

2007 BTA NEWSLETTER



BOULDER TENNIS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER • VOLUME 328 • MARCH 2007

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UPCOMING EVENTS

41st Austin Scott Memorial Tournament

April 28th – May 5th

PRESIDENT'S LETTER Claire Douthit

Dear BTA Members,

Finally! The snow has melted and we are having 60-degree days with another hour of sunlight. In other words, it's starting to look a lot like tennis season! This newsletter covers it all. League teams are forming and getting registered; our plans are coming together for the Austin Scott tournament, the first Zero Waste tennis tournament in the nation; CU women's tennis is having a fantastic season; we're having one last indoor social and soon to be moving outdoors; the Saturday morning drop-ins are right around the corner; and you can register for and start playing ladder matches right now!

See you on the courts!

Claire

THE AUSTIN SCOTT GOES ZERO WASTE

By Brandon Walton, Tournament Director

Recognizing that tennis communities everywhere have the potential to be a part of the solution to our environmental problems, the Boulder Tennis Association is proud to announce the 41st Austin Scott Tennis Tournament as the first Zero Waste tennis tournament in the nation! Our commitment to environmental sustainability is through the following tournament initiatives.

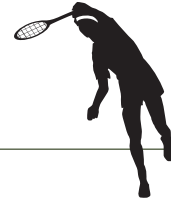
Zero Waste — By working with local non-profit, Eco-Cycle, we can reduce the amount of trash that our tournament sends to the land-fill. Our tournament will feature recycling and composting during the tournament, as well as other creative ways to reduce waste.

Carbon Neutral — We're working with local non-profit, Driven by the Wind, to offset emissions from 35,000 miles of competitors driving to the tournament and our electricity use.

Sustainable Travel — We're giving away prizes every day for each player that carpools, bikes, walks, or use mass transit to the tournament.

Shoe Recycling — Players can recycle their old tennis shoes at the tournament for free.

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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". 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 unsportsmanlike conduct.

We are embarking on an exciting League Season for 2007 with a new league offering for men – CTA Men's Tri-Level Singles on Saturday afternoons, starting in August, and more interest in World Team Tennis, which will be on Friday nights, starting in June. Hopefully, the BTA will have some teams this year for both these leagues. With these two leagues, there will be league play every day of the week during some part of the league season.

The first league deadlines for BTA Captains to get their registrations in to the League Coordinators are fast approaching:

USTA Mixed Doubles League Deadline: March 10
Coordinator: Ann Larson @ 303.494.3780

USTA Adult League Deadline: March 27
Coordinators: Women - Ann Larson @ 303.494.3780
Men - Sylvia Henderson @ 303.651.1292

USTA Super Senior League Deadline: April 9
Coordinator: Colleen Weaverling @ 303.666.6275

CTA Women's Daytime Doubles Deadline: April 24
Coordinator: Colleen Weaverling @ 303.666.6275

Captains, get your rosters and fees to the coordinator for your league as soon as possible, to aid in securing your desired home courts.

To learn more about the league offerings for 2007 go to the BTA website, www.bouldertennis.org, and download the League Brochure, then call the League Coordinator for the league(s) you are interested in and we'll help you get in touch with league team captains and/or other interested players to help you form or join league teams for this season.

If you are planning to captain a league team for this season, let us know as soon as possible so we can plan accordingly. Remember, first registered with fees paid, first court choice. The courts the BTA uses for league home matches are Centennial Middle School, Fairview High School, Manhattan Middle School, and the IBM courts.

Make league play a part of your tennis experience this year!

TENNIS NEWS . . .

Austin Scott Tournament *(continued from page 1)*

Functional Awards — Because typical awards and trophies are not recyclable or reusable locally, we're giving out tennis gear to all finalists in the tournament.

Organic Food — By working with Whole Foods Market, we will have organic snacks at our tournament to support organic food producers and a healthier lifestyle.

Support Local Businesses — Our tournament organizers will be utilizing local business services whenever possible. Think Globally, Act Locally!

100% PCR Paper — All paper our tournament uses will be the highest post consumer recycled content possible.

Online Registration — We're encouraging our players to register for the Austin Scott online. By registering online, we can save natural resources and tournament staff time.

We're already getting some great press about our environmental initiatives at the tournament, and we haven't even played any matches yet! As of March 13, our tournament is being covered in Tennis Life Magazine, Colorado Tennis, Florida Tennis Magazine, and more.

Don't miss out on this unique event! Visit www.bouldertennis.org for our tournament entry form and steps you can take this year at the Austin Scott to help us protect our beautiful community for future generations of racket swingers everywhere!

Special thanks to our tournament marketing director, PJ Trask, for his work getting the word out, and to the BTA Board and Officers to make this exciting event possible!

41st Austin Scott Memorial Tournament

April 28 - May 5

CU Courts South, Boulder, CO

Entry Deadline: April 20

Cost: Singles \$26, Doubles \$17/person, (USTA online fees apply)

Entry form and tournament info available at www.bouldertennis.org by March 1

Volunteers are still needed!

Email: austinscott2007@bouldertennis.org

2007 LADDER PLAY!

The BTA offers a tennis ladder for singles play that is open to any BTA member. We hope you will participate! Ladder play started officially on January 1, 2007 so any match you play now counts. Here's how it works: To join the ladder or for additional questions contact the Ladder Coordinator at Ladders2007@boulderTennis.org. Once you have joined the ladder, you will be given a login ID and password. You can then log into www.tennisengine.com to report scores, see ladder match results, and update your profile. For more information, please go to BoulderTennis.org.

In addition, this year we are having a ladder kick-off event on May 19 (or May 26 if it rains) from noon until 3. We'll be playing round robin, 8-game supersets, with a 10-point tiebreaker at 8-8. It's a great way to get to know other singles players. If you would like to participate in the ladder kick-off, please contact the Ladder Coordinator at Ladders2007@bouldertennis.org or just drop by at 11:45 am on the day of the event to sign up.



tennis talk

with CU Women's Tennis Head Coach Nicole Kenneally

TOPIC THIS WEEK: DOUBLES STRATEGY

- Q.** *We've noticed at your CU Women's matches that your doubles teams don't give signs behind their backs to indicate what their strategy will be for the next point. Why is that?*
- A.** We have some teams that do signs and some teams that prefer to just talk about what they want to do. Personally, I think doing a mixture of both is good because you want to keep the lines of communication open with your partner but also be able to know what you both mean when there is not time to talk i.e. between a first and second serve. I think it comes down to the personality and comfort levels of the players that make up a doubles team whether to sign or talk.
- Q.** *I know it's advantageous in doubles to take control of the net, but do I have to come to the net right after I serve (serve and volley)?*
- A.** In most situations, if you have solid volleys then it is very advantageous to get to the net as this is where you will establish control and place pressure on your opponents to come up with some great shots. However, I don't believe it is necessary to always serve and volley. I often tell my players if they are not 100% confident in coming in then play one shot and look to be moving in after this shot. This way the player feels comfortable and not rushed in finishing the serve but will also look to take advantage of a short return.

COLORADO WOMEN'S TENNIS UPDATE

Last weekend the University of Colorado women's tennis team had a great match against the then ranked #14 Baylor Bears. It was a very dramatic match, with both sides of the court playing at a very high level. You could really feel the energy in the air as the Buffs battled to the very end and pulled out an exceptional 5-2 win over the Bears. This was a huge upset for the Buffaloes, and the first top 15 national win for women's tennis since 1998. It has propelled the team to a 3-0 best start in Big 12 conference history! If you want to see high level tennis played with great spirit, passion and focus check out the women's tennis team. You won't regret your choice to watch!

Thu, Mar 22	Texas A&M	at College Station, TX	5 p.m.
Sat, Mar 24	Texas	at Austin, TX	12:30 p.m.
Mon, Mar 26	Fresno State	at Fresno, CA	2:30 p.m.
Tue, Mar 27	San Francisco	at San Francisco, CA	3 p.m.
Fri, Apr 06	Denver	at Denver, CO	1 p.m.
Sat, Apr 14	Kansas State	at Manhattan, KS	10 a.m.
Sun, Apr 15	Kansas	at Lawrence, KS	10 a.m.
Sat, Apr 21	OKLAHOMA	BOULDER (South Campus)	11 a.m.
Sun, Apr 22	NEBRASKA	BOULDER (South Campus)	11 a.m.



A TRIBUTE TO VALERIE WALLS



Valerie Walls was born June 21, 1946 in Toronto, Canada. She was raised and married there, as well. She left Canada with her husband, David Walls, and three children, Betsy, Sarah and Meaghan in 1977 and moved to Lagos, Nigeria where her husband was employed. Eventually they briefly moved back to Canada before moving to New York City in 1979. For the next ten years Valerie became a New Yorker, living first on the Upper East Side, then the Upper West. When her husband's interest in cycling became more than a hobby, the family moved to Boulder, Colorado where she and her husband worked to turn VeloNews, The Journal of Competitive Cycling from a small periodical into the premier cycling magazine. It was in Boulder that Valerie's love for tennis became her passion.

"We are getting off to a running start because there are so many exciting events in which the BTA is involved." These words began the BTA Newsletter's President's Letter by Valerie Walls in January of 2002. And Valerie Walls was always off to a running start in every endeavor she undertook. Her accomplishments were many.

She was very active in the BTA, serving of the BTA Board for several years. She served as President in 2001 and 2002. She also served in the roles of Past President and Treasurer.

She was very active in the arena of wheelchair tennis for many years — off to a running start. She volunteered on the court as an assistant, spearheaded setting up wheelchair tennis clinics and was instrumental in adding wheelchair tennis events to the Austin-Scott Tournament. The BTA has now

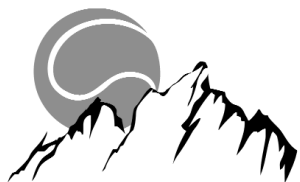
established a separate USTA sanctioned wheelchair tournament named for Valerie. The 2nd Annual Valerie Walls Memorial Wheelchair Tournament is held at the close of the Austin Scott on May 5 this year.

Valerie was "off to a running start" when the City of Boulder first presented the idea of a public-private partnership for building a tennis center to the BTA for sponsorship. She ran with the project and named it the Valmont Project. She worked tirelessly on the Valmont Project until her final illness curtailed her activities.

In February 2005 she was honored by the Colorado Tennis Association with the Clyde Rogers Award for Service to Recreational Players for her work promoting wheelchair tennis in Colorado.

Valerie was the type of person one always wanted to be around because she exuded love. She had a fantastic sense of humor and always seemed to be on the verge of laughing. She was genuine and caring and involved in what others were doing. If she could help someone, she did. Her happiness was contagious. She brought joy to those around her, both those that knew her briefly and those that knew her best. She was an incredible woman who lived and loved and touched those around her.

When Valerie died in May 2005, the BTA lost one of its strongest supporters and most generous volunteers. She has left her mark on the BTA and will be greatly missed by all who knew her and were the recipients of her friendship and love.



BOULDER TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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