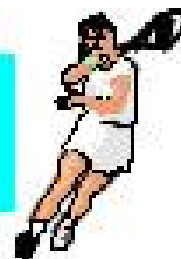


Barrego Springs Tennis Club

January 2015 Edition

By Vickie Mercer



Fill up the Calender

January 17—18

February 14—15

March 14—15

April 11—12

Straight

Mixed

Straight

Mixed

Congratulations to all the Winners and Runner Ups

From the Board

Early December brought one of those beautiful weekends in the Barrego Springs desert. The weather was warm, yet not oppressing. A light cloud cover on Sunday made for a perfect tennis day and the quality of tennis was a good match. Vickie Mercer, our Tournament Director, provided us with great matchups and lots of tiebreakers during the weekend. We trust you all enjoyed our time together and that we will see you again in mid-January. Two new members, Roxanne and Bob Youssie, joined us again, and both immediately went to the finals in their respective divisions. Please make them feel welcome and let them know we cannot guarantee the same results each month.

The Club is especially pleased to announce the election of Eileen Frahm as our new Treasurer, replacing Barbara Ash. Please make sure we all do our best to make her transition into the position as seamless as possible.

We are fortunate to have a surfeit of talent within our group. Never is that fact more evident than the Holidays. Janna and Larry Wagner coerced their infamous cousins from Tortuga to join us in a thoroughly enjoyable evening capped by Larry's magical fingers on the piano and much singing and dancing. May each of us remember that night and the good spirit we all shared.

Fred Dow provided another exceptional lunch which brought joy to our stomachs and cash to the treasury. Thank you. And, in another generous individual gesture, Larry Wagner won our monthly drawing and immediately donated it back to the Club. Thanks to both Larry and Janna.

In closing, the Board wishes to express our sincere wishes for a wonderful Holiday Season and Happy New Year to you and your families. May 2015 bring good health and joy to each of you.

When to say what?

Doug Baker, President

Unfortunately, I did not get to see any of the great matches in December's tournament - heard there were many close ones and look forward to seeing you all at our upcoming January tournament.

A few had a hard time in December as we all do on any given day. Match-ups can also be hard to figure out. Putting these matches together is a challenge. Our tournament director, Vickie, does an amazing job of trying to analyze all the obstacles. Unfortunately, some think you have mismatched them with their respective partner and they voice their displeasure while matches are still going on. This instantaneous reaction is unfair to all concerned and should immediately stop. If appropriate hold off on comments until all the matches are finished.

In order to alleviate putting the responsibility on one person for match pairings, a committee has been put together to oversee the tournament partners. This committee consists of 4 respected and long time members with many years of official USTA tournaments under their wing. They will be forwarded the partner pairings from the previous two years so they can understand why, at times, your director must shift pairings to prevent playing with a duplicate partner within that time frame. Plus they will have access to all playing records from the last five years. No longer will one person have to endure the complaints of a few.

We owe our director a THANK YOU for putting so much work into a tough job.

Thanks for the Tip

Jan McNamara caught a Groupon offer for Palm Canyon Resort which was forwarded to our list and many of you were able to take advantage to save a bunch of bucks for a weekend.



Fred Dow serving up in the Holiday Spirit with Eileen Frahm in the foreground.

**\$50 Winner
Larry Wagner
with Eileen Frahm**



December 6 & 7, 2014 Mixed Doubles Winners

1st



Sheldon Baker / Ursula Hawkins

2nd



Larry Wagner / Roxanne Youssi

Jingle Swingers (Pool A)

1. Ursula Hawkins / Sheldon Baker—4-1
2. Roxanne Youssi / Larry Wagner—3-2
3. Nine Hanson / Mike Shoemaker—3-1
4. Janna Wagner / Bill Hanson—1-3
5. Jan McNamara / Barry Frahm—0-4

Finals score 9-7

Good friends, Ursula & Roxanne faced each other as they find themselves in their local club. Ursula and Sheldon both had their second wins of the season.

1st



Vickie Mercer / Al Lieb

2nd



Peggy Lieb / Bob Youssi

Star Blazers (Pool B)

1. Vickie Mercer / Al Lieb—5-1
2. Peg Lieb / Bob Youssi—4-2
3. Margo Milligan / Dennis Kreil—2-2
4. Marla Anderson / Fred Dow—1-3
5. Harriet Lisak / Bob Speth—0-4

Finals score 9-8 (10-6) Tiebreaker 10-6

New member, Bob Youssi along with Peg Lieb up against long time members, husband, Al Lieb and your tournament director.

1st



Nikki Wakeland / Bob Hopkins

2nd



Don Wilson / Terry Moy

Reindeer Flyers (Pool C)

1. Nikki Wakeland / Bob Hopkins—5-0
2. Terry Moy / Don Wilson—2-3
3. Sandi Kean / Ray Caldwell—2-2
4. Michele Miller / Tom Cunningham—1-3
5. Bonnie Wilson / Curt Hawkins—1-3

Finals score 8-1

Nikki Wakeland and Bob Hopkins were very strong throughout. Nikki returning after her high school season showed a new game finesse. We commend Terry & Don for winning so many games, showing so much energy and advancing to the finals.

**This player was the tournament director's Hero as he agreed to play filling in for an injured player. Thanks so much for helping make our tournament work smoother for all.*

Tournament Director's Notes

We had a smaller group for the last tournament of 2014. I must commend everyone for returning their entry replies so timely allowing for the schedules to be distributed right on time. We welcomed new comer, Dennis Kreil (finally after three previous tries) who filled in for Borden who was complaining of a sore hip. Also filling in at the last minute was Ray Caldwell who was one of our good men to round out our numbers to make them even and Margo Milligan who filled in for Susan Dow who we hope recovered from a nasty case of the flu.

Updated Ladder Coming

Our next session will be a straight format and again it will be round robin for each selected pool. I trust our updated ladder will be available and I plan to finally publish it on the website so that everyone can review our committee's efforts. The updating of the ladder has been in the works for several months (actually years). The committee won't make all happy but will issue guidance to your tournament director which is long overdue.

Prior to our February tournament we can address challenges to our ladder if anyone feels it is appropriate. I feel the best way to improve my own standing is hard work and successful finals play. The purpose of the ladder is to make play levels more fair. Our policy that players aren't matched together within a two year period prevents individuals from being paired up with their buddy too often. This also will make the individual who calls and proclaims that if they are not placed in the upper pool all the time they won't come at all showing their lack of commitment to our club. The ladder removes the sole decisions away from the tournament director, however, if a player needs to be placed higher on the ladder, I will argue to the committee as to why a change is recommended. We certainly realize that players like Harriet's granddaughter, Nikki Wakeland, showed massive improvement in just a short 6 month period and will be evaluated on her skill and not her age in future tournaments. This will help us welcome more youth and enjoy watching the development of a new player.

A Successful Comeback

Lastly, it was wonderful to see Ursula Hawkins stronger than ever during the final match. To think it was just last year she was unable to play at all and she has exhibited that her hard work at physical recovery has been successful and to see her return of stamina. She is definitely an example we can all admire.

Deadlines:

***January 17 & 18 Tournament
Guest Entry—January 14 noon
Member Entry—January 15 2 pm
Look for schedule that night via email***

Contacts:

Vickie Mercer

Tournament Director: 206-550-3914

Website Address:

www.jefj.net/bstc



Nikki Wakeland



Ursula Hawkins