

# MVTC COURT REPORT

MOUNTAIN VIEW TENNIS CLUB

MVTC.NET

AUGUST 2005



## Upcoming Events

### August Tournament

Tri-Club Tournament vs. Tomadachi and Fremont Hills. See inside for details!

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## Ask USTA NorCal

After our spirited discussion at the March General meeting on several issues such as TPI, computation of ratings, and USTA fees. Bob Manalo and Jim Coyne have offered to continue their dialog with us, so please submit any questions about NorCal or USTA to [vicepresident@mvtc.net](mailto:vicepresident@mvtc.net). Answers will appear in future Court Reports.

[www.mvtc.net](http://www.mvtc.net)  
[info@mvtc.net](mailto:info@mvtc.net)  
650-964-6224

## President's Message

*By John Manton*

Please note the following changes to the club calendar for Sep., Oct., and Nov! You are probably all aware that the Rengstorff tennis courts are being resurfaced and therefore we have to change the dates of our Sep. and Oct. tournaments. The new dates are as follows:

10/1 and 10/2 for the Sep. tournament. 10/22 and 10/23 for the Oct. tournament with the entry deadlines one week before as always. Due to other circumstances the fall general meeting will be held on 11/9. The new calendar is available on our website, please check this and make sure you write down the new dates and stick them on your refrigerator.

The board has passed two new rules that we hope will ensure that the club will run smoother. Greg, our membership chairperson has proposed an incentive fee structure for 2006 membership for Mountain View residents. The hope is that this will induce residents to register early and help alleviate the waiting list problem for non residents. As I am sure you know, if more Mountain View residents sign up early, the smaller the non resident waiting list will be. This will be more work for Greg and he deserves a lot of credit for taking this on. Greg will be providing the details of how the incentive fee structure will work for next year.

It is likely that there will always be a waiting list earlier in the year due to the "50% + 1 person" Mountain View resident requirement. As Mountain View residents sign up, non residents can be taken off the waiting list as the year progresses. The waiting list is a barrier to our USTA teams who are relying on some non resident players stuck on the list who are therefore unable to play. The captains of these teams cannot count on when these players will be available and therefore take their teams independent. This has led to a dramatic decrease in the number of our USTA teams. The board has therefore passed a rule stating that non residents on the waiting list can play on USTA teams playing out of Cuesta, where the independent teams play anyway. While on the waiting list these players cannot participate in other club activities until they become a fully fledged member. Unfortunately, USTA teams playing out of Rengstorff must only use players that are full members. This is because of our signed agreements with the Recreation Dept. who grant us special reservation privileges at Rengstorff. So, in the future, instead of taking teams independent I would urge that the USTA teams playing out of Cuesta play under the MVTC and take advantages of the team subsidies available. This will also give MVTC more recognition in the leagues.

The signed agreement with the Recreation Dept. also requires MVTC to perform some community service work each year. The nature of the work is mutually agreed to by the Rec. Dept. and MVTC. This year we will be cleaning and painting the club house at Rengstorff. The Rec. Dept. will supply paint and brushes and what other supplies we may need. The board will be designating a time for this, most likely when it is cooler and we will be asking for volunteers. We will make it a fun event with drinks, food and good people working together. Remember, many hands make light work, you can quote me on that.

If any of you have concerns, questions, suggestions etc. about the MVTC, please send email to the president.

— John

## JULY TOURNAMENT REPORT

## Sevely Clinic and Social a Big Success

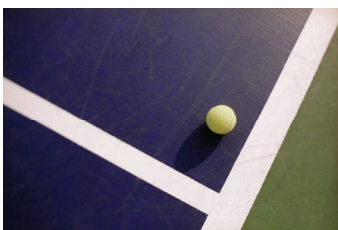
By Carol Tolen, Social Chair

The Sevely Instructional Clinic geared toward 3.0-3.5 players was held at Cuesta Park the evening of June 24. In addition to John, instructors Tim Foley, Bob Randall, and one other professional, helped with the various rotations of 6 people/group. Participating in the clinic were Ben Calbo, Paul Chow, Bob Corman, Liz Chambers, Kirby Drumm, Kathy Nichols, Jimmy Duan, Nuwan Jayasena, Patsy Duke, Jan Dyche, Marilyn Shodiss, Karla Hillman, Deb Ryan, Karl Mellon, Joyce Madiera, Carole Schulte, George Tung, Ray Uribes, Greg Schwartz, Safdar Ighanian, Lisa McMillan, Rosa Estrada, Roy Molseed, and Sayuri Sharper.

The TGIF Social immediately following the clinic and orchestrated by Myrna Irigon was a huge success. Myrna's food, libations, and mellow boombox music set the stage beautifully for socializing in the patio area by the backboards. In fact, our group was the last to vacate the park around 10:30 PM! Jan Dyche, and Myrna's son, Brian, as well as Greg Schwartz were also a big help with set-up and clean-up.

I thank all of you for making this effort a success and hopefully this practice will continue in the future. As a footnote, within 12 hrs. of Bruce Overby's email broadcast to all the MVTC members of the date of this event, I received over 35 responses, so one can extrapolate how popular this event has become over the years.

— Carol



## Red Hot Play at Rengstorff

By Patsy Duke

On a beautiful summer morning, 66 enthusiastic, motivated players swept onto the courts at Rengstorff (some of them literally sweeping away the leaves!) for our second mixed doubles tournament of the season. With such a great turnout of some of our most competitive people, many matches ran long, with third sets or super tie breakers required.

Oh, you want me to skip the vivid, descriptive prose and just give you the results? Okay, okay, here goes. In Division I, Howard Giles is in the hunt for Grand Prix points, and once again enlisted Suzie Hayes to help him to victory over Adam Brody and Caroline Raynaud (6-3, 6-0). The second-seeded Sprays fought off Shelli Johnson and Dean Nguyen for the Consolation trophies (6-2, 5-7, 1-0 (7)).

Rajiv Khilnani and Kathy Nichols halted the Rahimi Family's march through the other seeds of Division II by grinding out a three set victory over Jill and Shahrouz (3-6, 6-1, 6-4). Top seeds Myrna Irigon and Ray Uribes cleverly managed to lose their first match, but then score a win over Safdar Ighenian and Carol Tolen (7-6, 3-6, 1-0 (9)), thereby ensuring that they could walk away with the Consolation trophies without being elevated to Division I again.

Lisa McMillan and Nuwan Jayasena moved easily through Division III, only to be forced into a spirited battle in the finals against Ben Calbo and Debbie Ryan, but finally claiming the prize (5-7, 7-5 1-0 (5)). The last-minute draft of Glenn Louie when Julia Wu's partner had to drop out resulted in a winning team in Consolation, defeating Patsy Duke and Bob Schlotfeldt (6-2, 6-4).

A great time was had by all, thanks to Tournament Director Madan Venugopal, assisted by Carol Tolen and Lisa McMillan on the desk, and



Madan Venugopal Mans the  
Tournament Desk

Bob Schlotfeldt, Shahrouz Rahimi, and Tri Phan on set-up. Tasty sandwiches and healthy snacks provided by Lynne Stark and Jill Rahimi were eagerly consumed by hungry players. Many thanks to all our hard-working volunteers.

### AUGUST TOURNAMENT

## Tri-Club Tournament August 13-14

Get your applications in for Tri-Club Team Tennis on August 13-14 with our favorite summertime playmates: Tomadachi and Fremont Hills. Entry fee is \$10; deadline for entry: noon on 8/6 for blue cards at Cuesta or noon on 8/7 for online entries. Special for this tournament only: Myrna Irigon is in charge of food! *Don't miss it!*

## The Future of Cuesta Tennis Center, Part 3: Second Mountain View City Council Meeting

By Ashlee Bailey

The City of Mountain View has opened up the contract for Cuesta Tennis Center (CTC) for bidding. This is an important issue for MVTC members, because it may affect the club's use of Cuesta in the future for programs, such as free clinics, USTA matches, and your individual use.

The MVTC board is learning more about the selection process by attending community meetings and reviewing city documents on the topic. Until the city awards the contract, the Court Report will contain semi-regular articles updating you on the process. This is the third article in the series. Send feedback and questions to publicity@mvtc.net.

If you want more information from the city, contact James Teixeira at James.Teixeira@ci.mtnview.ca.us.

On Tuesday, July 5, the Mountain View City Council met to reconsider the percentage of cost recovery to be added to the request for proposals (RFC) that the city will issue later this summer. Once the RFC is complete, tennis center operators will bid for the Cuesta Tennis Center (CTC) operating contract.

At a previous city council meeting on May 24, the city council voted to maintain a community model of operation. However, they could not agree on a cost recovery percentage. The Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) recommended that the

new operator of CTC recover 40-60% of the operating cost as set forth by the staff report of April 27, 2005.

During the July 5 council meeting, James Teixeira presented a staff report that delineated the direct and indirect costs of CTC. The staff report recommends that the city council approve a 40-60% annual cost recovery that excludes capital improvements, such as court resurfacing. You can read the staff report at:

[http://www.ci.mtnview.ca.us/citygov/council/agendas/pdf/070505\\_7-01.pdf](http://www.ci.mtnview.ca.us/citygov/council/agendas/pdf/070505_7-01.pdf)

Following Teixeira's report, about 10 members of the public also addressed the council.

*(Continued on page 5)*

### MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

## Karl Mellon: From the Emerald Isle to MVTC

By John Manton

*Many of our members have lives outside of tennis which surprises us when we find out about it. So, we would like to inform all our members about this other side of our tennis players. If you know of someone, maybe yourself, who would like to be featured in the court report, please send a short bio to the president so we can get to know you better.*

Karl was born and raised in Dublin Ireland, graduated from the other U.C.D (University College Dublin) and is also a graduate of Trinity College Dublin. Realizing that he could not stay in college forever Karl stated his working career as an accountant and economist and quickly learned that he was not a figures person (might explain his inability to keep game scores!) He moved into international business development working for a division of the Irish Government. Shortly after getting married, Karl and his new bride Gertie set sail for the windy city Chicago to manage the office of the Irish Trade Board (Coras Trachtala) believing the weather gotta be better!

Three years (winters) on, plus one daughter Lorna, Karl & family picked up their bags and moved to New York where unfor-

tunately the weather was not much better. But the flight back to the local pub in Ireland was shorter and daughter # 2 arrived aptly named Erin. Not surprisingly Karl's first sport, and some say the sport he should have stuck to, was soccer. Having played in Ireland, Chicago and New York but still not selected by the pros, Karl put himself on the transfer list to warmer climates. Karl & family moved to Mountain View in 1989 and into his new home just one month before the '89 earthquake!!



Karl heads up the Irish Governments inward investment promotion agency for Shannon Ireland and knows the Southwest airlines schedule off by heart. Still trying to play soccer, Karl was fortunate to live across the road from fellow MVTC member Ray Uribes, who in a moment of weakness (= need a 4th) asked Karl and as they say the rest is history.

Karl's wife Gertie, an artist, was glad to see Karl finally hang up his soccer boots a few concussions later and take up a racket sport but is still concerned that he could make tennis a contact sport (yes you have seen some of his overheads!). Lorna is studying English and Art History in UCLA and Erin a MVHS senior heads to CalPoly as a business major intent on showing Dad how it should be done. Karl and Ray to everyone's surprise have managed to stay friends and are known to even play together to this day.

Karl is a great person to play tennis with and a great asset to our club. He is helping out with the club's Social Doubles Ladder and doing it with a smile and good humor.

— John

# New Membership Process for 2006

By Greg Schwartz

This is the first of many communications about a number of changes being introduced with regard to membership in the Mountain ViewTC for 2006. The changes are designed to encourage and facilitate the prompt renewal of Mountain View resident membership in the club.

## ***Why does the club need membership applications submitted early?***

Getting your renewals processed early

- allows us to readmit our nonresident members in time for them to take advantage of the entire tennis season.
- gets membership numbers up in time for the club to register USTA teams.

Remember that, in contrast with past years, the club must now maintain a Mountain View resident majority at all times, so nonresidents can only be accepted on a rolling basis as your applications come in.

## ***Mountain View residents, why do YOU want to get your applications in early?***

- Save money! Read on for details.
- Participate in tournaments and leagues earlier in the season
- Attend the fun and tasty General Meeting in March!
- Help nonresidents take advantage of club membership earlier in the season.
- Increase the likelihood that the club can sponsor USTA teams for you!

## ***Nonresidents, why do YOU want to get your applications in early?***

The sooner you get your application in, the more likely we will be able to accept you into the club.

## ***So what are these changes? Just how is this renewal process going to work?***

### **1. The club will make it easier than ever for Mountain View residents to renew!**

In the fall, the club intends to mail out renewal applications to all Mountain View resident members, pre-filled with your information and with clear, step by step instructions on what you must do to complete your renewal. (Simply make any corrections, sign it, attach a check and proof of residency, and put it in the mail). Simple and easy!

### **2. Mountain View residents can rejoin for even less money, if you renew early!**

The club is changing its fee structure for Mountain View resident renewals. You will pay just \$20 if your app is postmarked by 12/31/2005. The fee will be \$25 if postmarked by 2/28/2006, and \$30 after that. Renew early and save! Resident fees will continue to be \$25 for NEW members, regardless of when they decide to join.

### **3. What about non-residents?**

The process for non-residents will be essentially the same as it is now. A few highlights/reminders:

- Non resident membership dues will continue to be \$40 (whether new or renewal).
- Renewal applications for non-residents will continue to be processed in the order in which they were received, on a rolling basis as Mountain View resident applications are processed.
- Renewal applications will have priority over new member applications, as long as they are postmarked by 2/28/2006.

If, at any time, you have questions about this new process, just send mail to [membership@mvtc.net](mailto:membership@mvtc.net).

— Greg

## **Social Doubles Ladder**

### *Standings as of June 18, 2005*

Rank	Player	Points	Rank	Player	Points
1	Jeff Ballou	75	12	Ben Calbo	64
2	Greg Schwartz	75	13	Craig Price	61
3	Michael Siew	72	14	Bob Schlotfeldt	57
4	Karl Mellon	70	15	Laura Terborgh	50
5	Jo-Ann Proudian	70	16	Igor Voncina	52
6	Debbie Ryan	72	17	Diane Silverman	45
7	Vijay Mohan Deshmukh	67	18	Joelle Pauley-Fine	44
8	John Manton	69	19	Mary Jane Bogger	49
9	Patsy Duke	64	20	Joan Bailey	41
10	Amba Mohlejee	62	21	Louise Apichell	24
11	Lisa McMillian	68			

# The Future of Cuesta Tennis Center (Continued)

(Continued from page 3)

cil. Some expressed concern that the city cannot maintain a community model for CTC if it insists on an aggressive cost recovery policy.

Others proposed ideas, such as doubling the light fee to \$2, which has been in place since 1983, and doubling the court fee \$2 for non-residents playing with residents to \$2, which has been in place since 1993.

After public comment, council members debated the cost recovery issue (among other general issues regarding tennis in Mountain View). Their views are summarized below:

Galiotto (Vice Mayor)- Wanted to accept the PRC recommendation of 40-60% but would include capital improvements; was not in favor of increasing resident fees significantly; preferred to increase non-resident fees.

Kasperzak- absent

Macias- Stressed that the amount of money to be gained with a full annual cost recovery (about \$30,000) was not significant; wants to maintain the current atmosphere of Cuesta Park; does not want to compare the Mountain View tennis environment with facilities, such as Cupertino and Sunnyvale; agreed with Perry that the RFP process should be open in order to match or exceed what CTC currently is; agrees with Pear that Rengstorff should be

considered as a site to have a tennis center similar to Cuesta.

Means- Wants the cost recovery to include direct costs, such as electricity and capital improvements (as opposed to indirect costs, such as city staff time); thinks that with a 100% cost recovery, tennis players would have the right to demand timely capital improvements; otherwise, such improvements may be cut from the budget in any given fiscal year due to city financial constraints.

Neely (Mayor)- Feels that as the city has aimed to lessen subsidies for residents, such as water subsidies, it needs to recover more costs from tennis; does not want a corporate vision for CTC; favors a 40-60% cost recovery including capital costs.

Pear- Stated that other operators have complained that previous RFP processes were not open; worries about holding private lessons on public courts; feels capital costs should be part of cost recovery, which would be consistent with other recreational programs; wonders why Rengstorff doesn't have facilities more similar to CTC.

Perry- Does not want to create an atmosphere similar to the Cupertino Tennis Club, because that is not what city land is for; in favor of setting fee limits; wants to establish an RFP that would give others a chance to compete for the operator contract because other operators feel the current method favors the incumbent operator; would prefer that operators compete on price rather than on "intangible" requirements that may favor the current operator.

After a couple of rounds of discussion, Pear moved to approve the PRC recommendation of 40-60% cost recovery, including capital improvements, and to look at a process for obtaining a wide array of bidders and a level playing field for evaluating the bidders.

Motion passed 5-1 with Perry dissenting.

After the motion passed, Perry expressed concern that the 40-60% value would discourage new bidders, because it is very a very specific guideline and is very close to the current operating model. Other council members felt that staff understood that this was a minimum guideline, and that the city would accept even greater cost

recovery values from bidders as long as the community model was maintained.

There was also discussion about not substantially increasing non-resident court fees to maintain a welcome environment for players from neighboring communities who have friends in Mountain View. Other council members suggested staff consider this when creating the RFP.

Although both topics led to discussion and two motions, the motions could not find a second, and the discussion ended.

## Next Steps

City staff will develop an RFP consistent with the community model and 40-60% cost recovery including capital improvements. Once the RFP is finalized and the city solicits bids, the bid review process may take four to five months.

To contact, your council members with your input, visit: <http://www.ci.mtnview.ca.us/citygov/council/profiles.htm>.

— Ashlee

## Membership Report

By Greg Schwartz

Hello again Mountain View TC! At present, the club consists of 281 members (141 Mountain View residents, 140 nonresidents). There are 5 people currently on the waiting list.

We will be introducing some significant changes in our membership process for next year. There is an article in this Court Report describing the changes, and we will continue to provide information in the Court Report and in direct communications for the remainder of the year. Please spread the word, and don't hesitate to contact me ([membership@mvtc.net](mailto:membership@mvtc.net)) if you have any questions.

Thank you!

— Greg

## Where's the Water?

The demands for bottled water increase as the temperature rises, and our hard-working food committee needs help in purchasing and hauling the many heavy cases of water. It has come to this: Without volunteers to provide this assistance *for each tournament*, there will be *no* water except the drinking fountain and tap at the court (or bring your own). Madan Venugopal has offered to buy and deliver the water for August. Please contact Jill Rahimi at [food@mvtc.net](mailto:food@mvtc.net) to volunteer for September and October. Remember...

**No Volunteer — No Water.**

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**MOUNTAIN VIEW TENNIS CLUB**

P.O. Box 336  
Mountain View, CA 94042

Phone: 650-964-6224  
E-mail: [info@mvtc.net](mailto:info@mvtc.net)



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**M.V.T.C.**

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