

*August 2015*



# ***Topspin News***

***The official Newsletter of the Santa Fe Tennis and Swim Club***

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## **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS LABOR DAY WEEKEND**

The annual Club Championship Tournament will take place September 5, 6 and 7. This tournament is open to Club members only. This is a popular and fun event with friends facing off across the net in fierce and (to a greater or lesser degree) amiable completion to decide, at least for that day, who is the better player. There will be men's and women's singles and doubles and mixed events for 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, and 4.5 players. Entry forms are available in the lounge.

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## **PRO'S CORNER THOUGHTFUL TACTICS CREATE OPPORTUNITIES**

In singles play there are two main tactics we utilize in order to create opportunities. These tactics are spreading the court and hitting the balls deep in the court. Of these two tactics hitting it deep is usually more

important. By doing so you are able to keep your opponent very far back away from the net. Hopefully this will prevent them from hitting a shot that can hurt you. By spreading the court you hit both to the left and right sides so that your opponent has to be quick, agile, and have good fitness in order to keep executing their shots. Doing both of these things consistently is likely to create some errors from your opponent and some opportunities for you to attack. If you do one or the other of these two things it will often be sufficient to prevent your opponent from attacking you.

The main opportunities that will arise from these tactics are short balls that you can attack or center balls. A short ball is an invitation to come forward towards the net where you can look for a volley winner or put pressure on the opponent who is trying to hit a passing shot. The other opportunity is a center ball. If your opponent fails to get the ball out to one side or the other, and instead gives you a ball in the middle of the court, it is easier to hit to either of their corners from that center location. We see players do this on TV all the time with the inside-out forehand angle. Even if you hit a deep shot but it is in the middle, a good

player will sometimes be able to get you on the run from that position. This is why we like to get the ball out to one side or the other, and cross courts are the angle so often used in baseline rallies. So keep it deep and hit lots of cross courts, and you should find plenty of ways to finish the point!

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## **OUTDOOR RENOVATIONS PROCEED**

Most of the new walkways between the courts have been constructed and two new arbors built and work on the adobe wall around the bubble equipment will be completed soon.

Work has begun on replacing the remaining old walkways and additional retaining walls will be constructed where needed. There are many other renovations planned to be completed before winter. The two existing shade structures will be modified with additional slats to provide more shade. Two more shade structures will be built, one adjacent to court #2 and one over the existing stone seating between court #4 and the practice wall. The concrete walkway from the parking lot to the Clubhouse will be paved with brick. The revolving door to the bubble will be repainted. The final layer of light brown gravel will be applied to the parking lot. Low lighting will be installed in the parking lot. Gates will be installed at the entrance to the Club and by the entrance near the practice wall. A new iron frame coyote fence will be constructed along

Christobal lane to the entrance gate. The Club logo will be applied to the wall next to Club entrance and on the practice wall next to court # 4. A new irrigation system will be installed and trees, shrubs and, bushes planted around the Club. The area next to the pool and the back portal will have paving stones installed to create an outdoor dining area. Thank you for your patience during the renovation process. Your patience will be rewarded. When the renovations are completed the outcome will be nothing short of sublime.

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## **TENNIS DOUBLES MIXER**

You are invited to the next double mixer. The mixer will take place on Saturday August 22 at 2:00. Please call the Club to reserve a spot.

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## **ANCIENT CITY ADULT OPEN RESULTS**

The Ancient City Adult Open was held at the Club July 17 to 19. The tournament attracted top players from around the state and beyond. Nicolette Mechem, whose father, Dick Mechem founded the Club in 1968, came from Denver to win the women's open singles. Ben Bowen of Serafina, NM was the men's open singles champion. Club members Deborah Speyer and Andrea Jones faced off in the women's 4.0. singles finals. Deborah defeated Andrea in a close match that went to a third set tie break. Deborah was also the women's 3.5 champion defeating Carole Hawkins, of

Santa Fe. Rick Luiz and Lawrence Watson prevailed in two close matches to make it to the men's 4.0 finals. The championship match also was a close one. Rick and Lawrence lost to Bill Robertson, of Los Alamos, and Davey Lopez, of Rio Rancho, 7-5, 7-6. Congratulations to the champions and runners up for their hard won victories.

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## DRIVE SLOWLY

Please be courteous to our neighbors who live around the Club and drive slowly down the hill on Camino Corrales and on Christobal Lane as you enter and leave the Club. This is not just a courtesy but also a safety issue for pedestrians walking along the road. We all feel rushed at one time or another and it's easy to forget to drive slow. Please make a mental note to remember to drive slowly in and out of the Club. We need to be good neighbors.

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## ORIGINAL TURKISH TOWELS FOR SALE



We are selling genuine Turkish towels at the Club for \$45. These towels usually sell for \$80 or more. The Turkish towel is a traditional towel used in Turkish baths. It

dries very quickly, takes up less space, is easy to carry and is an alternative to towels in bathrooms, pools, spas, beaches, sports facilities and baby care. The towels are made of 100% cotton produced in hand-woven looms in Turkey.

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## MEET OUR MEMBERS



At the Santa Fe Tennis & Swim Club, we are proud of the high profile members our club has attracted. Miguel Sandoval is one of those members: an accomplished Hollywood actor, he has appeared in blockbusters such as *Repo Man*, *Jurassic Park*, *Clear and Present Danger*, and *Do the Right Thing*, as well as in a number of popular TV shows such as *Frasier*, *ER*, *The X-Files*, *Seinfeld* and *Lois & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman*. A prolific professional, his career total of 153 acting appearances in a variety of roles across many media ensures his recognizability.

Miguel grew up in Santa Fe and briefly attended The University of Denver. Being uncertain about what he wanted to get out of a college education, he accepted an opportunity to move to Italy and worked in an orphanage for a year and a half. When Miguel

returned to New Mexico, a friend who was passing through town was experiencing a bad tooth ache. Being the weekend all the dentists offices were closed, so Miguel's father (a dentist in town for thirty years) opened his office and was able to provide relief the ailing friend. Out of gratitude, that friend enrolled Miguel in a mime school in Albuquerque (the friend was a pantomime artist). Miguel's instructor is, "still teaching me something new every day", says Miguel as she became his wife in 1980. Together they founded The Performing Arts Collective in Albuquerque, the city's first full time professional theater company. The company flourished for a few years. When it was disbanded, Miguel and Linda went to Houston and performed in a season at The Nina Vance Alley Theatre. After that, they worked at The Santa Fe Festival Theatre, Santa Fe's initial attempt at an Actors' Equity Company. While there Miguel got a part in a film shooting locally. At week's end he received his salary check which amounted to roughly four times the amount he had ever made working in theatre. "That was it", Miguel proclaimed, he and Linda decided to move to the lower hills of Hollywood. Mr. Sandoval got his start in film in the 1980s after a brief stage career. For a complete listing of Miguel's acting accomplishments go to: [http://www.imda.com/name/nm0762153/?ref=rvi\\_nm#actor](http://www.imda.com/name/nm0762153/?ref=rvi_nm#actor).

Miguel, has a wonderful sense of humor and is "quick on the draw"! When asked why he joined the Club he responded with a quote from a famous Marx brothers: "I would never become a member of a club that would have me as a member." He further proclaimed that he very much enjoys being a member of the

beautifully remodeled Club. As true lover of the game of tennis, Miguel refers to the tennis court surfaces with reverence as "sublime" and said, what could be better than being in a "glorious environment surrounded by the beautiful Sangres with flickers flicking and burgers flipping?" Miguel is especially fond of the green chili cheeseburgers that Ian Watson prepares at the Club Café, which he claims "has the Midas touch". Finally when I asked him about his retirement he said, "I appreciate the opportunity to clear that up. I am not re-tired, I am still tired from my original tiredness."



At : Santa Fe Tennis and Swim Club