

# ***Hilton Tennis Club Newsletter***

February 28, 2017

Welcome to another great and fun season of tennis at Hilton Tennis Club. The 2017 members of the Board of Directors are:

Brad Baylor (President), Deloris Becker (Treasurer), Joe Coccimiglio (Secretary), Ron Comeaux, Dan Sims, David Blalock, Andy Mueller, Glenn Murphrey, and Bob Spooner

Special thanks to Ron Comeaux who has dutifully filled the positions of President and Treasurer for the past several years – well done Ron!

Committee assignments:

**Membership Committee:** Dan Sims (Chair)

**Finance Committee:** Deloris Becker (Chair), Ron Comeaux, and Glenn Murphrey

**Tennis Committee:** Ron Comeaux & Glenn Murphrey (Co-Chairs), Joe Coccimiglio & Dave Blalock.

**Grounds Committee:** Bob Spooner & Glenn Murphrey (Co-chairs), Dan Sims, Andy Mueller, & Ron Comeaux

**Membership:** Don't forget **March 15, 2017** is the deadline for returning senior members to renew their membership. Dues received after the deadline date must be accompanied by a \$10.00 late fee. If you know someone who might be interested in joining, either give them an application or direct them to the HTC website ([www.hiltontennisclub.com](http://www.hiltontennisclub.com)). There will be a supply of membership applications in the display rack in the clubhouse.

The club ended last year with 111 Senior, 5 Student, and 10 Junior members. Our goal again this year is 120 senior members. Let us work together through word-of-mouth and club socials to bring in new senior members.

Paul Reynolds, a long time member, past away last year. \$275 was donated to the club in Paul's name. And, best wishes to Carter Ficklen as he continues to recover from a stroke.

**Guest Policy:** Out-of-town (outside the Hampton Roads area) guests are allowed to play at the club but the sponsoring member must be in attendance during play. There is no in-town guest policy. Anyone living in the Hampton Roads area must be a member to play at the club. The only exception would be for a prospective member. It is permissible for a prospective member to play a couple of times at the club before deciding whether he or she wants to join.

**Grounds and Clubhouse:** The Annual Spring Work-Party will be held in 2 phases. **Phase 1 is the pre-work party on Monday, March 20 at 9 AM.** Purpose of the pre-work party is to take down the nets, take up the lines, and remove dead clay from the courts. This work readies the courts for placement and spreading of the new clay during the **2<sup>nd</sup> phase that is scheduled for Saturday, March 25 at 9 AM (rain date for phase 2 is April 1).** Also during phase 2 the outside grounds will be policed and the shrubs either cut down or trimmed back and the inside of the clubhouse will be cleaned. Your attendance is important in order to get the courts, grounds and clubhouse in good shape for the start of the 2017 tennis season. More detailed information on the work party will come later, and as usual, some form of lunch will be served during phase 2. Installation of new lines is scheduled for early to mid April.

- Remember that the most important factor in keeping our courts in the best possible shape is staying off the courts when they are too wet.
- Make sure to use proper clay court tennis shoes. Shoes with the lug soles are not allowed.

Starting this year Carl Williams will be taking care of the grass cutting, trimming around the grounds, and some grounds-keeping duties, as well as, the housekeeping services. A special thanks goes out to Debi Dowdy as she steps out of her housekeeping role. Debi has been the Hilton Tennis Club housekeeper for the better part of 10 years with only a short 3 year break along the way. She has volunteered to sub-in as needed.

On a down note the project last year to ensure running water to the clubhouse throughout the year was tabled. Cost to move the pipes out of the attic was cost-prohibitive.

And lastly, the soda machine in the clubhouse will soon be gone. Robert Lee who has replenished the soda machine forever, said that the use of the soda machine is almost nonexistent. Truth be known, I believe Dan Sims is the only member that used the machine.

## Tennis:

**Socials:** If you are a relatively new member of the club, you will find that the socials are a great way to meet new people. They consist of a series of social doubles matches where you rotate partners every half hour or so. We then sit down for some good food and fellowship. The charge is usually \$10 to take care of the cost of tennis balls, food and drinks. Ron Comeaux, Joe Coccimiglio, and David Blalock will be organizing the socials. There are 6 socials planned for 2017 with the 1<sup>st</sup> social scheduled for Saturday, April 29 starting at 11 AM. Members are encouraged to bring potential members to any of the socials. Rumor has it that chili is on the menu for the 1<sup>st</sup> social.

**21th Year of Thursday Night Men's Doubles League:** Last year we had 55 members play on the Thursday Night Men's Doubles League, another 13 members were on sub list. Players of all levels are welcome. Glenn Murphrey ([murp@cox.net](mailto:murp@cox.net)) (344-2569), Brad Baylor ([bradford.baylor@gmail.com](mailto:bradford.baylor@gmail.com)), and Bob Spooner ([bob.spooner@hii-nns.com](mailto:bob.spooner@hii-nns.com)) will be the points of contact for sign up. In order to participate, **you must sign up in the clubhouse, call, or email** by the deadline date of **April 6**. There will be a sign-up sheet in clubhouse by **March 25**. Members who sign up late will be put on a sub-list until mid-summer when a new schedule is done. Our plan is to start the league on Thursday, **April 27**. There will be three time sessions. The first session will begin at 4:00 PM, the second is at 5:30 PM and the last at 7:00 PM. If you have a specific request for late play or early play or bye dates, let Brad or Glenn know and they will try to accommodate you. If you would like to sub only, please let Glenn know.

**Mixed Doubles League:** If you are looking for something fun to do on Monday nights involving tennis and some great people think about joining our Mixed Double's League. We will begin our league May 1st and run the league through the end of October. I will take no more than 12 teams at one time, but I will also have a waiting list and a list for subs as needed. If you are interested please email me at [btracey@cnu.edu](mailto:btracey@cnu.edu) or call Bonnie Tracey at (757) 303-8463.

**Men's Retiree League:** If you are retired and would like to play in the Tuesday morning league call Ron Comeaux (757) 817-4092. The league starts early May and runs through October. The first set is 4 singles and the second set is 2 doubles. New schedules are published every 2 months to accommodate retirees travel schedules during the tennis season. The May/Jun matches are from 10-12. The July/August matches are from 9-11. And, the September/October matches are from 10-12.

**Important note: You must be a member of Hilton Tennis Club in order to sign up for any league.**

**Tennis Ladders:** The club runs two ladders, an "A Ladder" and a "B Ladder". The "A Ladder" is intended for players who are rated 4.0 or higher. The "B Ladder" is for players rated 3.5 or below. Ladders are open for both males and females. Playing on a ladder is a great way to get matches and to meet other club members. Contact Ron Comeaux (757) 817-4092 to join a ladder. The ladder season opens on April 15.

**Golf:** Put **June 17** on your calendar and come join us for the 12<sup>th</sup> annual golf outing this year. We had 39 players last year and everyone had a great time. Golfers and non-golfers are welcome. It's a great opportunity for fellowship and to have a good time. More information on this event will come later. The organizers are Glenn Murphrey, Andy Mueller, and Ron Comeaux.

**Any additional tennis functions must be approved by the Tennis Committee.**

**Points of Contact:** If during the year you have questions/concerns about the courts and/or grounds, contact one of the co-chairs of the Grounds Committee, Bob Spooner or Glenn Murphrey. Any questions/concerns about tennis events should be directed to one of the co-chairs of the Tennis Committee, Glenn Murphrey or Ron Comeaux.

**Other Items:** The HTC cap sale in 2016 was an outstanding success. 85 out of 100 caps were sold. The price for the remaining 15 is still only \$20 per cap. Dan Sims will have the cap with him during the work-parties, if you would like a cap.

Have a great tennis season and thanks to all the volunteers who donate their personal time and energy to making Hilton Tennis Club the best value of any club in Virginia. It is the volunteers that really make our club a special place.

See you on the courts,

Brad Baylor  
President  
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