

# *Game, Set, News*

*USTA Community Tennis Association Quarterly Newsletter*

*December 2009 Edition*



**January 22-24, 2010**

**Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina – San Diego, CA**

SAVE ON WORKSHOP FEE BY REGISTERING BEFORE 12/30/09

The 2010 Community Tennis Development Workshop is a great way to kick off the tennis year. Our unbeatable programming and networking opportunities will help you keep your resolution to grow tennis in your community alive.

Highlights include our Opening Session with **Anne Worcester**, Tournament Director of Pilot Pen who will cover how to leverage professional events to grow tennis in your community; and our Closing Session with **MaliVai Washington**, former ATP Tour professional and founder of the MaliVai Washington Kids Foundation who brings his vast experience as a player into the business of making a difference in children's lives.

For further workshop information and registration, please visit us at [www.usta.com/ctdw](http://www.usta.com/ctdw).

**Kick off your tennis season and host a Youth Registration event!**



Be a part of the largest youth tennis recruitment effort – USTA Youth Registration. Team up with us to increase your spring and summer program registration and parent participation.

You choose the day that works best for your Community Tennis Association and local facilities from February 26<sup>th</sup> - March 1<sup>st</sup>. We'll provide turnkey promotional tools and nationwide marketing support.

Go to [www.tennisnight.com](http://www.tennisnight.com) for more information and to register your association and facility events today.

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## **Our Awards online course may have moved but it still provides helpful information!**

The Awards online course is now housed on the new USTA Learning Resource Center. Registration will be required even though you may have initially registered on the former site, USTA University. It's a quick and easy process, so please visit us soon at <http://usta.com/lrc>. You are welcome to forward this link to anyone who can use information on the Awards process.

## **Budgeting for 2010? Don't forget Insurance!**

**Protect Yourself and Your Community Tennis Association**

The USTA offers Community Tennis Associations valuable insurance benefits. Liability insurance is available for your organization through the USTA and Eagle Risk Management Services, Inc. Offered at special reduced rates, the insurance protects your CTA when claims are made and provides legal help to investigate and defend those claims.

If you are covered by another insurance plan, you may wish to review the benefits of the USTA/Eagle plan at this time. If your Community Tennis Association is not covered by any plan and administers on-court programs or training, we urge you to seriously consider including this as an item in your 2010 budget. Since the insurance programs are provided on a calendar year basis, the best time to enroll is at the beginning of 2010.

In order to acquire or maintain your organization's participation in the program for the upcoming 12/31/09 – 12/31/10 policy year, your CTA registration must be current. If you have not completed your on-line registration, you must do so prior to 12/31/09 by visiting <http://ct.usta.com/ctanjtl>

Downloadable brochures are available for the USTA Master Liability and Accident Insurance Program and for a separate insurance policy with Directors and Officers Coverage and Employment Practices Liability Coverage. Please visit:

### **USTA Master Liability and Accident Insurance Program brochure**

[www.usta.com/CTA/Information/~//media/USTA/Document%20Assets/2008/01/10/doc\\_13\\_20464.ashx](http://www.usta.com/CTA/Information/~//media/USTA/Document%20Assets/2008/01/10/doc_13_20464.ashx)

### **Directors and Officers Coverage and Employment Liability Coverage brochure**

[www.usta.com/CTA/Information/~//media/USTA/Document%20Assets/2008/01/10/doc\\_13\\_20465.ashx](http://www.usta.com/CTA/Information/~//media/USTA/Document%20Assets/2008/01/10/doc_13_20465.ashx)

You can also find this information at:

[www.usta.com/USTA/Global/Get\\_Involved/CTA/Information/2668\\_CTA\\_Benefits.aspx](http://www.usta.com/USTA/Global/Get_Involved/CTA/Information/2668_CTA_Benefits.aspx)

For additional information on eligibility or further information on the insurance, please contact our insurance consultant Eagle Risk Management at 1-888-654-USTA or visit [www.usta.com/cta](http://www.usta.com/cta)

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**Don't miss the boat! One-Day Events are where it's at!**

The USTA Tennis Innovation Committee's number one initiative over the past three years has been to bring the success of one-day format events from the Southwest Section to the entire country. Since 2006, one-day formats have spread from 2 to 14 sections! With our high-octane lives, we just don't have time for entire weekend events. Anyone can take three hours out of a weekend for a quick, non-elimination event. It fills empty court time, provides more match play opportunities and encourages frequent play! The Tennis Innovation Committee wants to help you get started! We have "How-To" guides, draws, entries and will consult your Tournament Director on how to make their event successful! To get started, please contact Jill Fonte at [jfontebv@aol.com](mailto:jfontebv@aol.com) or Jeff Brack at [jeffbrack@reffkintenniscenter.com](mailto:jeffbrack@reffkintenniscenter.com).

### **Southern California Tennis Association Holds Regional CTDW**

The SCTA held a two-day Community Development Workshop in October at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden. It was a very busy and successful weekend that included National Staff attendees, great information sessions and a fun-filled round robin.



*QuickStart Workshop*



*Attendees listen at meeting*



*A few Round Robin Players*

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## **USTA Eastern Annual Meeting and Volunteer Development Workshop**

Sitting in meetings may not sound like a great way to spend a weekend. But for more than 250 people across New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, the USTA Eastern Annual Meeting and Volunteer Development Workshop is an event they just can't miss.

That's because the Workshop is the one time of the year they all get to share ideas, connect with friends and learn about the latest developments in tennis.

The event will be held Jan 29-30, 2010 at the Renaissance Westchester Hotel in White Plains. This year, it will feature workshops for high school coaches, QuickStart training, and the section's annual awards dinner, honoring more than 20 people for their outstanding tennis achievements.

Anyone interested in attending can sign up for part or all of the weekend's activities, at <http://eastern.usta.com>.



*2009 USTA Eastern Annual Meeting*

## **Melanie Oudin Drops in at Racquet Club of the South for 8U JTT Regional Championship!**

It was a fantastic fall day on November 14<sup>th</sup> for the 2nd 8U Jr. Team Tennis Regional Championship at Racquet Club of the South! Kids and parents alike enjoyed the day of

festivities and fun-filled tennis with their teams. Melanie Oudin spent time with the kids hitting on court, signing autographs and inspiring the next generation of tennis players!

Visit [http://www.ustageorgia.com/jtt/rcs\\_8U-2009.htm](http://www.ustageorgia.com/jtt/rcs_8U-2009.htm) for photos from this historic event conducted by the Atlanta Jr. Team Tennis and Georgia Tennis Association.

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### **“Reinvented” CTA in Northern California**

*Northern California’s oldest running CTA is experiencing great success by bringing in new and old players through popular club events. Their story may be able to give struggling CTAs hope that, they too, can reinvigorate their membership.*

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**Roeding Park Tennis Club** began in 1891 as a private club with 3 courts in downtown Fresno. World War II put a damper on the sport and it didn’t regain its pre-war status despite the construction of additional tennis throughout the city of Fresno. Tennis boomed in the ‘70s and Roeding Park was the major public center for tournaments and junior training in the Valley. Additional courts were built, national champions were often seen at the courts, Fresno touring pros made regular appearances, and inspiring instructors touched the games and lives of hundreds of players.

As the years rolled by private clubs were built in Fresno and the area around the Park became increasingly depressed. The Roeding Park Tennis Club became inactive for a number of years. Now, at the turn of the century the Club is alive and well!

It’s a proud, non-profit USTA Community Tennis Association that works with the City of Fresno to improve it’s tennis center. Because of the dedication of the officers and members of the Roeding Park Tennis Club the park is enjoying new tennis players, club tournaments, and is now known for its Chance Draws - where everybody gets a chance to play with everybody-- all ages and all abilities. It’s great fun and the social and competitive format is popular with club members.

Club officers keep RPTC members happy with lots of activities and tournaments. They host 8 Chance Draws; city-wide tournaments at Christmas, Memorial Day, and Fall Festival. Club officers are also players - an important element in the club’s success. They are actively recruiting partners. Just like “boots on the ground” they see first hand if the courts are maintained and are safe for families. Problems can be taken care of quickly. It provides an atmosphere of community – everyone benefits.

Other community tennis associations can learn from this history lesson about Roeding Park in Fresno - even though tennis and tennis clubs go through ups and downs of popularity – the lure of the sport remains the same. Roeding Park Tennis Club has reinvented itself by finding a popular format for its variety of players, specifically the Chance Draw. Building on that popular format, the club is in a position to develop more events and competitive tournaments that draw players from the surrounding communities. Once they play at the Park, and see the beautiful scenery and play on the great tennis courts, they come back.



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**Grand Slam Champion Lindsay Davenport Headlines Tennis**

**Festival of the North**



Save the date as three-time Grand Slam singles champion and 1996 Olympic gold medalist **Lindsay Davenport** headlines the inaugural Tennis Festival of the North April 9-11, 2010, at Eden Prairie High School in Eden Prairie, Minnesota. The Festival features both on-court and off-court sessions, a vendor fair, equipment demos, an exhibition featuring Davenport, prizes and much, much more.

Davenport will be one of many players and teaching professionals taking part in the three-day extravaganza with some proceeds benefitting the Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center, InnerCity Tennis and St. Paul Urban Tennis. Others participating in both on-and-off court sessions include 1993 French Open doubles champion and current Syracuse University women's tennis coach **Luke Jensen**; Wimbledon semifinalist and Minnesota native **David Wheaton**; former touring professional and USTA High Performance coach **Martin Blackman**; former WTA champion and Minnesota native **Ginger Helgeson-Nielsen**; current Northwestern women's tennis coach **Claire Pollard**; Tennis Corporation of America Director of Tennis **Ajay Pant**; On-Court, Off-Court President **Joe Dinoffer** and many, many more.

The Minnesota High School Coaches Annual Meeting will also be a part of the Tennis Festival of the North on Saturday afternoon prior to the exhibition at 4:30 p.m. All high school coaches are encouraged to attend and bring their teams for the weekend festivities.

Tickets go on sale for this exciting event January 1. For more information, to register for the Coaches Annual Meeting or to order tickets, please visit [www.tennisfestivalofthenorth.com](http://www.tennisfestivalofthenorth.com).

**Quick Reference Online Resource Guide**

For fast and friendly Internet navigation, check out the new *Quick Reference Online Resource Guide* prepared especially for CTAs. Created by the USTA Community Tennis Association Committee, this online page is designed to provide quick access to web-based resources and information. Find the new tool at [www.usta.com/ctareference](http://www.usta.com/ctareference). Save this address in a convenient place and have one-click linkage to 28 websites and six downloadable USTA manuals and brochures. These were selected for their quality, usefulness and relevance to CTAs.

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### **CATA President Receives International Honor**

Ron Manilla, President of the Charlottesville Area Tennis Association, Tournament Director at the Boar's Head Sports Club and big supporter of QuickStart Tennis has been designated a Master Professional by the Professional Tennis Registry (PTR) and becomes **one of only 31 Master Professionals in the world**. PTR is an inclusive and diverse organization with more than 14,000 members in 122 countries who strive to "Make a World of Difference" in growing the sport of tennis.



PTR's Master Professional level of certification recognizes those individuals who have made a significant contribution to the game of tennis throughout their careers. The designation of Master Professional is an important distinction recognizing PTR members who have shown growth in their knowledge of the game, a strong involvement in introducing tennis to their community, expertise in teaching and coaching, and a commitment to developing professionally. PTR believes a Master Professional should be a strong representative of the sport and one who displays the highest standards in the tennis teaching profession.

Ron will receive his award in February 2010 at the annual PTR International Tennis Symposium in Hilton Head, SC.

### **QuickStart News in Virginia**

The Northside Group hosted a Halloween QuickStart Party. They had nearly 60 kids along with their parents at a local Community Center in Norfolk. They offered QuickStart tennis, Halloween candy and fun!



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### **Charlotte Tennis Association Hosts “Fall Futures” Tournament**

The Charlotte Tennis Association recently hosted the “Charlotte Fall Futures” L5 tournament, which drew 187 participants. Over 30% of the competitors were first time tournament participants. This included 18 participants who played in the sanctioned 8 and under QuickStart event on the newly striped courts at the Jeff Adams Tennis Center, Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation’s flagship facility.

All players received a shirt, gift bag, and ribbon. Each were treated to pizza and ice cream as well. By all accounts this was a fun experience for first time and returning tournament players, and for everyone involved in hosting the event.



### **Juneau CTA Sponsors Capital Cup**

The Capital Cup is played twice each year and has been a tradition in Juneau and Whitehorse, Alaska for over 10 years. The kids involved are recreational level players who start with the QuickStart format. The trophy is a perpetual cup that has made the rounds for the life of the competition.

Every year, junior teams from Whitehorse, Yukon and Juneau get together for some friendly competition. This year's Capital Cup featured 50 players and over 100 matches over the weekend of November 21-22 in Juneau.



*Juneau coach Mona Yarnall and players love the Capital Cup*



*The Whitehorse Team and coaches Jan and Stacy*

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### **QuickStart Tennis a Success with Parent Leadership**

West Central CTA President Scott Riggle was looking to get his seven-year-old son started in tennis earlier this year. He heard about the Midwest Youth Team Tennis program which incorporates the QuickStart Tennis format for children under 10 years of age. Unfortunately, there wasn't a program being offered in his local area near Greencastle, Indiana. Riggle contacted a few other CTA volunteers to discuss the possibility of starting a program, and this past summer the CTA kicked off a summer program with 57 kids.

Based on this past summer's success, the West Central CTA offered a fall indoor program and is excited about introducing the sport of tennis to more children. Parent leadership and support were key components in the program's success.

The Midwest Youth Team Tennis program can be incorporated year-round at indoor facilities including YMCAs and Boys & Girls Clubs. The program is a perfect compliment to other sporting activities being offered at indoor facilities during the fall, winter and spring months.

Grants may be available for facilities interested in offering Midwest Youth Team Tennis who needs financial assistance with equipment or other expenses.

If you're a parent or facility interested learning more about Midwest Youth Team Tennis, please visit [www.midwestteamentennis.com](http://www.midwestteamentennis.com).

