

December Match Point Newsletter

President's Corner: Achieving Goals

Hello MatchPointers,

Watching Victoria Azarenka dominate the WTA tour early this season was one of my delights this year. She won the Australian Open (6-3, 6-0), over Maria Sharapova, and claimed her first grand slam title. With that win she became the #1 player in women's tennis, and she performed well enough to retain the year-end #1 ranking for 2012. I first became aware of Azarenka when at 15, she moved to Scottsdale from her home country of Belarus to train for the professional game. Because of her connection to the Phoenix area, I always think of her as a 'local girl', and I've been following her progress on the women's tour since then. Here is what she said when she clinched the year end #1 ranking, "It's just been an incredible year—I've had my two dreams come true. To be a part of this history is just an incredible thing. When I first started to play tennis as a little girl, becoming No.1 in the world seemed so far away, and now I'm standing here and holding that trophy." Her achievement reminds me of another accomplishment, though not on the same scale. I got interested in tennis in my 30s; and after going through a 6-week class in the local park near our home, I absolutely fell in love with the sport. This was 1991. I started to play matches with friends, and in small tournaments. Soon after, I was introduced to Match Point and other clubs that existed then, and started to play in the tournaments. All that time, I really only had one focus - to learn and master the game. Soon, I set a goal to become a 5.0 level player because 5.0 players were the best I could see around. By 1994 I was already a 4.0 player and by 1996, I was winning tournaments at the 4.5 level. But to get to that 5.0 level took longer, and for a while I thought it would not happen. But it finally happened in 2004! I had achieved my tennis goal! The feeling at the time, was for me, disbelief!

Given my own experience, I can identify with Azarenka's feelings stated above. It is clear that goals, even lofty goals, can be achieved. Looking back, I think the key ingredient for me was a strong desire to learn, and a commitment to improving without cutting corners. It works in tennis, and guess what... it works in life too.

Cheers,
David Filani
President, MPTC



Next Two Tournaments

January 19 & 20: CYOP Mixed Dbls-Daytime

Entry Deadline: Saturday, January 12th

This is a popular event so line up your partner soon. You can request to start play Saturday morning or afternoon. Details shown later in this newsletter. Sunday matches are semifinals and/or finals and are all played in the morning or early afternoon. Dues through March, 2013 must be paid to play. Call or email Gale if not certain your dues are paid. Entry form inside and also on our website.



February 23 & 24: CYOP Doubles-Daytime

Entry Deadline: Saturday, February 16th

Dues through March, 2013 must be paid to play. This is a day tournament and you can request to start play Saturday morning or afternoon. Call or email Gale if not certain your dues are paid. You can also find out by checking the Member's listing on our website. Logon & p/w details below. Entry form inside and later on our website.



Special Deal Still Available

October through March tournaments:

Recruit two brand new or former members (2010/11 MP year or earlier) to join/rejoin and receive a free tournament entry for yourself.

Dues at this time:

Current members are paid through the March, 2013 tournament. For all others, dues are \$25 for coverage through the March, 2014 tournament.



Volunteers Needed

We currently need Tournament Directors and desk help for all of the 2013 tournaments. Call or email Gale at 602-973-1135 or phoenix.tennis@hotmail.com if you are available to help out at any of them.



Web Site: <http://www.mptennis.us>

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December Singles



AW FINAL – December, 2012

Final: Christina Taylor def. Christy Schreiber (1) 6-3, 6-3
Semi: Christina Taylor def. Sue Kodiene (2) 6-0, 6-0
Semi: Christy Schreiber (1) def. Stevy Eutace 4-6, 7-6₁, 6-1



AW CONSOLATION – December, 2012

Final: Ann Coover def. Pam Hopkins 6-4, 6-4



BW FINAL – December, 2012

Final: Natasha Huzevka (4) def. Leslie Webb 6-2, 6-4
Semi: Natasha Huzevka(4) def. Sandra Kindred (1) 6-3, 6-4
Semi: Leslie Webb def. Kate Waite (2) 6-3, 7-5



BW CONSOLATION – December, 2012

Final: Elena Ivanova (3) def. Sofia Sebesta 6-2, 4-6, 7-5



CW - 4 Person Round-Robin Dec. 2012

L-R: Kate Branch & Kathy Becker
1st Place: Kate Branch 3-0
2nd Place: Kathy Becker 2-1



CW – 4 Person Round-Robin Dec. 2012

L-R: Chandra Shanklin & Jami Becraft

December Singles



AM FINAL – December, 2012

Final: Amit Chawla (1) def. Stuart McNicol (5) 6-2, 6-3
Semi: Amit Chawla (1) def. Diego Samaniego (4) 6-3, 6-2
Semi: Stuart McNicol (5) def. Dane McNeil (7) 6-3, 6-0



AM CONSOLATION – December, 2012

Final: Rich Adams def. Jose Hernandez 6-4, 7-6



BM FINAL – December, 2012

Final: Marc Fergonise (1) def. Omar Garcia (2) 6-3, 6-3
Semi: Marc Fergonise (1) def. David Javier 6-1, 6-2
Semi: Omar Garcia (2) def. Curt Hensley 6-2, 6-4



BM CONSOLATION – December, 2012

Final: Shane Johnson def. Evan Lewis (5) 6-2, 6-4



CM FINAL – December, 2012

Final: Jesus Monarrez (1) def. Julio Gamez 4-6, 4-0 retire
Semi: Jesus Monarrez (1) def. Mark Horlings 6-3, 6-2
Semi: Julio Gamez def. James Harrison (3) 2-6, 7-6₅, 6-0



CM CONSOLATION – December, 2012

Final: Cal Peters def. Charlie Simmons 6-0, 7-5

Tournament Entry Information

Choose Your Own Partner Mixed Doubles – January 19th & 20th Daytime

Dates: January 19th & 20th - Day Tournament

Location: Phoenix Tennis Center

6330 N. 21st Avenue

Phoenix, Arizona

Directors: No one here yet, how about you?

Chairman: Match Point Board

Entry fee: \$15

Deadline: January 12th

Send entry & fee (payable to Match Point) to

Gale Kristof

6246 N. 34th Ave.

Phoenix, AZ 85017

602-973-1135

Name: _____ A B C

Name: _____ A B C

Name: _____ A B C

Name: _____ A B C

Choose Your Own Partner Doubles – February 23rd & 24th Daytime

Dates: February 23rd & 24th - Day Tournament

Location: Phoenix Tennis Center

6330 N. 21st Avenue

Phoenix, Arizona

Directors: No one here either, how about you?

Chairman: Match Point Board

Entry fee: \$15

Deadline: February 16th

Send entry & fee (payable to Match Point) to

Gale Kristof

6246 N. 34th Ave.

Phoenix, AZ 85017

602-973-1135

Name: _____ A B C

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Name: _____ A B C

MEMBERSHIP FORM :

Current Members: Current members are paid through the March, 2013 tournament. If you are not certain of your status, you can check by going to the Member's link on our website or by calling Gale @ 602-973-1135.

New members: Dues for new members are \$25 for coverage through the March, 2014 tournament.

Make checks payable to Match Point Tennis Club – OK to combine with entry check -

mail to Gale Kristof, 6246 N 34th Ave, Phoenix, AZ, 85017 or pay via PayPal on our website @ \$1 extra

Note: If you pay dues at tournament desk with cash, please make sure it is written down somewhere.

1st Member

Division: AM AW BM BW CM CW

2nd member

AM AW BM BW CM CW

Name _____ Name _____

Address _____ Address _____

Home phone _____ Home phone _____

Cell phone _____ Cell phone _____

Email _____ Email _____

Note 1: All emails sent "blind copies" to protect your privacy as best we can

Start time request options for day tournaments

For any day tournament, you can request to start either Saturday morning or Saturday afternoon. When sending your entry, let me know when you must be off the court if requesting a morning match or when you can start for an afternoon match. I will let you know quickly if we cannot accommodate your request. I will do my best to meet your requested need.

Match Point Information

New Members for the December Tournament – Welcome to All!

AM: Jose Hernandez
CM: Alex Firzli

AW: Ann Coover
CW: Chandra Shanklin

BM: Shane Johnson

Division changes: Marc Fergonise to the A's and Bob Edenhofer to the B's. Congratulations to both!

Year-To-Date High Point Leaders (April through December tournaments)

AM: Amit Chawla (445), Nilo Baylon (290), Diego Samaniego (260)

AW: Yuki Shoji (355), Kristin Morgan (320), Aide' Smedes (260)

BM: Rick Ebel (260), Marc Fergonise* (255), Omar Garcia (230)

BW: Joanne Uhl* (305), Margie Vasquez (290), Jenna Ryan (230)

CM: Bob Edenhofer* (350), Gay King (320), John Chapman & Gearld Jones (tied at 210)

CW: Natalie Nofsinger (375), Jessie Li (325), Renae Rochon* (320)

Note: Those with an * have since moved up to the next higher division.

Match Point Members at 2012 Nationals – Congratulations to Both Teams!

CAZ 4.5 Men Claim National Championships

Team Members (MP members in bold): Jonathan D Levy, Joseph A Martinez, Kurt Zweifel, Kyle Ogren, **Stuart McNicol**, Jacob P Spizman, **Stone Jin**, **Michael F Flynn**, Thomas F Kollock, Niles Jackson, Michael W Flinn (captain)

In the men's championship, the Southwest men from Phoenix defeated the Mid-Atlantic section, 4-1. Three of their five matches ended in three-set tiebreakers, a common theme for this team. Captain Michael Flinn said practicing tiebreakers is important for the team, especially when there is parity in the competition.

CAZ Team Finishes 3rd at Mixed Doubles National Championships

Team Members: (MP members in bold) : **Julie Stelse**, **Karen Peck Smith** **Stephanie Haldeman**, **Aaron Gomez (captain)**, **Amy Rhoden**, J. Richardson. **Christopher Whitten**, **Edward Maddux**, **Roy Hester**, Naveen Mathew

A Phoenix area team representing USTA Central Arizona picked up third place at the 8.0 Mixed League Championships. The team, which plays out of the Phoenix Tennis Center, went 22-4 on the season, going 13-3 during the local level regular season, swept five matches at the USTA Southwest Mixed League Championships and went 4-1 at the USTA Mixed League National Championships.

The Phoenix team breezed through its flight at Nationals, winning all three matches to reach the semis, before being upended 2-1 by a team from Cherry Hill, New Jersey (Middle States). The Phoenix team then rebounded for a 3-0 victory over USTA Southern (Memphis, Tenn.) in the third place match.