

Coastside Tennis Association

Half Moon Bay, CA

www.CoastsideTennis.org

Newsletter Highlights

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CTA Tennis Opportunities

Fit By Tennis:
Tennis and Fitness
9am-Monday&Wednesday
All levels welcome

Saturday Morning Tennis:
Saturdays 8:30 to 10:30
Suggested Levels -
Mens' 3.0 +
Womens' 3.5 +

CTA Sunday Social:
1st Sunday of the month
All Levels Welcome
3:00PM - 7:00PM

For additional information
contact Ron Weiss at
rwhmbtennis@gmail.com

On The Line

2nd Qtr 2015 Edition of the CTA Newsletter

CTA Men's USTA Tennis - "Now We Got the Mojo"



(bottom left to top right) Robb Fox, Val Fernelius, Jesse Castillo, Adam McDonald, Paul Satkowski, Jason Hereford, Shane Reid, Phil McVey Joel Gray, Ron Strong (Not pictured: Gerry Basserman: Hunter Gillies, Dwight Wilson, Eduardo Chung)

HMB Men's Tennis - A Complete Turnaround

We've seen the plot in Hollywood movies like *Rocky* and *Bad News Bears*. It's a familiar headline in the sports page "underdog wins league championship against all odds." But the story is so much sweeter when it happens in our own home town, especially when it's a CTA sponsored team. Who would have thought a CTA-40 and Over Men's 3.5 team would not only win its local league, but also win at the district level? They came dangerously close to winning the sectionals and going on to the national stage. Nobody saw this coming, especially after having gone 2-8 in 2013, and 2-6 in 2014. Over the last three years, CTA mens teams have often been pegged as "easy wins." Now they are a team to be feared. Call it "mojo" or "swagger," but team captain Jesse Castillo says it is due to the team's total buy-in to a strategic approach to playing doubles.



Phil McVey and Ron Strong, just one of the many successful doubles pairings, going 5-1 overall

The Power of Doubles

Doubles play was the key to the season. Winning 60 out of 83 matches proved just how dominant the CTA team was in doubles play.

There were 26 different combinations of doubles pairings that were overwhelmingly successful, but none as successful as captain Jesse Castillo. Jesse won all 11 of his doubles matches, playing with six different partners. Other doubles standouts were Ron Strong (10-3), Paul Satowski (7-2) and Robb Foxx (7-1), all playing with multiple partners.



Joel Gray, our Coastside "Mr. Clutch," won several key singles matches during the season

Clutch Wins When Needed Most

Although doubles play may have been their bread and butter, it was the singles play of Joel Gray that often served as the knock-out punch in many of the key matches. Specifically, Joel won two deciding singles matches in the third set against Foster City, paving the way to the team's successful playoff run. He also won a nail-biter in the District playoffs 7-6, 7-6.



Shane Reid began playing tennis for the first time in January 2015 at the 3.0 level. Within 6 months he was winning key playoff matches

Improvement Shane Style

If this season's overall theme is improvement, there is no better example than Shane Reid. A true student of the game, Shane attended practices only and had no hopes of actually playing in a match. When it became clear that Shane "had game," he was put into the lineup for a real match. After playing three matches, he was bumped up to the 3.5 level in April and eventually became a key component to the team's playoff success.



On The Line

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James Lin - The CTA Finally Adds a Millennial to its Membership of Mostly Baby Boomers

James Lin grabs your attention on the tennis courts for several reasons. Perhaps it's his sheer size. At a fit 6-3, he's an imposing figure on the courts, especially in doubles. His forehand is surprisingly powerful and consistent given that he only started playing tennis seriously less than four months ago. He moves confidently and gracefully, covering the court with ease. But most of all, he's only 30 years old which makes him one of the youngest adults in the Coastside Tennis Association.

Meeting James in person, it's clear he is extremely comfortable in his own skin. Like most millennials, he grew up in the age of the Internet, so he's very astute when it comes to technology. At 13 years old, he created his own website, which focused on Japanese anime. Instead of mowing lawns and delivering newspapers like so many young baby boomers did growing up, James earned money selling banner ads

on his websites throughout his teenage years.

At 20, James was offered a position at Intel, which led to a series of jobs working for a variety of high-tech start-ups in Silicon Valley. At 26, James realized that he wanted to be his own boss and became a freelance web designer. He takes on assignments from a diverse group of clients, including start-up companies, small businesses, and non-profit organizations. Now, James does not need to look for work - work comes to him.

Moving to the Coastside has been a "win-win" decision for the CTA and for James. When he's not developing websites, James can be found exploring the quiet beaches south of Half Moon Bay or hiking in the redwood forests along Purisima Creek. When James gets a block of time, he enjoys taking road trips across the U.S. His high level of strength and conditioning makes it easy for him to take up a variety of sports such as ice hockey, martial arts, and luckily for the CTA - tennis.

Fun Facts about James Lin

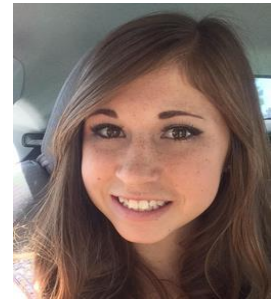
- Developed his first profitable web site at 13 years old
- Hired by Intel at 20 years old
- Accumulated time spent by browsers on his web sites is more than 5,000 years
- Volunteers as a dog walker for the SPCA
- Self taught expert in exotic freshwater fish
- Practices Mixed Martial Arts at the brown belt level
- Started playing tennis on the Coastside so he could impress a woman he was dating

The Tale of Drew and Nina - The Top Two Tennis Juniors on the Coastside



Left: Drew Davison, 16 years old, #1 HMBHS Tennis and ranked 26 in Northern California 16's

Right: Nina Bachicha, 17 years old, #1 HMBHS Tennis and ranked in the top 200 in Northern California 18's



Playing against Coastside junior Drew Davidson is a little like facing Wyatt Earp in the OK Corral. Drew is a hard hitting aggressive baseline player who does not hesitate to "pull the trigger" when it comes to going for the winner. According to coach Wes Hollon, "Drew is at his best when it comes to playing in matches. He's is a shot maker and a risk taker." This was especially true in the Northern California Sectionals, one of California's top junior tournaments of the year, where Drew played extremely well in both singles and doubles. His excellent play was rewarded and he was bumped up to #26 in Northern California 16's.

Drew loves the excitement of playing competitive tennis and does not shy away from the spotlight. One of his greatest wins was beating the #8 player to win the championship at the Diamond Hills Tournament. Although Drew follows his favorite player, Novak Djokovic on the pro circuit, right now his plan is to play at the collegiate level first. Whether it's tennis or his other interests, painting and photography, Drew does it with passion!

Playing against Nina Bachicha is like hitting against a wall. With the consistency of a Swiss watch, every shot comes right back to her opponent. According to her coach Sandy Badillo, "Tenacious by nature, Nina runs every ball down." Her most accomplished win on the tennis court was coming from behind to win the Seascape Challenge tournament in the 16s Division.

Off the court there's a quiet intensity about Nina. A strong student in math and science, she hopes to study engineering in college next year. In person, Nina may come across as soft spoken but she clearly knows what she wants in life. Well-rounded, Nina runs track and plays in the marching band at Half Moon Bay High School. She also has an interest in Japanese culture and language that goes way beyond her favorite pro tennis player Kei Nishikori. She is especially looking forward to an upcoming three-week trip to Japan where Nina will stay with the family of the Japanese student her family hosted earlier this year.