



LBC TENNIS NEWSLETTER

July 2020

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LBC TENNIS MADE A GREAT CALL: REMAIN OPEN AND ASSURE SAFETY



The [May edition of the LBC Tennis Newsletter](#) highlighted the enormous gift of LBC tennis to member families as they adjusted to school closures and at-home work this spring. A testament to LBC resilience and insightful leadership was staying accessible and “doing no harm,” while several nearby tennis clubs locked their gates. An [article](#) in the July *ALTA Magazine* describes the varying ways that clubs responded to the lockdown and how they have addressed the opportunity to reopen.

A few twists emerged at LBC, including an innovative intraclub ladies league (see “NALTA” piece below), creative spectating, and more multigenerational family play as large group sessions became taboo.

Summer’s Successful “Corona Transition”

It’s been fun watching LBC’s summer mixed-doubles teams manage a successful ALTA reopening without a hiccup while regulating coronavirus safety measures. Fans have also found new ways to gather and cheer in groups of 10 or fewer—for example, finding shade along the Court 5 “woods-side” fence line.

Summer tennis activity is robust at LBC, setting the stage for a more “normal” fall as teams prepare to submit their rosters and ramp up for play while continuing to care for each other by adhering to safety-related guidelines.

Junior Summer Camp Pivoting Toward Fall ALTA and Afternoon Drills Submitted by Victor Fioresi



Age 13+ Camp Players

Parents: Is your daughter interested in playing on a new 15U junior girls team? If so, please contact Tom Doolittle (dootennis1@gmail.com).

We have enough courts to field teams at various age levels so please contact Tom or Victor (vfioresi86@gmail.com) if your child is interested. Also let us know if you can captain a team. It’s a little bit of work and a lot of fun for the kids! ALTA’s fall registration deadline for juniors is August 15th.

If you’ve been by the courts lately, you know that junior tennis is alive and well at LBC!

[Courtney Allen](#) is once again leading the junior tennis camp, running three sessions on four mornings a week, for various ages and skill levels. The demand has been so great—*averaging 40 players each week*—that campers are spreading out over 3-4 courts to achieve a safe distance.

Camp is scheduled through July, but may be extended depending on school calendars. When school opens, we plan to offer junior lessons Monday and Friday afternoons as we did last fall and winter. Keep an eye out for details as they become available. In the meantime, contact **Coach Courtney** (courtneec1@bellsouth.net) or **Victor Fioresi** (vfioresi86@gmail.com) with questions or to register for the [remaining July camp weeks](#).

This past year saw the return of girls and boys junior ALTA teams to LBC and several are in the works for the fall season. **Ginger Vento** (gmvento@comcast.net) and **Mara Maddox** (maramaddox1@gmail.com) are captaining a 15U boys team again this season so let them know ASAP if your child is interested in playing.

ALTA Teams Recruiting for Fall

Last week ALTA announced roster submission deadlines for the fall leagues: men, women and senior (55+) teams must register by July 24; junior registration has been extended to August 15.

Players wanted! If you are looking for a team, please go to the [Tennis tab on LBC's website](#) for a listing of teams and captain contact information. COVID concerns are impacting rosters—we know that one of two senior day men's teams will not be submitting a roster for fall, and the men's C-5 team would welcome new players to replace those taking a "pass" on the fall season.

- 🟢 To get your game in shape, check out ["Isolation" Video Tip: Tennis Practice at Home](#)

LBC Senior Women's "NALTA" League Midway Through Season Submitted by Jeannine Flor

Once upon a time, two LBC senior (45+) women's teams played on Thursday nights over the summer. Play began at 6:30, so "away" matches meant nightmarish traffic and often unusually long distances. Players might not return home until after 11:00pm and a rainout meant a weekday return trip.

As if these issues weren't bothersome enough, this season commenced during a time of unease. With the ALTA roster deadline approaching in April, many players were unenthusiastic about signing on. Traditional concerns about traffic and late nights were compounded by uncertainty about unfamiliar opponents and other clubs' COVID precautions.



One afternoon, teammates **Sue Boehringer, Julie Davis, Jeannine Flor, and Ginger Vento** discussed an idea heard at another club—forming an intracub league, dubbed "NALTA" (for "NO ALTA"). Why not do that very thing at LBC?!?

Amy McMillen captained the other senior team and embraced the idea on behalf of her teammates. The organizers gathered by phone and fleshed out LBC's very own "NALTA" league: Two teams would field 16 players to play 4 lines of doubles, RIGHT HERE AT HOME! Travelling? Traffic? Food Assignments? All GONE! Even rainouts would be handled as "replay it when you can." Now midway through the season, the 30 members who are part of this new creation are enjoying the format, and, of course, LBC has won ALL the points!

A fabulous FINALS night is in store on Thursday, August 6, when the 16 players with the best personal records will play against each other. LBC members are welcome to cheer—bring your snacks, beverages and chairs, spread out and enjoy the fun!

Facilities Update: Tennis Facilities Now Part of “Grounds” Planning

- Tennis Chair **Jen Takeuchi** reports that new player benches are being ordered soon.
- Congratulations and thanks to **Jason Smith** for accepting chairmanship of LBC’s Grounds Committee. With Jason’s appointment, the LBC board agreed to realign responsibilities for grounds with facilities planning. Consequently, *tennis facility maintenance and construction are now rolled into the Grounds Committee’s responsibilities*—Jason’s initial report will be in the next newsletter.

Many members will recognize Jason, [a 25-year practicing architect](#) who led the development of LBC’s Long-Range Strategic Plan over the past two years, diving right in during his second year of membership.

- Jason invites anyone interested in serving on the new Grounds Committee to contact him at jsmith@stevens-wilkinson.com

We welcome your topic ideas and articles of interest for the *LBC Tennis Newsletter*.

Please contact **Tom Doolittle** at dootennis1@gmail.com.