



Mark Strem

Words from "the Prez"...

Welcome to the first edition of our new Drop Shot format. For years *Lee Bradford* has collected anecdotes about our Club's

goings-on, and has provided us with up-to-the-minute news. As many of you know, Lee has now moved on to write about the Club's own *Tom Brown*, and she couldn't do justice to both. We are forever indebted to Lee for her efforts. *Thank you, Lee!*

A big "thank you" also goes out to the three recent Board members who have just finished their terms: *Jeff Tsu* for countless hours getting the CIP to where it is today; *Linda Pene* for her constant cheerleading and championing of tennis and social activities, and to *Jeff Tateosian* for 3 years of "keeping it together"—and, of course, taking over the Drop Shot for Lee. The Club appreciates all of your time and efforts, and we know that you will remain involved.

What does the future hold for us? If you look at the ornamental PTC design that graces the top of our clubhouse you will notice that the T stands tall above the other two letters.

Although probably not by intention, we should look to that as saying to ourselves that TENNIS is the focus of our club. Our efforts and vision need to be focused on how to continue that tradition, while building for our future, and find ways that provide inclusion for everyone, young and old.

PTC has a long and storied history that we cannot ignore, and should not ignore. Some change, however, is inevitable. But with careful thought, diligent work, and good communications with our Members we will all be able to be active participants in the ongoing evolution and progress of the Club. Someone once said, "Progress is always followed by a comma, never a period."

2007 will be a year of change, but it will also be a year of continuing traditions. This will be a time to celebrate the past

Upcoming Events

Ping Pong Tournament

Tournament is open to all members, including Juniors.

Sunday Feb 4, 10am

•

Super Bowl Party

Chili Cook Off & Potluck

Sunday Feb 4, 2pm

•

Bonne Bell

Top Junior Girls Tennis from Australia vs. USA's Best

March 27 - April 1

at the same time that we celebrate the future. Although there are challenges that we face from time-to-time, collectively we can seek out the best solutions for the greater good of the entire Club. On occasion it may be difficult to separate out what is best for the Club versus that of our own self-interest, but ultimately we will find a direction in which to proceed and forge ahead.

There are multiple activities throughout the year that encompass both social and tennis events, where new friends are made, and old acquaintances solidified. We need to embrace these opportunities, encourage ALL our Members to participate, and continuously strive to make PTC the most desirable TENNIS CLUB in the area. *It is an exciting time to be involved - please help make a difference both now and into the future.*

Editor's Note

I hope you enjoy the first edition of the new Drop Shot. It will be a work in progress for the first few months as we try some new ideas and features. We may be changing the face of the Drop Shot, but the content will still be coming from the members. Please drop me a line with anything interesting that happens at the club or with our club members. All news must be into me by 25th of each month. My goal is to have the Drop Shot sent out by email on the first of each month, or the Monday following if the first is on a weekend.

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Please send all correspondence to jeff@ptctennis.com. Remember, any news is good news and I welcome all contributions.

Dennis Mayer, who created and updates our website, will be publishing and sending out the newsletter monthly. Please join me in thanking Dennis for everything he does for the club.

~ Jeff Tateosian

Manager's Corner



1. As a reminder, PTC members interested in captaining a USTA League team, **must** check with Bill **before** registering your team.

2. When accessing courts, please remember to use the gates nearest your court --- do not cross other courts when members are playing.

3. Straight from the revised PTC club rules: "There shall be no cell phone usage on courts 1, 2 and 3 and the corresponding patio area."

4. The fitness room has been reconfigured to *safely* accommodate the new (and larger) treadmill. It is a bit cramped in there, but I will revisit with the Board a couple options to alleviate the congestion.

5. Much thanks to **David Kwan** for donating a nice futon sofa for our Junior Room. We can still use another gently used sofa to fill out the room. *Riaz and the Juniors will soon take on the repainting of the room as well.*

Tennis Events News

PTC will once again be holding the Bonne Bell Cup at the end of March. This is a bi-annual event that pits the top six 14u girls from Australia against the top six 14u girls in the U.S. Our own **Steve Rogers** is heading up all the logistical efforts. We are in need of many volunteers to help with housing, site seeing, transportation, food/beverage, and some fundraising. Please contact Steve and volunteer—even if only for 1 hour. Steve's email is roges57@yahoo.com. This is a great event and the Club is very fortunate to be the host.

The USTA spring league is starting up in March. We are in the process of organizing various PTC league teams. Please contact manager Bill or Riaz if you are interesting in learning

more about our teams. They will direct you to the appropriate captains.

Membership News

Comings & goings...

We are sorry to have to say goodbye to **Mike and Becky Ashley**. They were very well liked and we wish them well.

We have two new applicants that have submitted their application during January.

They are:

• **Lawrence & Kay Coskey**
Gerry Sydorak & Mindy Wong (sponsors)

• **Peter & Kelli Benz**
Mark Strem & Tricia Hagey (sponsors)

Club News

Congratulations to Pam & Gordy Stroud for achieving the ranking of #3 in the nation for Super Seniors.

We welcome the 2007 Board of Directors as they lead us through this year and prepare us for the future. The Board is comprised of returning members **Mark Strem** (President), **Bob Sinclair** (VP/Finance), **Gordon Nagare** (Membership), and **Bob Currie** (Social Events). Newly elected Board members include **Stuart Batchelor** (House & Grounds), **Melissa Smith** (Tennis Events) and **Alan Klein** (Tennis Instruction Program/Special Projects).

This group of individuals is committed to getting us through the CIP, and getting more people involved in various activities around the PTC. They are also going to be working to improve various aspects of the operational infrastructure of the Club. This includes a re-evaluation of the Match Point Cafe (snack bar) from such standpoints as cost structure, quality of food, and customer service, and implement a plan that is in the best interest of the membership-at-large. Other projects will also be tackled and range in scope from revamping the exercise room, issues in the women's locker room, and evaluating general business agreements/arrangements that allow us to operate. But for all the tangible results that will take shape over time, the Board will continue to promote tennis--playing, watching, and encouraging others to participate. We need to be able to integrate young with old, balance new age with tradition, and integrate members into the fabric of our Club. ***The Board may seek your help and involvement, and we hope that you can lend a hand if need be. It's in everyone's best interest as we strive to make PTC the best tennis club around.***

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For our younger members (and with their parent's gentle reminders) we'd like to ask to have you help police the Junior room and the locker rooms. The recently purchased ping-pong table in the Junior room has already been "cracked", and the boy's locker room continues to have clothes strewn about. PTC prides itself on being a clean and inviting place, so let's try to keep it that way for others. It may be your home-away-from-home, but the Club encourages a behavior consistent with an environment shared by all.

As for our lady members, we hope to enlist your support in not disposing of feminine hygiene products in the toilets, which subsequently feed the sewer lines. This has caused some unsightly backflow problems that would otherwise not occur. Please dispose of these products in a trash receptacle.

Please make sure that you firmly close and lock any door behind you if you are one of the last ones to leave the club. Almost every night there is a locker room door left open, lights that may be on, etc. Let's all share in the security of our club.

The Board has recently signed a written independent contractor agreement with Riaz - our new "Director of Tennis." Since Riaz joined the Club some five years ago, he has been on a "handshake" verbal agreement. The Club decided it was time to formalize that relationship. It is a month-to-month agreement (as the arrangement has always been), and outlines certain guidelines for both the Club and Riaz--our new "Director of Tennis." Both parties were excited about sharing in this relationship and the Club looks forward to all the wonderful things that Riaz brings to the table. As many of you know, Riaz has tremendous tennis knowledge, enthusiasm, and skills and will do his best to provide the Club with a balanced and fully inclusive program of instruction to both adults and youth. He can be reached at riaz10spro@yahoo.com.

Social Events News

Come join us for our Super Bowl party on Sunday February 4th starting at 2:00pm. We will also hold our 5th Annual Chili Cook-off during the game. Please sign up in the clubhouse or contact Bill Jepsen to let us know if you are bringing a chili entrée or a side dish to share. Will it be Chicago or Indianapolis? Only the club bookie knows for sure. Bring a few extra dollars for wagering on the football pool or fun proposition bets. A good time will be had by all.

Ping Pong players unite – The 4th Annual Ping Pong Tournament will be held prior to the Super Bowl party on Sunday February 4th from 10:00am-2:00pm. The entry fee is \$5. You will need to sign up in the clubhouse or get in touch with Bill. **The two top seeds, Riaz & Mark Strem are challenging all takers.**

The tournament is open to all members, including Juniors.

The Winter Yoga series resumed last Thursday night with Jean Yves. The program will run through March 29 in our clubhouse from 7:15p.m. - 8:30 p.m. If your New Year's Resolutions include increasing your flexibility, balance and mental focus then put this class on your list! If you have not previously attended one of his classes, your first one is complementary. The class is \$15 per night, or less if you buy the whole 10-week class. **Email Linda Pene at lp10sne1@gmail.com with any further questions on the class.**

Director of Tennis News

Great seats for the upcoming SAP Open has been secured by Riaz. The tennis tournament runs from Feb 12-18 at the HP Pavilion in San Jose.

Below is a list of fun events for members interested in attending the matches.

• **Tuesday, February 13 is Ladies Cocktail Evening followed by SAP Open tennis.** A group of you will walk over to Straits Cafe on Burlingame Avenue for some munchies and libations and then head down to the tennis matches that start at 7:00pm. On the menu for this evening are Marat Safin and Andy Murray. **There are 10 tickets available for adults only.**

• **Wednesday, February 14th is Valentine's Night for PTC couples.** A group will head over to Nectar, the new wine bar off Burlingame Avenue and enjoy some good wine, eats, and maybe a little TLC before heading down to San Jose to watch the two highest ranked Americans in the draw, James Blake and Andy Roddick. **There are 10 tickets available for adults only.**

• **SAP Quarter Finals Night.** I believe this is one of the best nights to attend because you get the last eight players left in the draw and all of them are fighting to make it to the semi's. There is a great atmosphere so it makes for some fabulous tennis. There should be two matches this evening starting at 7:00pm. **There are 20 tickets available and is open to all ages.**

• Please let Bill Jepsen know if you would like to attend any of these exciting, fun events for PTC members. Riaz has secured tickets for members at a discounted rate of \$48 (regularly \$58). If you have any questions please call Bill at the Tennis Office.

Tennis Shoes currently available:

• **K-Swiss Ascendor** - lightweight, good support, mesh upper, easy on the feet, regular to narrow fit. For the player who wants a lightweight, breathable, competition shoe.

• **K-Swiss Defier** - comfortable, soft, padded, durable, tennis shoe. For the player that prefers comfort and needs to absorb the shock and pounding on the feet and legs. Come in and try one of these shoes at the Tennis Office.

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Junior Tennis Program

JUNIOR TENNIS CLINICS

Star Clinics will begin the week of February 11th. These sessions will run for six weeks, one day per week, and are for Novice and Intermediate players.

Thursdays -

3:30pm Green Star / Novice (7-9 yrs)

4:30pm Green Star / Novice (7-9 yrs)

Tuesdays -

3:30pm Blue Star / Intermediate (9-12 yrs)

4:30pm Red Star / Intermediate (12-16 yrs)



Riaz Shivji
Director of Tennis

RS Academy assistant professional Albert Vial will be running these sessions and will be using the RS Coaching System to teach the modern game to our juniors. The cost per junior is \$150. Please sign up by calling Riaz at the Tennis Office. Sign ups are now open and are on a first come, first serve basis.

The PTC BALL KIDS TEAM will be working the matches at the HP Pavilion again this year. If you are heading down to San Jose look out for us during these sessions;

Tuesday, Feb 13th 2-7pm.

Saturday Feb 17th 7pm.

School tennis is about to get under way. This is a great opportunity to watch our juniors compete at the local level. Do your best to go out and support our juniors play for these schools in the next few months. They can be seen at: BHS, BIS, Crystal Springs, Crocker, Menlo, Saint Ignatius, Mills, Saint Francis, and Bowditch.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Club is looking for volunteers to help serve on various committees during the year. This doesn't mean you have to work on every event or project throughout the entire year. Even if you can donate some of your time for a particular event, it would be greatly appreciated. Such events would include the Bonne Bell Cup, the Cal State Senior Tourney, and other club tennis and social events. We are also looking for help with reconfiguring/revamping the set-up of the exercise room, amongst other facility-related projects on our grounds.

Please contact the following people to lend your support:

Melissa Smith (Tennis Events)—mhs10sgo@aol.com

Bob Currie (Social Events)—thecurries3@comcast.net

Stuart Batchelor (House & Grounds)—batchhouse@gmail.com

Meet Your New President

Mark Strem joined the PTC in December 2001. A lifelong tennis player, Mark played #1 for Aragon High School during all four of his years there. He eventually took his game to the University of Michigan, where he excelled at the college level. If you have had the opportunity to play with Mark, you'll be able to vouch that he hasn't lost any of his 5.0 rating. When asking his wife Kathy about his rating, she gave away her non-tennis background when she said his rating was a 10.0!

Mark is currently Director of Business Operations at Corcept Therapeutics. They are in the process of developing a drug to treat psychotic depression. On the home front, Mark and Kathy have two children. Kristen is a freshman at BHS and Michael is in 6th grade at BIS. Both are outstanding athletes. Mark also sits on the Board of Directors of the Hillsborough Little League.

During the last 14 months at the club, Mark has been instrumental in creating the financial package for the CIP, updating both our club rules and By-Laws, upgrading the budget process/how expenses are reported, and finalizing the contract with the club pro. He is looking forward to serving as President this year and working on a few new projects.

Mark is always willing to play tennis with anyone, regardless of their ability level. He makes it fun for everyone. Should you want to catch up with him, you can usually find him in the hot tub during the evenings. Let that be our little secret, however. Let's get behind Mark and the new Board to make 2007 a great year at the PTC. mark@ptctennis.com



SAP TICKET REMINDER

DISCOUNT SAP TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE. Tickets for PTC members are discounted. \$48 (regularly \$58). If you have any questions please call Bill at the Tennis Office.

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PTC Court Calendar

February 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	February 1 7:45 AM - 9:15 AM Washing Courts 1-3	2	3
4 10 AM - 2 PM Ping Pong Tournament 1 PM - 3 PM Sr. Mens 4.0 Cts 1-3 2 PM - 6 PM Super Bowl party	5	6 7:45 AM - 9:15 AM Washing Courts 4-7	7 9 PM - 12 AM SFPTL Cts 1-3	8 7:45 AM - 9:15 AM Washing Courts 1-3	9	10
11	12	13 7:45 AM - 9:15 AM Washing Courts 4-7 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM Blue Star / Intermediate (9-12 yrs) 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Red Star / Intermediate (12-16 yrs)	14	15 7:45 AM - 9:15 AM Washing Courts 1-3 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM Green Star / Novice (7-9 yrs) 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Green Star / Novice (7-9 yrs)	16	17
18	19	20 7:45 AM - 9:15 AM Washing Courts 4-7 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM Blue Star / Intermediate (9-12 yrs) 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Red Star / Intermediate (12-16 yrs)	21	22 7:45 AM - 9:15 AM Washing Courts 1-3 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM Green Star / Novice (7-9 yrs) 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Green Star / Novice (7-9 yrs)	23	24
25	26	27 7:45 AM - 9:15 AM Washing Courts 4-7 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM Blue Star / Intermediate (9-12 yrs) 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Red Star / Intermediate (12-16 yrs)	28	1 7:45 AM - 9:15 AM Washing Courts 1-3 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM Green Star / Novice (7-9 yrs) 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Green Star / Novice (7-9 yrs)	2	3
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat