



Irvington Club News



February 2022



Notes From the General Manager

Dear Irvington Club Members,

By the time you read this, you will have received your ballot for The Irvington Club Board of Trustees. As I mentioned earlier, we have an amazing slate and I hope you will take the time get to know these people, as it will be difficult to narrow it down to three. We are a small Club, so if you don't know one of the people, I am sure someone you know will. It is a huge commitment and we all have been going through some real challenges in the past two years. Knowing the heart of this membership, I am confident we will come out of all of this and regain the environment we were used to pre-covid.

One of the hardest things for me is missing the "social." We are social animals and to not be able to eat, drink, and socialize is taxing for all of us. The Pros and I meet weekly and it is clear to us that some of the excitement and fun of the tournaments is just not there. People are reluctant to come and watch and it sure is more fun having a crowd cheering you on.

I so appreciate the *Thank You's* and *Great job on the tournament* we often hear or receive through email. Some are from our newer members who have yet to experience what a "real" Irvington Club tournament is like. They will be back, I promise, and it can't be soon enough!

I bid farewell to Cathy, Linda, and Stephen. I am so very fortunate to have had the privilege to work with them these past few years. Stephen wins "the longest serving Board Member" award. I believe 7 years in total. Remember, these three and the rest of the Board agreed to stay on another year to help guide us during these challenging times. We were meeting weekly at times and making lots of hard decisions. It will be wonderful to see them here at the Club just playing tennis and having fun.

There is certainly a tangible edginess in the air, and it is so easy to take out our frustrations on one another. We have lost over 20 Club members since 2019. Because of COVID, for many, we could not even say good bye or show our respect to their families. I urge all of us to show grace and patience for ourselves and others. We may be smiling on the outside but crying on the inside and this is what sets our Club apart from any other. It is our community, our friends, our support groups; so far beyond the game of tennis. The smallest gesture of kindness can mean a lot to many and all of us are doing the best we can.

Best,

Barbara

Calendar of Events

February

5th-13th ~ The Irvington Club Mixed Doubles Tennis Championships

14th ~ Valentine's Day

21st ~ President's Day

March

3rd-6th ~ The Oregon State Senior Men's Tennis Championships

17th ~ St. Patrick's day

20th ~ Spring begins

President's Message

This is my final message to you as President of the Irvington Club. As I reflect upon the last 2 years, I can honestly say that it has been the most difficult, and in some ways, the most rewarding period of time. I developed some lasting friendships that I did not have previously and worked with some very thoughtful and dedicated Board members as well as our great Pros and staff and conscientious and hard working Club Manager. We have kept the Club as safe as we possibly could and Barb, the Pros, and our staff have been creative in offering us as many of our normal events as possible. The Club is very sound financially thanks to the many grants Barb was able to secure. We will continue on with our diversity, equity, and inclusion work. Once the virus allows, we will expand on our youth programs, community engagement, and tennis program development. As I have said before, this Board is the most involved and diligent Board I have served on at the Club. Their dedication has made it possible for us to continue to evolve as a wonderful place to share our love of tennis. I hope to see you on the courts!

- Cathy Zarosinski

Walter's Wisdom

Navigating Junior Tennis Tournaments in the Pacific Northwest

Ok, so your kids had a blast at our annual Junior Club Championships presented by Big League Chew Bubblegum. They got a lot of match experience; got their bubble gum and shirts and might have even won trophies and had their names engraved up on the plaque on the wall. Now what?

Finding tournaments for your kiddos can be a struggle and having three kids myself who play tennis I can completely empathize with you. That's why I am writing this article for this month's newsletter. Basically, there are two kinds of tournaments your kids can compete in: USTA (United States Tennis Association) or UTR (Universal Tennis Rating) events. This is great because you have more options, however, because of Covid indoor tennis facilities have been slow to host these kinds of events locally. In the next few weeks, you should begin to see more events that will pop up that you can register for. Bookmark these two websites now: [USTA Tournament Search](https://playtennis.usta.com/tournaments) (https://playtennis.usta.com/tournaments) and [UTR Tournament Search](https://www.universaltennis.com/) (https://www.universaltennis.com/).

For your kiddo to participate in USTA and UTR you will need to register and create a profile for each child. It's 100% free to do this for the kids. The USTA recently made it free for children to register as a member in an effort to boost more junior play. Most of you have USTA memberships for your kiddos, but UTR is fairly new and so you will need to join as a player and then using your kiddos profile you can begin registering for tournaments.

Read up on UTR and how the algorithm works so you get familiar with it. Tournament success is a huge indicator of how far your kiddo will go with tennis. Whether it be competing in High School, playing college tennis or even going Pro.

- Walter Seidel, Tennis Director

News from the Community Involvement Committee (CIC)

Support The Red Cross and Donate Blood

CIC's Project for February

The CIC thought that because February is the month we **give** Valentines, and we are surrounded by many things that are red; we want to encourage our members to donate blood this month.

The Red Cross reports that blood banks are currently experiencing an extreme shortage of blood and is seeking donors. To find out how to donate go to <https://www.redcrossblood.org>. Our local blood bank can be found at 3131 N. Vancouver Avenue, 97227. Go to the website or call [503-284-1234](tel:503-284-1234).

Please consider **giving** something **RED** by donating blood to help increase the amount of blood available for others in our community.

Book Discussion

The Sum of Us What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together

Author Heather McGhee gives a brilliant analysis of how we are divided and self-destructing, materially rich but spiritually starved and vastly unequal. McGhee, a descendant of enslaved people, is very much concerned with the situation of Black Americans, making clear that the primary victims of racism are the people of color who are subjected to it. "The Sum of Us" is predicated on the idea that little will change until white people realize what racism has cost them too.

We will meet in person or via zoom on Thursday, March 17th at 7:00PM.

Be a Volunteer at MLK Elementary School

~Help with Safety Patrol crossing at 8:15 and/or 3:00 for 15 minutes at MLK and NE Going Streets

~Help in the Cafeteria at lunchtime to help teach kids how to compost.

~Help pass out Portland Backpack Bags on Friday afternoons.

Contact Stephanie at stephanievickers@me.com if any of these activities are of interest to you and you want to help at the school.

Openings on the Tennis Committee

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Self-nominate by 2-7-22

The Board of Trustees plans to appoint four members to join the Tennis Committee. If you are interested in nominating yourself, email Stephanie Vickers, Chair of the committee at stephanievickers@me.com by **February 7th** with your name and reasons why you wish to serve on the committee.

The Committee meets the second Wednesday of the month at 6:15PM, and meetings last about an hour. It is important to note that voting members are expected to attend 75% of the monthly meetings.

See the Club handbook (pgs. 28-29) for a detailed explanation of the function and role of the committee.

I want to thank Sarie Crothers, Willis Boyer, Denise Townsend, and Marc Gonzales for their years of serving on the committee and for their support, interest, and commitment to our tennis programs.

New Dues and Fees to take effect March 1st, 2022

With our newly approved annual budget, we are implementing modest raises to our monthly dues and across our fees. As you may recall, we held the club dues flat over the past year and our fees have not changed for the past three years. But now we must adjust them to cover our growing expenses, especially as our property tax historic exemption expires this year. In an effort to minimize the dues increase to 2% for all members, you will see small increases to our fees for things like tennis lessons, snacks and drinks, and pool activities. After a review of our peer clubs, we believe our new rates remain similar to or less than the fees charged elsewhere. These new rates will take effect beginning March 1, 2022.

Dues:		
Type	2021	2022
Individual	\$127.00	\$130.00
Couple	\$156.00	\$159.00
Family	\$178.00	\$182.00
Non-Resident	\$74.00	\$75.00
Senior	\$74.00	\$75.00
Associate	\$112.00	\$114.00
Junior	\$65.00	\$66.00
Sabbatical	\$42.00	\$43.00
Medical Leave	\$42.00	\$43.00
Med. Leave w/ Weight Rm	\$63.00	\$64.00
Honorary	\$0.00	\$0.00
120 Club	\$0.00	\$0.00
Social	\$50.00	\$51.00

Pool	2021	2022
Single	\$607.00	\$620.00
Couple	\$985.00	\$1,005.00
Additional person	\$42.00	\$43.00
Nanny	\$57.00	\$58.00

Lesson Rates:				
Private	2021 Members	2022 Members	2021 Non-Members	2022 Non-Members
1 Hour	\$60.00	\$65.00	\$70.00	\$75.00
3/4 Hour	\$48.00	\$52.00	\$55.00	\$59.00
1/2 Hour	\$34.00	\$37.00	\$43.00	\$46.00
Group	2021 Members	2022 Members	2021 Non-Members	2022 Non-Members
Adult	\$14.50 and up	\$15.75 and up	\$17.00 and up	\$18.00 and up
Junior	\$11.75 and up	\$12.75 and up	\$17.75 and up	\$19.25 and up

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Hello friends, family, and community!

I have made a big change!



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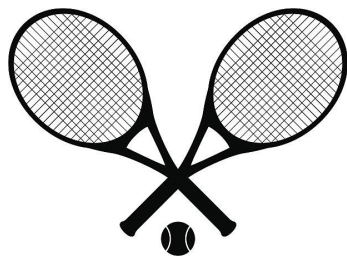
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