



# BASELINE BANTER

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## It's safe to play (up)

### *Board reverses stand on playing above level*

By Jeff Thomas

Well, what a difference nine months can make. From a 6-1 vote last December, the CVTA board members did a complete about face in September, allowing its league players to play up.

In more specific terms that means that the CVTA will allow its teams to have as much as 25 percent of its players come from the ranks below the league rating.

While an abrupt turn-around, CVTA board members said it was really a matter of falling in line with Colorado Tennis Association rules.

"The last time I didn't understand it properly, and that we were flying in face of the (existing) ruling," said board member John Kennedy, who provided the motion for a contrary position taken nine months ago. "I didn't have any context on it. Then frankly we got some board mem-

bers who were hip to this stuff."

One of those members would be first-year board member Ian Kogan.

"The Board discussed this issue at several consecutive meetings, and we were able to finally come to the understanding that there was not a strong justification to deviate from the current rule (75 percent in-level)," Kogan said.

The vote to set the CVTA rule to match CTA standards was unanimous.

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results on  
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## Men put three teams in Twilight districts

By Jeff Thomas

### Kornreich's Black 4.0 Team gets to the semifinal round

CVTA men continued their strong league play in the Twilight season with three teams making to the district championships.

Scott Kornreich's 4.0 team, CVTA Black, took a 6-0 record into districts where they narrowly won the C flight in a tiebreaker determined by the number of games lost in the initial rounds. In the semifinal round of the championship the

team — Gary Billingsley, James Edward Widner, Shawn D. Schellinger, Jim R. Rapp and Martin Beauchamp — fell to the Colorado Springs Racquet Club by a 2-1 margin, with a third-set, 10-8 tiebreaker determining the outcome.

In men's 3.5, the CVTA sent two teams to districts — Captain Ian Kogan's Blue Team. and Captain Shaun Shanahan's Red Team..

The Blue team. (Dan Johnson, John R. Shaw, Harold H. To, Gabe Spradlin and John Kennedy) took a 7-0 record to

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## Tennis Tip: One in five to keep your jive

### **A successful strategy for the shot maker and retriever alike are mixing things up**

**By Jim Pagano**

Tennis is a game where strategies are largely based on percentages. Tactics should be measured by their percentage chance of success. The higher the chance of success (i.e. always serving to the backhand or rallying crosscourt) the more it should be employed. Unfortunately, what often happens is that a successful tactic will be overused; thus, undermining its effectiveness. When your opponent can consistently anticipate your patterns, it becomes simple to counter them.

To avoid this, try using the 80/20 principle. Develop tactics that are high percentage — practice them until you master them — then only use them 80 percent of the time. For the balance of the time, employ a different tactic to keep your opponent off-balance and to also keep the patterns fresh to you.

For the retriever (some might call them pushers), this means at least once per five points, try to press your opponent offensively by approaching the net or by developing openings in your opponents court for a put-away. Even if you are unsuccessful, the change from defensive play to offensive play will keep your opponent from becoming grooved on your shots.

For the shot-maker,

the 80/20 principle should make you play for the mistake at least one out of every five points. By doing this, you take pressure off of your shot-making skills and maybe earn a few easy points from your opponent's mistakes. You'll be surprised by how much more effective your shot-making skills become when you have a point cushion from your opponents mistakes.

The same principle applies to serving and returning in doubles. The high percentage serve is always down the middle in doubles. But at least once per service game, a smart server will take the returner out wide (always after telling your partner that you're doing so by signal or in-between point conference). This keeps the returner off balance and prevents them from "sitting" on the down the middle serve.

As the returner, low and cross-court is the high percentage play. All doubles players should try to cut-off as many serve returns as possible when playing the net position. If the returner stays in a groove with cross-court returns, the net player should cross every time to disrupt that rhythm. However, one return down the line, whether successful or not, will freeze the net-player for a split second on the return and keep them honest.

If you don't already play percentage based strategies, you should. Tennis is a thinking sport and percentage tennis allows for smart, choreographed tactics. But, once you master your prime tactics, the next step is to keep their effectiveness with variety. Use the 80/20 principle to keep your opponents off balance and maybe even develop new shots and areas of your game.

**Jim Pagano can be reached at: [jimpagano@hotmail.com](mailto:jimpagano@hotmail.com) or by phone at 720-273-2752**

#### **Rule is reversed**

*(Continued from page 1)*

Last December, the vote to not allow any CVTA teams to include lower-rated members was 6-1, with only President Steve Caulk dissenting.

"I was always kind of on the fence on this issue, because I have been victimized significantly twice by the downside of people playing outside their level," Caulk said.

Caulk and the board enforced the "no-playing up" rule his year, but the president said concern from association members had an effect on deciding to lighten things up a bit.

"It also allows you to flesh out your team if you don't have enough players," he added.

**"Even if you are unsuccessful, the change from defensive play to offensive play will keep your opponent from becoming grooved on your shots."**



**Steve  
Caulk, presi-  
dent CVTA  
Board of Di-  
rectors**

**Oct. 1, 2010**

The people who set policy for your Centennial Valley Tennis Association reached a groundbreaking conclusion on the issue of “playing within rating” recently. And I think the decision speaks volumes about how this group works on behalf of its members.

At the most recent meeting of the CVTA’s board of directors, we voted unanimously to adopt the United States Tennis Association’s policy of allowing a maximum of 25 percent out-of-rating players to play “up” a level to fill out a tennis team’s roster. Previously, the CVTA had required all players to play strictly within their own published ratings, with no one playing in a higher level except in cases where it was clear we would be unable to field a team without the “extra” player.

In other words, if the USTA listed you as a 3.0 player, you had to play for a 3.0 team in any league competition, and you could not play for the 3.5 team unless your presence would make or break the team. There are multiple reasons behind that

policy, and I don’t have space to list them all here. But here are two main ones: If you are a 3.5 player, it is unlikely you are going to want to play against another team’s 3.0 player, win the match 6-0, 6-0, and get little-to-no competitive satisfaction out of it. Additionally, when increasing numbers of players skip ahead to a higher level, it causes a snowball effect, with players in that higher level in turn reaching for their own higher levels, in search of better competition.

This issue of “playing within rating” came to a head last December when the USTA changed so many players’ ratings and the Colorado Tennis Association first offered the new “25 percent” rule. The CVTA board discussed the pros and cons in January and voted to maintain its own policy of 100 percent within ratings, with only rare exceptions. The CVTA adhered to that policy throughout the recent tennis season.

Meanwhile, some board members began to hear complaints from within the CVTA general membership. Those board members listened, digested the arguments against the 100-percent policy, and concluded that it might be most responsible for the board to re-visit the issue.

One of the complaints against the 100-percent policy was that it forced friends to quit playing together – certainly not an outcome in keeping with the CVTA’s motto of “Tennis for the Fun of It.” When the USTA changed so many ratings, some players on a team were forced to move up (or down) while others remained at the same level. The result was a fractured team – not much fun. While the CVTA officially advocates in favor of tennis players diversifying themselves socially, the board also recognizes the value of longstanding friendships. After much discussion and one unanimous vote, the CVTA now allows 25 percent of a team roster to include players with a one-level lower rating.

I’m proud of the board of directors for showing that they are willing to listen to the general members and act on their behalf, even when that action requires a U-turn in thinking. Board members were voted into office to represent the general membership, even when that means putting aside their own preferences.

And that’s what they did.

**“One of the complaints against the 100-percent policy was that it forced friends to quit playing together – certainly not an outcome in keeping with the CVTA’s motto of “Tennis for the Fun of It.”**

## Please try to keep us in touch with your news

Don’t forget this newsletter is a vehicle for members to get to know each other and share the news they think is important.

So if you’ve won a tournament, or watched your buddy win one, please give us a relatively high-resolution picture (maybe even one taken by

a phone camera) and a few words, and I’ll do my best to get it into the newsletter.

Pictures in good taste are most welcome. You can email me this information at [newsletter@cvtatennis.org](mailto:newsletter@cvtatennis.org).

— Jeff Thomas, newsletter editor

# Team records and rosters from 2010 leagues

## CTA Twilight

### 3.0 – Ted Hine captain, 1-5 record

Greg C. Harper  
Sheshadri S. Ayala  
Ryan Gary Hanneman  
Irv Stern  
Andrew Rosen

### 3.5 – Chris Haines captain, 1-6 record

Gabe Sokolowski  
Lance Olson  
Jeffrey Donald Thomas  
Dave Hwang

### 3.5 – Ian Kogan captain, 7-0 record

Dan Johnson  
John R. Shaw  
Harold H. To  
Gabe Spradlin  
John Kennedy

### 3.5 – Shaun Shanahan captain, 6-1 record

Yannick VanDosselaere  
Thai La  
Joe A. Dawson  
Mark Johnson  
Matthew F. Simms

### 4.0 – Scott Kornreich captain, 6-0 record

Gary Billingsley  
James Edward Widner  
Shawn D. Schellinger  
Jim R. Rapp  
Martin Beauchamp

### 2.5 – Sarah Hoepfinger captain, 3-5 record

Mary O'Brien  
Michelle Beard  
Marion Fisher  
Laura Ann Kubiak  
Linnae Selinga-Puyear  
Helen R. Sommer

### 2.5 – Kathy Packard captain, 5-3 record

Amie Elcan  
Mary Catherine Haller  
Suzanne DeVenny  
April Lynn Petersen  
Leanne Jenkins

### 3.0 Jodi Ansell captain, 4-3 record

April Ann Cox  
Terry Tessier  
Peggy J. Norberg  
Kathleen Dolan  
Jocelyn Olson

### 3.0 – Teresa Buckley captain, 3-4 record

Kristen G. Davidson  
Susan Hagerty  
Diana L. Green  
Pamela Kay Hazzard  
Margaret Wilson

### 3.0 – Tia Bach captain, 3-3 record

Kristen bland  
Fawnda Hathaway  
Mona A. Simon  
Lisa A. Varga  
Liz Griffin  
Diane M. Engle

### 3.5 – Paige Hayes captain, 2-4 record

Kelly D. Williams  
Mary E. Deany  
Susan H. Grubich  
Bethany Joy Sartell  
Michelle Karr  
Lori L. Canova  
Lucy Ewing

### 3.5 – Dina Sprenger captain, 2-4 record

Erica L. Schurman  
Michaela J. Masciarelli  
Pamela S. Gible  
Kerry Josephine  
Hanneman  
Elowyn Rich  
Malena Nicodemus

### 4.0 – Sarah Schupp captain, 1-6 record

Jolie A. Gallagher  
Yayoi H. Shaw  
Susan K. Jarvis  
Vicki B. Hubbard  
Carey L. Beneke  
Kim Christopherson

## USTA Senior

### 4.0 – Mark Ackermann captain, 3-3 record

Paul D. Austin  
Bill Burlage  
Eric Ruthrauff  
Paul L. Egges  
Kevin Durling  
John Buri  
Dean H. Demerite

## CTA Women 's Summer Daytime

### 3.5 – Mary Anderson captain, 3-3 record

Michaela J. Masciarelli  
Dina Sprenger  
Barbara Nickerson  
Dawn Jensen  
Lindsey L. Shipple  
Lauren A. Hannon

## USTA Adult League

### 3.0 – Ted Hine captain, 1-7 record

John D. Childs  
Sheshadri S. Ayala  
Ryan Gary Hanneman  
John M. Alexson

Irv Stern  
Stanley A. Martin  
Mark Squillance  
Greg C. Harper  
Andrew Rosen

### 3.5 – Keith MacLeod captain, 4-4 record

Keith W. MacLeod  
Joe A. Dawson  
Gabe Sokolowski  
Thai La  
Yannick VanDosselaere  
Philip Allan Schmidt  
Matthew F. Simms  
Shaun Shanahan  
Mark Johnson  
Lance Olson  
Paul Felz

### 3.5 – Eric Witte captain, 7-1 record

John R. Shaw  
Jeffrey Donald Thomas  
Dave Hwang  
Dan Johnson  
John Kennedy  
Ian Kogan  
Harold H. To  
Gabe Spradlin  
Chris Haines  
Michael W. McCormick  
Peter R. Wallace

### 4.0 – Christopher Kranz captain, 8-1 record

David E. Zile  
Eric Ruthrauff  
John Penczek  
Johu Buri  
Kevin Durling  
Keaton Howe  
Steve Filmer  
Tony Ryan  
Mark J. Ackermann  
Paul B. Shaw

### 4.0 – Michael Young captain, 4-5 record

Rami Yochai Boneh  
Steve Caulk  
Joel M. Spector  
Roxy E. Vester  
Gary F. Yost  
James N. Mockler  
John Redding  
Richard N. Youngworth  
Brian C. O'Neill

### 4.0 – Curtis Manning captain, 6-3 record

Will Wilson  
David Remucal  
Will Deaver  
Justin Rodda  
Klaus Weickmann  
Paul Lange  
William Olsen  
Eric Charles Dull  
Mark A. May

# Men's teams have successful seasons

(Continued from page 1)

districts but lost a three-way first-place tie in their flight by a tie-breaker of sets lost.

The Red Team (Yannick VanDosselaere, Thai La, Joe A. Dawson, Mark Johnson and Matthew F. Simms) took a 6-1 record to a different flight, but met with much the identical outcome — a three-way tie for first and elimination based on sets lost.

But it was a successful season for CVTA men's teams, as two teams also qualified in the spring season. Kogan noted that the team

that finished second in his Twilight league, BTA Green, got an unexpected wild-card invite to the finals and advanced to the finals.

Individuals also turned in stellar seasons. Dan Johnson (from Kogan's twilight team) did not lose a match in league play all season, including in the Twilight playoffs, where he won both of his singles matches, Kogan said.

The CVTA Red 3.5 doubles team of Joe Dawson/Yannick VanDoosselaere should finish the season as the No. 1 rated team in the state, Kogan said, after winning all five of the tournaments they entered this year.

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## Final 2010 league results for CVTA men and women's teams

(Continued from page 4)

### 4.0 – Scott Kornreich captain, 4-5 record

David Kalish  
Shawn D. Schellinger  
Gary Billingsley  
Paul D. Austin  
Jeff Parko  
Jim R. Rapp  
Richard Stromp  
Martin Beauchamp  
James Edward Widner  
Paul L. Egges

### 2.5 – Sarah Hoepfinger captain, 5-4 record

Eliza Hines  
Blaire J. Ferguson  
Mary O'Brien  
Shaun Jennifer Howe  
Laura Ann Kubiak  
Linnae Selinga-Puyear  
Marion Fisher  
Michelle Beard  
Helen R. Sommer

### 2.5 – Kathy Packard captain, 3-6 record

Mary Catherine Haller  
Mary Ann Gilmore  
Suzanne DeVenny  
Courtney Holmberg  
Marica A. Follett  
Amie Elcan  
Leanne Jenkins

### 3.0 – Tia Bach/Jodi Ansell captains, 3-5 record

Lisa A. Varga  
Katy L. Howe  
Terry Tessier  
Liz Griffin  
Peggy J. Norberg  
Mona A. Simon  
April Ann Cox  
Fawnda Hathaway  
Jocelyn Olson

### 3.0 – Teresa Buckley captain, 3-5 record

Susan E. MacLeod  
Beatrice Gerrish  
Stephanie M. Fischer  
Susan Hagerty  
Pamela Key Hazzard  
Diana L. Green  
Kristen G. Davidson  
Katie Dawson  
Margaret Wilson  
Andrea Kaufman Robbins

### 3.5 – Paige Hayes captain, 5-3 record

Lori L. Canova  
Kelly D. Williams  
Susan H. Grubich  
Mar E. Deany  
Bethany Joy Sartell  
Michelle Karr  
Diane E. Brewer  
Lucy Ewing  
Diane Zile  
Marilee Jean Ives

### 3.5 – Dina Sprenger captain, 4-6 record

Pamela S. Gibble  
Michaela J. Masciarelli  
Mary R. Anderson  
Erica L. Schurman  
Lindsey L. Whipple  
Malena Nicodemus  
Barbara Nickerson  
Elowyn Rich  
Kerry Josephine Hanneman  
Anne M. Larsen

### 4.0 – Paulette Witte captain, 2-6 record

Sarah E. Schupp  
Jolie A. Gallagher  
Yayoi H. Shaw  
Laurie Lynn Smith  
Maureen A. Cameron  
Susan K. Jarvis  
Kristi A. Elting  
Punitama Phipps  
Carey L. Beneke  
Kim Christopherson  
Vicki B. Hubbard

### Men's Trio

#### 3.5 – Ian Kogan captain, 6-0 record

Dan Johnson  
John Kennedy  
Gabe Spradlin  
Doug Turley

# Tennis shorts

## 7th annual Boulder County Cup set for Oct. 9 at CU-South

CVTA members will get the chance to play for the pride of their association, as the seventh-annual Boulder County Cup will be played Oct. 9, (rain date Oct. 10) at the CU South Tennis Courts.

That's right, this is your chance to show our competitors from Longmont and Boulder that great tennis comes from the southeastern end of this county. Play begins at 9 a.m. (depending on the number of players) and lasts until mid afternoon.

Cost is \$15 per player and association members can register online at [www.cvtatennis.org](http://www.cvtatennis.org) or by contacting League Coordinator Paige Hayes at [howdy-paige@gmail.com](mailto:howdy-paige@gmail.com).

APPROXIMATE time frames will be: 9 to 11 a.m.

for 2.5 and 3.0 players, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for 3.5 and 4.0 players, and 3 p.m. on for 4.5+ players. These are APPROXIMATE and will be finalized by the number of registrants in each level. It is likely that the period for 3.5 – 4.0 players will be expanded since so many fall into those categories.

Eligible competitors are MEMBERS of Centennial Valley Tennis Association (CVTA), Boulder Tennis Association (BTA) and Longmont Tennis Association (LTA) at all levels of play.

## Louisville to discuss rec options Oct. 6

The City of Louisville will hold a public meeting at 5:30 p.m. Oct 6 in the Brooks Room at the Louisville Recreation Center to discuss plans for recreational activities – including tennis – in the area.

The city has engaged the services of GreenPlay, a

nationally renowned park and recreation consulting firm, to assist in developing a Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the Parks & Recreation Department.

The need for the Master Plan was identified in the City of Louisville Comprehensive Plan and is intended to identify the community's park, recreation, open space and trail needs that will affect planning. The city is looking for help in identifying those needs. The CVTA urges all interested parties to attend and lend a voice in support of tennis in our area.

## Centennial courts get resurfaced

The City of Louisville finished resurfacing the two western courts at Centennial Park in September, which was a noticeable improvement, according to many CVTA players.



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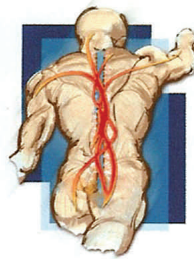
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**Business Classifieds** – If your business would like to advertise in the “Baseline Banter”, business card ad space can be purchased for \$24/year.

Comments, announcements, information, advertisements, and articles can be sent to: CVTA – Baseline Banter, P.O. Box 574, Louisville Colo. 80027

Or emailed to: [NEWSLETTER@cvtatennis.org](mailto:NEWSLETTER@cvtatennis.org)



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