

## MILLBRAE RACQUET CLUB

301 SANTA PAULA AVE  
MILLBRAE CA 94030  
650-583-4345  
WWW.MILLBRAERACQUETCLUB.NET

# BETWEEN THE LINES

## MRC NEWSLETTER

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**President:** Missy Chiesa

**Secretary:** Jim Van Ness

**Treasurer:** Humberto Melara

**Membership:** Claudia Edson

**Communications:** Helen Brosnan

**Operations:** Bob Lopez

**Tournaments:** Ken Hoeck

**Newsletter:** Ramesh Dronamraju

**Scheduler:** Kari Roberts

**Technology:** Alan Tse

Hi MRC members  
Spring has sprung, and Tennis has begun. It's been wonderful to be able to get out between the raindrops and hit the ball and see our members.

It has been a bummer that our last two fundays have been rainouts. It's always

wonderful to see everybody meet new members and just catch up with everyone.

Hopefully next one will have a great turnout and the rain will stay away that day. We are getting close to launching our new website on CourtReserve. Still fine-tuning some bugs and issues that we found

which is fine. So please stay tuned for announcements for the CourtReserve start up.

Wishing everyone good health, good tennis, and great days ahead.

**Missy**

### WELCOME TO NEWCOMER'S CLINIC

### Inside this issue

Editorial note	2
MRC Fun Days Calendar	3
Uncle Sleepy unwanted chat	4
USTA update	5
Action Gallery	6-7

Hi everyone,  
Back in February we had our first ever

"newcomers clinic" with the assistance and planning of Shannon Rudolph and we all welcomed our new members. It was a great way for

everyone to meet each other, get a little familiar with Shannon and just have a good day hitting tennis.

Thanks to Shannon and everyone who came out.

**Missy**



**Editor in chief**

**Ramesh Dronamraju**

**Copy Editor**

**Jim Van Ness**

**Photographer**

**Janice Carter**

# BETWEEN THE LINES

## MRC NEWSLETTER

### ON THE LINE- EDITORIAL NOTE



It was summer of 1980 in Boston. I had a full plan in place to hook on to TV and watch Wimbledon final on that Sunday. Then came a sudden dagger to my plans. My parents called me to tell that they are coming from India to New York on that Sunday and asked me to receive them at JFK. I was in great dilemma between watching Wimbledon final and to receive my parents at JFK.

That was no ordinary tennis match. Borg vs. McEnroe—lefty vs. righty, attacker vs. defender, fire vs. ice, machine vs. mad genius. It was a rivalry made in tennis heaven. While the two would face each other just a few times, they became the standard by which all of the sport's future duels would be measured. How to pass on watching game or ignore my parents request.

Then I came a self serving compromise. Go to New York on Saturday check in to a hotel and watch tennis at 9.00 AM Sunday and receive my parents after it ends. Even though the plane lands at 11.00 AM, I gave generous 2 hours selfishly for them to clear customs so that I could complete my watching and go to the airport. Except there is

one problem. I was not anticipating the match of the history is in making. This Wimbledon final serves as a reminder of a golden era now long past. As I checked in the hotel and glued my self to TV around 8.30 am I was hoping the match can not last more than 2 hours and it should give me ample time to pick up my parents by 1.00 pm. I was so wrong.

Borg was a notorious slow starter, but he outdid himself on this day, flipping balls into the net on his way to a 6-1 first-set loss. But while McEnroe was confident of his chances against him on grass, he wasn't yet free from the Assassin's mystique; Borg was, after all, a childhood hero of his. The American kept the door ajar at the end of the second set just long enough for Borg to knife his way through with two pinpoint passing shots. Borg groove into the match at last, He didn't appear that he would let go. He won the third set quickly, and struck again for what looked like the final service break late in the fourth set.

But McEnroe produced a amazing shots of his own to break back. The Rebel and the Assassin took it to a fourth-set tiebreaker. This would become the tie breaker that would never end, and which Borg couldn't win. It was also one of the great game of tennis ever played. For the next 34 points, in the war of 18-16, they gave all they got. McEnroe saved five more match points, while Borg saved an equal number of set points. Every shot was tracked down, every stroke of brilliance topped by another, every superb approach beaten by a better pass. Finally, with the

tension as high as it had ever been inside the Centre Court. At 16-17, Borg had finally cracked. McEnroe was sure that he would be the new Wimbledon champion after winning historic tiebreaker.

I was excited to my peak and in no mood to do anything other than hook to the match and enjoy every bit of it and the thought of receiving my parents erased in my self serving memory.

Even though McEnroe fought well in the 5th set it was Borg who assumed his familiar victory pose—knees on the ground, hands held out prayerfully before him—for a fifth straight year, with a 1-6, 7-5, 6-3, 6-7 (16), 8-6 win.

Finally after I completed watching the master piece of tennis, I realized it was almost 2.00 pm. I rushed myself to JFK to notice my nervous parents waiting for me for last hour and half. Shamelessly I put the blame on New York traffic.

My folks, tennis is a great game. I am glad I am part of it. Thanks for the opportunity to serve.



**Do not criticize your partner while you play doubles. Instead offer encouragement. Always display good sportsmanship-compliment your opponent on good shots.**

**MRC Etiquette**

# BETWEEN THE LINES

## MRC NEWSLETTER

### MRC FUN DAYS-HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA

Come and join us at remaining 2023 Fun Days.

If you have never experienced a Fun Day, it's a morning full of social doubles, in-person conversations, food and drink. It's the best place to meet people and to find your tennis partners.

MRC will provide all the beverages and tennis balls.

Because fun days are popular, sign-up quickly when you receive the email announcement, using the link in the email or at the MRC website under Events/Funday registration. If you can't get either

method to work, contact Ken Hoeck at frankus33@aol.com

**Sunday, May 5th**

**"Cinco de Mayo"**

**Monday, May 27th**

**"Memorial Day"**

**Sunday, June 30th**

**"Independence Day"**

**Sunday, August 4th**

**"Summer Fun Day"**

**Monday, September 2nd**

**"Labor Day"**

**Sunday, September 29th**

**"Almost Oktoberfest"**

**Sunday, October 27th**

**"Halloween"**

**Sunday, December 1st**

**"Year End"**

**Sunday, December 8th**

**"Holiday Party"**



Talk quietly when standing near the courts that are in use.

MRC Etiquette

### WELCOME TO THE CLUB- NEW MEMBERS

**Rita Deiz** 3.5 US

650 245-8548

ritagriffindeiz@gmail.com

**Amanda Chen** 3.5 USTA

425 623-6754

chen\_Ac@hotmail.com

**Euni Kown** Intermediate

415 948-5478

e\_kown@yahoo.com

**Eugene Sivadas** 3.0 Self

425 269-9576

eugene\_sivadas@yahoo.com

**Eric Ranta** Beginner

650 863-8801

ericranta@gmail.com



# BETWEEN THE LINES

## MRC NEWSLETTER



### UNCLE SLEEPY UNSOLICITED ADVICE FOR NEW MEMBERS

#### How can I find someone at my level to play?

That's a piece of cake. Go to club website (millbraeracquetclub.net). Click on page called "Find a Player". It has a list of other members who are looking for someone to play with. Enter your data too. Don't be shy -- call or text them or ask them if they want to play.

#### Can I bring a guest to play?

Yes, pay the \$5 per guest fee, either by using Venmo or cash. Don't leave cash on the table. Fill out a provided guest fee envelope, put the cash in the envelope, and drop the envelope in the slot in the door between the two bathroom doors.

#### How do I schedule my court time?

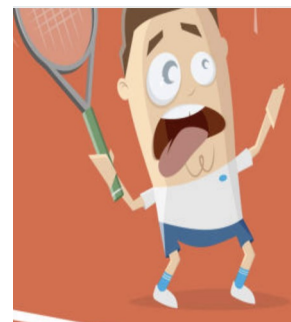
Now you are talking. Go to MRC booking system

(mrccourts.skedda.com). Login with your email and use your password and you can schedule.

#### I lost my club key what should I do?

No worries. Call or send a text or email to Claudia Edson (stedson1@aol.com) She will help you to get a duplicate.

That's all folks for now. Have fun and it's time for me to sleep.



### ELITE TENNIS RETURNS TO BAY AREA WITH NEXT YEAR'S LAVER CUP IN SAN FRANCISCO

The Bay Area's rich history of tournament tennis dates to the late 19th century, but the region found itself without a high-level event when the WTA moved the Silicon Valley Classic to Washington, D.C., last year.

The sport now is returning, at a new if familiar venue.

The Laver Cup, an international team event, will take place at Chase Center in September 2025, it was announced Thursday. The event honors Hall of Famer Rod Laver, the Australian who won 11 Grand Slams and was the world's top player in the late 1960s.

The Laver Cup matches six top men's European players against six players from the

rest of the world in a three-day competition. The event started in 2017 and rotates between sites in Europe and North America.

This year's edition is scheduled for Sept. 20-22 in Berlin, Germany. Chicago and Boston are the U.S. cities to have hosted the event, which was held last year in Vancouver, B.C.

Roger Federer, the 20-time Grand Slam champion and one of the Laver Cup creators, welcomed the addition of San Francisco.

"Bay Area fans will love the way the Laver Cup brings together the world's top players as teammates," Federer said in a statement. "They will see them putting aside their rivalries and sitting courtside together cheering each other on. This doesn't exist anywhere else."

Federer isn't the only all-time great involved in the event: current captains of the Laver Cup teams are Bjorn Borg (Europe) and John McEnroe (World).

The SAP Open men's tournament had been a fixture on the Bay Area sporting landscape (most recently in San Jose), dating to 1889 and running all the way through its departure in 2013. The women's event also had a long run, starting in 1971 and including Venus Williams' pro debut in Oakland in 1994.

Next year's Laver Cup punctuates a strong 2025 lineup at Chase Center, which also will host the NBA All-Star Game in February; the West Regional of the NCAA men's basketball tournament in March; and the new WNBA team's inaugural season starting in May.

By Ron Kronick

San Francisco Chronicle

Contributed by Jim Van Ness

Never walk behind the court when a point is in play. Wait until the point is over and then cross as fast as possible.

#### MRC Etiquette





# BETWEEN THE LINES

## MRC NEWSLETTER

### ORGANIZED TENNIS CALENDAR

#### Men's Doubles

Thursday 8.30–10.30 AM

Contact:

Ken Hoeck

frankus33@aol.com

#### Women's Doubles

Tuesday 9.00 –11.00

Contact :

Rita Armstrong

rita.armstrong300@gmail.com

### USTA TEAM UPDATE

Hi MRC Members,

As our two Winter teams close out their seasons, we're looking forward to fielding four teams in the Spring.

Thanks to the Winter Captains – Humberto Melara, Missy Chiesa, and Lauren Rosen for dealing with multiple rained out, rescheduled, and continued matches. Special thanks to Scheduler Kari Roberts for always helping find an open court for everyone.

The season starts on March 24 for our Women's 55/over 7.0 team, captained by Rita Armstrong. Soon to follow will be the Women's 55/over 6.0 team headed by Linda Difuntorum and Sally Downing.

Mid-April will be the start of the 18/over season for the Men's 4.5 team captained by Ben Wu and the Women's 3.5 team with Kari Roberts and Anne Rainwater leading the way.

Lots of competitive tennis to be hosted on MRC's Courts this Spring – feel free to come out and watch, cheer, and support our members.

The next registration period for USTA starts on April 22 for combo doubles, with the season starting in mid-June.

Best of luck to everyone playing and we'll see you on the courts!

To connect with other MRC players who may be interested in forming or joining a team, please consult the MRC directory or contact Lauren Rosen

### HELP FOR SAFETY OF OUR CLUB

Hi MRC Members,

On Sunday afternoon, during a USTA match with the courts full and another dozen or so spectators on the deck, a young man wearing a safety vest came through the front door and asked for access to the cell tower near Court 5. We asked him for identification and he offered only his driver's license. We explained to him that we couldn't grant him access as it is not our property. (We lease our land from PG&E.) He explained that he was supposed to get a key on Monday but he really wanted to get his inspection done on Sunday afternoon. He left politely.

But... he returned 15 minutes later with his boss on the phone. Two members spoke to him outside of the club. He offered the same story with the assurance that his boss on the phone could get us

a document showing that he was authorized. Together, they tried a lot harder but we finally asked them to leave saying there was nothing we could do for them.

He did not return later, and all is good as far as we know.

Just wanted to use this incident to remind everyone to treat the club and courts as you would your home. Keep the front door closed and lock the clubhouse and all gates when you leave. If you are expecting a guest, ask them to call you when they arrive and let them in yourself. Introduce yourselves to members you don't recognize so that we all get to know each other better.

If you ever feel that you are in danger, call 911

For non-emergency or suspicious circumstances, we have posted the Sheriff's non-emergency number in the clubhouse(650) 363-4911

While playing tennis make calls on your own lines and let your opponent hear the call. If the ball is good say nothing and play on.

Thanks

MRC ETIQUETTE

# BETWEEN THE LINES

## MRC NEWSLETTER

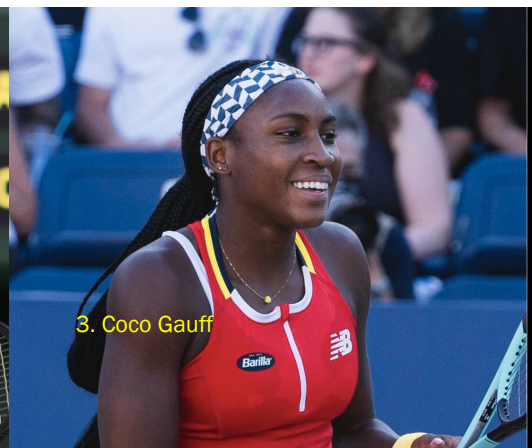
2024 TOP TEN USTA WOMEN CURRENT RANK



1. Iga Swiatek



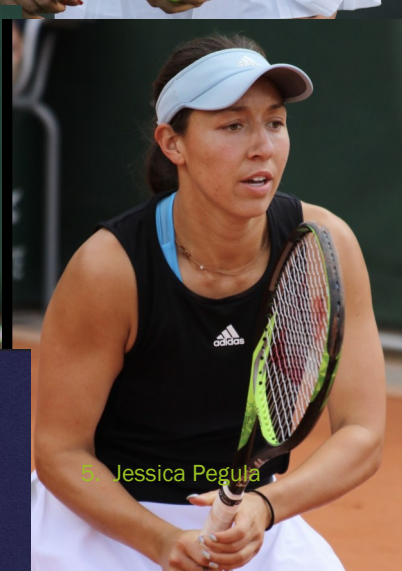
2. Aryana Sabalenka



3. Coco Gauff



5. Elena Rybakina



4. Jessica Pegula



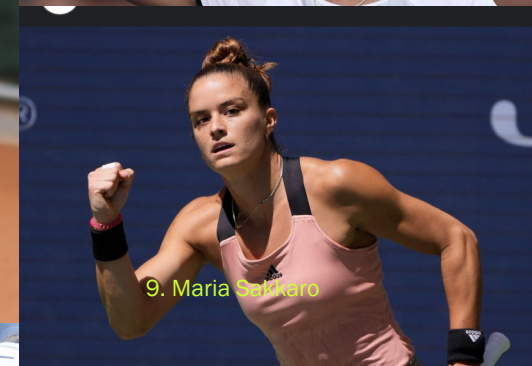
6. Ons Jabeur



7. Qinwen Zheng



8. Marketa Vondrosova



9. Maria Sakkaro



10. Jelena Ostapenco



# BETWEEN THE LINES

## MRC NEWSLETTER

2024 TOP TEN USTA MEN AS CURRENT RANK



1. N. Djokovic



2. C. Alcaraz



3. J. Sinner



4. D. Medvedev



5. A. Zverev



6. Rublev



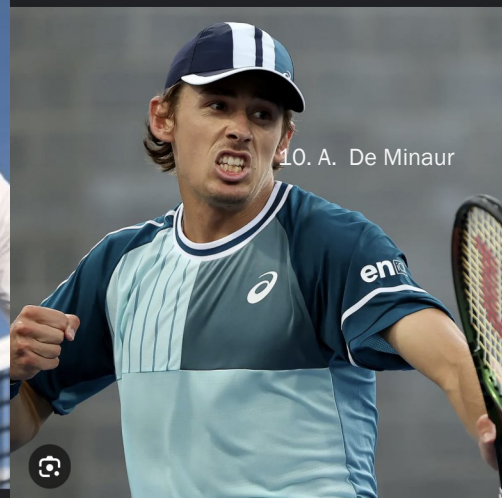
7. H. RUNE



8. S. C. Rudd



9. H. Hurkacz



10. A. De Minaur