

Trails Newsletter

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Cookie in Heaven

300 Main Trail
Ormond Beach, FL 32174

PHONE:
(386) 677-8081

E-MAIL:
jan@trailsracquetclub.com

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Nice Start!

Hey, that was a nice start into the year! Here at your Trails Racquet Club, we had the busiest month in a while. All 8 courts were regularly used, and many of them more than once per day. And part of that flurry of activities were 4 new members who joined in January.

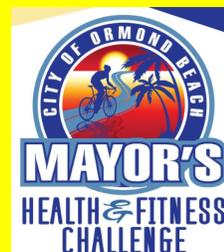
Next time you go to the club and see a "for sale" at the front door, here is why: the club is on the market. On the back page is a bit more insight into the Buenner family's decision to eventually sell the club, after 20 years of ownership. It is NOT an emergency. And there is no rush with it. It will all be done in a smooth way. There are a number of scenarios in which the club and its members will actually be great beneficiaries of a sale. Read more on the back page.

New Members

January was a remarkable month for the Trails, as we welcomed 4 new members. And they couldn't be more diverse!

Following through on their new year's resolutions, two new male players joined the Trails in January. And they were joined by a father/daughter combo who are training the daughter to play on the professional tennis tour. And when you watch Clara train – she looks IMPRESSIVE! Here is who joined the Trails in January:

Now that the weather has started to warm up, it is a good time to look at the calendar for the coming months. Up next is a Junior Futures tournament for kids with little or no tournament experience on Saturday, February 18. And on Thursday, February 23, the Ormond Beachside Tennis Center and the Trails for the first time will participate in the MAYOR'S FITNESS CHALLENGE. Read more about that at the bottom of this page.



- ◆ Clarice Ouvarova
- ◆ Michael Ouvarov
- ◆ Dan Januszko
- ◆ Lee Tasey

What sets these players apart from the usual Trails crowd is their age: Clarice is a junior, and the guys are 2-3 decades younger than the average age of the Trails membership. Their games are coming along, and their mobility is superior to almost anyone. Nice guys, too. Welcome to the Trails, everyone.

Mayor's Fitness Challenge @ OBTC On Feb. 23

The Ormond Beach Mayor's Fitness Challenge is a three month citywide challenge to city residents and employees to lose weight and reduce body mass. The Ormond Beachside Tennis Center (OBTC) will host one event of that challenge on

Thu, Feb. 23, 5.30-6.30 pm.

A combination of Cardio Tennis and other active, fun drills will be offered

for beginners as well as experienced players. There is no cost to participate, but advance signup is required. Coach Bruno will conduct the class. We expect some Trails/OBTC members as well as some individuals new to tennis. Should be a fun evening. The club will provide free refreshments for all participants after the class.



A Vision For The Trails Racquet Club

As you might have read recently in this space, the Buenner family has long term plans of selling the Trails Racquet Club. After almost 20 years of ownership, Jan is ready to ease into retirement.

No real rush with that, though. Finding the right buyer(s) and right price is more important than getting the sale done quickly. A tinny flier is at the front door: an ad in a German tennis magazine is the only means of advertising so far.

What could the vision for a new club ownership be? Well, two possibilities seem most likely: 1. An outright purchase by a tennis person/pro. 2. A small group of tennis fans similar to what a local club did many years

ago: 10 people pooled their money, built a tennis club, and each of them had to work 1 day out of 10. The owners had no mortgage and no labor cost, which usually are the biggest expenses. The remaining minor expenses and all responsibilities were shared. With no major cost, club ownership was highly lucrative for every owner. That in spite of having the lowest membership dues in the county.

Something similar could work well at the Trails, too. A diverse group of individuals with various skills and interests would be perfect. The first people have started talking to us about it, and we are excited to see that interest. You will get updated as things progress.



Junior Futures Starts Saturday, February 18

Junior Futures is a highly popular series of local tennis tournaments for kids with little or no tournament experience. It is played on Saturdays mid February to mid April at select facilities in our county. The first of such events will take place

Saturday, February 18,

at the Trails Racquet Club. Orange, green, and yellow ball divisions. First group starts at noon. Cost is

\$25/player/event and includes t-shirts, refreshments, and trophies for the top 3 players in each category. Start times and other details can be found on a flier that will be posted in the clubhouse soon, or by talking to Jan. This series is a great opportunity for juniors to play "serious" matches in a friendly environment. Usually between 30-50 players of all age groups participate every weekend.

Dear members of the Trails Racquet Club,

That was a lot of news to start into spring. We hope you found something new in it for you. Now go out and enjoy the perfect tennis weather. Happy Trails,

Jan Buenner & Team

