
THE BASELINE

Field Club News

October 2015



A Message from the President

Welcome to fall at *The Field Club*! The warm weather that started so late this spring has rewarded us with a great stretch of warm weather here at the end of summer. The fine weather enhanced the atmosphere at the very successful Labor Day Tailgate, with over 200 participants enjoying the family fun, ice cream, popcorn, music and general frivolity. The late season tennis mixers were mostly blessed with great weather and were very well attended. The tennis courts have enjoyed a long season, getting a lot of play, even through the end of September. While pool-goers and tennis players say good-bye to the season, the paddle players are getting geared up to play under the new lights installed this summer on courts 1 and 2, and I hear soon to be installed on court 4!

It's great to be part of a volunteer-led organization that operates so smoothly and provides so much to its members. Of course, Jim Girotti and staff make it all work, but I think our members are special. I feel it when members are not just visitors, but treat the Club with pride, as if it were their own. Our "members of excellence" look for opportunities to both maintain and improve the Club. They turn off the tennis/paddle court lights after the last group to conserve energy and lower our electric bill. They make sure the tennis bathrooms and ice machine room are locked as the last group leaves. They keep clean the refrigerator, tables, and kitchen at the paddle hut, and even vacuum the floor when needed. They let the staff know of unsafe conditions or anything that may have broken. They pay their bills on time and follow the few rules the Club does have. In short, they care about and respect the Club.

As paddle season begins, I am further reminded how proud we should be to belong to a club where you can buy paddle tennis balls, bring guests, and borrow new demo racquets all on the honor system. To me, a volunteer mentality is the hallmark of a truly successful club, where people not only receive from the club, but give back their time and talent to host events, join a committee, paint a building, plant some flowers, etc. Be proud, Field Club, well done!

Hope to see you on the paddle courts!

Ken Vincunas



Bountiful Blooms



Summer crop yields beautiful flowers for Deirdre Mailloux from her family plot among the Field Club gardens.

A Social Summer

It was another fun summer at our Field Club! Thanks to the following members who hosted our summer events:

New members **Angie Silva** and **Emily Kasperowski** wasted no time and stepped up to host the Annual July 4th Tailgate, complete with fireworks courtesy of our neighbors. Thanks to **Lisa Kelly** and **Beth Renola**, Field Club families experienced the ultimate stay-cation - a night sleeping under the stars at the Club. While the camp-out is probably a bigger treat for the kids, adults got an evening to themselves thanks to the Poolside Cocktail Party hosts **Chris Nicholson** and **Sally Gallucci**.

Sadly, all things must come to an end. That said, the Labor Day tailgate was the last hurrah for the summer of 2015. Summer 2016 will be here before you know it, and so will your new Field Club Social Chairs, **Molly Orr** and **Victoria Wright**. Please join us in welcoming them to this popular post, and thank you to all the members for volunteering and being a part of the social events that make our club special.

— Warmly, Amy Ratner and Wendy Upson

Lane Lines

What is it like to be a kiddo at the FC pool?

Hmmmm, let's see... Swim lessons from our amazing lifeguards, poolside parties, scavenger hunts, triathlons, lego-building sessions, sandbox digs, Snuggery muffins, running bases on the field, hot showers, board game matches, floating around the pool, diving off the diving boards, lounging on the grass, swimming laps with the Swim Team, and most of all...always having a friend to play with no matter what day of the week or the time of day!

What is it like to be a parent at the FC pool?

Hmmmm, let's see... Someone else gets in the pool and teaches your kid to swim, never having to make play-dates, not having to cook breakfast, lunch or dinner, being able to sit on a lounge chair and actually read a book or two, eating with your friends while your children are outside and are active, using the “rest time” as an easy transition time, as well as elapsed time training for the kids, and above all, watching your kiddo genuinely laugh and smile with kids from all over Western Mass!

This summer has been once again pretty magical. The spectacular weather, coupled with great events and activities, has made it very memorable. We want to thank you for making this a great summer filled with great moments.

We have been Pool Co-Chairs for the past 2 years. As a rule, we need to pass the torch! We are looking for one or two people to carry on the tradition of supporting the FC pool families and the pool staff. When we became co-chairs, we were both fairly new to FC. Being co-chairs allowed us to be more involved and to really feel like members. If you are interested, please let us know. We promise to help every step of the way (and your kids will think you are important!). We will even “host” two of the summer parties, so your job is almost done!

— Lori McMahon and Beth Renola

Lost and Found

Lost and found items are currently being stored in the tennis pro shop, where they will remain until Tuesday, October 13th. Anything left after that date will be donated to charity. — Jim Girotti



End-of-Season Garden Party

The garden season has come to a close, but we celebrated it in style with a mid-August Garden Party out at the plots. Two flower-clothed tables were absolutely laden with delicious garden appetizers and jars of beautiful flowers. The evening couldn't have been more perfect, and we had an excellent crowd of 16 at one point (that's big for garden parties)! There's usually a plot or two available each spring, so do contact me if you would like to have or share a plot. — *Darcy Durfee*



Wait List On the Move

Take a look to see where your candidate stands as of September 21, 2015

Regular Wait List

1. Scott and Stephanie Foster (Soder)
2. Bill and Kim Moccio (Orr)
3. Brian and Charlene Case (Friedberg)
4. Stephen and Jennifer Keaney (Nicholson)
5. Tim and Franca Conway (Mailoux)
6. Erin Beaulieu (Burns)
7. John and Leslie Moutafis (Stathis)
8. Jeffrey and Ekaterina Magee (Dorison)

Re-SPONSOR-bilities

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 at least a 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.

*Do you know of someone interested in becoming a member of the Field Club? **Now is an excellent time to submit an application for membership, as there are currently several openings available.***

Membership application packets can be requested from Membership Chairperson Karen Brayton at craig.brayton@verizon.net. — Karen Brayton

Mixed Doubles Championship

The annual Field Club Mixed Doubles Championship was held on September 12 with a record 13 teams competing. **Annie** ensured that the competitors got to play a lot of tennis with her consolation round-robin format, which everyone loved!

We enjoyed a delicious lunch from The Grapevine, with the added fun of having the owners, **George and Liz Kollias**, compete in the championships. **Jim Girotti** kept everything running seamlessly, as usual.

The competition was stiff in the finals, which saw **Carolyn Marchese and Mike Freedman** playing against **Sam Edwards and Rob Campbell**. There was an enthusiastic crowd watching the great points and wonderful sportsmanship. Carolyn and Mike emerged as our Club champions, with Sam and Rob as our finalists. Congratulations!

— *Connie and Tom Gould*



Left to right: Finalists Sam Edwards and Rob Campbell with Champions Mike Freedman and Carolyn Marchese




Tournament master and pro Ann Boisvert with champions Mike Freedman and Carolyn Marchese.

Junior Tennis USTA Teams

The Field Club U18 and U14 USTA teams competed in the Western MA Junior Team Tennis Championships held in Amherst on August 8th and 9th. Congratulations!





Tennis Season Wrap-ups with Championships

With the changing weather and the cool crisp feel to the air, we look back on a great summer tennis season. Participation at all the tennis events was high, and members enjoyed wonderful weather, exciting tennis, and delicious food throughout the summer... with some adult spirits along the way! From potlucks to daiquiris to the season-ending wine mixer, there were many occasions to get together with familiar partners, as well as to form new friendships.

The Championships were completed under mostly sunny blue skies, and we crowned some new champions along with some defending ones. Overall, there were many thrilling matches in the spirit of competitive fun. In the men's doubles championships, **Dan Torres** and **Hans Doup** defended their title by topping the pair of **Rick Steele** and **Per Nilsson** in three hard-fought sets. Steele and Nilsson were playing in their third tough match of the day and couldn't hold off the brilliant shot making of Torres and the charismatic Doup smile. The ladies doubles champions of **Asa and Kelly** got past **Marna and Kate** in a high-level competition that held the spectators in wonder. The prestigious singles titles went to multi-time winner **Jeff Morneau** topping **Craig Waddington**, and teen standout **Noelle Ehrenberg** slipping by **Kate Morneau**.

Thanks to all the volunteer mixer and tournament hosts and Anne for making this season's events enjoyable and successful.
— *Mike Freedman and Elyse Dunbar (Adult Tennis Co-Chairs)*

Next Deadline January 22

The deadline for the next edition of *The Baseline*, will be **Friday, January 22, 2016**. The issue will be distributed in early February. Please send your submissions to Editor Lee-Anne Sprague at lsprague7@cox.net.



Please join us for...

**The Field Club
Annual Meeting**
Friday, November 6, 2015

Twin Hills Country Club
Longmeadow, MA

Watch for details soon!

Register Now for Junior Paddle Clinics

Join us for Junior Paddle Tuesday afternoons beginning in November. Get introduced to platform tennis or improve your skills and join your friends outdoors during the winter. Whether you have played before or will be holding a paddle for the first time, come join us – all are welcome!

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

Space is limited to the first 12 players per clinic and is available on a first-come, first served basis. Call or email coach Rick Plaut for more information or to sign up: 413-330-2906, rickplaut@gmail.com
Looking forward to seeing you out there!

Session I	November 3, 10, 17, 24
Session II	December 1, 8, 14, 21
Session III	January 5, 12, 19, 26
Session IV	February 2, 9, 23
Tournament/ wrap-up parties	March 1

— *Rick Plaut*



Paddle Season Has Arrived...

... to help get you started, here's some useful news and information from the Paddle Committee regarding adult paddle:

Contract Times — Contract times officially begin October 12, 2015, and run through the end of April 2016. Contract dates, times, captains, and groups for the prime hours on Monday through Thursday will be posted on the website and in the paddle hut. The following “spots” are still open for contract groups or for reservation through the reservation line (413-594-1230): Monday (3 courts @ 5:30 p.m.; 1 @ 8:30 p.m.); Tuesday (3 courts @ 5:30 p.m.; 1 @ 8:30 p.m.); Wednesday (3 courts @ 5:30 p.m.); Thursday (2 courts @ 5:30 p.m.; 4 @ 8:30 p.m.).

A few “contract” rules to remember:

- A “contract” is a commitment to use the court on a regular basis. As a courtesy to other members, please inform the captain of the court in the slot after you via e-mail as soon as possible if your group is not going to use a “contract” court, so that other members will know that it is available for their use (especially the 7 p.m. times).
- A member can only be part of two contract groups.
- A “contract” must have 6 members per court.

Season Schedule — The season schedule will be posted on the website and in paddle hut. A copy of the schedule is also featured on page 7 of this newsletter.



Court Reservation — All courts must be reserved through the on-line reservation system at www.reservecourt.com. Instructions for signing up and reserving courts are included in this newsletter (page 7), will be sent as an e-mail blast, and can be found on the website.

New Players — Want to play? Don't know where to start? You need to **SAVE THE DATE** for **Paddle 101 : Sunday, November 8, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.** This is a FREE clinic run by members for members. We will introduce you to the game of platform tennis and other players. Most of us have had no formal instruction but started by getting on a sub list and learned by playing, with a little help from our member friends. Also, you will have an opportunity to hone the skills you learn at Paddle 101 during the Field Club mixers.

Platform Tennis Lessons — **Courtia Worth**, a PPTA certified professional, will be the exclusive teaching professional at the Field Club. Courtia has been the director of Platform Tennis at Hartford Golf Club since 2005 and has a vast amount of playing and teaching experience. Lessons are available for men, women, adults, children, beginners, intermediates, and advanced players. Please contact Courtia directly by e-mail at cworth@hartfordgolfclub.org or by phone/text at 914-466-0856 for her pricing and availability. If you would like to be part of a ladies clinic that works with Courtia on Tuesdays, please contact Carolyn Marchese at carolynmarchese@comcast.net to be added to the list. You do not need to be on the Women's Paddle team to work with Courtia.

Contact Info — Please do not hesitate to reach out to the Paddle Committee members (Tom Kietzman and Jenna Goodman) regarding any questions or concerns you may have about platform tennis (paddle). Tom can be reached at tk2812@att.com and Jenna can be reached at jennag98@gmail.com.

— Tom Kietzman and Jenna Goodman

2015/2106 Paddle Calendar

Oktoberfest Kick Off Mixer
Saturday, October 24, 2015
7 to 10 p.m.

Spooky Halloween Mixer
Saturday, October 31, 2015
2 to 5 p.m.

Paddle 101 Clinic
Sunday, November 8, 2015
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Davis Cup
Saturday, November 14, 2015
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

APTA Event (Men's 95+)
Saturday, November 21, 2015
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Bring Your Own T-Day
Leftovers Parent-Child Mixer**
Friday, November 27, 2015
1 to 4 p.m.

Wanna Bee Mixer (w/LCC)
Saturday, December 5, 2015
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Paddle Clinic/Exhibition
Friday, December 11, 2015
5 to 10 p.m.

**APTA NRT Men's Western
New England Open Event**
Saturday, December 12, 2015
8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Men's A/B Mixer (w/LCC)
Saturday, January 16, 2016
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Mixed Doubles Mixer
Sunday, January 24, 2016
3 to 6 p.m.

**Men's Super Bowl Mixer
(w/LCC)**
Sunday, February 7, 2015
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**APTA Pioneer Valley
Women's Open**
Saturday, February 27, 2016
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Women's Oscars Mixer
Sunday, February 28, 2016
3 to 6 p.m.

Mixed Doubles Mixer
Friday, March 11, 2016
7 to 10 p.m.

FC Women's Championship
Saturday, March 26, 2016
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

FC Men's Championship
Saturday, March 26, 2016
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

FC Mixed Championship
Saturday, April 2, 2016
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Season-Ending Mixer (w/LCC)
Saturday, April 9, 2016
5 to 10 p.m.



Online Paddle Court Reservation System

1. Go to www.reservemycourt.com

2. Click "Sign Up for Free" (under "Tennis Players can . . .")

3. Fill-in your user information

- Home facility – use drop down box to locate Field Club of Longmeadow
- First name
- Last name
- Telephone number (use cell phone)
- E-mail (use an e-mail address you can get on your cell phone if possible)

4. Reservation confirmation – pick the way you want your reservations confirmed

5. Login information

Reserving a Court:

1. Go to www.reservemycourt.com

2. Login using your username and password (in upper right corner)

3. Click on "Reservations" (on the left side)

4. Make your court reservation

- Use the calendar on left to navigate to the correct day you want to reserve the court for
- Use the "Enter Reservation Here" Section to select your court (1-5), start time, and finish time
- You can see what courts and times are available in the calendar at the bottom – make sure you are looking at the correct day
- You are limited by to making reservations only 7 days in advance and cannot reserve a court for more than 1.5 hours.

5. Click "Reserve My Court"

6. Court reservation will be confirmed

7. Click to print or view on schedule

8. You should also get an e-mail and/or text of your reservation.