



# What's the Racquet?

INFO ABOUT EVENTS, PLAYERS, AND OVERALL FUN STUFF HAPPENING AT ROGER SCOTT

## G'DAY MATES!

Kids are back in school, league play is full speed ahead, and this week we have a low of 74° one evening! Summer is slowly fizzling out, but unfortunately the rain isn't! I imagine everyone is still knocking the rust off as it rained just about every day of July and thus far in August! *"Sunny days wouldn't be so special, if it wasn't for rain!"*

## CITY AGREEMENT/TENNIS FUND

Let's just get some facts out there. Patrick and I (Gulf Coast Tennis Group) lease the facility from the city for \$125k/year. This is what the city estimated was their cost to run and upkeep the facility. Think water bills, power bills, landscaping, etc. Right now, we have been averaging around \$75k in those costs per year. So, when you see the "Tennis Fund" with \$200k in it (from four years of the agreement) – that is where the money is coming from. It stays in a fund that must go back into Roger Scott Tennis Center at some point.

## COURT UPDATE

I have heard all sorts of crazy rumors, so I want to set the record straight on a few things. The latest bid to go out was for 12 post-tension concrete courts on 1-12. We are trying to get the same lighting we have on clay, space the courts out a little more, and add California Corners to avoid the balls rolling multiple courts down. This is the GOAL. As of right now we do not have the funding to achieve this goal. These are our 12 worst courts and something needs to be done yesterday. Again, as of now, we do not have near the funding to achieve this. Do we want 13-18 to be clay courts, yes, but we must first put our focus on the safety of the bottom 12.

We have explored and continue to explore every option possible with what we have. We will continue to fight for more funding and better courts, but we need the tennis community to rally around this project. Show up to meetings, let your voices be heard, and let your local representatives know how much Roger Scott Tennis Center means to you and your families.

"Brock, I hear asphalt courts are cheaper – why don't we do that?" Well, the ROI on asphalt courts right now is terrible. We would most likely be right back in this same scenario in 6/7 years if things went well. With the post tension we are hoping for 20/25 years without major repairs. Right now there is only about a 20% difference in cost in asphalt vs post tension....you do the math ☺. The courts haven't been completely redone since Roger Scott was originally built in 1963.....

Tennis has done remarkable things for all our lives. The social, mental, and physical health benefits that Roger Scott provides are passed down from generation to generation. The fundraising, community outreach, jobs, and revenue that Roger Scott creates help stimulate the local economy and give back to those in need. Roger Scott holds an important place in my heart, as I'm sure it does for all of you. The Pensacola tennis community is a special group, and something must be done—it is going to take all of us.

## QUICK HITS

**Ladies League**—If you are on a team, you must be a member by the first home match you play. If you are on a clay team, you must be a clay court member.

**Members/Court Cancelations**—If you are not coming to play, please cancel your courts. We will start charging you and donating it to the new tennis court fund. \$10,000 fine per occurrence. Remember we are a verrrry busy facility, someone wants your court—I promise.

**Court Time**—Please allow people to finish their lessons, hits, matches, etc. before rushing onto their court. If you have a court at 6 pm there is no need to go on the court at 5:45 pm while people are still playing. Be courteous! This is happening over and over. If the court is open, take it. If not, hold your horses and wait for your start time.

**Pro Shop**—Shoes have started to roll in, so get them while they last! Members continue to get 15% off accessories and clothes. All Eleide clothing is now 50% - FLASH SALE!

**Shoes**—If you are playing on clay, PLEASE wear tennis shoes. We have too many people out here on clay with running shoes that are "tearing up" the clay. I've told the pros to remind you all when they see it. It's nothing personal, but in the long run makes a big difference. On hard courts you can wear whatever, they are your ankles, not mine!

All the best for the Fall. We are all looking forward to better weather. With football season coming up I would like to make a prediction for the UCF Knights to win the National Championship for the SECOND time. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening, and **GOOD KNIGHT!**

Thanks for reading,

Brock