

Slidell Tennis Association Newsletter

Winter 2009

<http://www.slidelltennis.com>

From the President

The 2009 season is in the books except for the STARC/Make a Wish benefit tournament. League participation is back to pre-Katrina levels with over 300 active USTA members.

City Courts are undergoing a renovation that will make all the courts regulation size. The back fences were too close to the baseline on four of the courts. New fences, net poles, nets, walkway, and restrooms are under construction. The City of Slidell is footing the bill for about \$20,000 and the Slidell Tennis Association is contributing \$7000 towards the renovation. That money has been collected over the years from league registration fees and was set aside for City Court improvements. It is your contributions that have made these renovations possible. Soon we will be able to play league tennis and tournaments there again.

The Senior Mixed State Championship at Cross Gates was an overwhelming success. Josie Rollins was the tournament coordinator. Her committee that included Michelle Truglio as the volunteer coordinator got many positive comments from the participants from all over the state. Thanks to the committee and all the volunteers who put Slidell Tennis on the map once more.

Congratulations to Freddy Savoie and the Men's Senior 4.0 team for making it to Sectionals in Birmingham.

Congratulations to Cecil Johnson and his Senior 3.0 team for also advancing to Sectionals in Birmingham.

Please visit the STA website for current information about leagues and tournaments. Todd Lovitt is the site administrator and it is loaded with lots of information about leagues, tournaments, and STA board activities.

The Flex league season is beginning now. Beryl Small is the league coordinator. Flex league allows singles or doubles teams to play a flexible schedule against other doubles teams or singles players. I'm signing up. See the STA website for more details.

Tournament News

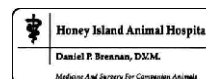
STARC Tournament (Dec 3-6)
This is the 10th anniversary of the Children's Wish/STARC Benefit Tennis Tournament! The tournament is for mens and womens doubles teams at the Open, A, B, and C levels. The cost for each team is \$60.00 which is a \$30 donation from each player for the Children's Wish and STARC foundations. All proceeds are kept locally for these organizations to support their various programs. Over the years, many thousands of dollars have been earned to help provide

wishes for terminally ill children, and to support the many different needs within the STARC organization. We have provided funds to equip a van for handicap access, funds to support rebuilding efforts after Katrina, and funds for supplies and equipment for STARC. Anything these two charities need, we help with the proceeds from the benefit tennis tournament. There are three different ways we earn our dollars – sponsorships, raffle tickets, and entry fees. We have wonderful gifts and prizes donated every year for the prize raffle – tickets are pulled on Sunday afternoon during the semi-finals and finals of the tournament. We give player and sponsor bags filled with various items and a great long sleeve t-shirt! Please consider playing this year! Pam and I will work around schedules for the first round matches, and we love to have the families come and support the players! Please call Pam Brandner at 643-7455 or 640-6695 or Adele Lassus at 640-3560 for more information...to sponsor and to play!

USTA Junior Team Tennis

USTA Junior Team Tennis is the largest youth tennis league in the country, helping girls and boys

Sponsors:



ages 6 to 18 get in the game, get on the court, and have a good time. Whether your child has been playing for years, or has never held a racquet, there's a spot on the team for them.

Teams are coed and made up of at least six players, three boys and three girls, based on similar ages and skill levels. A scaled down form of match play, such as the QuickStart format, is perfect for beginners! Players have the opportunity to participate in both singles and doubles play throughout the season.

The emphasis is on skill development, fun, teamwork and friendly competition, all with the possibility of advancing to the State and National Championship. Whether your child wants to compete on a national level or simply wants to learn a new sport and make friends, Junior Team Tennis can take them there.

All the Junior Team Tennis matches are played at Cross Gates Family Fitness. However, you do not have to be a member at the club, anybody is welcome! In this fall season, we had 23 players participated in the program and two teams. The season lasted six weeks and we played Saturdays at 1:00 pm. We would love you to come and support the teams!

Tennis is a sport you can play for life and Jr. Team Tennis lays the foundation for a lasting relationship. If you are interested in getting involved, go to www.usta.com and Team Tennis link or contact the USTA Community Tennis Coordinator, Federico Palombo for assistance.

League News

Ratings

Computer ratings for 2010 are expected to be released on Dec 2, 2009. Significant changes are expected for this year. For more info on dynamic ratings, check the STA website at www.slidelltennis.com. All new players without a computer rating need to self-rate to enter the leagues.

Adult & Senior Leagues

Congratulations to all of our teams that participated in state championships this past year. Start recruiting your teams now for next year's season beginning in January.

Club News

Cross Gates

Call Damon or Federico for information on individual or group lessons and for details about tennis programs offered at Crossgates – 643-3500. You can also get more information at www.crossgatesclub.com.

Update on City Courts

By the time you receive this newsletter comes out the city tennis courts will be refurbished with a new drainage system replacing the old wooden boardwalk. The old fences have been replaced and the courts now have a higher fence separating the courts for better play. The courts now meet USTA regulations!!! All that is needed now is some cosmetics and hopefully restrooms soon.



(Pictures by Todd Lovitt)

STA Information

The board meets every third Thursday at 7:00 at the Hampton Inn

Executive board:

<i>President</i>	Bruce Weaver
<i>Vice President</i>	Josie Rollins
<i>Treasurer</i>	Al Marquez
<i>Secretary</i>	Michelle

Truglio

Members at large

Dale Bibee, Debbie Benner, Pablo Melendez, Karen Root, Terry Kendall

League Coordinators:

Adult Men	Bruce Weaver
Adult Women	Josie Rollins
Mixed Doubles	Jay Veeramony
Combo	Michelle
Truglio	
Senior Women	Josie Rollins
Senior Men	Terry Kendall
Webmaster	Todd Lovitt