



NEWSLETTER



Spring (March) 2021

Dear Golden Racquets (GR) Members:

On March 28, 2021, CIO Joe Wittling will be emailing our summer tennis/pickleball registration form to all our members. We are happy to announce that this summer we have more courts/venues available than we have had in the past. We have added two new locations and several courts. We do not have a "firm" start date for the Springfield Golf and Country Club as yet but will provide that information to you as soon as possible. We have added Lee District Park to our outdoor venues.

However, this venue will only be used at the beginning and end of the season because Lee District Park holds a youth program there during the middle of the summer. All GR players who sign up for the Lee District Park venue will play each of the weeks not available to GR at Lee District Park (we are calling this period of time "the gap") at either Edison High School, a community tennis facility, or at Lee District Park (although on courts assigned that week and not the regular venue courts). Jay Jupiter will be the venue captain, and will coordinate closely with the players when arranging play during this gap period from Lee District Park. Another venue addition to our GR schedule this summer is Burke Racquet and Swim Club. In the past, their youth activities were so extensive that GR could not schedule venues at Burke during the summer, but this summer we are happy to announce that we will have both tennis and pickleball.



Approximately 40 new members will be added to GR membership within the next four weeks. Hopefully, these new members will be able to fill any vacant slot -- regular or sub -- that may occur at venues. If you have a friend who is interested in joining GR, please refer them to our web site (www.goldenracquets.org) in order to obtain an application form, or give them a copy of the application form which can be found at the end of this newsletter.

It appears, from the many conversations I have had with players, that approximately 90% of our members will be eligible for and hopefully fully vaccinated by the start of the tennis/pickleball season. Obviously, this is a "guesstimate" on my part so we will continue to strictly enforce our safety rules at all venues until further notice. For your conveniences, those safety rules are included at the end of this newsletter.

Watch for the summer tennis/pickleball registration form that will arrive in your email inbox within the next week. Have a great summer!

Sincerely,
Tom Burroughs
President of Golden Racquets

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## Pickleball Venue Changes for the Summer Season

by Gary Hinson

We are excited to announce that Golden Racquets will offer three pickleball venues for the summer 2021 season. Two venues will be new outdoor sites (Roundtree Park and Newington Heights Park) and the third will be an indoor site (Burke Racquet and Swim Club). Each venue will feature two courts of play, and Golden Racquets will provide the pickleballs. All you need is your trusty pickleball paddle and some fleet feet! Here is some information about each of the venues, including the address of each site:

- **Roundtree Park**, located at 3220 Annandale Road in Falls Church, has two newly resurfaced outdoor pickleball courts (on one tennis court). Golden Racquets will provide the pickleball nets. The park offers ample parking as well as a picnic shelter and bathrooms. Our Golden Racquets session there is slated for Mondays from 9:00- 10:30 a.m., starting on May 17.
- **Newington Heights Park**, located just off Silverbrook Road on Monacan Ct., has two outdoor tennis courts (in good condition) that are also lined for pickleball. Ample parking is available. Unfortunately, there is no bathroom at this location. Our session there will be on Wednesdays from 9:00-10:30 a.m., starting on May 19.
- **Burke Racquet Club**, our indoor climate-controlled venue, is located at 6001 Burke Commons Road in Burke, directly behind and down the hill from the Burke Kaiser Permanente building. We will have two pickleball courts on one tennis court. The club will provide the nets. Our session at Burke will be on Fridays from 12:00noon-1:30p.m., starting on June 4.

Please note that Golden Racquets will NOT be using Audrey Moore Recreation Center (better known to us as Wakefield Park) as a pickleball venue this summer. The only courts there currently lined for pickleball are courts #9 and #10, and their poor condition makes them undesirable for Golden Racquets pickleball.

When you register for the Golden Racquets summer season, please also note the following reminder: "Pickleball is not part of the Golden Racquets Choice System. 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 Golden Racquets tennis seniority number will determine who plays on that pickleball court."

We look forward to seeing many of you on the pickleball courts (as well as the tennis courts!) this summer for more good exercise and friendship!



## MEET A MEMBER -- in a DIFFERENT WAY!

Rather than highlight one specific member of GR in this issue of the newsletter, we decided to have some fun with a "Do You Recognize Me?" activity. Here we have shared photographs of six GR members from "back in the day." The names of those pictured is provided in a column down the center of the page to help you as you attempt correctly name each person. In the next (summer) edition of the newsletter, we will publish the names of the first three people who respond with the correct match-up of photograph and name. You may respond to Connie Dineen, the newsletter editor, at [csdineen51@gmail.com](mailto:csdineen51@gmail.com). Good luck!

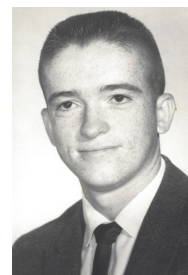
The



pictures belong to the following:

- Ralph Bessler
- Tom Burroughs
- Judy Fisher
- Carol McAlee
- Adele Neuberg
- Charley Silver

#1



#4

#2



#1 is \_\_\_\_\_  
 #2 is \_\_\_\_\_  
 #3 is \_\_\_\_\_  
 #4 is \_\_\_\_\_  
 #5 is \_\_\_\_\_  
 #6 is \_\_\_\_\_

#

#5



#3



Submit your answers to Connie Dineen at [csdineen51@gmail.com](mailto:csdineen51@gmail.com) or by replying to this email.

#6



**How did you do? We thought this activity would be easy (and fun!) because each of our "mystery members" still look great! That's what good exercise and a healthy lifestyle will do for you!**

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DID YOU KNOW?

- In the last issue of the GR newsletter, we shared some information in the "Did You Know?" section about the infamous Isner/Mahut 2010 Wimbledon match in which the fifth set was played to a score of 70-68 (Isner), with the match taking a record-breaking 11 hours and 5 minutes to complete. One of our GR members wrote to say that the fifth set at Wimbledon for men (and the 3rd set for women) is now completed by playing a tie-breaker to avoid the necessity of any match requiring an extraordinary amount of time to complete. Thanks to this GR member for adding additional information for our readers!
- 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 Marion MacRae. Marion will make sure an appropriate card is sent to that person. 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 "we're thinking of you" card!



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## SAFETY RULES FOR GR TENNIS PLAYERS (Revised 7/12/20)

1. Sanitize your hands and wear a mask prior to entering a tennis facility or outdoor court. Using masks once tennis play has started is optional. Once play is completed, mask should be worn and hands sanitized.
2. Social distancing of 6 feet should be followed at all times except on the occasional times two players get closer while returning a tennis ball.
3. Ideally players should go directly from their cars to the tennis courts. Exceptions will be to log in at a tennis facility or get instructions in the parking lot from captains about court assignments. Socializing indoors in a lounge before tennis starts should not be done. Socializing in the parking lot is fine as long as masks are worn and the 6 foot rule followed. Upon entering a tennis facility, deposit your tennis bag 6 feet from other bags on the court.
4. After tennis is completed good sportsmanship personal touching like handshakes and high fives are not allowed. Verbal comments like "good game" or the touching of tennis rackets (large end of rackets) is recommended.
5. Players can use their practice balls in warm-up but they must be at least four days since they were last used. If no one on the court has warm-up balls that are at least four days old then no warm-up balls are to be used.
6. If tennis balls from other courts come on your court, you must kick them back or use your racket to return the balls. Touching the balls to return them is not allowed



## GOLDEN RACQUETS TENNIS CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please print this form, fill it in, and mail  
with a \$30 check payable to Golden Racquets to:  
Golden Racquets C/O, 4404 Galesbury Lane, Chantilly, VA 20151

|                                                                                                            |                     |                         |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----|
| _____                                                                                                      |                     | _____                   |     |
| _____                                                                                                      |                     | _____                   |     |
| Last Name                                                                                                  | Call me (Nick Name) | Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY) |     |
| _____                                                                                                      |                     | _____                   |     |
| _____                                                                                                      |                     | _____                   |     |
| Street Address                                                                                             | City                | St                      | Zip |
| _____                                                                                                      |                     | _____                   |     |
| _____                                                                                                      |                     | _____                   |     |
| Phone                                                                                                      | Cell phone          | E-mail Required         |     |
| USTA Tennis Rating: _____ or Self-Rating: _____ (1 to 10 where 10 is good) & Number of Years Played: _____ |                     |                         |     |
| _____                                                                                                      |                     | _____                   |     |
| In case of emergency notify                                                                                | Relationship        | (_____) Phone           |     |

### IMPORTANT -- PLEASE READ AND SIGN BELOW

**Virginia Law:** Fairfax County and its departments are immune to suits based on tortuous injury and, to a lesser intent; its employees are also covered by this immunity. Participants are advised to carry their own insurance when participating in recreation department programs.

**Participants** are required to perform strenuous physical activity and should be capable of doing so. It is recommended that a doctor's approval be obtained prior to becoming actively involved.

**Release:** I, the undersigned, verify that I am not under medical care that would prevent my participation in Golden Racquets; further I am a voluntary participant and as such, I assume all risks related to Golden Racquets and its officers and agents.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** After processing this application, the GR Rating Committee will contact you to make an appointment to determine your GR tennis rating. Then, assuming you receive a rating of 3.0 or higher, you will be able to sub in specific GR tennis venues and eventually become a regular based upon your GR rating.



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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/pickleball 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/pickleball 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:

President: Tom Burroughs
Vice President: Gary Hinson
Special Assistant: Bob Dineen
Recording Secretary: Connie Dineen
Treasurer: Al McFarland
Membership Chair: Adele Neuberg
Rating Committee Chair: Steve Mateo
Social Committee Chair: Vacant
Chief Information Officer: Joe Wittling
Operations & Planning Chair: Dave Fleming
Web Site Manager: Joanne Hensley
Newsletter Editor: Connie Dineen

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.

