



The Racket

President's Alley

We are six weeks into the season, and I hope that every member has found ways to enjoy the Club. We've already hosted several successful and well-attended events, and thanks to our amazing Member Experience Committee (led by Maureen Gaudio) we have many more fun events to look forward to this year.

I want to thank our Membership Co-Chairs, Deirdre Jameson and Audrey Huzenis. They managed this year's process of renewing existing members, maintaining our waitlist, and welcoming 22 new members. This is intense work, concentrated over just four to six weeks, and they did a superb job. I am pleased to say that our membership is currently at capacity. We also have 23 inactive members and 44 people on our waitlist.

Our major capital post-season project will be the renovation of the four public courts. These courts are more than 40 years old. Our staff members are doing the best they can to maintain these courts in playable condition, but they are well past their useful life and often become extremely dry and dusty. Under our agreement with the Chicago Park District (CPD), we are responsible for all required court maintenance and this project is very important for our relationship with CPD. We expect to use Midwest Court Surfaces for this work, the same company that rebuilt Courts 1 & 2 on the private side last Fall.

In addition to our hard-working volunteer members, I want to close by reminding everyone how lucky we are to have our current staff. I believe we have the strongest team at the Club in my 10 years as a member. Despite this, I regret to say that we have already had a few cases where members have interacted with staff in inappropriate and even abusive ways. Though rare, the Board takes these incidents seriously and will intervene and sanction members who do not treat our staff with respect. Most of these cases involve frustration or confusion about one or more of our Rules*. But our staff doesn't make the Rules, the Board does. So, if you have any concerns about the Rules, please direct them to me, not the staff. I can be reached via text at 312-953-5535 or email at brose@geneva7.com.

Thank you,

Ben

Ben Rose, LPTA President

Correction: Please note that the terms of interim Board Members Nathan Lumpkin and David Schultz will end with the LPTA elections in November 2022 (not 2023 as stated in the May 2022 issue).

*LPTA's Club Rules and Policies, including the Code of Conduct, can be found on the Club's [website](#). Section 7 of the Rules addresses interactions with the staff.

Member Experience Excels Thanks to Volunteers

New Member Night: LPTA accepted 22 new members for the 2022 season. To welcome them, the Member Experience Committee (MEC) hosted New Member Night on Monday, May 16, with 18 new members attending along with several Board members and sponsors. New members learned about the check-in procedures, the MEC calendar of activities, and then drilled with Pro Marinos. Socialization followed on the lawn with delicious food provided by our neighbor Bacino's. Volunteer leads **Brad Matson, Elena Longiotti, Deirdre Jameson** and **Audrey Huzenis** created a welcoming environment for our new members. Also, a big shout out to members who are serving as 'hosts' to new members to help them become immersed in LPTA.



New women members get to know each other.



New members Jane and Tim Miller.

Season Opening BBQ: LPTA kicked off the season with a BBQ on Sunday, May 22, coinciding with the start of Roland Garros. Members and guests - and lots of adorable babies - socialized, played games, and enjoyed delicious food from Poochie's, followed by French Open cookies. The BBQ committee of volunteers **Tammy Beeler** and **Karolina Stoioff**, plus staff member **Angie Garbot** and general manager **Dee Shively**, aided by LPTA's tireless staff provided a yummy and fun event. *Photos by Angie Garbot.*



LPTA manager Dee Shively says "bonjour" to BBQ attendees.



Eiffel Tower cookies pay tribute to the start of Roland-Garros and opening of the Club.

Women's Mixer and Social: New this season, the Women's Mixer and Social on Thursday, June 2, was a BIG hit! Registration filled up within hours, so permission was given to double the registration and that too filled up immediately with several women still on the waitlist. Round-robin tennis was played with most partners and opponents on the courts together for the first time. Mixing it up! Bacino's provided pizza and salad on the lawn afterwards. **Laura Quandel** successfully spearheaded this new event.



Women's Travel Teams: LPTA is fielding two teams comprised of 37 women who compete in the Lake Shore Women's Tennis League. Both teams head to Bacino's after home matches to socialize (regardless of outcome). They plan to play in a combined round robin followed by lunch on Monday, August 15, to celebrate the season. Board member **Jill Silberg** is LPTA's liaison with the league.

Come out to cheer the teams on Mondays, 10:00 am to 12 noon. The A Team's remaining home game is July 25. Remaining B Team home games are July 11, July 18 and August 1.

A Team co-captains are **Jill Silberg** and **Nancy Hirsch**. Team members are Betsy Berry, Candy Cleland, Jan Elegant, Susan Frank, Jenny Friedes, Tracey Gau, Juliette Goldstein, Ann Greenberg, Katrina Kash, Danielle Loevy, Suzanne LoSasso, Julie Oslan, Lynne Peckham, Kristine Prugh, Dara Scarola, Audrey Stovall and Stacey Zontini.

B Team co-captains are **Audrey Huzenis** and **Kathryn Brown**. Team members are Anna Baldwin, Tammy Beeler, Jackie Bryant, Nancy Garfein, Barbara Johnson, Lexy Kasvin, Pascale Kichler, Lori Kleiman, Leah Laurie, Jane Miller, Laura Mutz, Susan Quandel, Renee Salomon, Sandra Silver, Betty White and Pam Wyne.

Men's Doubles Tournament: The annual Men's Doubles Tournament started with 43 players in the round-robin event on Saturday, June 11, with 16 players qualifying for the semi-finals on Sunday. The competition was intense but lots of spirit and camaraderie were shown by all. The top 4 players who will compete in the championship match are David Burciaga and Mike Gentile taking on Nathan Lumpkin and Rush Howell. The continued dedication of incumbent volunteer **David Schultz** was responsible for this successful event.

Todd Martin Youth Leadership Event: LPTA welcomed former top pro Todd Martin on a tornadic Monday evening, June 13. Two private lessons with Todd were enjoyed by the Garino family and the father-son pair of Don and Bob Levinson. Everyone had a great time at the Member Mixer in which 18 members and guests participated. Unfortunately, the planned Happy Hour did not take place due to tornado warnings in the City of Chicago.



Bob (left) and Don Levinson flank Todd Martin.



Members and guests received pointers from Todd Martin during the Mixer.

Women's Doubles Tournament: Eight players came through a field of 32 women over the weekend of June 25 and 26 in the 2022 edition of the annual Women's Doubles Tournament. Rain halted round-robin play for the 4 flights of 8 women on Saturday. So (almost) everyone came back on Sunday to complete the initial round, with organizers stepping in to provide coverage for those who couldn't return.

The two highest scoring players from each flight will compete in the semi-finals, following the same round-robin format, at a later date. Watch for an announcement and come out to cheer for your favorite four (or more).

The semi-finals contenders are Emily Emmerman, Lorraine Kaplan, Marjie Killeen, Randee Saturno, Caroline Vickrey, Sandy Wang, Betty White and Stacey Zontini. Volunteer organizers **Nancy Borzak**, **Deirdre Jameson** and **Audrey Huzenis** made sure everything went smoothly and everyone had fun. **Maureen Gaudio** was there to take photos and help out.



Emily Emmerman (foreground) and Stacey Zontini are ready for the women's semi-finals.



Players pose with tournament organizer Nancy Borzak (center) before taking to the court.

Strength Training for Tennis Players: Strength Training for Tennis Players kicked off on Thursday, June 2, under the direction of personal trainer and LPTA member Juliette Goldstein. This weekly member-paid (\$10/session) class runs all summer long on Thursday mornings, 8:00-8:30 am. Weekly signups are available on YourCourts.

Mixed Doubles League: In its 3rd year, the season-long Mixed Doubles League has reached its highest level of participation with 69 members playing and 5 planning on joining for the second half of the season. The mixed doubles pairs are broken up into three brackets where each pair plays 10 other pairs throughout the season. Initial matches played have been nail-biters as 66% of the matches came down to a tie breaker for the win. Board member and MEC chair **Maureen Gaudio** is once again coordinating the league.

Singles Challenge Ladder: The Singles Challenge Ladder, in its 3rd year, has 33 members attempting to climb their way up the ladder to compete with players of a similar level. Both men and women are actively participating in grueling singles matches. Board member **Danny Sharpe** again takes on the challenge of managing this league.

Weekly Member Drills: For the 2022 season, LPTA is offering four Weekly Member Drills:

- Sundays, 4:00 - 5:30pm: Level Specific (1st half of the season Intermediate, 2nd half of the season Intermediate/Advanced).
- Wednesdays, 11:00am - 12:30pm: Open to Any Level.
- Thursdays, 6:00 - 7:30pm: Level Specific (1st half of the season Intermediate/Advanced, 2nd half of the season Beginner/Intermediate).
- Fridays, 8:00 - 9:30am: Open to Any Level.

For drill integrity, please sign up for the appropriate level specific sessions on Sundays and Thursdays. An Intermediate level player has a nice command of the game, plays more leisurely, but is looking to improve. The Advanced level player has a strong command of the game and plays competitively at a high level. The open sessions on Wednesdays and Fridays are available to all members at any level of play.

Drills are limited to eight (8) members per session so please only sign up for two (2) per week allowing all members a chance to participate. A week is defined as Monday to Sunday. Signup is six (6) days in advance on YourCourts. If you can't attend, please cancel 24 hours in advance with no consequence, or else it counts as a no show:

1st No Show = Warning issued.

2nd No Show = Benched from drills for the rest of the season.

Please do not cross court 5 to access court 6, instead use the dedicated gate at the end of the walkway that runs between the public and private-side courts.

We hope all members will have a chance to take a few complimentary drills over the summer. Enjoy!

Team Reach App: New this season is Team Reach App to help fellow members set up impromptu matches or hitting sessions. The app provides a messaging portal to find partners and share information. Using Team Reach is totally optional, but over 80 members are already actively using the new scheduling app.

The app is free and works on iOS and Android devices. You can download it at either <http://www.teamreach.com> or directly in the App Store on your cell phone. The code to use for LPTA is 60614. For technical questions/issues, contact support at 918.585.6900. Member volunteer **Ron Davies** introduced and set up the Team Reach App for LPTA.

Jacqui Chatz (new member), Audrey Huzenis, Ken Gore and Rod Beeler recently connected and had a fantastic mixed doubles match. Said Ken: "It was lots of fun. Let's do it again."

And There's More Member Enjoyment to Come (MEC!) ...

Rather than competing for a boring trophy (that's so pre-COVID), players will be awarded useful prizes. So, mark your calendars, check morning emails for announcements, and sign up on YourCourts.

Saturday, July 9: Wimbledon. Wear your best tennis whites for this one-day tennis event. Organizer: **Nancy Borzak.**

Saturday & Sunday, July 30 & 31: Mixed Doubles Tournament. This is a round-robin tournament. Players are divided into flights and change partners each round. Players accumulating the most games in each flight advance to the second day of play. Organizers: **Betsy Berry** and **Ben Bass.**

Saturday, August 27: Singles Invitational Tournament. The Club's top singles players will be invited to participate. Everyone else should come out to enjoy some exceptional tennis. Organizer: **David Burciaga.**

Wednesday, September 7: Women's Super 60+ Tournament. A social tournament for women 60 years old and over. Play is round-robin with top scoring players advancing. Organizer: **Nancy Borzak.**

Wednesday, September 14: Men's Super 60+ Tournament. A social tournament for men 60 years old and over. Play is round-robin with top scoring players advancing. Organizers: **Joe Tedino** and **Bob Munson.**



Prized LPTA water bottles.

Taking Them to the Top

Longtime LPTA member Joe Tedino received the Chicago Catholic League Tony Lawless Award this past Spring season. He completed his fifth season as the head tennis coach at St. Ignatius College Prep by winning the Chicago Catholic League championship.

"This was the highest skilled team we've had participate in boys tennis for several years," Tedino said. "My heart is filled with Wolfpack Pride."

The boys Varsity team finished 15-5 during the regular season. It took top honors in the season ender for the first time since 2017, defeating Loyola Academy by four points in the overall team scoring. Fenwick High School placed third out of 10 teams competing. The Ignatius No. 1 doubles team of juniors Will McHugh and Liam McConnell took first place for Ignatius in their flight, while senior Tomas de Abruere Silva was the No. 3 singles champion.

The Lawless Award, named after legendary Fenwick star Tony Lawless, is awarded to the most outstanding athlete and coach in each varsity sport.



Coach Tedino, in foreground, with the Ignatius boys Varsity team.

Pretty as a Picture

Enjoying the flowers and shrubbery around the grounds? So much of what makes LPTA special is because of volunteers. Thanks for sprucing up the place go to members **Beverly Gilmore** and **Lexy Kasvin**, They bought all the pots and flowers and did all the planting. *Photos by Angela Garbot.*



In Attendance

Alyson Ryan went to the PNB Paribas Open tournament at Indian Wells for the umpteenth time (“9 or 10,” she says) earlier this season, rubbing shoulders with the likes of Martina Navratilova.



Tennis Odds and Ends



No, the Queen does not decide who gets to sit in the [Royal Box at Wimbledon](#).

American Sloane Stephens discusses [her best trick to staying loose in a tournament](#).

Why are tennis points scored 15, 30 and 40? [Scoring system explained](#).

Olympic champion Monica Puig joins women's criticism of [Wimbledon whites](#).

Prone to tennis injuries? Study shows that the risks are the same on clay as on hard courts, but there are [preventive exercises](#).

For the first time at Wimbledon, you can forget the [honorifics](#).

Count them: 1, 2, 3 ways to improve your [endurance](#).

Cocktail of the Month

Pimm's No 1, invented by James Pimm in the early 19th century, is a gin-based herbal liqueur that is dark amber in color. Around 300,000 Pimm's Cups are served at "The Championships" each year. Enjoy a glass or two of this classic cocktail while watching this year's edition of Wimbledon on your tele:

Original Pimm's No. 1 Cup

Ingredients:

2 oz. Pimm's No. 1

1-3 cucumber slices

1-3 orange slices

6 mint leaves

3 oz. ginger ale or Sprite

Preparation:

Add all ingredients except soda to a glass, top with ice and stir to combine. Add soda of your choosing.

Yield: 1 serving



REMINDERS

LPTA Communications: The email addresses used to communicate with members are member@yourcourts.com (Club management), info@lptachicago.com (LPTA membership), treasurerlpta@gmail.com (dues and billing). Please make sure you put these in your address book/contact list to prevent Club emails going to your spam folder.

The Racket Submissions Deadline: We welcome submissions from members! The deadline for the next issue (August 2022) is Friday, July 22nd. If you have articles or photos for *The Racket*, please submit them through this [link](#). We are using this form to make sure that we don't miss any emails from you, save our in-boxes and have all of our content together in one place. Thank you!

DISCOUNTS FOR LPTA MEMBERS

[Move Your Feet Sports](#) offers members a 10% discount on tennis and golf youth camps. The weekday series of weekly camps for children 5-13 years of age run from mid-June until late August at the [Diversey Tennis Center](#) public courts adjacent to LPTA, and at the Diversey Driving Range across from our parking lot. LPTA members, their families and friends are eligible for the discount. Robert Owens is the director and head coach of the MYFS program

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