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Trails Newsletter

February 01, 2020



Not A Bad Start

Well, January had its challenges and rewards. The weather offered everything from spectacularly beautiful days to others when not a single person showed up at the Trails all day except the mail man. Oh well.

Play activity has continued strong, to the point that only Tuesdays plenty of open courts are available. On most other days, the courts at prime morning time are often fully booked. It's always a nice picture to see the courts busy and the parking lot filled with cars.

New Members

Quite a month that January was. Not only did our members play a lot of tennis; their inviting personalities also brought outsiders in. Plenty of them. On one day in late January, no less than 6 guests played on our courts at the same time! Thanks for being such nice hosts, Trails

As far as activities are concerned, February will be fairly quiet. Only on the last day of the month (yes, the 29th!), will the Trails host a Junior Futures tournament from 12.30 pm on.

The small number of events allows us to take care of some needed repairs. More on that at the bottom of this page. And on the back page are a couple of other updates. You will see: "Trails 2020" is in full swing.

members! And one of those players will join the Trails in February:

- ◆ Vernon Wanner (approx. level: 3.0). Vern moved to Ormond from North Dakota and is still getting used to playing outdoors in winter. Feel free to invite him into your matches.

Progress Report: Multiple Repairs

Recently a bunch of repairs were concluded at your club: ladies bathroom, multiple electrical repairs inside the clubhouse and on the deck, repair or replacement of a bunch of clubhouse ceiling fans, repair of the parking lot light, and more. Next up will be the

replacement of some light bulbs and light fixtures on the courts, and the trimming of the tall palm trees (we did most of the shorter ones ourselves). Oh yeah, and that net post on court 7 is still fighting us. Always something... Thanks for your patience as these projects take place.



Shoe Update

Based on your feedback, “New Balance” was preferred choice of shoe brand for the Trails to offer, in addition to the existing “Nike”. So we applied for an account with them and are waiting to hear back. Hopefully everything will be in line by mid/late February, at which time we’d be allowed to purchase shoes at wholesale prices. You’ll see an

announcement as soon as that time has arrived.

And while our goal is to always offer shoes at a 30% discount, the contract with “New Balance” might not allow for that all the time. You will see the lineup and the prices soon, both for “New Balance” as well as “Nike”. Stay tuned.



For Your Convenience: Pay Your Bill By Credit Card

Every month 1-2 Trails members switch to convenient automatic credit card payments of their monthly Trails invoice. No extra cost, no checks to write, no stamps to buy. Depending on your credit

card, you might even get points/miles/cash for your purchase. Charges will take place on the 10th of every month. Any credit or debit card except “American Express” is welcome. Talk to Jan if you want more information.

Used Balls' Second Life

Old balls. No, this article is not about senior men’s tennis. Rather, it is about the used tennis balls many of you regularly donate to the Trails. Have you ever wondered what happens to them? Well, the good news: NO BALL gets thrown away! Until now, the balls got donated mainly to 4 different places:

1. Schools. They cut the balls in half and put them under students’ chairs and desks.
2. Hospitals/PT Offices: hospitals use them under the walkers of their patients; physical therapists use them for that, too, and for hand squeezing exercises of their patients.

3. Police: for dog training.
4. Art Institutions: for art projects.

And now the newest thing:

5. The “Halifax For Humanity” thrift shop in New Smyrna (Jan has family ties there) takes and then re-sells them. Who is buying old, dead balls, you ask? Surprisingly, their customers have quite a demand for balls: on average they sell about 2 bags of 40 balls per week. The price? \$5/bag!! Great to know that your old balls help fund homes for low-income families in Volusia County. So please keep bringing your old balls to the Trails. THANK YOU!



Dear members of the Trails Racquet Club,

Let’s hope for mostly warm weather this month, so you can continue being as active as you have in January, and being as welcoming to guest players as you have been. We look forward to seeing you on the Trails courts often. Happy Trails,

Jan Buenner & Team