

# Berks County Tennis Club

## SPRING 2024 NEWSLETTER

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

**Happy Spring! Welcome back to the Berks County Tennis Club!**

For those of you who do not know me, I wanted to take a moment and introduce myself. My name is Eric Donahue, I am the Berks County Tennis Club president. I have been playing tennis since I was ten years old. I played for Holy Name High School followed by collegiate tennis at West Chester University. I have been married for twenty-two years and my wife and I have three children. The Wyomissing borough has been my home for most of my life. Professionally, I am a realtor for REMAX of Reading and have been since 2002. I have been a member of the BCTC community since 1994.

It is hard to believe that in four short weeks, the courts will be filled with members enjoying our facilities and playing tennis again. We are looking forward to the 2024 season being just as successful as last season. We are hoping to have the club open by the end of April. Our goals at the BCTC are to create, develop, maintain, and promote tennis in our community. The BCTC will continue to strive to provide a multitude of tennis opportunities and programs focused on having fun, playing good matches, reaping the benefits of outdoor physical activity, and community.

BCTC is a well-respected institution in our community rooted with a robust history. We are known for our exceptional Junior Development Program and our welcoming sense of community. The Junior Program was successful again last season thanks to our outstanding coaching staff of Jen and Rick Aubin. The courts were well maintained by Bob LaHoda. Their hard work resulted in the club members being able to enjoy tennis with their friends and families.

We are thrilled to have you all as members! Please help us keep YOU up to date on all our activities. You can easily do this on Facebook and our website at [www.berkscountytennisclub.com](http://www.berkscountytennisclub.com).

I look forward to seeing all of you on the courts this summer! If you have any questions, please email me at [edonahue@goberkscounty.com](mailto:edonahue@goberkscounty.com) or call me at 484-638-8302. Stay safe and healthy!

**Eric Donahue**  
Club President



### 2024 SPECIAL EVENTS / SOCIALS

#### WELCOME BACK PARTY

May 15<sup>th</sup>, 6PM-7:30PM  
Rain date: May 16<sup>th</sup>

#### SUMMER TENNIS PARTY

June 26<sup>th</sup>, 6PM-8PM  
Rain date: June 27<sup>th</sup>

#### AUGUST END OF SUMMER PARTY

August 21<sup>st</sup>, 6PM-8PM  
Rain date: August 22<sup>nd</sup>

#### SEPT TENNIS PARTY

Sept 18<sup>th</sup>, 5:30PM-7PM  
Rain date: Sept 25<sup>th</sup>

#### ANNUAL BYOP (BRING YOUR OWN PUMPKINS)

October 19<sup>th</sup>, 11:30AM  
Rain date: October 26<sup>th</sup>

#### ANNUAL MEETING

October 24<sup>th</sup>

#### 2024 SEASON FAREWELL

October 27<sup>th</sup>, 1PM  
Rain date: November 3<sup>rd</sup>



## MEET OUR PROS:

**Jen Aubin**, is entering her 20th season as the Tennis Director at the Berks County Tennis Club. Her husband **Rick Aubin**, after twenty plus years as the Head Pro at The Berkshire Country Club, joined Jen in 2019 to run the BCTC Club in tandem. These two certified USPTA Professionals have been a Berks County staple on and off the court for over thirty-five years, mentoring and coaching all ability levels.

Inducted into the Berks County Tennis Hall of Fame, they have coached over fifty district, county and state champs. Numerous college scholarships have been awarded to their students, here in Berks County, PA and in Volusia County, FL, where they teach and spend their winters. To see their playing accolades, please check out the BCTC website: [www.berkscountytennisclub.com](http://www.berkscountytennisclub.com) or scroll down to the newsletter under the Junior Tennis News.

Besides their stellar coaching and playing resumes, count on them to run many weekly round robins and clinics as well as special events throughout the season. Rick and Jen's goal, as always, is to ensure that each member gets access to the tennis programs that suit their needs including lessons, events, and competitive or social match play.

## JUNIOR TENNIS NEWS:

*BCTC Tennis Directors and USPTA Professionals, Rick-n-Jen Aubin, run an outstanding junior tennis program. Jen is a former national collegiate Rolex semi-finalist, President's Award recipient, and Flagler College Hall of Fame inductee also reaching a career high #5 national ranking. Rick is a 2-time Kansas State H.S. singles champion and was the #1 player for The University of Kansas. A couple on and off the court for over 30 years, they have enjoyed stellar coaching careers in both Berks County and Central Florida. County, District and State champions are products of their programs. Whether your youngster is trying tennis for the first time or has competitive aspirations, Rick-n-Jen will use their expertise and experience to motivate each student to reach his or her individual potential in a structured, positive, and fun atmosphere.*



## JUNIOR INSTRUCTION OPTIONS

BCTC offers a variety of instruction options ranging from clinics to private instruction.

Clinics are offered for the following junior groups

- Future Stars (6-8 years)
- Beginners/Advanced Beginners
- Intermediates
- Advanced

Private lessons work best in combination with clinics to provide the most efficient path toward improvement. Contact Jen or Rick to schedule your individual time.

# SPRING 2024 JUNIOR TENNIS INSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

## WEEKLY CLINIC OPTIONS\*/\*\*/\*\*\*

### Future Stars: (6-8 yrs)

Tues. 4-5pm, Wed. 5-6pm, Sat. 10:30-11:30 am

### Beginners/Advanced Beginners:

Mon. and Thurs. 4-5pm

### Intermediates:

Wed. and Fri. 4-5pm

### Advanced:

Mon. and Thurs. 5-6:30pm, Sat. 11:30-1pm

### \*\* (4-person minimum):

1 hour clinic: \$20.00 members  
1 ½ hour clinic: \$25.00 members

## PRIVATE LESSONS\*/\*\*\*

Private lessons work best in combo with clinics to provide the most efficient path towards improvement. Contact Jen or Rick to schedule your individual time.



1 Hour Lessons: \$65  
45 min Lessons: \$50  
30 Minute Lessons: \$35

\*Club Membership required for instruction.

\*\*\* Instruction payments: Cash, Venmo accepted (@Jen-Aubin) or please make checks to: Rick-n-Jen, Inc.

*Club membership is required for all instruction (please refer to the membership application- membership checks must be made to BCTC). The "Child membership" and "Beginner Special" allows access to participate in instructional programs. The "Junior membership" category, in addition to access to instruction, includes free court time, match play, and participation in club events.*

- Clinics usually begin approximately the 1<sup>st</sup> week of May 2024 and will then transition into a summer clinic schedule when school lets out.
- Fall clinic schedule begins the first week of school and concludes in November 2024.



For more information on clinics, membership registration or to confirm the appropriate class for your child please contact:

Jen Aubin

Club House (610)-775-1155  
Cell (386)-795-2632  
[jenbctc4@gmail.com](mailto:jenbctc4@gmail.com)

Rick Aubin

Cell (386)-490-3613



Thank you to all the donors to the BCTC 2023 Wish List that helped improve or beautify the club last season. With your donations we were able to accomplish:

## ABOVE AND BEYOND:

- Locker room improvements
- Clubhouse plumbing
- New court and line brushes have been purchased and are ready for the 2024 season!

As always, a special shout out to all the members that took on issues such as providing and maintaining club flowers, donating supplies, recruiting friends to join, arranging matches, etc. All the odds and ends that make BCTC so special. Your support of the club and its programs is greatly appreciated.

We have additional improvement plans for our club this season, so we are again humbly asking for your help this season by relaunching a small donor campaign. The Board has compiled a priority list of needs. If everyone, both adult and kid's memberships, can chip in any amount they are comfortable with (on top of their dues) - we can make this happen. This money will go directly to fund the planned purchase list. Money that the annual dues generates, covers only the following seasonal expenses: Insurance, Utilities, Rent, and Salaries; some years even that is a stretch, so there is very little money left for any large improvements that an aging club inevitably encounters. Along with your membership dues, if you are able to include any extra dollars to go towards these very necessary improvements, it would be a tremendous boost to our beautiful club. We thank you for your generosity in advance!!

## SMALL DONOR CAMPAIGN 2024:



## 2024 BCTC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### CLUB PROS:

Jen Aubin 386-795-2632  
Rick Aubin 386-490-3613

### CLUB MANAGER:

Bob LaHoda 610-413-4077

### PRESIDENT:

Eric Donahue 484-638-3802

### OTHER DIRECTORS:

Steve Pottieger 610-914-5474  
Aleko Zeppos 215-620-9566  
Darcie Saar 610-207-6070  
Kathy Herr 610-780-9872  
Katie Simone 609-216-5322  
Nicole Andrews 484-772-5733  
Laura Hottenstein 717-203-7544  
Sarah Ehrlich 610-781-2803  
Jim Fromuth 610-780-0170  
Victoria Foanio 610-507-1320

### JUNIOR LIAISONS:

Griffin Saar 610-301-6225  
Max Herr 610-334-6487  
Aaron Andrews 484-869-4332  
Seona Shah 610-781-4470

## CLUB OPERATING HOURS

The courts will be available for play weather permitting and at the manager's discretion:

- Spring through summer: 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM.
- Labor Day and into November the hours are 8 AM until just shy of dusk.

In case of inclement weather, please check our website or call the club and the status of the courts will be on the answering machine.

Members should understand that certain daily maintenance activities (watering/ rolling/ minor court repair) must be accomplished.

These activities will normally be performed prior to 8 AM and/or after the courts close each night. HOWEVER, the courts will be closed mostly EVERYDAY for mid-day maintenance from 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM (please check with Jen for exceptions). Courts will be brushed and watered at that time, as necessary, to make the courts playable for afternoon and evening play. WHEN THE "COURTS CLOSED" SIGN IS POSTED EITHER ON THE COURTS OR ON THE WEBSITE, PLEASE RESPECT THAT DECISION.

**Look for flyers posted at the club, emails, or info on our website:**

**[www.berkscountytennisclub.com](http://www.berkscountytennisclub.com)**

## DIRECTORY/PHONE LIST FOR 2024

The 2024 roster with phone numbers will be available as soon as all of the dues are received. Please make any necessary changes in your telephone number or email address when paying your dues by May 1, 2024. Don't forget to include your email address on the application so you can receive updates and reminders from Jen. Names and contact information for child memberships will not be listed in the directory, per club policy.

**\*\*Paying your club dues before May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 will give you the early bird discount pricing and ensure that your name appears in the club directory.\*\***

## MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2024

*So we can get the ball rolling, kindly pay your membership dues before May 1st to receive the discounted amount. Please consider giving \$10 to our small donor campaign. A completed and signed membership form must be included with your check.*

Membership Type	Membership Cost	
Single Membership	\$375	<b>**discount for 2024...\$350**</b>
Couple Membership	\$475	<b>**discount for 2024...\$450**</b>
Family Membership	\$530	
Intermediate (Age 19-26)	\$200	
Junior Membership (6 <sup>th</sup> grade up to and have not yet turned 19 yrs old)	\$150	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Junior Member	\$75	
Each Add'l Junior Member	\$50	
Junior " <b><u>Beginner</u></b> " Special	\$100	
Child's Membership		
1 <sup>st</sup> Child Member	\$60	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Child Member	\$40	



You can access the 2024 Membership Application Form by downloading the [2024 BCTC Printable Membership Application](#) here and making the completed form in with your check.\*

\*Cash payment is permissible, but must be handed in directly to Jen.

## BCTC RULES AND REGULATIONS



We anticipate that 2024 will be another great year at the club. We expect everyone to continue working together and making new friends on and off the courts. Jen and Rick Aubin will continue to conduct Junior Clinics and Camps in the afternoons, as well as giving private lessons. Clinic dates will be posted at the club and on the website in a timely manner. As always, we ask for your patience and respect for each other and everyone's right to play, regardless of membership class. It is important to note that any member, including junior members, can play any time

a court is open and available. Jen and Rick will always have first priority for reserving courts when scheduling clinics or private lessons. Such reservations will be clearly marked on the court sign-in board each morning. For clarification purposes, junior members are defined as young ladies and gentlemen who have NOT reached the age of 19. Dependent children under a family membership are defined as young ladies and gentlemen who have not reached the age of 21. Last season an Intermediate membership was added for ladies and gentlemen between the ages of 19-26.

As a reminder, the following are **"rules and regulations"** for play in 2024:

- 1-1/2 hours playing time will be enforced for singles or doubles when members are waiting to play. There is no grace period prior to starting time.
- When a member has had 1-1/2 or more hours of playing time in any one day, he/she should immediately give way to any new arrival.
- Foursomes may take on new members, subject in all cases to the time limits of play of the original players.
- **Members must register their guests and pay the guest fee PRIOR TO PLAY.** Registration involves writing your guest's name and date of play in the sign-in register in the vestibule. Every adult member has 2 free guest passes to use, in the month of May. Beginning in June, the **guest fee is \$10.00** and payment should be placed in the envelopes provided and deposited in the "Drop Box" on the wall. The envelopes should show the guest's name and date of play. An individual may play as a guest a maximum of three (3) times per playing season. A houseguest of a member may play a maximum of eight (8) times, subject to payment of guest fees.
- **REMEMBER: Members CANNOT sign up for a court until ALL players in the group are present.**

When all courts are in use, waiting groups are requested to sign up for the next available court by using the little chalkboard next to the "big" sign-in board. Priority as to "who gets the next available court(s)" will be based on that chalkboard list.

## CLUB OPENING AND CLOSING DATES

Weather is always a big factor, but the courts should be ready for play in early May. We will send out an email when the courts are actually open. You can also check the website, Facebook or call the club to check the answering machine for a status report. There will be an Annual Meeting at the Tennis Club at the end of October and the last day to play for the 2024 season will be announced in November, determined by the weather.

## CONNECT WITH US:

Follow us on Facebook at "Berks County Tennis Club" for all the latest information.



Please keep an eye out for future dates to be announced for additional weekly and special events.

There is one last, but important point. Jen and/or Rick Aubin will be present at club events and will help facilitate court use and round robin play. Come out to play or just to hang out and chat.

**\*\*\*\*We welcome your ideas for additional social opportunities. \*\*\*\***

## HELP US GROW OUR CLUB MEMBERSHIP!

Did you know there is a unique tennis club right in your neighborhood? The Berks County Tennis Club opened its doors in 1953. A group of five tennis enthusiasts led the way arranging to lease land from Wyomissing Industries. Money to build the facility was raised via contributions and the sale of 20 year, 2% bonds. The club is still found on the original site at the corner of Cambridge and Lauers Lane, operating continuously from May into November.



What makes this club so special even to this day? BCTC is the only facility in the area to offer top notch programming with accomplished coaching for all levels in a park-like setting on beautifully maintained clay courts. It's centrally located in Wyomissing where players can walk or ride their bikes to come play and enjoy the courts and grounds.

**\*\*\* Berks County Tennis Club has been and remains the sole "tennis only" club in Berks County Since 1953. Please forward the BCTC newsletter to your friends and family that might be interested in joining the tradition\*\*\***

