



Laguna Woods Tennis Club Newsletter

Email: tennisclublw@gmail.com

June 2025

Board Members - 2025

President – Russell Seagal

Vice President – Bob Schwartz

Treasurer – Theresa Kennedy

Secretary – Judy Brown

Membership Director – Jim Quigley

Activities Director – Vacant

Social Director – Suzanne Frank

Contact any of us via email:

Russell: rustytennis10s@gmail.com

Bob: bobschwartz11@hotmail.com

Theresa: tak10s@yahoo.com

Judy: judysb62@gmail.com

Jim: jq07017@gmail.com

Suzanne: suzannef813@gmail.com

Tennis Club Webpage:

<https://lagunawoodsvillage.com/amenities/clubs/tennis-club/>

Comment Cards are available in the clubhouse if you prefer to drop us a note that way – Just fill one out and drop it in the podium slot at the clubhouse.

Notes from the President:

Recycling tennis balls is now a reality at the Tennis Club. We have partnered with a nonprofit called RecycleBalls, which is dedicated to finding a use for old tennis balls and keeping them out of the trash. Since 2017, they have saved almost 16 million balls from decomposing in landfills. Considering that every year 125 million tennis balls wind up in landfills — and it takes 400 years for rubber waste to decompose — their mission is not just admirable but vital.

You may have noticed the two green and yellow RecycleBalls boxes by the Clubhouse. One is for “Dead Balls” and the other, labeled “Ball Machine,” is for balls that are still useable. Wet, soft, squishy balls belong in the “Dead” box; those that still have some bounce go in “Ball Machine.”

Now we understand it would be more convenient to place these boxes on the courts, but it still rains in Southern California and cardboard, even the heavy-duty kind, inevitably breaks down, ruining any useable balls that have been collected. **For players who don't pass the Clubhouse RecycleBalls boxes, we plan to place additional receptacles closer to the courts or by the entry gates. They will also be labeled “Dead Balls” and “Ball Machine,” and we ask that you toss in used balls as you pass by.** Volunteers, including board members, will routinely offload these collected balls into the larger RecycleBalls boxes. And those collected for the “Ball Machine” will replenish the machines, replacing dead balls that will go into that recycle box. (If you'd like to join the volunteers in this effort, be sure to let us know with an email to tennisclublw@gmail.com)

So what happens after the boxes are filled to capacity with the 200 balls they hold? We ship them back to RecycleBalls and they handle the rest. Some of the balls are sold to dog owners who are encouraged to recycle them back at no cost. But the organization's main goal is to reuse the balls in a variety of green products. RecycleBalls has invested in technology to grind up the tennis balls they've collected. What emerges is a processed natural crumb rubber that can be incorporated in the production of playground turf, traffic safety equipment and landscaping mulch. Already RecycleBalls crumb rubber is being used in the construction of equestrian turf and, would you believe, tennis courts.

We welcome all our members and guests to join us in this worthwhile project. **Don't trash that ball — Recycle It!**



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In other news, my personal thanks to Theresa Kennedy and Suzanne Frank for helping ensure the USTA Seniors Tournament was a smashing success. The players and their families and friends, as well as the many spectators, were treated to exceptional matches, dependable food service and a professionally run tournament. Theresa and Suzanne in turn extend their appreciation to all of the volunteers who supported their efforts. It does literally take a Village!

From the Membership Director:

We're excited to welcome these new members, who will be included in the next quarterly Member Directory email:

- ♦ Hal Marchick hmarchick@curogroup.com
- ♦ Janette Martin jkmartin1989@yahoo.com
- ♦ Mark Martin mdmartin54@msn.com
- ♦ Natarajan Gunasekaran perry.andy56@gmail.com
- ♦ Robert Kunstmann baroul21@yahoo.com
- ♦ Simone Schapker simone.schapker@gmail.com
- ♦ Tom Chin chindea@gmail.com

From the Secretary:

Just a reminder that we have a new group in Team Reach for Women's Singles/Doubles (the code is LWWT2025). So far 15 players have signed up and you can too! If you are interested in joining or have any questions, email us at tennisclublw@gmail.com

From the Acting Activities Director (VP Bob Schwartz):

We had a successful Compass Tournament last month and thank all of the participants and helpers, who enjoyed perfect weather, competitive matches and delicious barbecued burgers. Congratulations to all the winners:

Draw One	Draw Two
Jean Maroney & Hugo Hernandez	Yoko Kurosawa & David Sherman
Theresa Kennedy & Russell Seagal	Dawn Williams & Charles Busch
Gail Lewis & Jeff McMichael	Elaine Brady & Jim Quigley
Barb Dacus & Mark Helsing	Karen Osterstock & Jim McVicker



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As requested, we've added another C-Level tournament to the calendar — on Wednesday, November 12th, 9:00 AM - noon. Our favorite grillmaster Russell will serve up burgers. More info will follow as the date draws near.

Upcoming Events:

- ◆ **Social Sunday** — June 22nd at the Clubhouse. Bring an appetizer to share and your racket and we'll supply the rest.
- ◆ **Tennis Club Board Meeting** — Monday, July 7th, in the Clubhouse, 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM. Come join us as we evaluate our initial ball recycling efforts.
- ◆ **Summer Tennis Club Dinner Dance** — Saturday, July 12th, at Clubhouse 7. Doors open at 5:15 PM, dinner served at 6:15 PM, dancing and fun follow!

Parting Shots:



Bill Macomber (*left*) and Dennis Lutz (*above*) toss the first used balls into our new RecycleBalls boxes by the Clubhouse. Additional receptacles will be placed nearby the courts.