

# 2006 BTA NEWSLETTER



BOULDER TENNIS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER • VOLUME 324 • APRIL 2006

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*Vice President* : Claire Douthit  
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Graham Johnson  
*Newsletter Liaison* : Andrew Largo  
*BTA Ladder* : David Pratt,  
Nancy Sheffield

## HOW TO REACH BTA

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tennis Social**  
**APRIL 22**

## President's Letter

PJ Trask

### HEY BTA,

Spring is here, and summer is quickly approaching. Hopefully everyone is getting prepared for the upcoming tennis season. Remember to keep an eye on the BTA website, [www.bouldertennis.org](http://www.bouldertennis.org), for upcoming events such as our indoor social, the kickoffs for the Saturday Drop-ins and the Ladder, the start of Leagues, and the Austin Scott Memorial and Valerie Walls Tournaments. The website is updated with a "Find a League Team" page, so there are no excuses not to join. And don't forget to contact us if you have any interest in volunteering for any of these events or others. We are still looking for Austin Scott volunteers, and we will be looking for some volunteers for events later in the season as well. Feel free to contact any of us with any questions you might have.

### THE 40TH ANNUAL AUSTIN SCOTT MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT AND VALERIE WALLS MEMORIAL WHEELCHAIR TENNIS TOURNAMENT

As many of you may know, the BTA annually sponsors the Austin Scott Memorial Tennis Tournament. This USTA sanctioned event runs April 29th through May 6th and will be held in Boulder at the CU South Courts (near Highway 36 and S. Boulder Road). We are also happy to announce our sponsorship of the 1st Annual Valerie Walls Memorial Tournament on Saturday, May 6th. This wheelchair tennis tournament is held in honor of former BTA president Valerie Walls.

Also, for those of you who have been thinking it would be fun to play in a tournament, these tournaments are a great way to get started. It is conveniently located right here in Boulder and you are likely to see a lot of familiar faces. We hope you'll come out and compete! For all of you who have competed in the past, we look forward to seeing you again this year! Additional information on registering for these tournaments is available on the BTA website at [bouldertennis.org](http://bouldertennis.org).

### Tournament Volunteers Wanted!

We need volunteers to help with the following: (1) obtaining sponsors for the tournaments and (2) helping out during the events, such as setting up the water coolers and checking players in. If you are interested, please e-mail Claire Douthit at [ClaireEDouthit@aol.com](mailto:ClaireEDouthit@aol.com).

# tenniscode

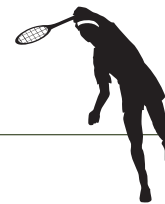
By Bruce Ross

**Dear Tennis Code:** My opponent frequently fails to announce the score when he is serving. Are there rules governing this problem? T.L.

**Dear T.L.:** I am glad that you asked this question. This problem is common among all players.

The Code, which is the players' guide for unofficiated matches states, "Server announces score. The server shall announce the game score before the first point of the game and the point score before each subsequent point of the game" (page 57, Scoring, #31). In an addition to Rules of Tennis, rule 5, Score in a Game, the 2006 Friend At Court USTA comment 5.3 states: ....After an official has cautioned a player to call out the score, the official may in a particularly egregious case treat subsequent violations as Code Violations for unsportsman-like conduct.

Please describe the situation that concerns you followed by the specific question. Send e-mail to [tenniscode@yahoo.com](mailto:tenniscode@yahoo.com)



LEAGUE NOTES

## BTA League Notes

The weather is 60 degrees today and there is no wind and the time has come to get serious about league play for 2006. The deadline for forming teams for the USTA Spring Mixed Doubles and USTA Adult Leagues has past, but there is still time to join existing teams that have openings. Now is the time to form teams for the USTA Super Seniors and the CTA Women's Daytime Doubles Leagues. Check your BTA League Brochure, either the hard copy you received last month or at the BTA website: [www.bouldertennis.com](http://www.bouldertennis.com).

The deadline for forming the Super Senior teams is May 1st. You must be 60 or over in this calendar year, 2006, to qualify for Super Seniors. Three doubles matches are played on Friday mornings.

CTA Women's Daytime Doubles deadline is also May 1st. Three doubles matches are played on Tuesday mornings for 5.5 and 7.5 levels and Wednesday mornings for 6.5 and 8.5 levels. Please note that this league is using a combined .5 format; e.g., a 3.5 and 4.0 female would play together, at level, on a 7.5 team. A 4.0 and 4.5 female would play together, at level, on an 8.5 team. This is an exciting change in format for this league, which will encourage new pairings and diversity in league teams. The CTA is asking for feedback at the end of the season to determine its popularity. We hope you will join or form a team for this league and have a new adventure in league tennis.

USTA Spring Mixed Doubles League play begins April 23. BTA teams will play their home matches at Manhattan Middle School, Centennial Middle School, and the IBM courts on Sunday afternoons. Good luck to the BTA Mixed Doubles League teams.

Any questions? Call Sylvia Henderson @ 303.651.1292.

## WANTED

60+ year-old 3.5 men who would like to play on a 3.5 (6.0) Super Senior Team.

Registration deadline is May 1st. Matches are played on Friday mornings at 8AM starting June 2nd and ending July 21st.

If interested, please contact Dave Pratt at 303-926-7666 or [prattdd@comcast.net](mailto:prattdd@comcast.net)

# TENNIS NEWS . . .

## 2006 LADDER KICKOFF EVENTS

The 2006 BTA Men's and Women's Singles Challenge Ladders officially started on January 1, and will end on October 31. The BTA has scheduled, again this year, singles ladder kickoff events to get the season underway.

The Men's Singles Challenge Ladder kickoff will be held at Centennial Middle School courts on Saturday, April 22 at 9:00 a.m. and the Women's Singles Challenge Ladder kickoff will be held at Centennial on Saturday, May 13 at Noon. BTA has reserved the courts at Centennial for these events and will provide balls, soft drinks and munchies.

To help us plan the Ladder Kickoff Events, please sign up by emailing, preferably, or calling Dave Pratt for the Men's Ladder (303) 926-7666 [prattdd@comcast.net](mailto:prattdd@comcast.net) or Nancy Sheffield (303) 447-8016 [nsheffield@comcast.net](mailto:nsheffield@comcast.net) for the Women's Ladder. You will need to provide your name, telephone number, email address and NTRP rating (self-rating is ok if you don't have an NTRP rating). If you are not already listed on the ladder from last year's competition, we will add you to the ladder for this year's competition.

All BTA members 16 years or older are eligible (and encouraged) to play on the ladder, regardless of NTRP rating. Last year, both the women's and men's ladder players ranged from 2.5 to 4.0. BTA's rules pertaining to the ladder can be found at [www.bouldertennis.org/ladder](http://www.bouldertennis.org/ladder) and at [www.tennisengine.com/guidelines](http://www.tennisengine.com/guidelines).

Each year a winner will be determined overall for each of the ladders and also for each skill level on both ladders. To win the championship of your skill level, you must play three different opponents during the course of the year, if there are others competing against you in your skill level.

## CU MEN'S TENNIS TEAM CUT

**But It's Not Over Yet.** As everyone has heard by now, the CU Men's tennis team was cut by the University of Colorado's Athletic Department starting next year. For the tennis communities in and around Boulder, this should serve as a wake up call. The CU tennis program is a vital component of the face of tennis that the public sees. With the men's team being cut, it's more than a slap to that face and a big black eye, but we as a community will be left with an irreplaceable void.

**There is Hope.** According to Bob Bateman, a volunteer assistant coach with the tennis program at CU, there's still a very good chance to save the program. A "grassroots" movement has begun to save the men's team. The following is a March 28 email excerpt from Bob to Sylvia Henderson, BTA Board member:

Sylvia, Any chance you can make sure that word gets out to the BTA that CU has cut men's tennis and that there is still a very good chance we can save the program? We need to raise a stink (calls, emails) and raise money. We're making progress on both fronts and I'd like the BTA and its members to know that.

As for the time frame, that is even more slippery. We have not received any indication from Mike Bohn on that and I don't think he or the university is what matters in this case. The time to get the money together is determined by when the players and coaches (myself excluded since I'm not going anywhere!) need to finalize alternative plans for next year if we fail to get tennis reinstated at CU. I suppose some early showing of support could cause Mike to stay the execution, but I dare not speak for him.

Speaking of support, here's where we are as of now. We received pledges totaling \$286,000 in the three full days since the decision was suddenly sprung on us Thursday.

I know that very many more people will step up when they learn that there is still a cause to support. Ironically, of the \$286,000 pledged so far, fully \$250,000 of that is from Dallas, TX from three generous donors (one company employing a former player and his dad pledged \$200,000!!!). I am hopeful that those of us living, working, and playing here in Boulder can keep pace.

**Here is how anyone (and everyone) can support CU men's tennis:** 1) Bombard Mike Bohn, Hank Brown, Phil DiStefano, the Board of Regents, and perhaps the CU Foundation with emails of support. These people must know that there many people here locally who do not like this decision. The more emails sent in, perhaps the less up front money it will take to save the program. Here's the list of email addresses: [officeofthepresident@cu.edu](mailto:officeofthepresident@cu.edu), [Phil.Distefano@colorado.edu](mailto:Phil.Distefano@colorado.edu), [peter.steinhauser@colorado.edu](mailto:peter.steinhauser@colorado.edu), [regent.carlisle@colorado.edu](mailto:regent.carlisle@colorado.edu), [regent.hayes@colorado.edu](mailto:regent.hayes@colorado.edu), [carrigan@colorado.edu](mailto:carrigan@colorado.edu), [Tom.Lucero@colorado.edu](mailto:Tom.Lucero@colorado.edu), [regent.Bosley@colorado.edu](mailto:regent.Bosley@colorado.edu), [Jerryrutledge@adelphia.net](mailto:Jerryrutledge@adelphia.net), [regent.schauer@colorado.edu](mailto:regent.schauer@colorado.edu), [Gail.Schwartz@colorado.edu](mailto:Gail.Schwartz@colorado.edu). And of course, [Mike.Bohn@colorado.edu](mailto:Mike.Bohn@colorado.edu). 2) Money. Monetary support is needed to save the program and that means checks. For now the simplest way to show that monetary support is for me to collect checks made out to the CU Foundation, with the express understanding that those checks will NOT be cashed OR turned over to CU unless there is an airtight agreement to continue men's tennis. If we fail to meet the level of contributions necessary to save the program, then we will return the checks, uncashed, to the contributors.

**Please Help.** Show your support by emailing the officials above or by making a contribution today. Bob Bateman can be reached at [rbateman@infionline.net](mailto:rbateman@infionline.net) or by calling 303-443-2707. Please make checks payable to CU Foundation and mail to Bob Bateman, 730 12th Street, Boulder, CO 80302.



**BOULDER TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

P.O. BOX 912

BOULDER, CO 80306-0912

### **TENNIS SOCIAL! SATURDAY APRIL 22 AT THE RANCH**

The BTA has reserved four courts on Saturday, April 22 from 7 to 10 p.m. at The Ranch Country Club. We have 16 spots available for this round robin doubles event. Please e-mail Barb Dausch at [Secretary@BoulderTennis.org](mailto:Secretary@BoulderTennis.org) if you are interested in attending. Barb will send you an e-mail with the details and directions. The cost to participants is only \$10. We are also offering the option of playing 1.5 hours for only \$5. Please let Barb know if you are interested in this option. We'll need a minimum of 4 players (and increments of 4 players) for it to work out. Lastly, The Ranch will again be offering Prince rackets available for demos. Hope to see you there!

Note: There will not be a social in May; however, we hope you'll join us for the Drop-In Doubles Icebreaker on May 13th at 9 a.m. (See next article).

### **SATURDAY MORNING DROP-IN DOUBLES ICEBREAKER!**

It's Spring again, and that means Saturday drop-in doubles will kick off another season of play with the annual Icebreaker on May 13th at Centennial Middle School. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the BTA's drop-in doubles, every Saturday from May through October, the BTA sponsors round robin doubles open to all ability levels. It is free and the BTA reserves the courts and provides the balls. It's a good way to get to know other tennis players, not to mention pick up a match on Saturday morning.

On May 13th, as always, play will start at 9 AM, so come early to warm up, enjoy some food, and socialize. Last year we filled all eight courts nearly every week, and we are expecting another great turnout this year. In the event of rain, we will reschedule for May 20th. Hope to see you there!

We also are looking for volunteers to help organize this event each week. If you are interested, please contact me, Graham Johnson, at [tennis1@grahamjohnson.org](mailto:tennis1@grahamjohnson.org).