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Trails Newsletter

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Tennis On The Rebound

A late afternoon some weeks ago I was at a municipal tennis facility in Daytona Beach. To my surprise, at least 10 of their tennis courts were used for a junior program, and another half dozen or so were used by adults. What a nice sight to see! At your Trails Racquet Club on the same day, in the morning the courts were packed like they are most mornings. And good feedback was heard from our friendly neighbors at Ormond Beach Tennis Center who will soon experience a management change – and are looking forward to it.

Bottom line: tennis is showing a nice

vibrancy in our area. That's great news! Let's keep the momentum going, now that the snowbirds are gradually coming back, COVID travel restrictions are eased, and such.

Also about to kick off is the new season of the Greater Volusia Tennis League (GVTL). Participation is 25% less than last year, sadly. Many players seem to prefer the comfort of their home club over the uncertainty of playing elsewhere. Read more about the league at the bottom of this page.

And then there is plenty news about Ormond Beach Tennis Center. See article on the back page.

New Members

Last month's listing of new members was woefully incomplete. 4 new members were listed, but 4 others were omitted. Our apologies. Here they are:

- ◆ June Beil (GVTL 3.0)
- ◆ Mary Johnson (GVTL 2.5)
- ◆ Kim Wiley (GVTL 4.0)
- ◆ John Reynolds (GVTL 3.0)

June and Mary are friendly folks formerly from OBTC. Kim returned to the area from out-of-state. And John recently moved to Ormond from abroad. All are nice folks, constantly looking for matches, and have flexible schedules. 3 of them live beachside. Welcome to the Trails, everyone.

GVTL Season 2020/21 Starts Oct. 12

With 25% fewer teams than last season, the Greater Volusia Tennis League (GVTL) will start on Monday, October 12. While that participation is a bit disappointing, it needs to be seen in light of the COVID threat. Many players still are not comfortable playing at places other than their home courts. GVTL will take that into account and MIGHT offer a shortened season for late comers in January 2021.

Trails will only have 3 teams this

season: a ladies 4.0 (Mondays), ladies 3.0/60+, and ladies 7.5 Combo. Both of the latter teams play on Thursdays which will make that a very busy day on our courts. Hopefully GVTL doesn't schedule home games on the same day! Also note that GVTL has updated its already robust guidelines for players, captains, and facilities how to conduct the matches in a safe way. They are posted at the front door of the clubhouse.



Ormond Beach Tennis Center – Managed Soon By The Trails Racquet Club!



The situation with our friendly neighbor and competitor, the Ormond Beach Tennis Center (OBTC), has become much clearer in the past weeks. Your Trails Racquet Club has been selected by City staff to operate OBTC for the next 3 years. The contract still needs approval by the Ormond Beach City Commission on October 20, but that seems likely.

On the upside, that means more employment opportunities for our current staff. Coaches Trishna, Kevin, and Seth will be able to offer their clinics at both places, offering more convenience to their players and students. Court maintenance specialists Gary and Mike will be able to work more hours. Good for them.

A great benefit for Trails players will be the opportunity to play at both places – AT NO ADDITIONAL COST. That might be particularly

appealing to players who live beachside (like the 3 new members who joined recently). The OBTC players will get the same right to the Trails, of course – for a fee.

By the way: we are currently looking for an office manager for the new place. The individual would be a solid tennis player, a friendly greeter of players/teams/guests, arrange matches, set up phone/internet/credit card/etc, do office stuff, take money, and occasionally help out in matches if needed. The job pays \$10/hour and has flexible morning scheduling. Talk to Jan if you know someone who fits that profile.

To get everybody familiarized with the new place and the new staff, a Community Tennis & Work Morning is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, November 01. Details as soon as the City Commission has approved the lease contract. You will hear from us.



Dear members of the Trails Racquet Club,

That's it for today. Short and sweet. Hopefully you enjoyed the news. Now go out and play some tennis. The temperatures have cooled off a tiny bit, new and old opponents are plentiful, and tennis is one of the top social distancing activities you can do, researchers say. We look forward to seeing all the Trails players and their friends on the courts this month. Happy Trails, y'all.

Jan Buenner & Team