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# THE BASELINE

## *Field Club News*

February 2011

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### A Message from the **NEW** President

**H**appy New Year! As we move into a New Year, it is important that we not only remember our past, but also look towards the future of our Club.

The Field Club was started by a group of forward thinking individuals almost 50 years ago. This group envisioned the need for a Club that its members could use and that would provide tennis and pool facilities. Later, platform tennis (commonly known as paddle) was added. These members seized the opportunity to acquire land and began to build their vision of a club whose purpose, as stated in the by-laws, is to promote the popularity and proficiency in swimming and racquet sports and to promote the health and general well-being of the members by offering recreation facilities, athletic activities, and opportunities for social exchange. They did this with volunteers, some of whom are still alive today and fondly remember the Club in its infancy. Some used their own finances by investing in the Club through the purchase of bonds.

There are hundreds of examples of volunteerism that have and continue to keep the Club running each year, starting with your Board of Governors and extending to all the committee chairpersons and event chairpersons. This volunteerism sets us apart from any Club in the area. This is a Club that is primarily run by the members for the members. This volunteerism is passed on from generation to generation of new members.

Within the past several years, we have added lots of new members and families to the Club. I encourage each and every one of you to use your Club, while at the same time volunteering to keep the tradition going. In the pages to follow, you will see a list of the Board Members and Committee Liaisons. If there is some particular area that interests you, contact the Committee Liaison or chairperson noted in your Guidebook.

The Club's membership is at full capacity. However, our waiting list is short compared to year's past. A short wait list means that it is a great time to sponsor a candidate for membership into the Field Club. So think of friends, neighbors, colleagues and/or associates that would be an asset to the Club and see if they would be interested in joining. Speaking of sponsoring members, if you have sponsored someone in the past, please keep in touch with them. Introduce them to Jim Girotti, our manager extraordinaire, and to fellow members. This is part of your continuing responsibility to assist these new members as their sponsor. If you felt that your candidate was worthy of sponsorship, then help them integrate into the Club and its facilities. Watch for information about the New Member Orientation coming in the spring that will also assist in this process.

In closing, as announced at the Annual Meeting, your Board is currently preparing for the future by investigating capital improvements for the Club. These have been recommended by the Capital Planning Advisory Committee. The Club has a full membership and is in good financial shape, having recently paid off its mortgage earlier than scheduled so that it is able to think strategically about our infrastructure plans for the future. With low interest rates, your Board believes that it is the right time to engage in infrastructure improvements to keep the Club healthy and attractive to members for years to come. As we finalize improvement plans, we will of course keep the membership informed.

Respectfully yours,

*Buzz Travers*

## At Your Service

*Below, for your information,  
is a listing of all current  
Board Members and  
Committee Liaisons:*

### Executive Board

Buzz Travers  
*President*  
Gerrit Toebes  
*Vice President*  
Brian Prast  
*Treasurer*  
Brad Hoffman  
*Assistant Treasurer*  
Cathy Grayboff  
*Clerk*  
Jackie Pleet  
*Assistant Clerk*

### Other Board Members

Sally Gallucci  
Denise Collins  
Carolyn Marchese  
David Appleman

### Committee Liaisons

Sally Gallucci  
*Beautification*  
Gerrit Toebes and  
David Appleman  
*Capital Improvements*  
Cathy Grayboff  
*Communications*  
Carolyn Marchese  
*Membership*  
Brad Hoffman  
*Paddle and  
Junior Paddle*  
Sally Gallucci  
*Pool, Tot Lot  
and Gardens*  
Denise Collins  
*Social*  
Jackie Pleet  
*Tennis and  
Junior Tennis*  
Brian Prast  
*Snuggery*

## Looking for Next Volunteer Guidebook Editor....

Management of the Guidebook information continues to evolve from time-consuming manual data entry to a more efficient and "green" electronic process. **Sue Monks** handled this position for as long as I can remember (she will have to verify number of years) and then handed it over to **Steve McKenna**, who transitioned the data to Word document format. After several years, Steve handed the position to **Rob Durfee** in 2006, who has since "tweaked" the format... but essentially not made any significant "upgrades."

The position needs someone who is organized, likes to work with detail information and has good skills with doc, PDF and Excel files. Primary responsibility is receiving information from the membership chairperson and updating the current files. Each spring (April/March) the files are proofed, converted to PDF and submitted to the printer.

I would like to have the next Guidebook Editor working with me by March in order to facilitate the transition on the 2011 printing.

Please contact me with any questions or interest. – *Rob Durfee*

## Warm up with Field Club Apparel

Sweatshirts, fleece vests and caps are still available to keep you warm this winter, including some youth sweatshirts. Contact Sally Gallucci for information, either by phone or e-mail. Supply is limited.  
– *Sally Gallucci*

## A Guest Policy Reminder

The Board of Governors would like to remind members of the guest policy. We encourage members to share the great experience of the Field Club with friends and neighbors. This is a great way to get them interested in joining. Please remember when bringing a guest that you are responsible for signing in the guest and paying the nominal guest fee. Day guests are permitted to use the Club facilities once per month (twice per month for the pool).

It was brought to the attention of the Board that the number of guests being registered has decreased; however, the guest use of the facilities has not decreased. Remember that when a guest uses the paddle, pool or tennis facility, that means other members cannot use the facilities. Please be mindful of our fellow members and follow the guest policies in the Rules and Regulations. That assures members have access to the facilities, guests can sample the facilities, and the Club is compensated for the use of the facilities. – *Board of Governors*



## Next Deadline March 17

The next issue of *The Baseline* will be distributed in early April. Be sure to send your submissions to Editor Lee-Anne Sprague at [lsprague7@cox.net](mailto:lsprague7@cox.net).

## Pioneer Valley Men's 95+ Tournament

Once again, we had a great turnout (34 players/ 17 teams) for the 4th annual Pioneer Valley tournament. This APTA-sanctioned tournament is a fun and exciting event with the 95+ team age requirement, guaranteed three matches, and lunch at the Country Club.

The tournament drew players ranging in age from 35 to 66 from CT, NJ, NY and MA, with experience levels ranging from that of local club players to PCQ players and even to a former national champion.

Under ideal weather conditions, the Essex, CT team of **Matt Holmes/John Holmes** won a hard fought match over a strong local team, **Gary Ulrich/Jeff Morneau** (1-6, 7-6, 6-2). Another local team, **Larry Eagan/Rick Steele**, prevailed in the consolations over local team **Bill Bodde/Craig Waddington** (7-6, 7-6). Veteran brother team, **Bill and Rob Durfee**, won the reprieve against a tough NJ/CT team, **Steve Griggs/John Crawford** (3-6, 6-2, 6-3). The Iron Man award goes to the Essex, CT team of **Peter Haff/Rich Goldfeder** for playing their 5<sup>th</sup> match to win the last chance.

A total of 17 Field Club members played this year. These included the teams of **Dick Forrest/Bob Conley**, **Brad Hoffman/Dennis Herschel**, **Jim Martin/Jonathan Spencer**, **Tom O'Brien/Gerrit Toebes**, **Neal Churchill/Steve Mckenna**, **Bill Seefeld/Mike Doyle**, **Rick Steele/Larry Eagan** and **Jeff Morneau/Gary Ulrich**.

Special thanks to **Brad Hoffman** for his strong support helping to keep matches running on time... and making sure there was plenty of beer for both spectators and players. — *Rob Durfee*



The Essex team of Matt and John Holmes won against the Field Club's own Gary Ulrich and Jeff Morneau in the main draw finals.



The Field Club team of Rick Steele and Larry Eagan prevailed over the Suffield team of Craig Waddington and Bill Bodde in the consolation finals.



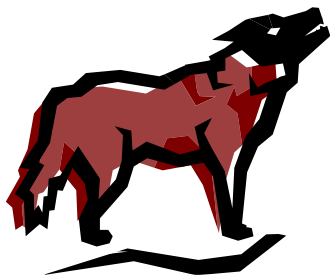
Field Club member Rob Durfee and his brother Bill won against Essex team Phil Davis and Geoff Cartier in the reprieve finals.



### Your Source for All Things Field Club...

If you enjoy this newsletter, you'll love our website! Visit us online at:

**[www.field-club.com](http://www.field-club.com)**



## A "Howling" Good Time for All

On Friday evening, November 19, 2010, 17 people enjoyed three rounds of paddle. After each set, the teams were mixed up so that everybody had an opportunity to get to know others.

It was a perfect evening for paddle. Clear skies... 32F... full moon. A pack of coyotes provided special effects background sounds with their howling.

After play, German "Gluhwein" was awaiting the players to warm them up. In addition, an assortment of delicious cheeses and other snacks made for a great after-play social gathering. A great time was had by everybody.

— Moira Murphy & Gerrit Toebe

## Paddle Anyone?

Are you getting all you can from your Field Club membership? Would you like to meet people and improve your paddle play? Are you a newer member that would like to try playing paddle? If you answered yes to any of these questions and have time on the weekend to play paddle, please let us know. We would like to get members who are not yet playing paddle or want to improve their game together to try this wonderful winter sport. If this is you, please contact Brad Hoffman, as he has offered to coordinate this for members wishing to participate.

— Brad Hoffman



## Tennis at the Field Club

Just a reminder that in March, we will be having a Tennis Committee organizational meeting, where we will set the tennis event schedule for the summer. Please consider hosting an event with a friend this summer and come to this fun gathering of tennis enthusiasts!

Watch your email for the date and time to be announced in the month ahead.

— Jackie Pleet

## Welcome New Members

*The Field Club welcomes the following new members:*

Eric and Margie Berg & family  
Bennett and Kim Burns & family  
Fran and Andrea Cataldo & family  
Neal and Nancy Churchill & family  
Lou Durkin and Michelle Duffelmeyer & family  
Aaron and Erin Hornyak & family  
Isadore and Amanda Jermyn & family  
George and Liz Kollias & family  
Chris and Kati Lemay & family  
Jamie and Donna Leone & family  
Dennis and May Oh & family  
Jeremy and Amy Tyler & family  
Carl and Amy Wistreich & family

*The Field Club also welcomes back the following reinstated members:*

Dick and Rozie Curran

## Farewell...

*The Field Club accepted resignations from the following members:*

Elaine Young  
Jeff and Madeline Roberts  
Mark and Lynne Hauser  
Vinnie and Mary Daboul  
Jim and Sandy Biron  
Lawrence and Sarah Lloyd  
Joe and Lauren Walt  
John and Connie Grippo  
Mike Kane and Laura Stebbins  
Mike and Kathe Rollings  
Jonathan and Susan Rice  
Rob and Jeanine Little  
Helen Krumsiek  
Kris Gagne  
Mike and Linda Shields  
Michelle Lamon and Juan Romero  
Frank Lucchesi and David Hay  
David and Barbara Contois



## 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.

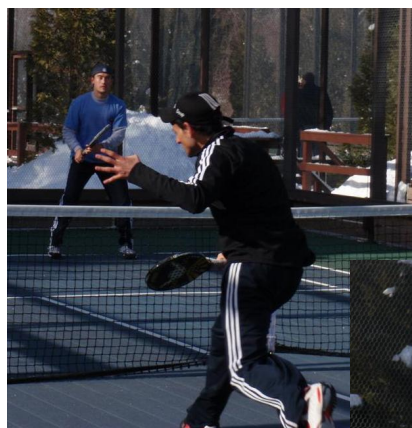
- |                                       |           |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Davis, Andrew & Lauren             | Keiser    |
| 2. Cianfaglione, Amy & Rick           | O'Connor  |
| 3. Kroon, Katie & Eric                | Grayboff  |
| 4. Newmann, Sandra                    | Ditomassi |
| 5. Abbott, Mary-Alice & Ollari, Chris | Trietsch  |
| 6. Goodman, Jenna & Seth              | Frank     |
| 7. Schechtman, Alison & Jeff          | Daboul    |
| 8. Pinkowski, Mark & Baron, Elizabeth | Collins   |
| 9. Johnson, Carl & Melissa            | Seefeld   |
| 10. Mikaelian, Julie & Mark           | Rothstein |
| 11. McGeer, Kate & Tim                | Ehrenberg |
| 12. Landon, Lisa & Matt               | Snyder    |
| 13. Bregianes, James & Linda          | Hoffman   |
| 14. Shrair, Peter & Danielle          | Healey    |
| 15. Fontaine, Noiel & Laura           | Coughlin  |
| 16. Norman, Rick & Elizabeth          | Messier   |

## Attention Members...

Do you know of someone who is interested in becoming a member of The Field Club? Now is an excellent time to submit an application for membership, as we have recently added many new families from our waiting list to our membership.

### *Talk up our club!*

Membership application packets can be requested from Membership Chairperson Carolyn Marchese.



Alex Seiler and Matt Doup go head to head!



Jason Smith clearly enjoyed his day on the courts!

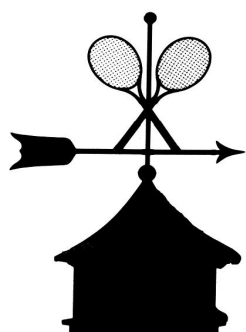
## Great Day for Men's A/B

It was a great day for paddle! Clear and cold and no injuries to report! We had a very strong field of 36 players between the Field Club and Longmeadow Country Club. Matches were held at both clubs, and some great quality paddle was played by all. During the first part of the day, everyone played three matches, and the highest total game winners made it to the playoffs. After an excellent lunch, new member **Isadore Jermyn** and **Alex Seiler** eventually won in a hard fought playoff finals over **Rob Durfee** and **Ken Vincunas**. Many thanks to the organizers of this event: **Dave Appleman**, **Gerrit Toebe** and **Brad Hoffman**. — *Alex Seiler*

# The Field Club of Longmeadow

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THE BASELINE  
*Field Club News*



- ◆ A Message from the NEW President
- ◆ Paddle Event Recaps and Photos
- ◆ Membership Updates and Waiting List
- ◆ And More!

**Inside this Issue...**