

# LTA Courtside

VOL  
2

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THE OFFICIAL LONGMONT TENNIS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF LTA.

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

IN  
THIS  
ISSUE

## LTA Tournament

The Longmont Open will be held June 21-28 this year at the same venues as last year. The main event site will be Longmont High School and the off-site facilities will be Carr Park and Pratt Park. All events will feature a First-Match Loser's Consolation. What a deal! [SEE PAGE 2](#)

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### Winter Tennis Socials

Winter Socials were sponsored by the LTA at the Longmont Athletic Club and Work Out West in Greeley. Thank goodness! (Who is Goodness anyway??) Winter is over, and it's time for warm weather outdoor socials. If you attended the winter socials or were unable to attend because of participant limitations, and have positive or negative comments, please contact Barb Wright at: [barbara.wright@longmonttennis.org](mailto:barbara.wright@longmonttennis.org)

### 2008 Membership

The LTA Board has heard you and feels your pain. Due to the rising price of gasoline, corn, wheat, Colorado Rockies baseball tickets, and everything else, the LTA board decided 2008 membership fees will remain the same as 2007. When notified, the US Treasury Secretary Paulson, stated, "The stable LTA fees, in conjunction with the President's stimulus package, will assure the US economy is on the road to recovery." As of late March, the LTA's paid-up membership total for 2008 is over 167 members from nearly 125 households in Longmont and the surrounding communities. If you have not yet joined and are interested in participating in the Spring and Summer Leagues and Round Robins, its time to sign up. Don't delay – join today. It's your patriotic duty to spend the stimulus dollars and join the LTA.

### LTA MISSION STATEMENT

Longmont Tennis Association (LTA) is a nonprofit community-supported organization dedicated to promoting the sport of tennis and improving the Longmont-area tennis experience. Utilizing local facilities, LTA organizes USTA and CTA-sanctioned leagues and tournaments, as well as LTA-sponsored ladders, socials and drop-in tennis events for its members and their guests. LTA seeks to provide social and competitive tennis activities at minimal cost in a structured, safe environment for players of all ages and skill levels.



**LONGMONT  
TENNIS**  
ASSOCIATION

# From the Chair...



## GREETINGS LTA,

With cold temperatures behind us, and warm weather ahead, we can focus on the truly important things in life...tennis, tennis, and more tennis.

As we approach our third year of operation, I'm excited to see what's in store for the 2008 season. This year, members will see all of the usual LTA activities: round robin leagues (formerly known as LTA ladders), USTA, CTA and ITA Leagues, the Longmont Open, and weekly drop-in tennis.

In addition to expanding our junior programs, the LTA will introduce the USTA Quick Start Program. Developed by the USTA, this program introduces elementary school-aged children to the sport of tennis.

Quick Start is designed to get kids playing now. Using smaller courts, kid friendly balls, and fun and interactive games, kids get the chance to experience the excitement of the game.

I had the pleasure of attending some Quick Start coach's workshops, and have observed the classes in action. It was as much fun for me as it was for the kids, and I'm very excited that the LTA will be offering it to the community.

The 2008 season is shaping up to be action packed. I hope to see you all on the court!

Dan Raykovitz, **President** – Longmont Tennis Association

## Adopt-a-Park

Did you know the LTA, having adopted Carr Park, is a parent organization? A sign is posted at Carr Park recognizing the LTA organization for their cleanup efforts. In addition to the posted sign, the LTA participation in the Adopt-a-Park program gives the LTA a higher profile with the Longmont Parks and Recreation Department, which is a good thing. LTA cleanups are scheduled for **April 6 and June 8 at Carr Park at 5 PM.** If you have questions on the cleanup tasks or wish to help, please contact the LTA's experienced cleaner-upper, Jerry Seguin, at 303-651-0917.

## 2 LTA Round Robin Leagues

LTA's intra-organizational member league play is entering the second season. There will be: Men's Singles and Doubles, Mixed Doubles, and Junior Singles (for boys and girls attending high school in 2008).

Play begins this spring and will run through the summer. Several levels of play will be available in each category. This year, registration, scheduling and current standings will be available on the LTA web site. It is a fun way for our members to meet new players and have more friendly competitive matches during the season. For detail information, see the LTA Members-Only Round Robin section on the LTA web site.

### LTA 2008 ROUND ROBIN SCHEDULE

LTA Round Robin	Signup Deadline	Start Date Season
<b>Men's Singles</b>	March 30	April 6 - May 25
<b>Men's Doubles</b>	April 28	May 4 - June 22
<b>Boy's and Girl's Singles</b>	May 26	June 1 - July 26
<b>Mixed Doubles</b>	June 8	June 15 - August 3

*Note: Round Robin Leagues were formerly called "Ladders."*



## LTA Tournament

The Longmont Open will be held June 21-28 with all events featuring a First-Match Loser's Consolation, meaning everyone who enters the tournament will be guaranteed two matches.

Any members interested in helping to coordinate the tournament this year, please call Gina Walker at 303-913-9464 or e-mail [gina.walker@longmonttennis.org](mailto:gina.walker@longmonttennis.org). Volunteers are needed during the tournament at the welcome desk, as court monitors, and for court setup. Help is also needed prior to the tournament in prize selection and other organization requirements.

If your company is interested in sponsoring the Longmont Open, please contact Gina soon. Many sponsorship opportunities are available!



# *more* LTA News & Notes

## Spring ICE Breaker Tennis Social

The LTA annual Ice Breaker tennis social is scheduled for Saturday, May 10, from 9:30 AM, at Carr Park. Refreshments, balls, and a mixer format will be provided by the LTA. Members and non-members are encouraged to attend the first event of the LTA 2008 season. If you have questions, suggestions, or would like to help, please contact Barb Wright at [barbara.wright@longmonttennis.org](mailto:barbara.wright@longmonttennis.org)

## Drop In Tennis

Drop In Tennis is scheduled on Saturday mornings throughout the Spring and Summer, with times and sites determined by court availability. For May, Drop In tennis will be held at Carr Park from 9:30 to noon on

Saturday May 17 and Saturday May 31. Drop In tennis will not be held on May 24, Memorial Day Weekend. If you have questions, suggestions, or would like to help, please contact us at [barbara.wright@longmonttennis.org](mailto:barbara.wright@longmonttennis.org)

## LTA Website

The LTA web site has undergone some significant changes over the past several months, the biggest change being the addition of a 'Members Only' section. This personalized section can be accessed only if your membership is in good standing. Once logged in, you can access and manage your own LTA profile information. From the 'Members Only' section, you can sign up for LTA sponsored round robin leagues, and monitor scores and standings once play has begun. And if you don't want your matches so formal, you can access the 'Find-A-Player' link to find players of your skill level willing to play.

Other new features include the 'Find-A-Court' section that lists all city and school courts available for play. Not sure where the court is located? Click the address to have a map displayed. 'Find-A-Court' also details the number of courts at the given venue, and if lights are available.

From tournaments, to leagues, to LTA sponsored events, the enhanced web site makes finding Longmont tennis information quick and easy!

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## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Ever noticed that participation in community meetings (e.g., city council, planning commission, elections) are, in general, directly proportional to negative or extreme differences of opinions? That is to say, the higher the level of dissatisfaction, the greater the meeting turnout. The LTA newsletter staff is happy to report that the membership participation in the November Annual Membership Meeting was very low, with board member attendance being greater than general membership numbers. Since a quorum was present, those individuals who volunteered to serve on the board and other committees were unanimously confirmed. Reports from the various LTA committees and officers were given and discussed by those in attendance. The minutes of the meeting are available on the LTA website.

If interested in the inner workings of the LTA, all members are invited to attend the Board of Director meetings, normally held at the Longmont Public Library on the second Thursday of each month. Contact any LTA board member for details.



# *more* LTA News & Notes

## *new* Longmont Tennis Complex

The pursuit of a large tennis complex in Longmont has involved many twists and turns over the past year. The enthusiastic involvement of tennis players in the Quail Campus planning process last spring led to the inclusion of an eight-court complex of “sports courts” in the final master plan for Quail Campus last summer. Given that funding for this campus in south Longmont is not likely to appear for some time, this should be viewed primarily as a “placeholder.”

4 Planning meetings for developing the Clover Basin site in southwest Longmont began this past fall, with greater community focus on swimming and sports fields over tennis. However, two of three proposed plans included tennis courts in the northwest corner of the site, one (Concept A) with a four-court group and the second (Concept B) with a 10-court complex. The third plan did not have courts within the park, but instead contained a proposal to repair and expand the Silver Creek High School facility from 6 to 10 courts, along with the addition of two artificial turf fields. In this design, the use of the high school tennis complex, along with the new fields adjacent to it, will be shared between the community and the Silver Creek High School under an “Inter-Governmental Agreement” yet to be negotiated between the high school and the city.

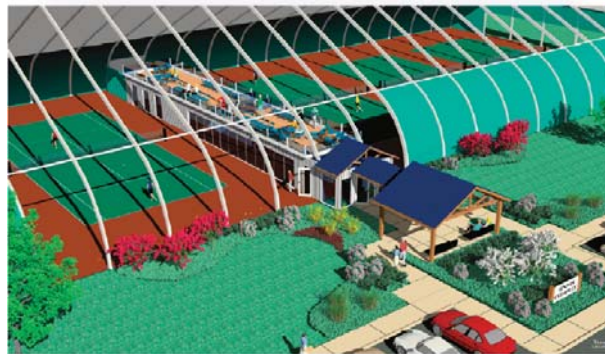
While the final Clover Basin development plan was being reviewed, LTA members made multiple presentations before the Longmont City Council and the Parks and Recreation Board in December to explain the importance of a large tennis complex to our city.

### **What has been the outcome of this campaign and the on-going planning process?**

On December 17, the city planners presented the combined master plan to the public with the inclusion of the shared-use tennis complex at Silver Creek High School. This plan contains a 10-court complex at Silver Creek High School that is contingent on the development of an acceptable shared-use agreement to be negotiated between lawyers for the city and the St. Vrain Valley School District over the next six months. The plan is intended to save money for Longmont taxpayers by maximizing the usage of these facilities among the school system and the public.

### **What are the pros and cons for this tennis complex?**

On the positive side, the Longmont tennis community is likely to see the construction of a 10-court tennis complex in our community within the next several years. The courts will have lights, as has been the rule for all public courts in Longmont. The city plans to construct the courts with USA-recommended spacing between courts and indicates in their plans that there will be several separate fenced-in groupings of courts. Restroom facilities will be available.



On the negative side, the number of courts is limited to a maximum of ten courts because of space limitations; however, city plans suggest that all 10 courts will be constructed at once when funds become available. The availability of parking near the courts may be an issue during high-use periods, such as tournaments; parking could be particularly problematic when the nearby shared-use fields have events.

Permanent restroom facilities will be located near the new football field at a distance of more than 300 feet from the tennis complex, due to problems accessing a sewer line.

The outcome of the shared-use agreement is unknown. Some of us are concerned, given negative experiences in the past with St. Vrain coaches preempting us for use of high school or even city courts. The city assures us that they will protect our interests so long as we reserve the courts ahead of time. One thing that we know is that Silver Creek High School will reserve 6 of the 10 courts each school day until 5:30 PM. The remaining four courts will be available to the public prior to this time. There will be a reservation procedure, managed by the city, for other times throughout the year. However, the fact remains that this facility is located on school property, so the city of Longmont must watch out for the interests of the tennis-playing public who will depend on this facility for events requiring five or more courts.

In summary, even with the concerns identified above, this facility will provide Longmont with the large public tennis complex that we need now and will need even more over the coming years as tennis grows in our community. Although the limitation of 10 courts will be a problem in the future, the availability of this number of courts in one place is far better than the current restriction of 4-court public complexes that we currently have. If the shared-use agreement is fair to all parties and is properly monitored by the city, this complex will be an important advance for the tennis community in Longmont.

# more LTA News & Notes



## League News

The biggest impact LTA has made on tennis in Longmont is through League play. LTA sponsored 40 USTA league teams in 2007, with some teams participating in the district play-offs and beyond. Congratulations to the LTA Blue 6.5 Mixed Doubles team on their trip to Las Vegas to compete in and win the ITA 6.5 Mixed Sectional Championship.

Special thanks to Anne Noble and Kris Dehning for accepting the position of LTA League Coordinators for the 2008 league season. Captains, as you begin assembling your teams for the coming season, please register early, as this makes the process run smoothly. Thank you all for participating in USTA leagues through the LTA.

Leagues offered by the USTA and CTA are summarized in the table below. For date confirmation and league details, see: <http://www.coloradotennis.com/cta/website.asp?Dept=Leagues>

### 2008 USTA/CTA LEAGUE SCHEDULE

League	Signup Deadline*	Season Duration	Match Info	Levels
<b>USTA Mixed Dbls</b>	March 21	4/20-6/8	3 mixed dbls	6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0**
<b>USTA Adult</b>	March 28	5/5-7/17	3 dbls, 2 sngls	2.5,3.0,3.5,4.0,4.5,5.0
<b>USTA Super Seniors</b>	April 11	5/7-7/18	3 dbls, (≥60 yrs)	6.0, 7.0, 8.0**
<b>CTA Womens Dbls</b>	May 2	5/27-7/10	3 Dbls	2.5,3.0,3.5,4.0,4.5,5.0
<b>USTA Senior Dbls</b>	June 6	7/14-8/28	3 Dbls (≥50 yrs)	3.0,3.5,4.0,4.5
<b>CTA Twilight Sngls</b>	June 6	7/21-9/11	1 dbls, 2 sngls	2.5,3.0,3.5,4.0,4.5,5.0
<b>CTA Womens Dbls Summer Daytime</b>	July 11	7/30-9/22	2 dbls, 1 sngls	2.5,3.0,3.5,4.0,4.5,5.0
<b>ITA Fall Mixed Dbls</b>	July 18	8/10-9/28	3 mixed dbls	5.5, 6.5,7.5,8.5,9.5**
<b>CTA Mens Tri Level</b>	Aug 1	8/16-10/4	3 sngls	3.0 + 3.4 + 4.0***

\* Must have minimum number of players by this date, others may be added later

\*\* Combined ratings of each double team, e.g.; 7.0 level- two 3.5's or 3.0 + 4.0

\*\*\* Single match at each level, must play at level

## LTA Banquet

LTA hosted its 2nd Annual Banquet February 23rd at the Dicken's Opera House above Shorty's BBQ in Longmont. There were 75 people in attendance, and everyone had a great time! The food was great, and it was nice to socialize with everyone outside of tennis! The LTA gave away about \$500 worth of prizes and was successful in collecting a few pieces of tennis equipment to donate. Thanks to all who attended and thanks to all who helped to coordinate!

## League Participation

If you are not presently on a team, you might ask "How are teams formed"? No question about it - formation of teams can sometimes become messy. There are championship type teams where individuals are recruited not just within the LTA, but throughout the district. Other teams are based on long-term tennis friendships developed over the years or another type formed with the desire to simply experience competition with other local tennis associations. So if you haven't been recruited for a championship team and are not familiar with LTA league participants, how can you get on team? One of the best ways is to sign up for the LTA Round Robin leagues, establish your NTRP level, and/or contact the LTA league coordinators, Kris Dehning or Anne Noble, at [leagues@longmonttennis.org](mailto:leagues@longmonttennis.org) for team openings. Another option is to become a captain and form your own team.

## UP &amp; COMING

## Local Tournaments

**Note:** For detailed information on the tournaments below and other state tournaments refer to: <http://tournaments.usta.com/tournaments/Schedule/Search.aspx> Search the Colorado Intermountain Website for the complete list.

**Tennis Link:** <http://www.coloradotennis.com/cta/website.asp?Dept=TennisLink>

Date*	Place	Levels	Information
4/5-4/11	Boulder Country Club	MWsd 3.5/3.0	7350 Clubhouse Rd., 303 530-3328 <i>See Tennis Link</i> Reg. deadline 3/28
4/26-5/3	Austin Scott Memorial Boulder, CO	MWsdMXd 2.5-5.0; MWsd 40/50/60/70/ 5.0/4.5/3.5/3.0/2.5	Boulder Tennis Assoc., 303 442-4282 <i>See Tennis Link</i> Reg. deadline 4/19
5/13-5/18	Front Range Champ Longmont, CO	MWsdMXd 3.0-4.5 Wsd 2.5, Msd 5.0	Longmont Athletic Club, 303 772-4700 <i>See Tennis Link</i> Reg. deadline 5/6
5/25-6/1	Northern Colorado Open Fort Collins, CO	MWsdMXd Chp/5.0/ 4.5/4.0/3.5/3.0/2.5	Fort Collins Tennis Assoc., 970 491-1311 <i>See Tennis Link</i> Reg. deadline 5/18
6/8-6/15	Ranch Country Club Broomfield, CO	MWsdMXd 5.0/4.5/ 4.0/3.5/3.0/2.5	Ranch Country Club, 303 469-5372 <i>See Tennis Link</i> Reg. deadline 6/1
6/11-6/18	LTA Longmont Open Longmont, CO	MWsdMXd 3.0-4.5	Longmont Tennis Assoc., 303 651-1374 <i>See Tennis Link</i> Reg. deadline 6/13

\* Please verify dates on CTA/USTA tennis link.

## Volunteers Needed

The current success and the phenomenal growth of LTA is not an accident. Rather, it is the result of a lot of hard work and dedication by volunteers within our membership who have worked on many projects over the past two years to grow our organization. The tennis drop-ins, socials, Longmont Open Tournament, scheduled Round Robins, LTA website, newsletters, running of the USTA leagues, week-to-week management of the budget, membership, etc. All of these depend on volunteers! What can you do to help? Decide to volunteer! Contact any board member for open positions. Thanks!

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LTA  
*Courtside*



**LONGMONT  
TENNIS**  
ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 2252  
LONGMONT, COLORADO  
80502

## Thank You!

- LTA Officers, Board members, and Coordinators who have agreed to fill these positions for 2008.

## FACILITIES

If you encounter any facility problems at the City of Longmont or the high school courts, please contact Dan Raykovitz at 303 682-9290 or e-mail at dan.raykovitz@longmonttennis.org

## 2008 LTA OFFICERS

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**Gina Walker**  
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**Barbara Wright**  
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## COORDINATORS

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LEAGUES: **Anne Noble/  
Kris Dehning**

WEB SITE: **Rick Accountius**

ROUND ROBINS: **Bob Prater**

FACILITIES: **Dan Raykovitz**

NEWSLETTER: **Lloyd Warsing/  
Brent Cook**

PUBLICITY: **Open**

MEMBERSHIP: **Rick Accountius**

TOURNAMENTS: **Gina Walker**