

## Day 5 Tournament Preview

### **It's Friday the 13th!**

If you're like me, you have a variety of rituals and superstitions in your day-to-day to fend off bad fortune, and particularly when it comes to tennis. Before a big tournament match I always do the same thing. I start by taking a shower right beforehand and singing 'Luck Be A Lady Tonight' just like Frank Sinatra while snapping my fingers to the beat. Then I always get dressed the same way - first my lucky undergarment, then shorts, then shirt, then left sock then right, left shoe right, wrist band with the Nike swoosh facing down, hat on backwards. Then I always brush (but only sometimes floss) my teeth. Then I find the cat and pet him on his head and say, "that's a good boy," three times. Then I stop and play the middle C note on the piano just before walking out the door. Then I walk toward the Club only on my side of 22nd Street, and then cut over from Phil Rothrock's driveway and J-walk at a direct angle toward Nick Ruess's front steps, ensuring their great skills rub off on me. Then after looking both ways twice - left, right, left, right - I cross to the pool entry corner, make a sharp left quarter turn (like when I marched in the Navy), and walk toward the entry without touching a crack, then ONLY up the ramp, never the stairs on tournament day. Then I walk through the door and if Conor is sitting there I give him a subtle and knowing head nod, and, if he winks back at me, I know fate and fortune are on my side.

Conor wasn't sitting there last night when I walked in. Then I got my butt kicked in my match. Thanks Conor.

**Tonight's meal is Clint's Famous Blackened Salmon & Caesar Salad** from the 4.0 Men. (It's actually his first time making it, but it will be famous after that). Dinner starts at 5:30 pm

Also available tonight is **The Black Cat**, our **signature drink** for the evening at \$3 a pop!

The action is heating up this weekend. Tonight's matches are all BIG! So come on over, get some fish, sip some spirits, and don't break any mirrors or walk under any ladders on the way.

A HUGE thank you to Terry Folen and crew and all of the organizations last night at Voluntirvington. And thank you to everyone who came through the ballroom. It was a great display of what our community and this club is all about. Bravo!

Check out all the tournament details at ([embed Tournament Central here](#)) and the ([embed USTA homepage here](#))

May luck be with you tonight and in your match, and if you want to borrow any of my rituals you can have them. They're not working for me anymore.

See you there, and beware!

Ron

PS. Tomorrow night is Kid's Night/Sports Night. The ballroom will be set up with fun and games for all the kids from 5:30-7:30 pm. Everybody wear your favorite sports gear.

PSS. Anyone who wears a Friday the 13th movie hockey mask tonight gets a free drink!