

**April 2022**



# ***Topspin News***

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



## A Big Welcome to New Tennis Pro Klaus Dlabik, who will be coming on staff here in mid-May.

Klaus is originally from Graz, Austria, where he received a professional tennis teaching degree from the Federal Institute of Physical Education. Klaus assisted the Regional Junior Program, including the young Thomas Muster (French Open Champion) in Austria, and later worked for Sport Scheck, a German company as a Head Tennis Professional for adults and juniors in Germany, Spain, and Croatia. He moved to the US in 1984 and managed and directed various tennis clubs in the Atlanta area and produced successful programs for players of all ages.

Klaus was Director of Tennis at Summit Chase C.C., Snellville, GA, and Rivermist, Lilburn, GA. In 2003 he was the owner and promotor of Atlanta Tennis Classics, Atlanta, GA, a professional event featuring tennis greats Jim Courier, Mats Wilander, Thomas Muster, and others. He has been ranked in the top 10 nationally with his son Fritz in father/son doubles and was ranked #2 in the south in men's 50s. He won back-to-back titles in 2012 and 2013 as the southern champion in 50's doubles.

For the past 5 years, he was teaching tennis at the Shellabarger Tennis Center. He was the owner, promoter, and organizer of 4 consecutive Pro-Am's.

Please help us welcome Klaus to our club!

# Member Profile: Eric Harris



Eric Harris was born in Las Vegas, New Mexico, and attended Robertson High School. He then moved to Boulder, Colorado where he studied architecture at the University of Colorado. Upon graduation, Eric and his soon-to-be wife, Vicki, moved back to New Mexico and rooted themselves in Santa Fe. Eric worked with a design and construction firm for 15 years. In 2013, after hitting a plateau with that firm, Eric decided to venture out on his own and formed Flat Iron Design. He built a design and construction firm specializing in large-scale remodels, historic preservation, and ground-up construction. Santa Fe has always been a place that Eric saw himself practicing as he has always loved the history, architecture, and landscape of

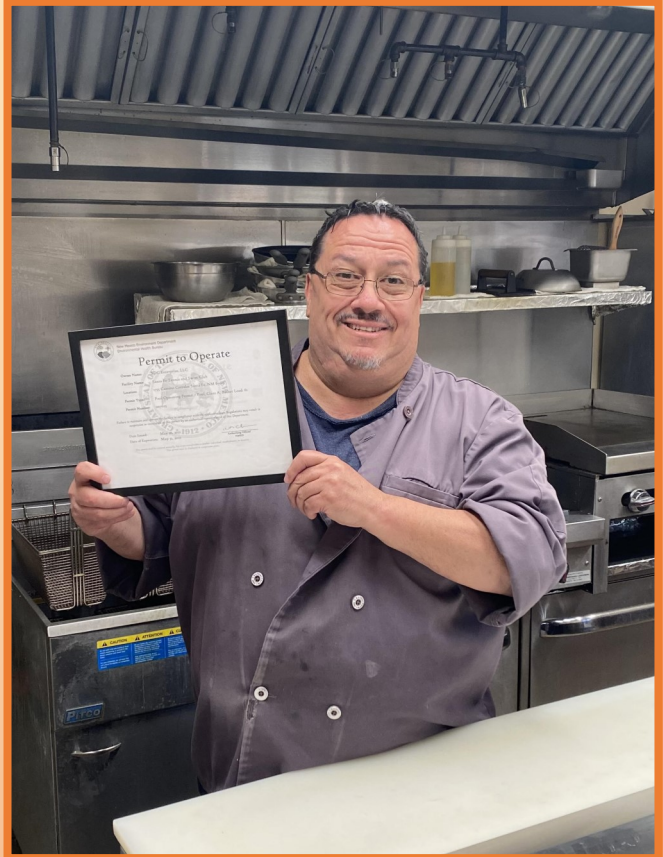
Northern New Mexico. Having grown up locally, he feels a very strong connection to the people and the culture, which is something he truly embraces, both professionally and personally.

In 2016, Eric and Vicki's children, Nicholas and Addison, decided to take up a new activity, and just like that, the Harris family was introduced to tennis at the Santa Fe Tennis and Swim Club. The juniors program did a masterful job of introducing both Nicholas and Addi to the sport. Upon recognizing that both kids were enjoying their time at the club and on the court, Eric realized that he needed to take a lesson to "learn the ropes" of this sport. Suffice it to say, that lesson sparked what, no doubt, will be a life-long passion. Eric always mentions that he loves the game of tennis and only wishes he had been introduced to it earlier in life. He enjoys every minute he spends on the courts with the fantastic members of SFTSC.



## Weekly Updates

Besides being able to put out some wonderful food, Chef Leonard can also run a tight ship. The Match Point Café kitchen was recently inspected by the Santa Fe County Health Department. We passed without a single demerit and without having to change or upgrade anything in the future. Thank you, Chef Leonard.



Bob McLaughlin  
getting the clay court  
ready to open this  
week!



# The Third Shot Drive

**By Christine Wantuck (PPR)**

*April Pickleball*



In today's game, many players have chosen to avoid the 3rd Shot Drop, instead employing the 3rd Shot Drive. Why? Because the 3rd Shot Drop is considered to be the most difficult shot to execute in the game of pickleball. It is strategically important to understand when to utilize the 3rd Shot Drive.

A 3rd Shot Drive is a powerful groundstroke, hit with 60-70% of your full power potential. Both drives and drops are considered setup shots to force the opponents into making an error or to pop-up an attackable ball. When does it make sense to hit a drive?

Drive the ball when a deep return of serve forces you to hit your 3rd shot from near or behind the baseline. The further you are from the net, the more difficult a drop becomes and it increases your odds of either hitting the net or popping the ball up for your opponents to hit a winner. Even if you do manage to hit a good drop, you might not have the time to make it to the NVZ.

Try a drive if your opponent hits you a return with heavy spin. The more spin, the more difficult a drop shot becomes, increasing the odds you will, once again, either hit the net or pop the ball up for an easy put away.

Also, consider using a drive on a short return or a slow loopy return. Short returns give you time to set up and execute a solid drive with the intention of setting up the next point for a winner.

Drive the ball when you see the returner moving towards the NVZ while you are hitting the ball. Hitting a drive, in this situation, puts pressure on the returner forcing an error or an easy put away as the returner will be off-balance while moving through their shot.

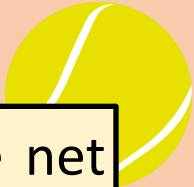
To set up for a drive, turn your body perpendicular to the net and use your core strength by rotating your hips and shoulders, as you transfer your weight forward. Hit the ball out in front of you at its apex with 60 to 70% of your full power. Ideally, try to hit this ball 3 to 6 inches above the net. Remember, very few points are won on the drop or drive alone, your intention is to set up a response you can capitalize on.

A few words of caution when driving a 3rd shot off a deep return. After the drive, you may be vulnerable to a drop shot, a lob, or an offensive shot from your opponent. Your opponent knows you are amped up, and they will anticipate your next shot to be hit hard and out. So, control your movement, get balanced in your ready position, before your opponent hits their next shot. Focus on reading your opponent's paddle: if the face is tilted up, get ready for a pop-up, if the ball is punched with a lower trajectory to your feet, don't get greedy, drop this ball softly in the kitchen giving yourself time to move toward the NVZ to be ready for the next shot.

Knowing the what, when, and how to hit various pickleball shots keeps most of us addicted to this game with the funny name. Now get out there and have some fun with your newfound friends.


# **Ralph's Tennis Tips: Doubles Strategy**

## ***Where to hit the ball in doubles!***



The person at the baseline should hit the ball to the person at the opposite baseline. This is done to prolong the point.

The person at the net should hit the ball to the opposite person who is at the net. This is done to end the point.



The baseliners should prolong the point and the net players should look to end the point.

To play aggressive doubles, get both players on the same team up to the net.





Kids  
Under 5  
Eat Free!

# *Easter* BRUNCH

Beautiful  
Outdoor  
Patio!

Sunday, April 17th 2022  
10AM-2PM

All You Can Eat Brunch Buffet

- Carved Ham
- Asian Glazed Salmon
- Waffles with Strawberries and Whipped Cream
- Migas – Red, Green Chile
- Green Beans Almondine
- Sweet Potato Gratin
- Fruit Salad
- Tossed Green Salad
- Carrot Cake
- Cheese Cake
- Assorted Breads
- Muffins
- Mimosas

Adults- \$45 Kids (5-14)- \$15

Please call the front desk to reserve a time and table.

# **FISH FRIDAY AT SANTA FE TENNIS & SWIM CLUB!!**



**Friday, April 15th**

**Fried Beer-Battered Cod served with French Fries**

**Green Chile Tartar Sauce, Hush Puppies & Malt Vinegar**

**\$18.95 + Tax & Gratuity**

**Pre-order by 3:00PM on Thursday 4/14**

**Pick up between 3:00 and 5:00PM on Friday 4/15**





# **2022 Summer Camp**

## **May 30th – August 5th**



The 2022 Santa Fe Tennis Academy Summer Camp is a 10 week program, beginning May 30th and ending August 5th, for ages 8 and up. Our curriculum builds on the training and instruction used in the Santa Fe Tennis Academy, After School Program, with top-notch training and supervised play. The tennis camp is supported by small sessions of swimming, pickleball, and physical training. Campers will have a blast while improving their strengths and skills in a positive learning environment.

### **Sessions:**

**Session 1:** May 30 – June 3

**Session 2:** June 6 – June 10

**Session 3:** June 13 – June 17

**Session 4:** June 20 – June 24

**Session 5:** June 27 – July 1

**Session 6:** July 4 – July 8

**Session 7:** July 11 – July 15

**Session 8:** July 18 – July 22

**Session 9:** July 25 – July 29

**Session 10:** Aug 1 – Aug 5

### **Member:**

Monday-Friday Full Days:

\$535.00 + tax (includes lunch)

Monday-Friday Half Days:

\$362.00 + tax

### **Non Member:**

Monday-Friday Full Days:

\$588.00 + tax (includes lunch)

Monday-Friday Half Days:

\$399.00 + tax

**Full Days: 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM**

**Half Days: 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM or**  
**12:30 PM – 4:30 PM**

**Register on our website!**

**[santafetennis.net](http://santafetennis.net)**



# **Spring Afterschool Programs:**

## **Santa Fe Tennis Academy**

**Taught by Duncan Leiggi, Junior Tennis Pro**



### **Little Rippers(4-6): 3:15-4:00pm Members:**

Little Rippers is a class designed to teach young players the skills they need to not only rally and play tennis, but to succeed at whatever sport they choose. We ensure success with use of the Red/Orange/Green system of progression in conjunction with sizing the court to the player. Our friendly coaches will make sure that your child always leaves with a smile!

### **Big Hitters(7-9): 4:00-5:00 pm**

Big Hitters is a class aimed at young players hoping to begin their tennis career or hone their skills on the court. Players will not only learn how to rally, but how to serve and keep score as well. This class will use mostly orange/green balls and focus on tennis-specific fundamentals.

### **Junior Development(10-15): 5:00-6:30pm**

Junior Development is a class designed for middle and high school students with the goal of making the junior varsity tennis team, whether you are a first-time player looking for a jump start or an experienced player looking to improve. This class will use the latest USPTA/PTR approach and will provide a focus on live ball play as well as refining the fundamentals of the sport.

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| - Afterschool Programs are 2 weeks long. | - Junior Division: Member \$149.00+tax                               |
| - Little Rippers: Member \$75.00+tax     | Non-Member: \$190.00+tax   |
| Non-Member: \$97.00+tax                  | - To register, please email:   |
| - Big Hitters: Member \$99.00+tax        | <a href="mailto:ralph@santafetennis.net">ralph@santafetennis.net</a> |
| Non-Member: 129.00+tax                   | or call (505) 988-4100.  |

# ***April Tennis***

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## **ADULT CLINICS**

### **Monday Evening**

#### **Women's Clinic**

**5:30pm—7:00pm**

Teaches technique and strategy for players with drills and interactive playing.

*\*\$35 per member/ non-members add \$20 guest fee*

### **Tuesday Evening Men's Clinic**

**5:30pm—7:30pm**

Teaches technique and strategy for players with drills and interactive playing.

*\*\$35 per member/ non-members add \$20 guest fee*

### **Staff/Coaches**

**David Garcia**

**General Manager**

**Kenneth Beal**

**Asst. General Manager**

**Ralph Bolton**

**Director of Tennis**

*USTA Elite Pro*

**(505) 501-0558**

**Jim Parker**

**Pro-Emeritus**

*USTA Master Pro*

**(832) 492-4615**

**Duncan Leiggi**

**Tennis-Pro**

**Junior Tennis**

**925-817-7401**

**Klaus Dlabik**

**Tennis-Pro**

**(610)-502-5744**

**Christine Wantuck**

**Pickleball Instructor**

*Certified Coach PPR*

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