



Spring (March)2020

Dear Golden Racquets (GR) Members:

We all know that playing a lot of tennis and/or pickleball will help keep you healthy. And we all need to be as healthy as possible in order to fight against the corona virus. I am suggesting that, after matches, there be no handshakes or high fives; instead, players may touch elbows or touch the ends of their tennis racquet to show their sportsmanship. In doing this, no one is suggesting that another player has contracted the corona virus -- it is just a preventative method. I would also suggest keeping hand wipes or liquid dispensers containing Clorox or Lysol in your tennis bag to be used before driving home. Wearing thin tennis gloves during tennis play may seem extreme, but that would be another effective method of prevention. Continue to listen to news reports to learn about other ways to fight the virus.

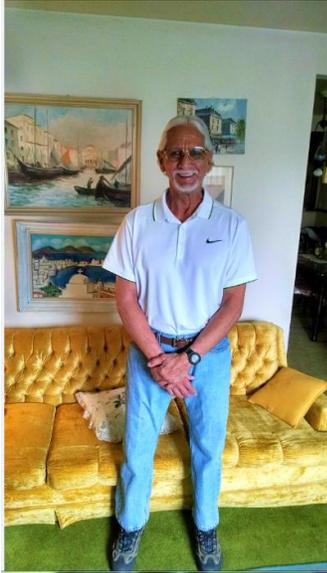
During the 2019 fall/winter tennis season, we started using the Springfield Golf and Country Club for the first time. Play will continue at the Springfield Golf and Country Club during the summer of 2020. A 3.7 and above venue will start on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, and end on Tuesday, September 1, 2020, with the time being 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM. This current season, we have been very successful in filling the three courts with regular and substitute players. The courts are only 11 years old and the lighting is among the best of the current in-door GR tennis facilities. Additionally, there is easy access to water coolers. Joanne Hensley is the current captain and will continue as captain during the summer. Joanne has been very successful in making a large percentage of matches competitive, even though there is a wide range of the skill levels (3.7 to 4.0) playing each week. The first 45 minutes of play is usually mixed doubles and the second 45 minutes of play has one court with the higher skilled players and the other two courts with a mix of skill level players. If you haven't played at Springfield, I suggest you visit the facility. The club management will give you a quick tour.

GR will have four pickleball courts available for play this summer. There will be two outdoor courts at Wakefield and two indoor courts at Burke. You must provide your own pickleball paddle, but GR will provide the balls. Pickleball is not part of our Choice System for selecting a tennis venue, so if you want to play pickleball, it does not affect your tennis choice of 1 or 2. If there are too many members who sign up for a particular pickleball court, then the tennis seniority number will be the determining factor in deciding who plays on the pickleball court.

Tom Burroughs, GR President

Meet Steve Mateo, Chairman of the Rating Committee

We are happy to introduce you to the new Chairman of the Rating Committee, Steve Mateo. For the past three years, Steve has been the Co-Chairman of the Rating Committee and became the chair of the committee when the position of chair became vacant 2019. This is one of GR's busiest



committee as they must rate all new GR members. During the spring of 2019, the Steve and the other members of the Rating Committee rated 45 new members in a period of two months, averaging several ratings a week during this busy period. Since joining GR in 2014, Steve has been an active and involved player, serving the organization in a variety of roles. Prior to taking on the Rating Committee duties, he served as the Social Committee Chair where he planned and organized GR social functions.

Steve was born on the Hawaii island of Oahu. He joined the US Army in 1967 and served combat tours in both Vietnam and Iraq (Desert Storm). In addition to these tours, Steve was also had military assignments that included being assigned to the Pentagon, two tours with the 7th Signal Brigade in Germany, and served tours of duty in Taiwan, Okinawa, and Japan. He says his most memorable assignment was serving as a drill instructor at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. After serving in the military for 26 years, Steve retired from

the military and joined the civilian workforce. He worked for both DynaCorp and Northrup Grumman in marketing government contracts area.

Steve is a very friendly and outgoing person who enjoys helping out whenever he can. Steve's volunteer work with GR is just another reason the organization runs so smoothly! Be sure to say "hello" and "thank you" to him the next time you see him on the court!



Nothing But the Best!

After a recent tennis match played at the Springfield Golf and Country Club, cookie maker Soqui Madera surprised her fellow tennis players by bringing a batch of delicious cookies to share. The cookies were such a hit the recipe could not be kept secret. We share it here with you -- enjoy!



Alfajores Peruanos

Ingredients:

1 pound of soft butter
2 cups powdered sugar
3 cups all-purpose flour

2 cups corn starch
4 tablespoons of evaporated milk
2 teaspoons of corn syrup -- NOT Karo syrup

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cover a cookie sheet with waxed paper and set aside. In a medium bowl, slowly blend (using a mixer) together the butter and powdered sugar. Gradually add the flour, corn starch, evaporated milk, corn syrup, and blend until smooth.

Pour the blended mixture onto a floured surface. Using a rolling pin, roll the mixture until it is smooth and flat, rolling it to a thickness of about ¼ of an inch. Press a cookie cutter into the rolled-out mixture to make the cookies.

Place the cookies on the wax paper covered cookie sheet, about 2-inches apart. Place the cookie sheet in the oven for 10 minutes or until the cookies are golden on the bottom.

Yummmm! Share with a friend!



Caring Committee

Remember, if you or someone you know in GR is feeling under the weather, had an injury or surgery, or lost a loved one, please contact GR's Caring Committee Chairman Marion MacRae. Marion will make sure a card is sent so that the person in need will know they are wished a speedy and complete recovery, or in the case of the death of a loved one, being remembered. Please inform Marion by contacting her at 703-751-4994 or at mmMacrae@comcast.net when you become aware of someone who could use a "Thinking of You" card!



Have You Visited the GR Website?



If the answer to this question is "no," you are encouraged to take a few minutes to visit and browse the GR Website by going to www.goldenracquets. You can find lots of information there about membership, coming events, play schedules, GR history, or venues, just to name a few areas of interest. Web master Joanne Hensley updates the website frequently so the information is current, helpful, and user friendly. So take a look and see all the information that is available -- and perhaps even add the website to your "favorites" for easy access!



Happy Spring to all the members of Golden Racquets from the Board of Directors! Always remember to stop and smell the roses (and any other flowers you come across!)



Reminder to All

The GR BOD would like to remind all members that the GR directory is published for the use of members only for contacting other GR members about tennis matters. Please note and abide by the disclaimer at the top of the directory, which states the following:

"Golden Racquets publishes this seasonal roster as a service to members who wish to contact other members to pay for substitutions, other reasons related to tennis activities, or for personal contact between members. It should **NOT** be used as a mailing or contact source for commercial, religious, political solicitation, or any other purpose."

This Golden Racquets Newsletter is published by the Fairfax County Golden Racquets, a non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to senior tennis. You are encouraged to visit the Golden Racquets website at <http://www.GoldenRacquest.org>. Officers and committee chairs are as follows:

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To have an article or picture of interest considered for inclusion in the Golden Racquets Newsletter, please send it to Connie Dineen at:

csdineen51@gmail.com

NOTE: Articles may be of general interest and do not necessarily need to be about tennis.

