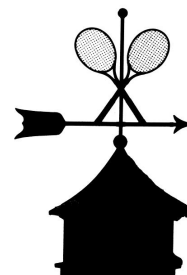

THE BASELINE

Field Club News

February 2010



A Message from the **NEW** President

Welcome to the first edition of *The Baseline* for the 2010 Club season, the 46th year since The Field Club of Longmeadow was founded. Two new members of the FC Board (**Brian Prast** and **Gerrit Toebes**) were voted in at the annual meeting this past November, and the 2010 Board and FC staff are excited about the upcoming year.

The paddle season is currently in full swing, with many scheduled events and lots of participation. Please stop by the paddle hut or visit the Field Club's website (www.field-club.com) to see what upcoming events are scheduled. Paddle Committee Co-Chairs **Leslie Haskins** and **Scott Brindle**, along with all of the Paddle Committee members, have done an outstanding job filling the winter months with paddle events and mixers for all playing abilities.

Spring will soon be upon us, and the FC Board is already preparing for a busy summer. Over the next several months, the 2010 Board will be occupied with assessing the Club's needs for the upcoming year. Items identified for 2010 include a new sandbox play structure with a large protective sun shade and lighting for the Club's flagpole. The flagpole will be surrounded by new landscape plantings, along with the Christine Weeks Memorial Plaque, inset in stone. Several other projects are taking shape, including the annual refurbishment of the pool deck lounge chairs and upgrading various Snuggery appliances.

A Capital Planning Advisory Committee has been established to assess the Club's long-term capital needs. Their recommendations will outline a strategic plan to enhance, improve and maintain the Club's facilities for years to come. I look forward to their presentation with great anticipation and will share their recommendations with you in future *Baseline* editions.

Also in the next two months, the Board will be putting together the many different committees that serve as the engine behind our annual operation. We

will be counting on the FC membership's spirit of volunteerism to fill these committees (from Tennis to Social to Beautification and many more)! This spirit shown by our membership never ceases to amaze me, but it is imperative that we continue to indoctrinate new FC members into this mindset. It is what sets our Club apart and makes it so successful. Please contact any Board member to participate on a committee.

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce the 2010 FC Board. I look forward to working with these talented individuals, as well as the talented FC staff (**Jim Girotti**, **Renee Oliveri**, **Ann Boisvert**, **Eileen Mason** and **Lee-Anne Sprague**) in the coming year:

Dave Appleman, President

Craig Carr, VP & Membership Liaison

Buzz Travers, Treasurer, Capital Planning & Snuggery Liaison

Brian Prast, Assistant Treasurer & Capital Planning

Candy Weiner, Clerk and Communications Liaison

Cathy Grayboff, Assistant Clerk, Adult Tennis & Jr. Tennis Liaison

Chris Nicholson, Pool, Tot Lot & Beautification Liaison

Sally Galluchi, Social & Snuggery Liaison

Gerrit Toebes, Adult Paddle & Jr. Paddle Liaison

In addition, I would like to express a sincere thanks to **Doug Jangraw** and **Maria O'Reilly**, our two departing Board members, who gave to The Field Club so selflessly of their time and energy over the past three years of Board participation.

I will be sharing the progress of our initiatives in future *Baseline* editions. Please feel free to contact me with any inquiries. I look forward to a successful 2010 season and seeing everyone during the upcoming year.

Sincerely,

Dave Appleman

Thank You to the 2010 Tennis Chairs

Thank you to **Jackie Pleet** and **Tom O'Brien** for stepping forward to chair Adult Tennis this coming year and to **Mary Adler** and **Carolyn Marchese** for chairing Junior Tennis.



Looking forward to summer! Watch for the tennis schedule of events in the April *Baseline*.

— *Cathy Grayboff*

Lane Lines

It may be February, but it's not too early to be thinking about the upcoming summer!

In the next few months, we will be setting dates for the 2010 pool events, including the Junior Fun day, the Swim Championships and the Poolside Parties. The Field Club's members are the people that make these events happen... along with our wonderful pool staff, of course!

We welcome anyone and everyone to form the Pool Committee and sign up to help out at these great events. If you are interested, please contact our co-chairs **Elena Oundjian** and **Sherri Ehrenberg** and join in the planning of our poolside fun. I encourage you to "dive in" and become involved! — *Chris Nicholson*

A Night at the Oscars!

Ladies, join us at the paddle courts on **Sunday, March 7**, as we roll out the **red carpet** for the **3rd Annual Oscar Night Mixer**. Enjoy two hours of play starting at 4 p.m., followed by a delicious dinner catered by The Iron Chef at 6 p.m. Be sure to wear your finest attire, and don't forget to vote for best picture of the year, etc., for a chance to win your very own Oscar!

To make your reservation and get your name on the guest list, look for the sign up sheet in the hut or email co-chairs **Lynn Travers** or **Candy Weiner** today! — *Lynn Travers*

Social Committee News

Spring will come earlier this year... well at least the **Spring Fling** will! We have a tentative date of April 10th. More information will follow, but go ahead and pencil it in.



The Social Committee is always looking for new members. We will have a meeting in February/March and would love to have you join us. It is a great way to get involved and meet some new friends. **Chris Gagne** has offered to be the Social Chair this year. We are so lucky to have her on board! She and I will send out an e-mail regarding the Social Committee meeting's time and place. Hope to see you there!

— *Sally Gallucci*

Another Great Season of Junior Paddle Fun!

It's been an exciting season for the Junior Paddle program. The weather on Tuesdays has led to only one cancellation in 12 weeks, and each week during both time slots two courts are in action.

On court 1 at 3:30 p.m., we have four regulars: **Daniel Draymore, Ethan Dhamodharan, Adam Katz** and **Jack Cove**. On court 2, there's an older mixed group: **Sarah Barnhart, Matt Draymore, Catherine Ryan** and **Jack Ryan**. The 4:30 p.m. slot is made up of all young ladies: **Katie Fydenkevez; Emily, Katie** and **Maggie Kratovil; Hayley Miller; Caroline** and **Mary O'Reilly; Jordan Pyers;** and newcomer **Jenny Brayton**.

Weekly play has lead to improvement in all aspects of the game, especially the serve and net play. Congratulations to all players for a job well done! Session IV wraps up next month, when it will be time to put down the paddle and pick up the tennis racquet! — *Lynn Travers*



Paddle - e M a n i a

From Platform Tennis Magazine, Volume 11, Issue 3 that can out at the end of January, in reference to the Greater Boston Women's Open:

"[Field Club member] **Leslie Haskins** stayed to the bitter end and helped clean the hut and brought all the recyclables home. The best was her email that night that said, 'I lost all three matches but had the best day and sang Christmas carols the whole way home.' You have to love the Region II attitude."

Platform Tennis in Full Swing

Another great paddle season is now in full swing. What follows is a recap of the season to date, including events, improvements, and other news:

Adult Paddle Events:

December 12, 2009

Men's Wanna B

Co-Chairs John Abbott, Scott Brindle, Dick Forrest and Jamie Dunbar

Forty-four players turned out for a great day of play at both The Field Club and Longmeadow Country Club.

December 13, 2009

Sunday Afternoon Mixer

Co-Chairs Asa Nilsson and Cathy Herchel

Six couples participated. Although it rained cats and dogs, these die-hard paddle players kept going for hours.

December 19, 2009

Men's A/B Tournament

Co-Chairs Dave Appleman, Dennis Herchel, Brad Hoffman and Gary Weiner

A good time was had by all 29 participants. This was a great opportunity for the B players to get some A-level play. Several Longmeadow Country Club members played, including two non-Field Club members.

January 10, 2010

Sunday Afternoon Mixer

Co-Chairs Jamie and Elise Dunbar

The first mixer of 2010 was a rousing success. It was a perfect Sunday for paddle, as it was a balmy 18 degrees with just the slightest breeze and a clear sky. In addition to many members coming out to play, three additional paddle enthusiasts visited from Deerfield. The level of play of these guests brought out the "A" game in all those who attended.

The **Plauts, Toebees, Spencers, Ehrenbergs, Braytons** and **Dunbars** rallied to entertain the visitors from Deerfield, both on and off the courts. Appetizers and beverages were as bountiful as the competition. Thanks to **Rick Plaut** for introducing our friends from the north to The Field Club.

Junior Paddle:

Lynn Travers reports that everything continues to go very well. No cancellations so far due to weather or other circumstances.

General News:

- Continued active play during contract time.
- Lots of week-end activity, both evenings and during the day.
- Several college-aged members played during the holidays.
- Instructions posted and e-mail blasted for last ones out.

Equipment:

- All court heaters and fans are now in topnotch condition. Not even a Nor'easter will stop play now.
- New heater switches installed.
- New snow shovels.
- Two new brooms.
- Hand sanitizer installed.

Looking ahead:

Adult Paddle Tennis Co-Chairs **Leslie Haskins** and **Scott Brindle** have lined up many more fun and exciting events, so checkout the Field Club website at www.field-club.com for upcoming paddle events or the sign-up sheets in the paddle hut. Come out and play!

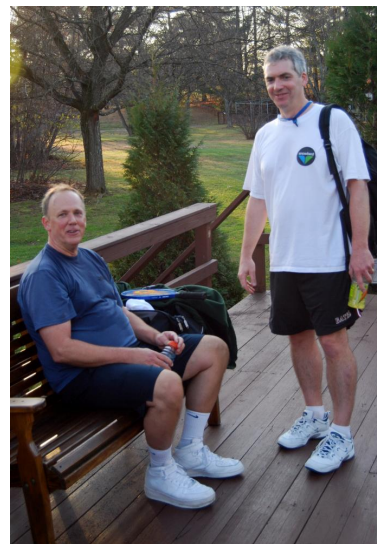
— *Gerrit Toebees*

Men's 95+ Tourney a Success

The weather was perfect as 15 teams from around region 2 (New England) descended on Longmeadow on November 21, 2009, to compete for the coveted title of Pioneer Valley Men's 95+ Tournament. The requirements for eligibility are combined age of 95 years or greater for each team's members, current membership in the APTA (American Platform Tennis Association) and a love for paddle competition.

A team from the Rhode Island and Boston area (Dan McCormick/Steve Heath) won, defeating a team from Madison, CT (Dave Clark/Phil Johnson). Five local teams participated, with **Gary Ulrich/Jeff Morneau** making it to the semi-finals of the main draw. The veteran team of **Hans Doup/Rod Larsen** won the reprieve over a tough team from Madison, CT. **Rick Steele/Rob Durfee** won the consolation over a Boston team, coming off a hard fought three-set match against **Doug Jangraw/Brad Hoffman**. After a solid win over another team from Madison, **Bob Conley/Dick Forrest** made it to the semis of the last chance.

Special recognition and thanks to our "Hut Angels," **Leslie Haskins** and **Asa Nilsson**. They deserve all the credit for the success of this event... spending the entire day (surrounded by guys) making sure matches started on time, recording scores, providing food and drinks at the huts and helping to clean up at the end of the day. All enjoyed the event and had plenty of paddle. We hope to see more local teams next year. — *Rob Durfee*



Sadie Hawkins Tourney Offers Non-Stop Action

January 23 was the date of this year's Sadie Hawkins tournament, where the ladies choose their paddle partners. Can you imagine a better tournament? What fun!

We had a record turnout this year, with eight teams vying for the coveted title. Any more teams and we would have needed a 5th court (**Rob Durfee** paid us to say that...).

Action was non-stop, with all participants displaying incredible energy, precision drives, sky-scraping lobs, unbelievable speed and superb shottery. Although the tournament schedule was quite confusing to some of the less intelligent participants, we eventually made it through the qualifying rounds, with teams **Plaut (Carol)**, **Travers (Lynn)**, **Herchel (Kathy)** and **Kenney (Jackie)** reaching the semi-finals. The semis were nail-biters to say the least, with Plaut and Travers eventually prevailing to the finals.

The place was packed for the final round, with no empty seats at the picnic table – and the crowd was rewarded with a level of play that we can honestly say (and hope) will never be repeated. First set to Plaut 6-4! Plaut then sprinted out to a 3-1 lead in the second set, and the crowd was expecting a snoozer. But wait! Travers stood firm and eventually prevailed 6-4. Now what? You could cut the tension with a knife! No-one should have to lose after such brilliant play!

In the end, it was the (pause.....) the P L A U T team that turned out to be too good, as they steamrolled Travers by a score of 6-3 in the third. Travers thought about protesting, but good sports-womanship prevailed in the end. Alas, it will be a long, cold winter for the Travers team, but it was an exhilarating weekend for everyone else who participated.

Congratulations to Carol Plaut for her victory and Lynn Travers for her near-win. Thanks also to all participants. It was a great time, and we hope to see you all back (with some additional teams) next year!

P.S. For what it's worth, **Brad Hoffman** and **Doug Jangraw** were Lynn's and Carol's partners. Congrats guys! — *Doug Jangraw and Garrit Toebe*s

Random Paddle Observations

Club member **Mike Shields** was the first person to upload a platform tennis video to YouTube, and now it is commonplace to view them there. You can see platform tennis tutorials galore, thanks to the PPTA (Professional Platform Tennis Association), the organization of teaching platform tennis pros.

We are fortunate to have Club Manager **Jim Girotti** overseeing platform tennis court maintenance. We've had issues with everything you can think of, most recently heaters, fans, electrical cords, our paddle hut furnace, etc. Jim addresses each problem in a timely manner as it arises. Club member **Larry Eagan** of Collins Electric has also been instrumental in helping with paddle court maintenance. And, Club President **Dave Appleman** tends to the maintenance of the paddle courts as if they were his children. For safety alone, it's critical that the courts be in tip-top shape for our players, as well as regional players outside of our Club. This season's addition of timers for the paddle court heaters is a great benefit for reducing heating costs, thanks to Collins Electric.

We have three tournaments open to regional players on this paddle season's schedule of events: **Rob Durfee's** Longmeadow 95+ Tournament, **Dave Fuller's** Western New England Open, and now, the Pioneer Valley B-Women's Tournament, hosted by **Leslie Haskins** and **Asa Nilsson**. In addition, the Paddle Committee has put together a great schedule of events exclusively for our members.

Some notable Club members are playing in Region 2 (New England) Paddle Tournaments. As of this writing, **Alex Seiler** and **Naren Dhamodharan** are the 2nd place team in the Men's President's Cup Standings in New England, which is very impressive. **Jeff Morneau** and **Brad Hoffman** are also ranked in those standings. **Per** and **Asa Nilsson** won a mixed tournament earlier in the paddle season up in Vermont. **Tricia Bloom** and her partner, **Deirdre Redden**, 2005 National Seniors Champions, got to the semifinals of a major women's tournament in the Boston area. **Leslie Haskins** continues to play several women's tournaments in Region 2. — *Dick Forrest*

Field Club Waiting List on the Move

The Field Club Waiting List is ever changing, as new members join and others express an interest in membership. Please see the list below to see where your candidate now stands (as of January). If someone you know is interested in membership and you would like to sponsor them, please contact Membership Chair **Craig Carr** for an application packet. Now's a great time to add their name to the list, before it grows too long!

Voted-In Waiting List

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Mailloux, Patrick & Deirdre | Merchant |
| 2. Thor, Maura & David | Stevens |
| 3. Mueller, Stephen & Nancy | Hutner |
| 4. Sanford, Christine & Gorrie, Scott | Meth |
| 5. Lewis, Kary & Greg | Grayboff |
| 6. D'Angelo, Judy & Michael | Stewart |

Waiting List

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Schepps, Israel & Chris | Epstein/McFarlin |
| 2. Mazzucca, Michael & Krista | Lloyd |
| 3. Churchill, Neal & Nancy | Ulrich |
| 4. Davis, Andrew & Lauren | Keiser |
| 5. Robbins, Maureen & C | Adler |
| 6. Fauteax, Lillian & Edgar (Ned) | Appleman |
| 7. McNair, Kevin & Stephanie | Dohert/Deliso |
| 8. Salvon, Jennifer & Michael | Putnam |
| 9. Berg, Margie & Eric | Dash-Miller |
| 10. Percy, Susan & David | Paleologopoulos |
| 11. Cianfaglione, Amy & Rick | Gagne |
| 12. Keyser, Anne & Tom | Pyers |
| 13. Corrigan, Sarah & Tim | Carr |
| 14. Burns, Kimberly & Bennet | Friedberg |
| 15. Kelleher, Louise & Timothy | Lockhart |

There are five families who have deferred their acceptances for a year who will be offered membership as the anniversary of their acceptances arises. — *Craig Carr*

Your Source for Field Club Info

If you enjoy this newsletter, you'll love our website!

Visit us online at www.field-club.com for all of the following:

Current and past issues of *The Baseline*



Governors, committee members and staff members



Membership info



Social calendar



Pool, tennis and platform tennis info and schedules



Fun event and tournament photos



And more!



Deadline March 19

The deadline for the April *Baseline* will be **Friday, March 19.**

Please send submissions to Lee-Anne Sprague at LSprague7@cox.net.