

“on the line”

May 2005

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SANTA
MONICA
TENNIS
CLUB

-Since 1928-

Mark Your Calendars:

Interclub Tournament with Riviera Country Club Saturday, June 11

SMTC will be sending 8 teams (4.0 and 4.5) to Riviera Country Club, so find a mixed doubles partner now! The tournament takes place from 11a.m.-1p.m., and the cost is only \$20 per person. Please send the enclosed entry form along with a check to Gillian Cook, 10648 Cushdon Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90064.

Interclubs are a great way to get to know your own members better and also to make new friends at other clubs, so mark your calendars for upcoming opportunities:

Upcoming Interclub: July 23 - Malibu Racquet Club

It's Time For A "Spring Fling"

Friday Night Mixed Doubles Round Robin - May 20 BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

The Friday Night Mixed Doubles Round Robins are so popular that we're doing it again! Mark your calendars for a "Spring Fling" on May 20 at Reed Park from 7:00pm to 10:00pm. The entry fee is just \$10 and includes balls, court fees, snacks and prizes. If there is space available, non-member guests **who are new to SMTC** may join the fun for just \$12. Send your entry fee and form to: Bob Shubert, 820 N. Acacia St., #104, Inglewood, CA 90302. Deadline for entry is Sunday, May 15th.

SAVE COURT No. 6

It seems participation is down at Sunday Open Play and, as a result, Court #6 is seldomly used. In order to be fiscally responsible, it may become necessary to eliminate this court from Open Play, (or at least very least, reduce the hours). We will monitor the situation over the next month in the hope that participation will increase now that better weather is here. Open Play has historically been one of the favorite activities among club members. So grab your racquets and balls and make your presence known on Sundays. And save Court #6!

May Calendar

Sunday Open Play*

5/1, 5/8, 5/15, 5/22 and 5/29

Morgan Run Resort Tennis Trip

May 27 - 29

**Open Play hours are 8:00am - 4:00pm on courts 1 & 2, and 9:00am - 2:00pm on court 6. Court 1 is the Challenge Court.*

Doubles Strategy Clinic Recap

On March 26, a dozen members with a thirst for knowledge took part in the free doubles strategy clinic offered by one of our advertisers, Anneet Tennis. Patrick Anneet proved to be a great teacher and all participants came away with a greater understanding of the game of doubles. Among other things, we were taught that many club players play as “four people playing singles” rather than “two teams playing doubles.” Since the shot selection and strategy are different in doubles, it is important to communicate with your partner in order to prepare for anticipate where your partner is during and after each shot. Another reminder was each net player should watch the other in order to be ready for the next shot.

It’s easy to see why Patrick is in such demand as a tennis instructor and coach. Therefore, we convinced him to conduct another clinic in June. Look for details in the companion article on page 3.

****** SAVE THE DATE ******

June 26th is our annual member/guest tournament -- a great way to introduce SMTC to a friend. Sign up with a partner (mixed doubles); \$36 per team -- send with enclosed entry form to Ron Elmer.

A Reminder...

Please be sure to have your Membership Card handy when playing at Sunday Open Play. Open play is for **CLUB MEMBERS ONLY** (and guests limited to one set, one time), and you may be asked to identify yourself as a member.



Don't Be Predictable

By Jon Levey, Senior Editor, TENNIS Magazine

Ever notice that once a competitive match begins all that pre-game strategizing seems to evaporate? Perhaps once that first game is lost, you forget how to keep your opponent on his toes and instead resort to your standard meat-and-potatoes game plan. You end up doing what feels most comfortable. Remember the old adage, Nothing ventured, nothing gained? Try this trio of plays in the first few games of a match so you don't get lulled into predictability.

Drop shot: If your opponent is standing in the center of the baseline, there is 13.5 feet to the sideline in either direction. Conversely, there is 39 feet from that same position up to the net. Now I know there are variables to consider such as ball flight, angles, and pace, and quite honestly those computations are above my paygrade, but these distances mean it's a good idea to use the drop shot to move your opponent off the baseline and force him or her to scramble inside the court.

Serve and volley: A baseball pitcher who has an overpowering fastball will still throw in some off-speed pitches to keep batters honest. Mixing up your serving tactics can have the same result. Even if you don't feel entirely comfortable doing it, an occasional serve and volley can keep your opponents off balance. Winning the point would be nice, but it's just as important to show that you're willing to do it. If you're a novice to the strategy, only do it when the score is significantly in your favor (30-0, 40-15, etc).

Attack the second serve: There are a couple of aggressive moves to counter your opponent's second serve. First, move through the return and charge the net. Aim your approaches down the line to keep the ball in front of you, as following a crosscourt shot would give your opponent too many passing angles.

The other option is to move inside the court, take the ball early, and try to punish the shot. Many players like to do this by altering their return positioning to set up their forehands. If your opponents favor hitting their second serves to a particular spot, you can anticipate and get there early. Again, you may not win the point every time you do this, but you will give your opponents something to think about when they hit their second serves.

This is a "Tip of the Week" from tennis.com, reprinted with their permission. Visit www.tennis.com for more great tips!

Morgan Run Resort Tennis Trip

May 27 - May 29

Spend your Memorial Day Weekend with SMTC at Morgan Run Resort!

Again, on popular demand, SMTC has planned a trip to Morgan Run Resort in Rancho Santa Fe for Memorial Day Weekend, May 27 through 29. Morgan Run, is a beautiful boutique resort, and private club located in San Diego's most affluent community, Rancho Santa Fe. Set amidst majestic hills, embraced by perfect weather, this prestigious area, as well as the surrounding communities of Del Mar, La Jolla and Carlsbad, are heralded as the most exclusive spots for travel and recreation in the country.

The cost of \$230.00 includes two nights (double occupancy), \$390.00 (single room), organized tennis, interclub tournament with members of the Morgan Run Tennis Club at the resort, tennis balls, prizes, happy hour and dinner on Saturday night.

To sign up for this tournament please send the enclosed entry form and your payment to Jutta Ruehl, 625 Midvale Ave. #4, Los Angeles, CA 90024 together with a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Anneet Tennis to Conduct Doubles Strategy Part II Saturday, June 4

Riding on the heels of the success of the doubles strategy clinic which took place on March 26, (see article on page 2), another clinic has been scheduled for Saturday June 4 from 12:00-1:30 at Anneet Tennis 2505 Wilshire Blvd. (at 25th St.) in Santa Monica. Space is limited, and a nominal entry fee of \$5.00 is being charged. If interested, please send the enclosed entry form along with your check to SMTC, c/o Harris Levey, 611 Victoria Ave., Venice, CA 90291.

SMTC Springs Forward: Cypress Interclub

On Sunday, April 3rd, all participants remembered to advance their clocks 1 hour and were welcomed with breakfast by very hospitable Cypress Tennis Club members. As they had a large turnout, the two groups intermingled and, after 3 hours of good tennis and camaraderie, we called it a draw.



**2505 Wilshire Blvd (at 25th St.)
Santa Monica**

- Private & Group Lessons (all ages)
- Munchkin (4-8) & Junior Tennis
- Training & Coaching Programs
- Tennis Camps & Kids Parties
- Tournaments & Tournament Trips
- Pro Shop & Stringing

Phone: 310-315-0886
www.anneetennis.com

2005 SMTC Board of Directors

Officers

President	Elizabeth Dorzback	310-829-3293
Vice-President	Jutta Ruehl	310-208-6882
Secretary	Marguerite Jorgensen	310-454-2408
Treasurer	Bruce Schelden	310-306-7115

Directors

Social	Ron Elmer	818-903-2170
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Membership	Joanie Rippner	310-458-7368
Tournaments	Available	
Interclub	Gillian Cook	310-204-4091
Trips	Jutta Ruehl	310-208-6882

SMTc CHALLENGE LADDERS

“Snapshot” of standings taken April 24, 2005. Please see the website for current standings: www.santamonicatennisclub.com

Open Singles

1. Raul Hernandez (4.0)
2. Mike Schmidt (4.5)
3. Marty Katz (4.5)
4. Allan Greenberg (4.0)
5. Peter Shushtari (4.0)
6. Steve Dorman (4.0)
7. Russell Braunstein (4.5)
7. Richard Levik (4.0)
8. Bill Roberti (4.5)
9. Mike Germroth (4.0)
10. Josh Mallamud (4.0)
11. Park Liu (4.0)
12. Bruce Janger (4.0)
13. John Raiss (4.5)
14. Rick DeWeese (4.5)
15. Michael Pulford (4.0)
16. Jerry Zamarin (4.0)
17. Bob Shubert (3.5)
18. Joe Hanania (3.5)
19. Raymond Lopez (3.5)

Women’s Singles

1. Audree Clarke (4.0)
2. Carol Katz (4.0)
3. Elizabeth Dorzback (4.0)
4. Kay Mills (3.5)
5. Barbara Kobata (4.0)

Mixed Doubles

1. Phoebe Neil (4.5) / Mike Schmidt (4.5)

Women’s Doubles

1. Marie Lafayette (4.0) / Katherine Spetner (4.0)
2. Patti Kingston (3.5) / Sue Moore (3.5)
3. Elizabeth Dorzback (4.0) / Linda Martin (4.0)

Men’s Doubles

1. Brian Page (4.5) / Mike Schmidt (4.5)
2. Mike Germroth (4.0) / David Morton (4.0)
3. Allan Greenberg (3.5) / Jim Metzger (4.0)

Newly-Won Positions

Date	Challenger
4/21/05	Park Liu
4/14/05	Marty Katz
4/11/05	Russell Braunstein

Defeated

Bruce Janger
Allan Greenberg
Marty Katz

Positions Recently Defended

Date	Defender
4/14/05	Bill Roberti
4/12/05	Marty Katz
4/6/05	Raul Hernandez
4/3/05	Lafayette / Spetner
3/29/05	Peter Shushtari

Defeated

Bruce Janger
Bruce Janger
Allan Greenberg
Dorzback / Martin
Bruce Janger

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

Rumor has it that the recent match between the reigning women’s doubles team of **Marie Lafayette and Katherine Spetner**, and the upstarts **Elizabeth Dorzback and Linda Martin**, was so exciting, sportsmanlike, and...well...fun that the champs wish more people would challenge them. Climbing to the top isn’t the only reason to join a ladder, folks. Playing a competitive match against a sportsmanlike opponent is a lot of fun. (This month’s news flash.)

WELCOME TO:

Elizabeth Dorzback / Linda Martin
Women’s Doubles

**Morgan Run Resort
Tennis Trip
May 27 - 29, 2005
Rancho Santa Fe**

Your Name _____ male female

Phone (h) _____ (w) _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Your E-Mail _____

Your NTRP level: 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5+

Guest Name _____

Guest E-Mail _____

Is Guest a Tennis Player? Yes No

Guest NTRP level: 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5+

Person You'll Share Room With: _____

Can You Drive Carpool? Yes No How Many? _____

Enclose:

1) Check payable to "SMTC" for:

\$230.00 per person (double occupancy) or

\$390.00 (single occupancy)

2) Stamped, self-addressed #10 envelope (not required if you furnish e-mail address)

Mail to: SMTC c/o Jutta Ruehl, 625 Midvale Ave. #4
Los Angeles, CA 90024

**Friday Night Mixed Doubles
Round Robin
May 20th, 2005
7:00-10:00 p.m.**

Your Name _____

Phone (h) _____ (w) _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Your E-Mail _____

NTRP Level: 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5.0

Circle: Man / Woman

Guest Name _____

Guest Level: 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5.0

Circle: Man / Woman

Enclose:

Check payable to "SMTC" for **\$10 /member, \$12 /guest**

Mail to:

Bob Shubert
820 N. Acacia St., #104
Inglewood, CA 90302

Entries must be received by Sunday, May 15th



Interclub with Riviera Country Club

**Riviera Country Club
Sunday, June 11 from 11:00am to 1:00 pm
(4.0 and 4.5 only)**

Your Name _____ male female

Phone (h) _____ (w) _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Your E-Mail _____

Your NTRP level: 4.0 4.5

Can You Drive Carpool? Yes No How Many? _____

Enclose:

1) Check payable to "SMTC" for:

\$20 per person

2) Stamped, self-addressed #10 envelope (not required if you furnish e-mail address)

Mail to: SMTC, c/o Gillian Cook
10648 Cushdon Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90064

**Annual Member/Guest
Mixed Doubles Tournament
June 26, 2005**

Your Name _____

Phone (h) _____ (c) _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Your E-Mail _____

Your NTRP level: 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5+

Partner Name _____

Partner E-Mail _____

Phone (h) _____ (c) _____

Partner NTRP level: 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5+

Enclose:

- 1) Check payable to "SMTC" for: **\$36** per team
- 2) Stamped, self-addressed #10 envelope (not required if you furnish e-mail address)

Mail to:

Ron Elmer
10724 Debra Ave.
Granada Hills, CA 91344
For Questions Call: 818-903-2170

**Anneet Tennis
Doubles Strategy Clinic II
Saturday, June 4, 2005
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM
Anneet Tennis
2505 Wilshire Blvd (at 25th St.)
Santa Monica**

Your Name _____

Phone (h) _____ (cell) _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Circle NTRP level: 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 Open

Circle: Man Woman

Enclose:

Check payable to "SMTC" for **\$5**

Mail to:

SMTC, c/o Harris Levey, 611 Victoria Ave., Venice, CA 90291



**SANTA
MONICA
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-Since 1928-