

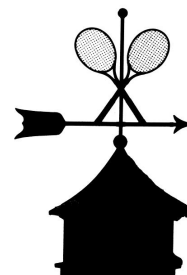
---

# THE BASELINE

## *Field Club News*

October 2012

---



### A Message from the President

**I**t is hard to believe October is already here and I am drafting my final "President's Message." My presidency officially ends at this year's Annual Meeting on Friday, November 2. I hope many of you can join me at this fun social event.

During this past year, I gained an even better appreciation of all the Field Club has to offer and the volunteer spirit that thrives within the Club. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank our many volunteers, as well as the Field Club staff, for a great year.

First of all, I would like to thank Social Committee Chairs **Mona Swanson** and **Sonia Zeroogian** for helping organize a number of very successful events, including the Labor Day Tailgate. I was amazed by the number of new members attending our last summer event and was happy to see so many kids enjoying the festivities.

The work of our Paddle chairs, **Jonathan Spencer** and **Asa Nilsson**, was also much appreciated. This year, **Kate Morneau** is working with Jonathan and they have put together a schedule with over twenty events. Please see page 7 for the entire schedule. I would like to highlight the four Paddle 101 clinics, the 1<sup>st</sup> two scheduled for 10/7 and 11/4. I encourage any members new to the game to attend these clinic/mixers. They are a great opportunity to learn the game and meet other new players. I would also like to thank **Rick Plaut** for teaching the junior paddle clinics and agreeing to conduct them again this season.

**Erin Hornyak** and **Amy Tyler** did a wonderful job as our Pool chairs. The events they organized were very well attended, including the "Member Guest" day, where over 80 children attended. I also appreciated the work of Pool Manager **Dan Handzel** and Assistant Manager **Caroline Murphy**, as well as the rest of the pool staff, in maintaining both a safe and fun environment for our kids.

Thank you to **Eileen Mason** for another successful season operating the Snuggery. Although I have not yet seen the final numbers, it may have been our biggest year ever. The Tot Lot, supervised by **Colleen Douglas**, was also very busy this summer.

Thank you to **Ann Boisvert** and the rest of the tennis staff for another great season of providing lessons and helping with events. I popped by a number of afternoons this summer and was quite impressed with the number of kids participating in and obviously enjoying the junior

tennis clinics and events. Our Junior Tennis chairs, **Mary Adler** and **Meralee Kratovil**, and our adult Tennis chairs, **Cathy Herchel** and **Jamie Dunbar**, organized a full calendar of events, highlighted by the Davis Cup.

Our long-time "e-mail blaster," **John Abbott**, has decided to retire and pass on this role to **Maira Murphy**. John, thank you for all the years you spent keeping the membership informed of key events and happenings. Also, thank you Maira for agreeing to volunteer for this task.

That brings me to our club manager, **Jim Girotti**. Until this year, I did not have a full appreciation for all that Jim does for our Club. As always, Jim has done an outstanding year of "maintaining" our Club. It looks better than ever! Jim has also been invaluable this year in helping us implement two of the most significant capital improvements in our recent history – the expanded tennis deck and patio and the new paddle hut. These additions will be enjoyed by members for many years to come.

I would also like to thank my fellow Board members. We could not have accomplished all we did without all the time and effort they have devoted to the Field Club this year. I would especially like to thank our two Board members whose terms will end at the Annual Meeting – **Gerrit Toebs** and **Buzz Travers**. Gerrit previously served as vice president and has been heavily involved with our capital improvement projects in recent years. Gerrit also was our Board liaison to both the Beautification and Garden committees. Buzz just completed his fourth year on the Board as immediate past president and prior to his presidency, he also served as treasurer. Over the years, he has played a key role in our long-term capital planning, helping identify our capital improvement needs, exploring financing options and helping arrange the final financing. Gerrit and Buzz, thank you again for all you did for the Board and the Club.

Finally, I want to thank you, the members. After all, you are the Club. Without the volunteers mentioned above, and all our other volunteers, the Club would not function. I would also like to thank you for supporting me as President. It was both an honor and pleasure to serve as President of the Field Club.

Take care,

*Brian*

## Garden Farewell

Though some gardens are still in the midst of a major late-summer harvest, we all know the farewell is right around the corner. It was a great season for the Field Club gardeners, and we wrapped up the summer with a "plot-side" Garden Party on August 23. It was one of the many exquisite summer evenings we were so lucky to have this year, and a small group of content gardeners gathered to enjoy lemonade, punch, and delectable fixin's from our gardens. We shared recipe ideas and gardening hints and ended the evening with a tour around the garden plots. All were in agreement to have another Garden Party next June. — *Darcy Durfee*

## Fun for All at Annual Tailgate

The Labor Day Tailgate was a huge success. More than 240 people attended with their families, guests and, of course, fantastic tailgate menus! A major downpour around 3 p.m. threatened to postpone the event, but fortunately the skies cleared, enabling us to enjoy a picture perfect evening. A huge thanks goes out to **Jim Girotti** for his excellent attention to detail in helping us organize the event and for getting the staff to help with the cotton candy, popcorn machines and other tasks. Ding Dong cart treats, a DJ, and several varieties of glow sticks helped entertain the crowd. A fun night to end the summer season! — *Moirra Murphy and Lauren Shanks*



A good time was had by all at the Labor Day Tailgate!

*Please join us for...*

**The Field Club Annual Meeting**  
Friday, November 2, 2012

Twin Hills Country Club  
700 Wolf Swamp Road  
Longmeadow, MA

Cocktails at 6:30 p.m.  
Meeting at 7:15 p.m.

## You Could Be a Lifesaver!

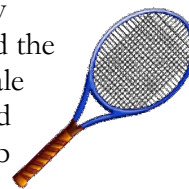
Are you CPR trained? Are you aware that the Field Club has two AEDs on the property? One is currently housed in the Women's Tennis bathroom, along with a fully stocked first aid kit. This particular AED (yellow) can only be used on adults. The second AED unit (red) is currently in the platform tennis warming hut and can be used on both children and adults (please read the instructions.) There is also a fully stocked first aid kit in the paddle warming hut.

Wouldn't it be great if a "group" of Field Club members got together this fall and called the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association for training? Don't put it off, call your friends today and take a course ASAP!

— *Jim Girotti*

## Demo Tennis Racquets at Tennis Pro Shop

We are currently selling all of our 2012 summer "demo" tennis racquets. We have two remaining. They are the Radical - Mid Plus (new \$189.95, sale price \$129 plus tax) and the Extreme - Mid Plus (new \$169.95, sale price \$124 plus tax). Please see Head Tennis Pro Ann Boisvert or call Club Manager Jim Girotti. — *Jim Girotti*



## Re-SPONSOR-bilities

*Have you been asked to sponsor someone into The Field Club? If so, below is an outline of things you should know:*

The Membership Chair is **Carolyn Marchese**. She can be reached at 567-3599 or at [carolynmarchese@comcast.net](mailto:carolynmarchese@comcast.net). If you need an application packet, please contact Carolyn. If you are the sponsor and have a completed application packet to submit send it to Carolyn at 171 Colony Road, Longmeadow, MA 01106. Names are added to the wait list as soon as the completed application is received.

### ***Who qualifies as a sponsor?***

Any member who has been a member for at least two years can sponsor someone. A member may sponsor only one candidate per calendar year.

### ***What does being a sponsor entail?***

To sponsor someone, each candidate for membership must be proposed by a member of The Field Club in writing and seconded by two letters of support. Members should only write letters of support if they know the candidate(s) well and have known the candidate(s) for a least one-year.

### ***Responsibilities:***

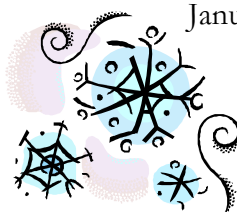
- To locate two other members to write letters as a seconder and a support person.
- To assist candidates with the two-page application.
- To supervise the candidacy of the applicant, including escorting the candidate(s) to a Meet & Greet and introducing them to at least five Board members.

Now is an excellent time to sponsor a candidate for membership! – *Carolyn Marchese*



## Next Deadline January 23

This is the last edition of *The Baseline* for 2012. Watch for the next edition in February. The deadline for this edition will be Wednesday,



January 23, 2013, but feel free to send your submissions to Editor Lee-Anne Sprague ([lsprague7@cox.net](mailto:lsprague7@cox.net)) anytime between now and then.

## Wait List On the Move

The Field Club Wait List is ever changing. New members are accepted and new candidates are added! Take a look to see where your candidate stands as of September 19, 2012.

### ***Regular waiting list:***

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| 1.) Hadro, Neal & Jennifer              | Dash/Miller |
| 2.) Purrington, Rick & Debra            | Travers     |
| 3.) Upson, Derek & Wendy                | Durfee      |
| 4.) Wagner, Stephen & Christina Turgeon | Morneau     |
| 5.) Cooper, Scott & Susan               | Cowan       |
| 6.) Orr, Trey & Molly                   | Shanks      |
| 7.) Stevens, John & Betsy               | Nilsson     |
| 8.) Scott Halista & family              | Brock       |
| 9.) Hoffman, Bob & Sheila               | Ochoa       |
| 10.) Kroon, Katie & Eric                | Grayboff    |
| 11.) Wright, Tim & Victoria             | Merchant    |
| 12.) Qayyum, Mr. & Mrs. Usman           | Megas       |
| 13.) Suher, Frank & Hilary              | Brayton     |
| 14.) Benson, Kara & John                | Leonard     |

## 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. Membership application packets can be requested from our Membership Chairperson, Carolyn Marchese, at [carolynmarchese@comcast.net](mailto:carolynmarchese@comcast.net) or by calling 567-3599. — *Carolyn Marchese*

## Email “Blast” Changes

Using the Email “Blast” technology is our primary method of keeping members informed of Club events on a regular basis. **Moira Murphy** has volunteered to take on that responsibility from **John Abbott**, who is ‘retiring,’ after sending more than 500 “Blasts” in recent years. *Many thanks* to John for all of his years of service and all of the blasts he sent for the Club!

To facilitate the email process, we are asking members who are running an event to use these guidelines when requesting an email “Blast.”

### *Guidelines for “Blast” emails:*

When submitting an email request, please include the following information:

- Event Name
- Date and Time
- The names and email addresses of the event sponsors.
- A brief description of the event (i.e. Mixer, Social, Club Tournament, etc.)
- Sign-up via email to sponsors (if available)
- Sign-up sheet on the Tennis, Pool or Paddle bulletin boards
- Food and Beverages: Will there be a light breakfast, lunch, and beverages?
- Is this a mixer, a BYOB event, bring an appetizer to share?

Please send your request to Moira Murphy ([moira.murphy@verizon.net](mailto:moira.murphy@verizon.net)) at least two weeks prior to the date of the event date.

Once the Blast is ready to send, the sponsor(s) will receive an email from Constant Contact asking them to “verify” their email address by responding to the email. This will enable us to place the sponsor's email address in the body of the email, allowing for sign-ups, questions or comments about the event. — *Jackie Pleet*



## Attention Platform Tennis Players!



Just so you know, the Field Club has several “demo” paddles for sale from last season. The cost is \$60 plus tax. Please contact Manager Jim Girotti at 478-5775 if interested. — *Jim Girotti*

## Tennis Committee News

It was a great tennis season. Most weekday nights saw the courts near capacity, and the days filled with both children and adults utilizing the courts. The weather just couldn't have been better. Most tournaments had excellent numbers of people participating. The courts were in fantastic shape thanks in large part to **Jim Girotti and crew**. Thanks also to **Ann Boisvert** for doing an outstanding job managing staff and helping to plan events.

— *Scott Brindle*

## Tennis Events Report

On August 25, the M/W Doubles Championship was held. **Mike Shields** and **Mike Freedman** beat **Jason Smith** and **Brian Grayboff** in two sets with one tiebreaker. On the women's side, **Kelly Hellstein** and **Michele Ditomassi** beat **Kate Morneau** and **Asa Nilsson** (6-1, 6-7, 6-4).

The Mixed Doubles Championship was held with five teams participating. **Marna Shields** and **Jason Smith** defeated **Kent and Ruth Griffiths**.

The Season End Mixer (German wine and beer) was held Sunday September 16. Twenty-seven people came out on a warm, sparkling September afternoon to play tennis, drink some fine German wines and beer, and dine on bratwurst and sauerkraut. It looked like everyone enjoyed being outside and mixing it up.

Special thanks to **Jamie Dunbar**, **Cathy Herchel**, **Mary Adler**, and **Meralee Kratovil** for chairing a most successful tennis season!

— *Scott Brindle*





## Lane Lines

**Jim Girotti**, our pool managers, **Dan Handzel** and **Caroline Murphy**, and the rest of the **lifeguard staff** kept the pool a wonderful and safe spot for kids and adults alike. Everyone enjoyed the newly installed shower and bathroom stalls; kids quickly found games in the organized lifeguard room; the poolside basketball hoop hosted many games of “pig”; and the new floatation tubes were constantly in the pool. They all worked so well to make running the pool as flawless as possible.

The lifeguards were incredibly busy this year. They reinstated and ran swim meets against other clubs, gave polo lessons to those interested, and gave individual lessons, as well as ran the daily lessons. Thank you so very much! You make the pool a great place to be.

With such fantastic chairs as **Amy Tyler** and **Erin Hornyak**, could the summer have been any better? These two (along with their event chairpersons) coordinated poolside events for kids of all ages throughout the summer, culminating in a free “Member Guest” day for over 80 kids! Many thanks for all of you do to keep our children active and happy. The kids enjoyed the ice cream sundaes to cap off the year!

When the children weren’t eating ice cream, they were taking lessons from our knowledgeable and helpful lifeguard staff, jumping and diving into the pool, playing board games on the deck or running around the fields. The pool was a hive of activity from morning until Adult Swim. Then, adults could read poolside, swim some laps or chat with friends in the refreshing water. A quiet hour to end the day allowed the lifeguards to prepare for another busy day. In the end, the summer seemed to just fly by without a care.



## Pool Hours Change in 2013

After much investigation into how the pool is used, the Pool Committee has decided to change the pool hours for next summer. The following hours will hopefully maximize how the pool is used and appeal to the greatest number of our members:

### Monday - Thursday

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.	Lessons Baby pool is open for supervised use.
12 p.m. to 6 p.m.	Open Swim (no 5:45 rest break)
6 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.	Adult Swim Baby pool is closed.

### Friday

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.	Lessons Baby pool is open for supervised use.
12 p.m. to 6 p.m.	Open Swim (no 5:45 rest break)
6 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.	Family Swim

### Saturday - Sunday

9 a.m. to 10 a.m.	Lap Swimming Only Baby pool is closed.
10 a.m. to 7:15 p.m.	Open Swim

The pool will close every night at 7:30 p.m.

## Lost and Found

All the tennis, pool and Tot Lot lost and found items from the summer season are currently on a table in the tennis Pro Shop. Please come by and "check it out" for your favorite towel, hat, water bottle, swim suit, t-shirt, etc.. Also, don't forget the glass-top table that is missing from your deck and was left at the Labor Day Picnic. Anything that remains after Sunday, October 14, will be donated to charity. — *Jim Girotti*

## Junior Tennis Wrap Up

Junior tennis had the busiest summer in recent years, with over 183 participants! Attendance at clinics was fantastic, and there will be lots of future stars on the FC courts in a few years! **Ann Boisvert** and the assistant pros did a wonderful job organizing weekly tournaments and round robins for the record number of participants.

The junior tennis program finished with singles, doubles and mixed doubles championships. Trophies were presented at the end of the season awards party on August 24.

The Most Improved Player Award went to **Sam Ollari**, the Sportsmanship Award went to **Brendan Mailloux** and the Coaches Award was presented to **Tate Mason**. Trophies were also given in each age group for the singles, doubles and mixed doubles championships. Outstanding clinic attendance by the young players was recognized with a special treat.

The Field Club USTA U14 team made it to the Western Mass finals and did very well, placing 3<sup>rd</sup> of 8 teams. **Kim Burns** did a great job organizing all the matches this summer and **Coach Mike Jones** was fabulous with the kids, giving feedback after every match and helping the players improve their games.

Congratulations to all of our young players, who grow better by the month, and thanks to all who participated in the junior tennis program this summer. Ann and the junior pros did a great job with the clinics. Have a good winter and keep on swinging! Hope to see all of you on the courts again next summer! — *Mary Adler*

## Register for Junior Paddle Clinics Now

Join us at the Junior Paddle clinics and discover how we stay warm outside despite the chilly winds of winter.

The Junior Paddle clinics are an introduction to platform tennis and a great way to improve your skills. Most importantly, they are a way to see your friends, make new ones and have a ton of fun. It doesn't matter if you have never played before or are already tournament tested — come on out! We play Tuesday afternoons starting up in November.

Beginners and Advanced Beginners (ages 10+) play Tuesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Intermediate clinics (ages 12+) are Tuesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

There is no charge for the clinics; however, space is limited to the first 12 players per clinic and is on a first-come, first-served basis. Call or email coach Rick Plaut to sign up for the sessions: 413-567-0950, [rickplaut@comcast.net](mailto:rickplaut@comcast.net).

### *Junior Paddle Clinic sessions are as follows:*

Session I: November 6, 13, 20, 27

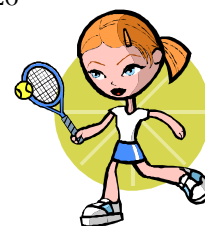
Session II: December 4, 11, 18

Session III: January 8, 15, 22, 29

Session IV: February 5, 12, 19, 26

Session V: March 5, 12, 19, 26

— *Rick Plaut*



## Consider Joining the APTA

Many of our members join the USTA to participate in their tennis leagues and to receive *Tennis* magazine, which includes a wide variety of articles of interest to tennis players as well as tips from tennis professionals. Some of our members know that the American Platform Tennis Association (APTA) provides a similar service for paddle players. Normally it costs \$50 to join the APTA, but Field Club members have the opportunity to join through the Western Massachusetts league for just \$30. Contact Brad Hoffman at [bradandcarleenhoffman@verizon.net](mailto:bradandcarleenhoffman@verizon.net) if you would like to join the APTA at this reduced rate.

While we hope you consider joining and participating in some of the upcoming tournaments (our club is actually hosting three APTA sponsored events this season), even if you do not play in those tournaments you may want to join to receive the Platform Tennis Magazine and other support. To learn more, check out the APTA's website at <http://www.platformtennis.org/>. — *Gary Weiner*

# Paddle Season News

In an effort to reach out to new paddle players, the paddle committee, chaired by **Jonathan Spencer** and **Kate Morneau**, has structured four separate "101 Paddle Clinics." The clinics are aimed at new players and the Club will provide paddles for those who do not have one. We strongly encourage those of you who have any interest in learning how to play to come out. The first clinic is set for **Sunday, October 7**, from 2 to 5 p.m. We plan on this being a mixer, so food and beverage will be provided. Thereafter, the clinics/mixers will be held on **Sunday, November 4; Sunday, December 2;** and, finally, **Sunday, January 6**. We will also investigate bringing in a local teaching pro if the need and desire is presented. Our goal is to have as many members as possible be exposed to platform tennis.

As many of you know, ground has been broken on the new paddle hut, which should be completed by January 1, if not sooner. The new hut will have room for 40 and will allow the Field Club to host both our member-only events and APTA events in a more comfortable setting than we have in the past.

The full list of scheduled events for this season will be posted on the Field Club website within the next couple of weeks. If you would like to get involved with the Paddle Committee and help out at an event, please contact either Kate or Jonathan.

We will once again be providing demo paddle racquets for use for our members, with the goal that if you like the demo you will arrange to buy a paddle through the Club. Demo racquets will be removed by January 1 and made available for subsequent purchase thereafter.

Contract time will begin on October 1, and the paddle reservation line will be up and running as well.

— Gary M. Weiner

## 2012-2013 Platform Tennis Events

*Mark your calendars for the following events and mixers taking place in the months ahead:*

### **Paddle 101 Clinic**

Sunday, October 07, 2012  
2 to 5 p.m.

### **Kick Off Mixer**

Friday, October 12, 2012  
7 to 10 p.m.

### **October Night Mixer**

Friday, October 26, 2012  
7 to 10 p.m.

### **Paddle 101 Clinic**

Sunday, November 04, 2012  
2 to 5 p.m.

### **Wine and Cheese Mixer**

Friday, November 16, 2012  
7 to 10 p.m.

### **APTA Event (Men's 95+)**

Saturday, November 17, 2012  
8 am to 5 p.m.

### **Paddle 101 Clinic**

Sunday, December 02, 2012  
2 to 5 p.m.

### **Men's Wanna Be**

Friday, December 07, 2012  
9 am to 5 p.m.

### **Sadie Hawkins Mixer**

Saturday, January 05, 2013  
9 am to 3 p.m.

### **Paddle 101 Clinic**

Sunday, January 06, 2013  
2 to 5 p.m.

### **Mixer**

Sunday, January 13, 2013  
3 to 6 p.m.

### **Men's A/B Tournament**

Sunday, January 27, 2013  
8 am to 5 p.m.

### **Men's Superbowl Event**

Sunday, February 03, 2013  
9 am to 5 p.m.

### **Intermediate-Advanced Clinic/ Exhibition with Johan Durandt**

Friday, February 08, 2013  
5 to 9 p.m.

### **APTA Event (Men's Open)**

Saturday, February 09, 2013  
8 am to 5 p.m.

### **Women's Oscar's Event**

Sunday, February 24, 2013  
9 am to 12 p.m.

### **APTA Event (Women's Open)**

Saturday, March 02, 2013  
8 am to 5 p.m.

### **Men's B Championship**

Saturday, March 09, 2013  
4 to 11 p.m.

### **Mixed Championship**

Saturday, March 16, 2013  
8 am to 3 p.m.

### **Men's/Women's Open Championship**

Saturday, March 23, 2013  
8 am to 5 p.m.

### **End of Season Mixer**

Sunday, April 07, 2013  
3 to 6 p.m.

