



The Cottonwood Tennis Club News

The Cottonwood Tennis Club News December 2008

Volume 3—Issue 3

Message from the President

- Bradshaw Open
- Tournaments, Socials & Leagues in Full Swing
- CTC on the Web
- Upcoming Elections & Volunteering

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President's Message—Susan Stewart

We enjoyed another great year of The Bradshaw Tournament thanks to Peter Gorman and his terrific slate of volunteers. Thank all of you so much, and to management for their courtesy in setting up the tables and chairs on our final day. Be sure to look at the photo gallery at www.cottonwoodtennisclub.com (the Bradshaw page) and enjoy some of the Bradshaw pictures.

Our busy season is underway, with tournaments, socials and leagues going strong. The Riggs Road League plays on Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 PM on three courts, so go out and watch our guys. A new format for Singles has been established by Al Wagner, whereby you are put in a bracket with your skill level group; you set up your own matches with each player in your group; you have from mid-December to mid-March to do so, allowing you to play when you choose; and if you like the format, we can begin again in the Fall. This is an excellent format for those of you who miss playing singles, but cannot play competitive matches all in one week, so be sure and get on board. We have also been having Pickleball demonstrations with excellent turnouts.

Another advancement is putting our Newsletter on-line for everyone to print out at home so that we do not incur the expenses of printing and mailing. A new feature has been added this month whereby you can click on a box to change any of your membership contact information. As of this month we are mailing the Newsletter only to members without an email address. Cottonwood Tennis Club is stepping into the new era.

Time is flying and it's time to start thinking about next year's officers. The Election Committee consists of Ron Petersen, Chair, Pat Davidson, Kelz Kelzenberg, Terrie Heichelbech, and Jack Fitzsimmons. If you are interested in serving on the CTC Board of Directors, or becoming a Chairperson, Director, or Volunteer for Tournaments, Leagues, Organized Tennis, Membership, Bradshaw Committee, Publicity, Refreshments, Apparel, Ball Machines, Bulletin Board Review, Photography, or a Dinner Meeting month, please let the Committee know. Although they nominate only the officers for the Board, they also provide a list of interested volunteers. So please select something you would like to volunteer for or to assist. It takes over 170 volunteers each year to make CTC such a great



success, so we need "you". Announcements of nominees will be made at the January 2009 meeting.

Happy Holidays to all our special CTC members and to their families!

Susan Stewart, President

HAPPY  HOLIDAYS

Club Events

Socials

Tournaments

Events

Meetings

**UPCOMING
EVENTS !****MARK YOUR
CALENDAR !**

December 1-5
Triple T—CTC Closed
Tournament

December 13
SL CC Inter-club at CW
SunBird Inter-club at CW

December 17
CTC Holiday Dinner Dance

January 5-9
Mens & Womens Dou-
bles

January 21
CTC Dinner & Meeting
(Report of Nominating
Committee)

January 24
Oakwood Inter-club at
CW

Tournament News — Al Wagner, Tournament Director

Tennis activities are getting in full swing at CTC. We've just finished a social with Sunbird and Sun Lakes Country Club, where the combined number of matches scheduled was about 45! Only a few matches were one sided, so thanks for the good efforts of Mark Miron at Sun Lakes Country Club and Ray White at Sunbird who helped with the pairings. Sign up sheets are available for our next Social which is at home on the 13th of December. Don't delay in signing up!

Singles Tournament – A sign up sheet for the singles tournament/round robin/

ladder has been posted. If you are interested in playing about one match every week or two, you should sign up. We'll determine a club champion with two divisions for men and two divisions for women – but we need enough to sign up. The scheduling of individual matches will be up to those who sign up. They will need to call each other and arrange matches, being sure to have all matches complete by the middle of March.

Triple T – This is a team vs. team tournament. There will be eight folks per team scheduled to play men's singles, women's singles,

men's doubles, women's doubles, or mixed doubles. Each team will likely compete three times for the week. Sign up deadline was set as noon on November 25th, so if you missed the sign up, come on out and watch some good tennis. The Triple T tournament runs from December 1 - 5.

Coming Up – Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Men's and Women's Doubles Tournament January 5-9 and our January home social event with Oakwood on January 24th.

Al Wagner, TD

Visit the www.cottonwoodtennisclub.com website – the Bradshaw Page for a Bradshaw Open Tournament recap from Art Miller and of course, the photo gallery!

COTTONWOOD TENNIS CLUB "HOLIDAY DINNER DANCE"

Wednesday, December 17, 2008 - San Tan Ballroom

RICH HOWARD BAND

Returning for your dancing and listening pleasure

\$19.25 per person

"MENU"

CHOICE OF EITHER

TURKEY WITH DRESSING or ROASTED PORK TENDERLOINS

Mashed Potatoes & Gravy - Peas with Pearl Onions -

House Salad with Ranch or Italian Dressing - Warm Rolls and Butter -
Coffee or Tea

Lemon Meringue Pie with Raspberry Sauce - Chocolate Mints

SOCIAL & COMPLIMENTARY PHOTOS: 5:15 pm

DINNER : 6:00 pm

DANCE MUSIC BY BAND: 6:30 - 9:30 pm

WITH RECORDED MUSIC FROM 5:30 - 6:30



Extra

Publicity

Rating
Committee

Miscellaneous

Publicity—Keith & Susie Welker 802-9704

Please send any newsworthy publicity items to Keith & Susie Welker. Every month, articles and photo(s) are sent to about 4 local publications, and we would be delighted to include your league's results (be sure to give me a written script). If anyone has photos for publication, please e-mail those as well and be sure to include a cap-

tion. Whether each newspaper prints what we send is not guaranteed. Publicity articles for the winter editions of the SPLASH have been recently limited to 500 words. Names of some participants and/or winners may have to be omitted in order to report more of the news. My apologies!
keithsusan@earthlink.net

Tennis Quote of the Month —

"Tennis is a perfect combination of violent action taking place in an atmosphere of total tranquility"

Billie Jean King

**Looking to improve
your game?
CTC has it all !!**

**CTC Qualified
Tennis Instructors:**

Al Wagner
H.S. Tennis Coach
802-7142

Dick White, USPTR
895-0858

Don Neu, USPTA
895-2763

Jack Sanders, USPTA
883-7421 or 221-6388

Free Tennis Lessons

by Don Neu

October—April

Monday 7:30 pm—

Beginners

Tuesday 7:30 pm

Intermediate

Rating Committee—Keith Nelson 802-7330

Color Evaluation Ballots
Color evaluation ballots have been distributed to the women's Green, Blue and Black color members and to the men's Red, Blue and Black. If you are a member of one of these color groups and have yet to receive a ballot, please contact Keith Nelson (802-7330).

The ballots should be returned by **Saturday, Dec. 6th**. Place the ballot in the enclosed envelope, unsigned, and drop it in the mailbox by the bulletin boards at the courts or give it

to one of the Ratings Committee members.

All the information collected will be held confidential with access only by the Ratings Committee. This is only one of a number of criteria used to evaluate players and make sure everyone is placed as appropriately as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.

Ratings Committee:
Keith Nelson, Chair
Pat Bowlus, Kathy Klotz,
Al Wagner, Jack Fitzsimmons,
Mike DeMalleville

**Welcome New
Members ---**

Mary White,
Membership Chair

Chandler Dutton
Margaret Norberg
Dale & Gail Waddell
Roger & Gail Osten
Irene Strybosch



Have you changed email addresses?

Online feature only – look for the **SUBMIT** button to update your contact information !

Minutes from the November 2008 Membership Meeting have been posted on the website – www.cottonwoodtennisclub.com – the *Meeting Minutes* page !

Sunshine Report

A special memorial luncheon for Mary Smith will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 10th at 1:00 at the food court by Court 1. All current and former women tennis players who knew and loved Mary are welcome. There will be a donation box at the counter and proceeds will go towards a Memorial Bench for the tennis club. Cash is fine or, if you prefer, checks can be made out to Donna Nelson.

Donna Nelson, 802-7330

How to Choose Racquet Grips www.golfsmith.com

The right size grip makes a huge difference in how a racquet performs, and it can save you from a serious case of tennis-elbow.

Size -- If you're not sure of your grip size, here are two simple ways to measure:

- Holding an eastern forehand grip (the palm is placed against the same bevel as the string face), you should be able to fit the index finger of your non-hitting hand in the space between your ring finger and palm. If there isn't enough room for your index finger, the grip is too small. If there's space between your finger and palm, the grip is too big. A too-small grip requires more muscle strength to keep the racquet from twisting in your hand. A grip that's too large inhibits wrist snap on serves, makes changing grips more difficult and also requires more muscle strength. Either grip problem can contribute to tennis-elbow.
- If you don't have a racquet handy, you can also measure your grip using a ruler. With your hand open and fingers extended close together, align the ruler with the bottom lateral crease of your palm and measure to the tip of your ring finger.

Feel -- When people say "feel" they are referring to the adhesive qualities of the grip. In general, grips are called **Dry, Tacky, or Sticky**. The right grip for you is going to be determined by your willingness to trade blisters for increased traction.

Texture -- Grip textures are usually categorized as **Smooth, Perforated, Embossed, or Ribbed**. You can choose the right texture for you by determining your need to switch from forehand to backhand and/or how much you're going to sweat into the grip.

Q: Does grip size really make that big a difference?

A: Absolutely. The grip is one of the most important elements of a tennis racquet and directly affects the amount of control you have over the racquet and your performance on the court.

A grip that is too small will cause the racquet to twist and turn in your hand, while a grip that is too large will decrease your ability to snap your wrists (especially during a serve). Improperly sized grips, whether too

Racquet Talk



large or too small, can also lead to other problems which manifest themselves in injuries and strains in the wrist, elbow and arm.

Q: Is there anything I can do to prevent tennis elbow?

A: The two primary causes of tennis elbow are improper grip size and string tension. Make sure your racquets are not strung too tightly and make sure you have the right grip size for your hand.

www.golfsmith.com

2008-2009 CTC Board of Directors

President — Susan Stewart

Vice President — Keith Nelson

Secretary — Pam Lenar

Treasurer — Kelz Kelzenburg

Tournament Director — Al Wagner

1st Past President — Wayne Mangold

CTC Tennis Apparel

Many of our Cottonwood players are not wearing their logo shirts or hats during our community socials. Did you know that it is a proven fact that players that wear their Cottonwood attire not only look good but seem to play much better! If you would like to purchase a Cottonwood shirt, hat, visor or maybe a beautiful towel, you can purchase these items at our cost. There's even an easy payment plan just to help you look and play your very best!

Bob Walk, Apparel Coordinator, 940-6009

Visit us on the web —

www.cottonwoodtennisclub.com www.ctcnewsletter.com

Contact us —

president@cottonwoodtennisclub.com webmaster@cottonwoodtennisclub.com

Mens Leagues

Tuesday League

The Men's 2008 Tuesday Fall League has completed 6 weeks of play--it's anyone's ball game. All 5 teams appear to be closely matched. Team 4, led by Ernie Laenertz is the leader--only by 9 points. The last 4 weeks should be quite exciting.

- The signup sheet for the Men's 2009 Tuesday Spring League is posted. Listed on the sheet are Blue, Black & Orange rated players. Anyone interested in playing in the Men's 2009 Tuesday Spring League which starts January 27 and play until April 7, should read the information about the league and initial your name or add it if it is not on the list. If you do not initial or signup for league play, you will not be selected in the draft.
- If we have enough players, we will have 6 teams with 7 players on each team. Having 7 players on each team will be determined by the number of players that signup and are available to play. There is the possibility a number of Blue rated players, available for the Thursday Spring league, will not be selected to play in the Thursday league due to no space available. Allowing the Blue rated players to play in the Tuesday League ensures that all players who signup to play in league play will have a chance of being selected. It is up to the Blue Rated players to indicate on the Tuesday Spring League signup sheet that they would play in the Tuesday Spring league if not drafted into the Spring Thursday League.
- If we have 7 man teams, the number 1 & 2 players will rotate against each other each week. Players 3-6 will rotate against each other each week. Only 6 players from each team will play each week. One member will rotate out. There is a very strong possibility that no member will miss a week of play because of substitutes. The current Men's 2008 Fall Tuesday league, with only 5 teams, averages about 4 substitutes each week.
- Blue rated players playing in the Men's 2009 Tues. Spring League can be used as a substitute in the Men's 2009 Spring Thurs. League, but **NO** Blue rated player drafted into the 2009 Thurs. Spring League can be used as a substitute in the 2009 Tues. Spring League.

If anyone has any questions or is confused, please give me a call !

Pete Dalecio, Director 895-7704

Thursday League

After six weeks of play, we have a real battle for 1st place. The Chrome Domes with 216 points are a mere 2 points ahead of the Oldies but Goodies with 214 points. The Kiddy Corps are within striking distance with 194 points but a good week or two can close that gap. The Sly Foxes are 4th with 181 points. Another battle for 5th and 6th place is also shaping up. The Polish Falcons jumped ahead of The French Legion by two points this past week 172 to 170. (To find out the captains names of these teams go back and read the Nov. newsletter. There will be a test later this year). Four more weeks to go, then we will find out who will get the big money (if I haven't spent it by then)! Come on out and watch the old boys play. It's not bad tennis--if you wear your rose colored glasses. Remember 99% out is IN !

Lou Galiano, Director 895-6093

League Information

**DROP-IN tennis every
Sunday—
7 pm—for beginner
and intermediate
levels !**

**Semi Singles
Friday's at 1:00
Contact — Mary White
895-0858**

League Information continued on Page 6.....

League Information

Continued...



**CTC Tennis—it's
the best game in
town !**



Womens Leagues

Monday League

The Monday League is going great. We are still having good tennis and the weather has been wonderful. Don't forget to sign up for the next league starting on Jan 12th. Sign up sheets have been posted on the bulletin board and will be coming down early December so sign up now! Captains, you're doing a fantastic job so keep up the good work!

Pat Davidson, Director 883-9716

Wednesday League

Wednesday League has played two out of five scheduled play dates and is progressing well. Our next scheduled dates are 12/10, 12/17, and 1/14. The second session of our league play will begin on 1/21. The sign-up sheet for the second session is already posted up by the courts and will be taken down on 12/5. Anyone interested in playing in the Spring session of Wednesday League needs to sign up before 12/5 so that drafting and team organization can be done before January 21. We have a lot of fun in league and welcome anyone who likes to play tennis to sign up whether you have experience in league play or not. If you have any questions about league play, please call me.

Donna Nelson, Director 802-7330

Organized Play

Mens Organized

If you have a group of players that would like to play on Tuesday's or Thursday's, all of the courts are available from 7 - 8:30 am on both mornings. All of our courts are being utilized from 8:30 am to 1:00 PM for our organized play and our leagues so if you want to play, make sure you sign up. A special thanks to Terry Kilbreath for the extra week he served last month.

Bob Walk, Coordinator 940-6009

Womens Organized

nothing new to report

Mary Jane Williams, Coordinator 895-7666

Mixed Doubles Organized

All is well with nothing new to report. All five courts continue to be filled at 8:30 am, the most preferred time, including alternate sign-ups.

Gerry Picker, Coordinator 802-6732

See the **What's New** page on
www.cottonwoodtennisclub.com for the monthly
"Message from the President" !



Sun Lakes, Arizona

www.cottonwoodtennisclub.com
www.ctcnewsletter.com

This newsletter is published monthly, six times a year, October through March, by the Cottonwood Tennis Club, Sun Lakes, Arizona. This club was established to provide opportunities for tennis playing residents of Cottonwood Palo Verde at Sun Lakes to participate in organized play, team play, tournament play and social events with friends and neighbors with a common interest. IronOaks and Sun Lakes Country Club residents may also join the club if they have paid the appropriate annual fee required by the Cottonwood Palo Verde Homeowners Association.

An annual club membership entitles members to participate in Monday-Friday mornings organized play, club tournaments, league participation, club-sponsored social events, and subscription to the newsletter and websites.

Membership meetings are held monthly, October through April. Time and place of meetings are posted on the club bulletin board, in this newsletter, and on the websites!



THE COTTONWOOD TENNIS CLUB NEWSLETTER

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USA

CTC Member