

The Crosscourt Report



Volume 6, Issue 3

March 2020

Message From the STC Board

By STC President, Mike Oberski

Hello Members

Whatever message I was going to write at the beginning of this month has certainly changed along with our lives recently. As of this writing, HOA 1 has allowed the eight tennis courts at the main tennis center to remain open and HOA 2 has elected to close the remaining courts at Desert View, Mountain View and Preserve. Either of these actions could change at any time. The STC Board has elected to trust our Homeowner Association Board of Directors with the difficult decisions they make to keep our community safe. We do thank our office staff for their posture and

Our April Membership and Board of Directors meetings have been deferred and a replacement date has not been set yet. The April Membership meeting is an important one in which members approve the Nominating committee chair in order to select new officers for next year.

(Continued on page 2)



continuity to help organize tennis on the limited number of courts as well as our members and STC Board for handling the great number of issues that have developed as a result. For those who have elected to continue to play tennis, we thank the organizers and group

leaders for their persistence to keep warning others about social distancing and proper sanitation.

Aside from managing our current lives, the STC Board and our focus committees were and are continuing to work on better methods for Organized Play and have diligently looked at an on-line reservation system. Our social event we were calling Western BBQ tennis social for May 2nd is currently on hold as you can understand. If cancelled, we will set a new date.

Tucson Bound.....	2
New Members.....	3
Court Reporter	4
Tennis Greats	4
Ask The Ump	5
Social Team Tennis	6
Inter Community Social....	7
Wild West Roundup	8
New Member Meet	9
Racquet Technology	10
STC League.....	11

Message From the STC Board

(Continued from page 1)

Our newsletter continues to search for new and exciting articles that interest our members. POP tennis continues to grow at our club and our tennis plus POP tennis total membership count is now up to 440 members. As you may know, the USTA has suspended all league play as well as cancelled the BNP Paribas professional tournament in Indian Wells scheduled for earlier this month.

As you have heard almost every day on TV, our country and our world will get through this with a vision of an even stronger nation and so it is for our tennis club. Please feel free to contact any of our STC Board members or the office staff of Nancy, Jon, Shirley and Maria if you have questions. They will be in the office for now although they are ordered by the HOA to lock doors in the interest of health while they are there taking care of reservations and organizing courts.

Tucson Bound

By Mike Oberski

Did you know that our wonderful SaddleBrooke community recently had 5 couples that knew each other very well, lived in Colorado Springs and all decided to pack up and head for a warmer climate? Three of those couples now have one family member each to join our tennis club. Donna and Bob McPherson, Roger and Karen Simmons, Patti and John Chinnock (soon to be STC member).

What drove them to Tucson and SaddleBrooke? Well, for one it's an amazing bond of friendship. Also interesting is they all moved at roughly the same time, within the last 2 years and all agreed on the same location and same community.

Colorado is beautiful in the Spring and early Fall. I spent time there and even considered moving to Colorado Springs myself at one point. But, like the 5 couples who moved here, they all yearned for a warmer climate – sound familiar? The initial bond for this group was they knew each other for 25 years; all went to the same church and at one point all lived in the same community development called Gleneagle. Donna, Roger and Patti are all POPPERS. Only one couple remains snowbirds and that may change soon. The other two couples, not currently members of our club are Stu and Gale Orr, and Linda and Roger Shamburg. Thank you, Donna McPherson, for sharing this story with us.

Now Competing for Court Time — Welcome Our New STC Members

Photos by Jay Wilson

Welcome New STC Member

Mel Ingold
From Wilton CT



Welcome New STC Member

Joan Bruxvoort
Littleton, Colorado



Welcome New STC Member

Ruthie Thoren
From Bend, Oregon



Welcome New STC Member

Connell McGill
Philadelphia, PA



Welcome New STC Member

Joel Soburn
Laguna Beach, California



Welcome New STC Member

Deb McGill
From Philadelphia PA



STC PAID MEMBERS	440
Female	212
Male	228
Tennis Members	
Female	181
Male	208
POP Tennis Members	
Female	63
Male	52
Dual Memberships	64

The Court Reporter

By Bob Stocks, Maintenance Committee Chair

As many of you know, Mountain View Court 12 has been closed for safety reasons. This is the latest status on Court 12 from our STC Maintenance chair and HOA2 Maintenance Department.

Currently there is no approved plan for repairing or replacing court 12. Our HOA 2 maintenance team, together with Elite Sports, reviewed the condition of Ct. 12 some weeks ago. Elite sports claimed that they did not offer any warranty on the latest repair since there is asphalt underlayment under the court surface. It will always fail eventually. Court repair has been reviewed with the SBHOA2 Board and they will determine how to go forward.

Background Information: Asphalt vs. Post-Tensioned Concrete Tennis Courts

There are several choices for building a tennis court subsurface. Firms that build tennis courts typically recommend a concrete base since it has a 30+ year life expectancy, requires very little maintenance and provides the most responsive ball bounce. Concrete has a relatively high initial cost and may tend to crack in climates that have a lot of freeze/thaw cycles. One way to improve that is to use post-tension cables which then has a greater resistance to cracking.

Another choice is to apply the court surface over asphalt. The initial cost of asphalt is typically much lower than a concrete base. The downside is that asphalt tends to require more maintenance and has a shorter life span than concrete.

Tennis Greats



Billie Jean King and Mike in 1992 when he was the San Diego North County Team Tennis League Director. This is the league now called World Team Tennis. They had about 6 or 7 clubs in San Diego county that he founded and developed a league for.

He had a chance to meet Billie Jean King at the Balboa Tennis Club which had over 1,200 tennis members. She became the first woman commissioner in pro sports history when she took the helm of WTT and became its major owner in 1984. She retired as league Commissioner in February 2001.

Ask The Ump



By Mike Oberski with consultation from Walter Fritz

Friendly Tennis or Competitive Tennis? Last month “Ask The Ump” addressed that either partner may make calls in doubles. Although either doubles partner may make a call, the call of a player looking down a line is more likely to be accurate than that of a player looking across a line.

Well, this month we had a bit of a variation to service line calls. Here is what happened in one of my matches. A ball was served and the opposing team partner on the service line started to correct his "Out" call and looked like he wanted to reverse the call. The opposing team person returning the ball hit it out partly because he heard the word "Out" from his partner. There was a gesture and a mumbled attempt to correct the service line call from the receiver's partner, who was in the best position to make the service line call. Well, that led to an on-court debate whether or not the service was called truly called “Out.” Was there a correction to the service call or not? In the middle of the debate, I suggested, hey guys, why don't we just play two (2). That didn't go

over well either. My partner said the point is ours. In the interest of fun tennis and because the opposing team made a possible error what should we have done? Taken the point? Was the call really reversed or was it as originally called "Out".

Here are some facts. The Tennis Rulebook, Friends A Court, Code #12 states, “A player who calls a ball out shall reverse the call if the player becomes uncertain or realizes the ball was good. The point goes to the opponent and is not replayed.

The game of tennis here in the USA is governed by The Rules of Tennis, USTA Regulations and The Code Written by Col Nick Powell for situations exactly like the one we discuss here, stating in part “if players of goodwill follow the principles of The Code, they should always be able to reach an agreement.” In many situations especially in a non-tournament “friendly” match replaying the point is a good option, let common sense be your guide.

This article provided by Mike Oberski, with the assistance of STC member and USTA umpire Walter Fritz and friend from Rancho Penasquitos Community Tennis Center (San Diego), USTA Certified Official National Hard Courts Tournament Referee, Mike Kelley who is also good friends with our STC member Doug Wolf.

Wrap-Up of Social Team Tennis 2020

By Debbie McGeehan and Dave Lamb

The fun started January 22nd with the fielding of four men's teams and four women's teams consisting of traditional tennis players and POP tennis players. Hosted by the SaddleBrooke Tennis Club, this event was planned to take place over six Wednesday afternoons. Unfortunately, play for one afternoon had to be cancelled due to wind and cold.

This was the perfect friendly event that allowed new and long-time members to play together on teams. Including subs, we had 69 women players and 67 men players and this is the first year we integrated POP tennis into our Social Team Tennis. What a great way to welcome POP players into our club and what fun to see everyone laughing and socializing on the patio after the matches!

All team captains did a fantastic job of arranging balanced matches on each court. Working around the team members' schedules was many times a challenge.



Corvairs, Edsels, Pintos and Yugos crashed it up along with the Robins, Wrens, Cardinals and Finches flying into each other

The captains of the four men's teams were: Dennis Hampton (Corvairs), Gary Rowell (Edsels), and John Serle, captain of the Pintos, the winning team that limped to the finish line ahead of Jim Marchisio's Yugos, who aggressively attacked from behind on the final day of the event.

The ladies teams were led by the Robins' Kathy Kortus, the Wrens' Pam Corrigan, the Cardinals' Sandy Schoenleber, and Keri Davis of the winning Finches, who barely eked out victory over the Cardinals, who won the same number of courts but fell a bit short on games won!

Many courts would have been defaulted were it not for all the wonderful subs who volunteered to play where needed to fill a vacant spot. And thanks to those who made themselves available to play on each of the five Wednesdays, sometimes as subs. For the men, Jim Abrahamson participated in both early and late sessions twice and so played in six matches! Bob Perez, Gary Greenbaum, and Dave Lamb played five times.



For the women, Kristy Johnson and Sandy Schoenleber played every Wednesday as did Diane Boyer, who played both traditional and POP tennis.

(Continued on page 7)

Inter-Community POP Tennis Social

By Carol Kula and Cynthia Pierson

Wrap-Up of Social Team Tennis 2020

(Continued from page 6)

The many volunteers who made this event possible included Chris Madsen, Carol Kula, Cynthia Pierson and Jennifer Stephens, all of whom assisted with the seeding of players; Cozette Lamb, who helped Debbie with the snacks; Richard and Joyce Wantuck, who purchased and set up the wine, beer and soft drinks each week; and Al Bush, who made sure the musical horn was played at the beginning and end of matches and collected balls! Thanks to these kind folks, to others who helped set up and clean up, and of course, to the nearly 140 players. All of you made this such a wonderful event.

This will be our final year co-chairing Social Team Tennis. Please consider volunteering with a friend to co-chair this event in 2021!



Joyce and Richard Wantuck, Debbie McGeehan, Dave Lamb, Cozette Lamb

On February 25, SaddleBrooke Tennis Club hosted approximately 50 players representing Dove Mountain



Highlands, Sun City and our own SaddleBrooke POP players. Our STC courts and pavilion provided the ideal venue as we fought through the SaddleBrooke winds for a fun afternoon of POP tennis, refreshments and fellowship. We had lots of positive feedback and we'll share a quote from one of our guests below:

"...Thank you for hosting a great afternoon of three communities coming together for the enjoyment of playing the sport of POP tennis at SaddleBrooke. You had things well organized from the matches to the food and drink. It was awesome to see 8 courts POPPING for two hours with the mighty Catalinas as a backdrop! Our Highland POPPERS thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon in your community."

On behalf of our social committee we would like to especially thank Debbie McGeehan, Sandy Settler, Terry Rowell and Cindy and Chris Madsen for their guidance, support and planning assistance for our Inter-Community POP Tennis Social event.

SaddleBrooke Tennis Social Wild West Roundup

May 2, (Saturday), 2:00 pm tennis, 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm social

Last day to sign up, April 27th

(If you drop out after April 27th find your own sub)

Both dates subject to change



Howdy yawl. We are going to celebrate our coming summer with a tennis round up for all ya Tennis and Popper type cow-pokes and cow-girls, that's men and women for you city slickers.

We will be rustling up some hamburgers and hot dogs courtesy of the tennis club. We ask everyone to bring a fixin' like baked beans, potato salad and some of them there sweet desserts.

There will be a sign up sheet and food list hitched up to the bulletin board on April 1st, (no fool'n) at the tennis center so best you giddy-up --- sign-ups might be limited.

Guests will need to pony-up \$5.00 and bring a fixin' to share.



So saddle-up SaddleBrooke we're off to the round up!

Social Wranglers: Cheryl Fay, Carol Kula, Linda Oberski and Cynthia Pierson.

STC New Member Meet and Greet

By Sandy Lindquist, New Member Coordinator

On Thursday, March 5th, “The New Member Meet and Greet” took place at the STC Pavilion. Approximately 20 plus new members arrived in true tennis form, excited to meet other new as well as existing members.

There were nibbles and drinks and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. I had the nametags color coordinated so the POP players had blue and Tennis Players were red. This enabled each group to identify each other.

I tried to introduce the Pickleball players to each other as well as the Tennis Players. Once the new members had a chance to visit with each other, I asked for their attention and then



proceeded to welcome them to the SaddleBrooke Tennis Club. They were informed to contact me for any help they may need in getting started. They were also told that being a member of STC might increase their lives by 10 years as reported on Forbes.com and the NY Times. So, an investment of \$80 not only included all the fun they were about to partake in but it was also an investment in their longevity .

The speakers were then introduced. Cynthia Pierson discussed The New POP organization, its activities and how to get involved. MaryJo George discussed the Tennis organization and USTA. She informed the new players how to get involved and who the captains were for USTA.



John Sochacki discussed lessons and clinics for both POP and Tennis. Mike Oberski (President of the Board) welcomed everyone and

discussed some of the future activities.

Nancy Frazer was there to answer all the questions the members had pertaining to the Front Desk.



There were many good questions and everyone got involved including Janet Jensen (Board Secretary) and Joan Martin (Director-At-Large).

I received emails thanking me for the gathering. This helped some of the players to meet others to start enjoying their games, whether it be POP or Tennis. I was happy to help all you new members and delighted to hear your responses. And thanks to all The Board Members and existing members for making this a fun and eventful day!

Please keep on POPPING and STROKING!

Tennis Racquet Technology & Facts

By Mike Oberski and Jay Wilson with Popular Mechanics and Tennis Warehouse as sources

You might be amazed at the level of technology that is now going into tennis racquet design. Engineers are using digital mapping, materials science and robotics to provide the incremental edge on the tennis court. Designs are focused on improving the number of milliseconds a ball stays on the racquet. At the 40,000 square foot Wilson laboratory, CAD systems and finite element analysis are being used as a starting place for 3D printing that gives real shapes to concepts. Babolat says their new approaches are designed to offer a mix of modern control and the “pure feel” that makes a huge difference on the court. Dunlop introduced new materials like “super-elastic rebound expanded thermoplastic polyurethane” to enhance racquet performance. Also, Head’s new creation improves energy transfer by using spiral fibers for more flex in the racquet upon ball impact.



Live long and prosper – Mr. Spock

Well, if all this is Star Trek science, here are some basic tennis racquet facts:

A heavier frame

- generates more power
- vibrates less
- has a larger sweet spot

A stiffer frame

- generates more power
- has a larger sweet spot
- transmits more of the shock load to the arm than a more flexible frame
- provides a more uniform ball response across the entire string plane

A larger frame

- generates more power
- is more resistant to twisting
- has a larger sweet spot

A longer frame

- generates more velocity and therefore more power
- the string bed generates more spin due to increased velocity

Civil War



Three Ladies 3.5 USTA teams after their intracub match.
SaddleBrooke v SaddleBrooke v SaddleBrooke

STC League Corner

SaddleBrooke Tennis Club's 65 & over women's doubles team, the Desert Gems, captained by Kathy Kortus and Dagmar Hampton won their league division and were undefeated. They will go to sectionals on Dec 4-6 playing locally at the El Conquistador. The team consisted of the following players: Kathern Kortus (KK), Dagmar Hampton, Kaura Ingold, Mary Zimmerman, Jean Lorch, Cheryl Simpson, Karen Erickson, Linda Oberski, Mary Jo Quilling, JoAnn Bosworth, Diane Gustafson and Gail Campbell.

USTA NOTICE: Due to COVID-19, all USTA league matches have been cancelled until further notice.

The Crosscourt Report



Dedicated to the health and enjoyment of SaddleBrooke Residents

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Mike Oberski: Editor

Brian Stocks: Creative Director

Deadline to submit articles to Mike — 15th of the month prior to issue month

Past Issues of our newsletter can be found at [https://www.dropbox.com/](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/tv1v0oubuokqdmT/AACu7TxryT1mfFXXxzJn7Rqa?dl=0)

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