



# BASELINE BANTER

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## Overflow goes to CU South

### *Board hopes to eliminate staggered starts*

**By Jeff Thomas**

With an eye toward allowing CVTA league play at the same time and place, the CVTA Board has decided to move its overflow to CU South courts.

The Centennial Valley Tennis Association Board voted 7-0 to approve the change that would redirect its overflow from Centaurus High School to CU South.

“This decision is very much in line with our motto ‘Tennis for the fun of it,’ as we wanted to make sure that our teams have the fun of playing at the

same time to complete their league matches,” said Board President Steve Caulk. “And in this case, they will be able to play all matches at the same site. Board members said they believed a big part of the fun of leagues is to be able to cheer on teammates and have everyone on hand for refreshments following play.”

The move is primarily expected to affect play on Wednesday nights, when there often isn’t enough court time at Monarch High School, and Centennial and Pirates

Using CU South should reduce the number of staggered starts for teams, in which team members play at different times, Caulk said.

The board also took into account a geographical study of the home addresses of CVTA members completed by League Coordinator Paige Hayes.

The study examined the home addresses of all CVTA members, and the distance of the homes to playing facilities that also included Alexander Dawson and Erie high schools and Centennial Middle School in Boulder.

*3.0 and 3.5 men’s teams are looking for new players — page 4*

## Help keep our tennis and city clean

### *CVTA is asking teams to help maintain city tennis parks*

**By Lisa Varga**

One of the great aspects about playing with the CVTA, headquartered in Louisville, is the excellent playing conditions of the courts and the great park atmosphere the city provides.

As CVTA members we can give a little back to the city during this time of financial difficulty by helping to keep the parks in which we play clean and maintained.

For the past few years CVTA has partnered with the City of Louisville as a participant in its “Adopt a Park Program.” One individual within our organization, John Buri, has taken the sole responsibility for this.

During 2011 we have decided to renew our agreement with the City of Louisville and we are asking for more members of our organization to share in this responsibility.

Adopt a Park is a volunteer program in which members of our organization will take turns on a scheduled basis to pick up trash

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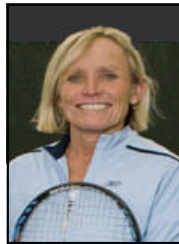
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# Tennis Tips: Your Spring Tune Up

## Rethink your doubles play for a new you

By Sue Burke



Many of us view the spring season as a time to assess, clean up and tune up various areas of our lives. Why not give your tennis game the same consideration this season?

To get started, I thought it would be helpful to address the various responsibilities of

each of the four doubles positions. After reading through these suggestions, maybe you can choose one of the four positions that really needs some attention and another that you are comfortable in, but maybe too comfortable in, aka “stale,” and set some goals for each in the upcoming season.

Did you know that on average, the serving team wins 75 percent of all points off the first serve? On the second serve, the serving team generally wins less than 40 percent of the points! As the **server** then, your first responsibility is to execute a high percentage of first serves. Seventy percent would be definitely impress partners and teammates, and

opponents will be running to check your rating!

Some of the server's other responsibilities for high-percentage play include hitting cross court on your first volley or first shot after your serve. Those of you who have worked with me know I often negatively comment about a change of direction on the first shot, especially one that leads to the dreaded unforced error.

High-percentage serving also includes serving into the opponent's body or down the “T” to minimize the angle of return; and serving at three-quarter speed creates time to get to the net and set up for the return.

Now how can a **receiver** best handle the high percentage play of the server? First, GET THE BALL BACK IN PLAY, anyway you can if necessary. Statistics show that the return of serve is a winner only one in 10 times, yet many players try to hit way too big of a shot for fear the other team might hit a winner. At least get the ball back over the net and gather some information about your opponent's skill set.

A receiver's next goal is to keep the ball away from the opposing net person, which pretty much gives the receiving team an equal chance at winning the point. Once you develop consistency in one type of return, try to add some variety to your return game. Receivers who can lob, angle, drive and hit the high, heavy

ball will have the skills and tactics to counter the various styles of play of the serving team.

Finally, receivers should approach the net as often as possible off second serves or at least the next ball after the return. When the server stays back after their serve, that is your cue to take the net away from that team.

As the **partner of the server** have you ever felt like a “bobble head” — watching the ball go back and forth between the server and receiver and not quite sure what to do about it? Thankfully, there is actually more to your position than that!

The partner of the server should be in constant motion, (with your feet, that is), faking, poaching, closing or backing up for the lob. Your job is to insert yourself into the point and pressure the receiving team to hit the ball up, hit the ball towards the middle where you can pick it off, and become indecisive with their shot selection due to your pressure. Set a goal to try to win one or two points at the net per game for your team and think “roadrunner,” not bobble head!”

One of the most overlooked positions in doubles is that of the **partner of the receiver**. Your job involves a lot more than helping to call the serve in or out. When was the last time you poached on

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**“As the partner of the server have you ever felt like a ‘bobble head’ — watching the ball go back and forth between the server and receiver and not quite sure what to do about it? ”**



Steve Caulk  
April 1, 2011

Now in its 16<sup>th</sup>  
year, the Cen-

tennial Valley Tennis Association for the first time can boast that it has a men's 4.5 tennis team competing in USTA leagues. And when our CVTA members decide to do something, they do it big. So we will actually have TWO men's 4.5 teams.

A couple of years ago, the CVTA board of directors agreed to try to encourage the formation of at least one 4.5 team, either men's or women's. This goal might seem contrary to our slogan, which is "Tennis for the Fun of It." Those 4.5 players got to where they are only by taking the game fairly seriously.

So why should the achievement of this goal matter to the CVTA and its members?

First, and probably most importantly, the better players tend to bring a little more recognition and publicity to a tennis association. That recognition and publicity is likely to help the CVTA grow.

Second, the establishment of a 4.5 team sets a great example for so many of the younger members of the CVTA, that if they keep working to improve their game, there's a good chance they can reach the same level.

Third, the 4.5 team allows the CVTA to grow in different directions. The diversity is a huge benefit in our growth efforts. Those 4.5 teams play on a different night of the week, allowing us to use our limited tennis court capacity more efficiently. We can't have 90 percent of our members playing at the 3.0 and 3.5 levels, for example, and all trying to squeeze the court reservations into a couple of nights.

Fourth, I am expecting that the 4.5 players will mingle with some of our lower-level players and share what they have learned. A player who has reached that level could probably write an entire manual describing the techniques, strategies and fitness regimens that have gotten them so far.

We probably shouldn't have been at all surprised that these guys have achieved such suc-

cess on the court. Many of them had their roots in that famous Dave Jansen 4.0 team that had three straight undefeated seasons and, in 2008, had a 45-0 individual match record. Check the story in the [CVTA's October 2008 newsletter](#).

I mentioned these guys take their tennis seriously, but I don't want to create the impression that these guys are humorless automatons, obsessed with the competitive side of tennis and unable to squeeze any joy out of it. To the contrary, they are having a huge amount of fun, as far as I can tell.

I have had the privilege of playing alongside several of them at earlier stages in their careers. I have also worked with a couple of them on the CVTA board of directors. I especially want to express my gratitude to captain Tim Bromell, formerly a board member; and captain Tony Ryan, formerly our facilities coordinator, for going to the effort of putting these teams together, bringing more people to the CVTA, and giving us all something to cheer for.

**"I don't want to create the impression that these guys are humorless automatons, obsessed with the competitive side of tennis."**

# Our 4.5 teams help the entire CVTA

## 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

# Teams/captains for CVTA 2011 leagues

## Men's Trio

4.0, Ian Kogan

## USTA Mixed Doubles

6.0, Terry Tessier

8.0, Ian Kogan

## Men's USTA Adult League

4.5, Timmy Brommel

4.5, Tony Ryan

4.0, Michael Young

4.0, Ian Kogan

4.0, Christopher Kranz

3.5, Chris Haines

3.0, Ted Hine

## Women's USTA Adult League

4.0, Yayoi Shaw

3.5, Dina Sprenger

3.5, Paige Hayes

3.0, Teresa Buckley & Sue Hagerty

3.0, Jocelyn Olson & Terry Tessier

2.5, Aimee Elcan & Marica Follett

2.5, Mary O'Brien

Registration for new teams for Trio, Adult League, Mixed Doubles, and CTA Silver Senior leagues is closed.

## Remaining registration

## deadlines:

USTA Super Senior , April 8

CTA Women's Daytime Doubles, April 29

USTA Senior, June 10

CTA Twilight, June 10

ITA Fall Mixed Doubles, July 15

## Men's teams looking for more players

Ted Hines' 3.0 men's team is still looking for players, and Chris Haines' 3.5 men's team is also looking to add one more.

The 3.0 team will play at 6 p.m. Wednesdays from May 4 to July 13. New players can rate themselves, but should follow the USTA guidelines for self rating.

Players can contact Hines at 303-666-9220 or

tedhine@sprynet.com.

The 3.5 men's team captained by Chris Haines and David Hwang is looking to add a single player. The team will play at 6 p.m. Tuesdays and is currently practicing at 8:30 a.m. Saturday at Monarch High School. Haines and Hwang can be contacted at chris.gaines1@gmail.com and hdavid.hwang@lmco.comm, respectively

## Tune up your game this spring for a new approach to doubles

*(Continued from page 2)*

your partner's return of serve for instance? Like the partner of the server, you should also be in constant motion with your feet, closing the net in the direction of your partner's return and covering about five-eighths of the net until your partner works their way forward.

As the partner of the receiver who starts the point around the service line, it is important to move forward as you volley. Netted shots account for many more errors than out balls from this position. You need to communicate with your partner as you would when they are serving and proactively try to break the serving team.

So what does your spring tune up look like? A new season is a great time to implement new and exciting skills and tactics. Move and groove and be willing to take some risks and you might be surprised how many opponents you can beat with this energy alone.

### ***Good footwork and luck this season!***

***Sue Burke, USPTA, PTR, teaches adults and juniors at Flatiron AC in Boulder and runs quick start tennis programs for children at Eldorado K-8. Sue is a USTA High Performance Coach and was recently named a national trainer for the USTA Player Development Coaching Ed program. In 2010, she received the CTA Bud Robineau Community Service Award and the ITA David Freed Lifetime Service Award.***

*Sue can be reached at [s\\_a\\_b@msn.com](mailto:s_a_b@msn.com).*

## Board wants teams to commit specific times to Adopt-A-Park

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and do minor maintenance on the windscreens at Centennial Park (Garfield), Pirates Park and at the courts at the Louisville Recreation Center.

The CVTA Board of Direc-

tors considers this an important aspect of our relationship with the City and a way to give back to our community. We are requesting each league team coordinate a schedule and devote some time to park clean up.

Board member Lisa Varga will be coordinating the program with the City and the schedule with our team captains.

If you have any questions or suggestions on how to participate please email Lisa at [Lisa.Varga@comcast.net](mailto:Lisa.Varga@comcast.net)

# Tennis shorts

## 45th annual Austin Scott Tourney held May 14 through 21

The Boulder Tennis Association invites CVTA members to play in the 45th Annual Austin Scott Memorial Tennis Tournament, May 14-21 at the University of Colorado South Campus Tennis Complex.

The cost for the tourney remains at \$29 for singles and \$20 per person for doubles events, which includes the TennisLink fee and a player's gift.

The registration deadline is 4 p.m. May 7, and online registrations are being accepted only through TennisLink.

The tourney includes men's and women's singles and doubles for 40, 50, 60 and 70 age divisions; men's and women's singles and doubles for NTRP 2.5-5.0, and open divisions; and mixed doubles 2.5-5.0 and open divisions.

To register for the tournament,

copy and paste the following web address into your browser.

<http://tennislink.usta.com/tournaments/TournamentHome/Tournament.aspx?T=89629>

If you have any questions about the tournament, please email Tournament Director Theresa Brown at [tbrown92@msn.com](mailto:tbrown92@msn.com) or visit the BTA website at:

[www.bouldertennis.org](http://www.bouldertennis.org).

## Board seeking new volunteer membership coordinator

The CVTA Board of Directors is seeking a new volunteer membership coordinator who would be able to transition gradually into the position through the end of this year and take over full responsibility by Jan. 1.

The position requires the greatest time commitment between January and April.

The position requires that member-

ships are collected from the CVTA's post office box in Louisville at least once a week. Online memberships are sent directly to the coordinator's email address. The coordinator also verifies PayPal receipts of online payments and adds new/renewed members to the database, as well as updating the "Income Received Report" for the treasurer. For more information or to express interest in the position, send an email to [info@cvtatennis.org](mailto:info@cvtatennis.org).

## County Cup to be played in summer?

Board member Dan Johnson has been named the CVTA liaison to the Boulder County Cup, which the BTA will host and run on the rotating basis this year.

One big item for the CVTA board is to encourage that Cup competition be held earlier than last year's event in October. Late August and early September are under consideration.



[www.CVTAtennis.org](http://www.CVTAtennis.org)

**League Coordinator:** Paige Hayes – [leagues@cvtatennis.org](mailto:leagues@cvtatennis.org)

**Webmaster:** Yeida Chang – [webmaster@cvtatennis.org](mailto:webmaster@cvtatennis.org)

**Membership Info:** Carey Beneke – [membership@cvtatennis.org](mailto:membership@cvtatennis.org)

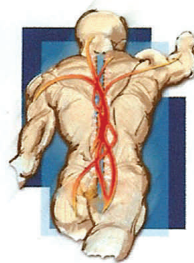
**Newsletter Editor:** Jeff Thomas – [newsletter@cvtatennis.org](mailto:newsletter@cvtatennis.org)

**Membership Classifieds** – Members can run an ad free of charge in the newsletter. All ads will run for one issue unless noted otherwise.

**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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