



HSVTA News

POA Approves Funding for New Watering System

Coach Bob Wagstaff announced that the POA has approved replacement of the watering system that has plagued courts 7-10 at the Coronado Tennis Center.

A contractor has already been located for the work, which has a projected start date this summer. The contractor has estimated the installation will take 6 weeks. Weather delays could extend the period the courts are unavailable for play.

The watering system introduces water through trenches underneath the court. Capillary action then “wicks” moisture away from the subsurface water level up to the playing surface. As moisture evaporates throughout the day, a float valve mechanism in the control box activates and releases more water into the trenches to maintain the prescribed court moisture level.

Because the process supplies only the amount of water necessary to keep the surface sufficiently damp, it saves as much as 60% in water usage.

By watering the surface material automatically from beneath, no playing time is lost for brushing, watering, and waiting for the surface to dry.

Other advantages include:

- Consistency. Unlike most above-ground irrigation systems, water coverage is uniform and even, keeping traction safe and consistent.
- Reduced maintenance. Constant moisture keeps the surface firm and substantially reduces the amount of brushing and rolling needed to properly maintain the court.
- No mechanical sprinkler system to maintain.
- Reduced costs of surface maintenance. Consistent water prevents erosion and this lessens the amount of Har-Tru that needs to be replaced annually and over time.



Competition



HSVTA Volunteers Assist in Junior Tournament

More than seventy tennis players from as far away as Crofton, MD and Lafayette, LA competed in the Ike Eisenhower State Farm Junior Tennis Tournament held July 6-8 at the Coronado Tennis Center in Hot Springs Village.

The USTA-sanctioned tournament, now in its 15th year, enabled participants aged 16 and

under to vie for ranking points and trophies in five divisions.

Supporting the event were volunteers from the Hot Springs Village Rotary Club who served lunches to the participants and Hot Springs Village Tennis Association members who monitored the action on the courts.



Darrel Fisher, Lynne Aaker, Jariya Watkins, and Jill and Mickey Drake await their assignments as monitors for the matches.



Doug Ogilvie explains the scorekeeping board to a pair of attentive competitors.

HSVTA Competition Dates 2018

Events	Signup Dates	Event Dates	Times
Fun Sunday	Aug 20 – Sep 5	Sept 9	2:00 pm to 6:00 pm
World Series	Aug 27 – Sept 13	Sept 19 – Sept 23	2:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Club Championship Dinner (All CC Events)	Sept 24 – Oct 9	Oct 15	6:00 pm to 7:30 pm
Club Championship (Mixed Doubles)	Sept 24 – Oct 9	* Oct 15 – Nov 10	**2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Club Championship (Men's / Women's Doubles)	Sept 24 – Oct 9	* Oct 15 – Nov 11	**2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Club Championship (Mixed Doubles)	Sept 24 – Oct 9	* Oct 15 – Nov 18	**2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Around the Club



Tuesday and Friday Afternoons Sacred to These Players

Are they tennis players with a drinking problem? Or drinkers with a tennis problem? Those who watch the fierce, high-quality competition on Tuesday afternoons or hear the gentle roar coming from the tennis club patio as the players solve the problems of the world after their matches may have cause to wonder.

One thing is certain, however: the Rigney Financial Services-sponsored doubles league is dear to the hearts and minds of the 30+ players who bend their schedules and brave weather extremes to compete for T-shirts and caps through the year.

Originated by Rick Meyers and Coach Bob 8 years ago, the league started with 40 players on 10 courts. The format proved so popular a Friday session was added as a "Refreshment Day", with players assigned on a rotating basis to bring sodas, adult beverages, and snacks as a reward for the afternoon's competition.



Rick Meyers and Curtis Brandt mug for the camera while Horst Gehrung checks the line-up of matches.



Rigney League participants cool down and swap tales after their matches.

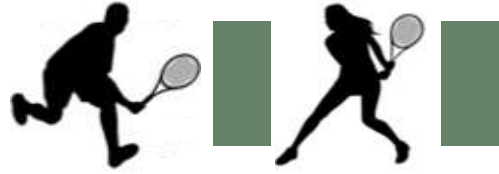
Rick, a former president of the HSVTA, has coordinated the league since its inception. In its current format, players choose partners to play with on Tuesdays over a two-month period. Points awarded for sets won are accumulated over the period, and winning teams moving "up the ladder" face tougher competition as they try to advance to court 1. The top 8 teams at the end of the cycle earn bragging rights

and the coveted Tee's or caps. Friday sessions are more social (but hardly less competitive), with Rick assigning partner combinations to create balanced matches.

In managing the league Rick has brought his 40 years of experience in HR and customer service for Johnson Wax to bear as he deals with court assignments, player

suggestions (read "whines and moans"), and dodgy weather. "It's been worth the effort," he says, "because we have a way to compete regularly with some of the best players in the Village."

Player Profiles



Dan Johnson



Dan Johnson moved to the Village in 2008 after selling a family business in aerospace machining that he worked at with his father for 40 years. His

affinity for tennis developed at age 29 when he started playing with a neighbor.

Dan's love for the game grew into a passion that took him to competing regularly in tournaments in California. Then, like many players, he took a break from the sport as softball satisfied his competitive urge for almost 20 years.

When he came to the Village it was back to tennis, however, and a regimen that took him to the courts 2-3 times a week. Dan was a member of HSV teams that made the finals in two national tournaments, finishing first in the 60's division one year and runner-up in 50's division the following year.

"I love the sport for the competition and camaraderie," he says. Dan gives back to the game as well, having served as president and Board member of the HSV Tennis Association. "It's a great organization," he says, "for generating interest and activities throughout the year and for bringing new players into the game."



Dan maintains an active lifestyle off the courts by playing golf and water skiing. A member of Elk's Road Runner RV club, he has participated in a number of Habitat Humanity Builds with that group.

Bev Kogut

Although Bev Kogut grew up just around the corner from HSV in Jessieville, her duty assignments in the Coast Guard took her to both coasts. After separating from the service after six years she lived in a number of different locales, including Minnesota where she owned and operated three Kentucky Fried Chicken franchises.



Bev first walked on a tennis court only 18 months ago at a Free for All, but the athleticism and competitive spirit she acquired playing softball and basketball in high school and the military made her a fast learner in her new sport. "If I do something I want to be good at it," she says. Time on the ball machine, regular attendance at drills, and participation in the HSV leagues quickly raised her level to the point where she became an important member of the ladies 3.0 team that finished second in the state this year.



Bev's biggest disappointment in tennis came when she broke her wrist just prior to the state tournament and was not able to compete in that event. Undaunted when the doctor told her that the severity of the injury would end her tennis career, she devoted herself to rehabbing and is playing regularly again. She's now on the courts four days a week, which gives her just enough time to perform her duties as an adjudicator for the Department of Veteran's Affairs office in Little Rock.

My Serve

Them's the Rules!

By Clay Court

What do you do if your ball hits a bird flying over the court? You consult Rule 26 of the International Tennis Federation's Rules of Tennis, of course.

Weighing in at a tidy 18 pages, the tennis rules are a much easier read than those for golf (a 208-page tome) and are even less complicated than the requirements for horseshoes (see box below). The slim volume covers everything from the width of the tape (no more than 2 inches) to the use of batteries in a racquet (that's a no no). As to flying birds, Case 4 of Rule 26 states that a hindrance shall be called if you hit a fowl ball.

Opinions on the history of the rules run on for many more pages than the regulations themselves, in part because some form of the game has been played since the 12th century. The current rules date back to



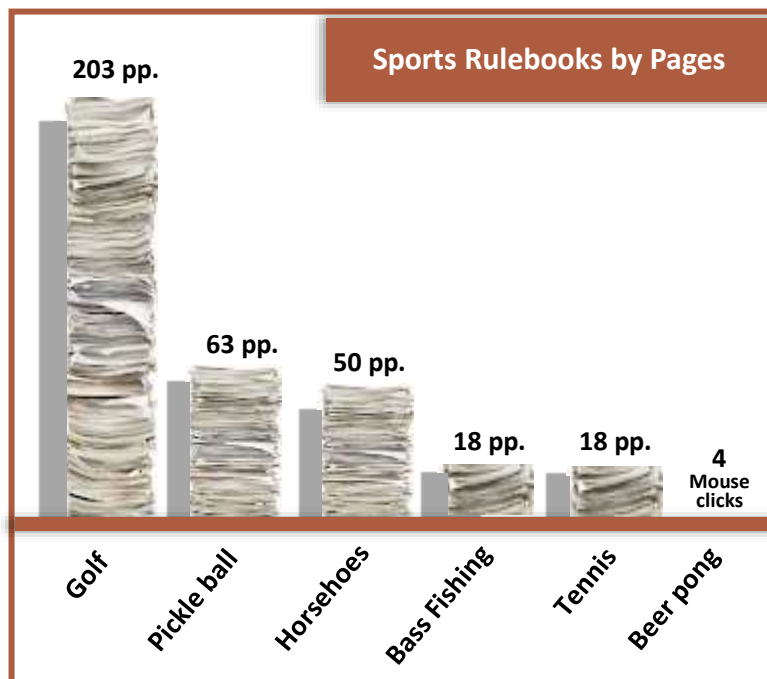
1877 when members of a sporting club in a village called Wimbledon decided to hold a tennis tournament. The organizing committee established a set of rules to govern the competition, one of which stated that tennis should be played in a rectangular space similar to their favorite game, croquet.

Over the next five years the committee did what committees do: meet endlessly to fix what ain't broken. By 1882 they apparently had enough tea and crumpets because the rules have remained virtually the same ever since—the only major change being the introduction of the tiebreak rule in 1971.

The rules are now the purview of the International Tennis Federation, which has a committee (whadda surprise) to *"continually monitor the game and its rules, and when considered necessary makes recommendations for changes to the Board of Directors of the ITF who in turn make recommendations to the*

Annual General Meeting of the ITF which is the ultimate authority for making any changes to the Rules of Tennis."

That quote itself takes up one of the 18 pages of the rules booklet, which can be found online at the Federation's website: itftennis.com



Your Ace Reporter

Those who don't learn from history...

By "Chip" Schott

...are doomed to get an F in this class! That admonition from Miss Britch, my 8th grade social studies teacher, came to Your Ace Reporter's mind when I discovered a dusty 3-ring binder in the clubhouse lounge.

In it was the "History of Tennis in Hot Springs Village," an archive of newspaper clippings, remembrances, and Association minutes compiled in 1997 by Mary Ann Deem. The project, which took her two years to complete, is a fascinating look at the development of the sport in HSV.

The story begins in 1972 with the installation of 3 courts in the so-called "Desoto games area." Within a year a handful of regular players snowballed into an active group led by a tennis teacher hired by the POA. He organized the first HSV Open Invitational, which drew entrants from the Village, Hot Springs, and the surrounding area.



The Coronado Tennis Center opened in 1976 with 8 hard courts in play, supported by a small building that contained restrooms and a pro shop. Mary Deem was unable to document specifically the inception of the HSV Tennis Association, possibly because, as she recounts, "it held no meetings and kept no minutes when it was formed sometime in the 70's."

Competitive tennis in the Village was much better documented through the 70's with reports of several tournaments (10 in one year alone), including a fairly big money event (\$1700 purse) for all the tennis pros in Arkansas in 1977. That year also saw the hiring of a full-time professional, Fred Herman, who was joined the following year by an assistant pro.



Herman resigned in 1981, and when his replacement left two years later the POA considered reducing the position to a part-time job. The Tennis Association, which by now had evolved into a meeting-making, minute-taking force, petitioned the POA to maintain a full-time staff because "it's an asset to the Village."

As a result, a pro and a hard-working assistant (see assistant's photo above) came to the Village in 1985 to rejuvenate the program. Tennis membership grew that year by 50%. The rest, it might be said, is history. And don't you forget it!