Women only

USTA Adult 55 & Over (IRD* 5/15/19)

Men's and Women's Leagues

Season: mid-June - August

3 lines of combination level doubles

Women's league will start in mid-June. Men's league will start in July after the Spring season ends.

Summer Singles Flex League (Register by 5/1/19)

Men's and Women's Leagues

Season: June - August

Round robin play of matches set up with players at your level. See sandiegotennis.com/leagues for Flex League Registration information.

Fall Singles Flex League (Register by 8/1/19)

Fall Season: September - December

SCTA Tri-Level Mixed Doubles 18 & Over (IRD* 8/15/19)

SCTA Doubles 18 & Over (IRD* 8/15/19)

Men's and Women's 3 lines of doubles

* Initial Roster Deadline

Captain of the Year Recognition



Randie Lettington, Barbara Roorda

Barbara Roorda of Rancho Santa Fe Tennis Club was recognized by the SCTA as the Southern California Section Captain of the Year. Selected by SCTA Staff and League Coordinators, this award was created to recognize those who contribute to growing tennis in our community through encouraging play, mentoring others, and displaying leadership and a high level of sportsmanship on and off the court. Top captains were nominated for each of the 13 areas in SoCal. Samantha Nelson from Coronado Tennis Club received top honors as our San Diego Captain of the Year!

Randie Lettington, San Diego USTA League Coordinator, commented, "Barbara has been a remarkable partner and volunteer coordinator in North County San Diego. As an accomplished USTA player, she has spread her passion with others by initiating 'Learn about USTA' meetings, helping to build out teams (she even was a virtual/non-playing captain for lower level teams while training new captains). Her enthusiasm is contagious.

"Barbara also invested many hours in helping to organize our first Tri-level Mixed Doubles and 55 & Over Mixed Doubles Invitational events at Rancho Santa Fe Tennis Club last December. Both were wonderful experiences and high quality tennis for the teams from Beach Cities, Orange County, San Diego, and San Fernando Valley.

"Many thanks to Barbara for her outstanding contributions! Well deserved!"

Warrior Games III: A Successful Tennis Fundraiser

By Josh Jorgensen

On February 23, San Dieguito Tennis Club (SDTC) hosted a Warrior Games charitable tennis event. It raised over \$7000 to benefit the San Diego District Tennis Association (SDDTA) Wounded Warrior Tennis Program and help fund its 8th Annual National Wounded Warrior Tennis Camp.

Forty Warrior Games participants were split into four teams named for the branches of military service. The teams played a round robin doubles competition and lunched, surrounded by patriotic decor and images of the National Camp in action. Participants and their guests contributed funds through a silent auction and raffle, in addition to player donations.

SDTC member Beth Dammeyer, a member of the National Camp steering committee, spearheaded the Warrior Games effort. Backed by the SDTC Board of Directors, she chaired the organizing committee. Tennis Director Juan Garcia, who served in the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division, ran the on-court activities. The event organizing committee included Mitzi and Bill Brick, Tressa Carol, Suzy Gere, Shari Hume, Josh Jorgensen, Carol Katayama, Laura and Greg King, Diane Krebs, Steve Leffler, Susan Mikschi, Barbara Pasquale, Barbara Rix, and Cheryell Woodworth. Numerous community businesses, club members, and friends rallied to provide generous donation items for the silent auction and raffle.

The SDDTA Wounded Warrior Tennis Program has a track record of service at both the national and local levels. The program is run by a team of volunteers headed by the Wounded Warrior Camp co-founders Steve Kappes, Geoff Griffin, and M.A. Hillier of the SDDTA Military Outreach Committee.

The national level week-long Wounded Warrior Tennis Camp, held at Balboa Tennis Club, provides an all-expense paid experience for 50 wounded, ill, or injured military from across the country. These "wounded warriors" are flown in, put up in a hotel, transported locally, and provided meals and entertainment such as a private tour courtesy of the San Diego Zoo. The message of support for campers is that "we can never do enough" for military in response to their sacrifices in health.

The national camp's mission is to help wounded warriors learn to use tennis as a pathway to rehabilitation and social reintegration. The camaraderie and physicality of tennis can help draw wounded warriors out of isolation, speed healing emotionally and bodily, and build a healthy lifestyle. By supporting the camp and its mission, fundraising participants had the opportunity to help change lives by sharing their love of tennis.

In addition to the national camp, the program provides free weekly tennis clinics followed by social lunches to local wounded warriors at Balboa Tennis Club. The program was recognized with the USTA's 2015 National Adaptive Tennis Community Service Award. More information can be found at www.sdwoundedwarriortennis.org.



**FREE EVENT
CELEBRATION!**

19th Annual Tennis Fest!

Presented by the San Diego District Tennis Association

**Sunday,
June 9th**

12:30pm-4:00pm

Tennis Fest is FREE for all ages and abilities!

- On-court clinics from 1pm-3pm featuring over 60 top USPTA teaching pros
- Free t-shirts while supplies last
- **Music, vendors and more...**
- 3pm-4pm Ben Press award ceremony, raffle prize giveaways on the stadium court (*you must be present to win*)

Balboa Tennis Club
2221 Morley Field Dr.
San Diego, CA 92104

San Diego Players Selected to USA Senior Fed Cup Teams

By Carolyn Nichols



Ros Nideffer



Debbie Spence-Nasim



Carolyn Nichols and Robin Harris

Debbie Spence-Nasim (Carlsbad) and Ros Nideffer (San Diego) have been named to the USA Maria Bueno Cup team (women's 50+). They will compete on red clay August 4-9 in Estoril, Portugal. Nideffer has been named the playing captain. They were selected from applicants from across the USA based on their 2017-2019 tournament play. Spence-Nasim went undefeated in 2018 playing No.1 singles on the gold medal winning Bueno Cup team in Neu-Ulm, Germany.

Nideffer captained the Bueno Cup team last year and won the 50 Hard Court singles titles in 2017-18 and the doubles in 2018. Both had successful professional tennis careers.

Robin Harris (San Diego) and Carolyn Nichols (Rancho Santa Fe) have been named to the USA Alice Marble Cup team (women's 60+). Nichols has been selected to captain the team, which finished second in 2018 in Ulm, Germany. Harris and Nichols were finalists at the world championships in 2018 and are three-time defending champions at the 60 Hard Court nationals. Nichols is a three-time defending champion in 60 clay doubles and ranked No.1 by the ITF currently in 60 singles and doubles.



Rainy Miller Wins Two Titles in ITF Regional Championship in Miami

Rainy Miller (Poway) is branching out from local leagues and tournaments to national and international play. This year she won the ITF 55 doubles and mixed at the ITF Regional Championships in Miami Beach, which is the second highest point tournament level on the ITF Seniors circuit. She also reached the semis of the Wilson/Mission Hills and placed third at Lamita Jabour Grandes Dames tournament in Fort Lauderdale, while reaching the quarters at the National Clay Courts in Houston. She is currently sitting at No. 28 in doubles and No. 30 in mixed in the ITF world rankings. Rainy gives credit to Toie (2018 San Diego District Pro of the Year) and her husband (who encouraged her to compete) for giving her the confidence to travel and compete.

2019 San Diego District Tennis Association and Angel Lopez Collegiate Scholarships

By Jami Jones

The San Diego District Tennis Association (SDDTA) along with Angel Lopez will award four scholarships to student/athletes, male and female, who reside in San Diego County. The SDDTA will award (2) \$500 scholarships and Angel Lopez will award (2) \$250 scholarships. Prospective candidates for these scholarships include: current community college or four year college players, Tennis-On-Campus team players and **graduating high school seniors**. The Angel Lopez Scholarship is available to Latino students. The purpose of these scholarships is to help deserving collegiate tennis players to continue to pursue their educational and athletic goals at a college of their choice.

The criteria for the scholarships are: tennis team participation or equivalent, academic excellence, and community service. In addition, the SDDTA is looking for student-athletes who display qualities such as good sportsmanship, hard work, and leadership.

Visit www.sandiegotennis.com, click on the Programs button to find a link to the College Scholarships application. For more information contact Jami Jones at 2019126@gmail.com.

CORRECTION:

The SDDTA 2019 YEARBOOK inadvertently printed an incorrect ranking list for the Women's 4.0 Doubles.

Correct Rankings are:

1. Katherine Thompson/Irene Abrahamain
2. Sari Rudy/Nancy Turock
3. Yen Hagler/Janene Christopher

San Diegans Serving on USTA National Committees



Steve Kappes



Bill Kellogg



Amanda Fink



Todd Sprague

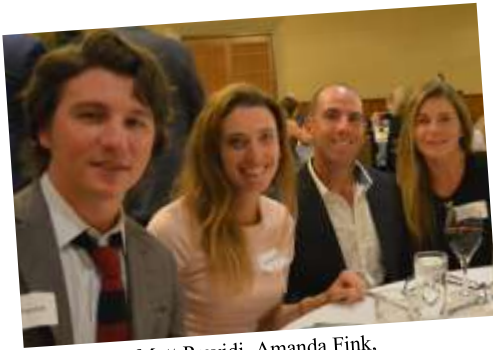


Geoff Griffin

- Liz Blum - Awards
- Amanda Fink - Nominating
- Geoff Griffin - National Advocacy Task Force
- Steve Kappes - Adaptive Tennis
- Todd Sprague - Adult Competition
- Marianne Werdel - Junior Competition
- Bill Kellogg is the SCTA Delegate to the USTA.

2019 Annual Awards Banquet

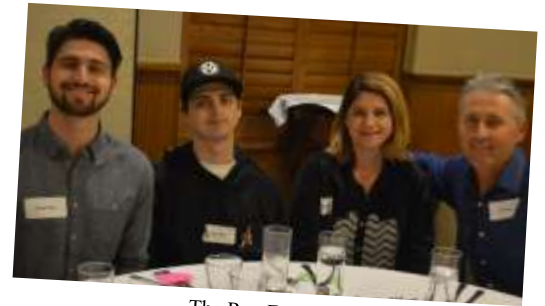
Photos by Hillary Park



Matt Previdi, Amanda Fink,
Juan Garcia, Michelle Okhremchuk



Darice Carnaje, Jim Lackritz



The Ray Family



Meghan Kuba, Becky Kuba, Tony Perez, Peggy Jung



John Broderick, Kathy Lacey, Larry Cornett



Brian and Lan Wilhelm



Gary Poon and District board members enjoying the evening festivities.



Maria and Sal Cano, Jim and Karen Lackritz with Bill Kellogg



Men's Sportsmanship Romeo Matias (third from right) and friends



Club of the Year Balboa Tennis Club members and friends
having way too much fun!

DATES TO REMEMBER:

May

- 4-5, 11-12** 31st Annual Peninsula Tennis Club Tournament
Duncan Depew 619-226-3401
- 13-19** LJB&TC Sr. Men's, Sr. Women's 50-90 Nat'l
Hard Cts, LJB&TC, Bill Kellogg 858-454-6500
- 18-19** Hendrickson Wheelchair Classic, Balboa Tennis
Club, Bryan East 619-222-3502
- 18-19, 25-27** 43rd Arthur Ashe Memorial Tournament,
Mt. View Sports & Racquet Club,
Frances Simpson-Lang 619-867-7322
- 29-June 2** USTA Nat'l Open Hard Courts, Balboa Tennis
Club, Colleen Ferrell 619-295-4242

June

- 1-2, 8-9** 45th Fallbrook Tournament, Fallbrook Tennis
Club, Rex Neilson 760-728-1100
- 7-9** USTA National F/D & M/S Hard Courts, Barnes
Tennis Center, Todd Sprague 619-316-1081
- 14-30** 103rd La Jolla Championships,
La Jolla Tennis Club, Brent Davis 858-454-4434

July

- 6-7, 13-14** 27th Annual Mountain View Tournament,
Mt. View Sports & Racquet Club,
Frances Simpson-Lang 619-867-7322
- 19-21, 26-28** 89th Balboa Open Maureen Connolly Memorial
Balboa Tennis Club, Geoff Griffin 619-838-1533

August

- 9-11, 16-18** RPTC Arnold Belinsky Memorial Open, Rancho
Penasquitos TC, Ernie Blando 858-484-0745
- 23-25, 31-Sept. 1** 91st San Diego District Championships,
Balboa Tennis Club, Tony Perez 619-971-0679

September

- 7-8, 14-15** 20th Annual Triton Classic, UCSD,
Octavian Popaluca 760-580-2164
- 20-22, 27-29** 74th San Diego Metropolitan Tournament,
Balboa Tennis Club, Tony Perez 619-971-0689

November

- 1-3** Pacific Coast Clay & Hard Court Championship,
La Costa Resort, Brian Blumenfeld 760-931-7501