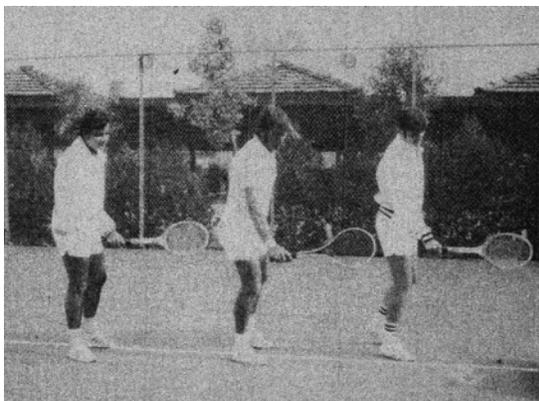


## **A Step Back in Time; a History of the Foster City Tennis Club**

By Jackie James, Club Historian 2018-2019,  
with contributions by Dale Russell and Rel Kempf,  
and contributions from Jennifer Liu, Director Parks and Recreation  
April 28, 2020

One sunny day in 1973, six avid local tennis players thought, "What Foster City needs is a tennis club!"



Photos from the 1974 '*Leisure Update*' brochure from the Foster City Parks and Recreation Department.

The idea of a club did not take long from the initial discussion to the first introductory meeting, primarily because we had a strong backing from the Recreation Center (Mike, one of the Recreation Supervisors, was a tennis player). Rel Kempf remembers 'we all thought maybe a dozen or so might attend the first meeting, but we were wrong, there was standing room only at this meeting'. Thus, under the vision of Stan Cartwright (the local teaching professional) and the Foster City Recreation Department, the club was formed and organized. We owe our thanks to Stan and the city for their collaboration in bringing our club to life.

The Tennis Club went on record as one of the first organizations sponsored by the recently incorporated city. Our Club has grown from an early membership of about 150 to more than 575 in 2019. Where 90% of the founding members were Foster City residents, today 90% are nonresidents, mostly due to the large number of USTA and SFPTL teams that play out of Foster City. Initial membership dues began at \$10 and now, 44 years later, range up to \$65. In the early years for broader competition, the club players joined local leagues, such as the Northern California Tennis League, the Volvo League, and the Bay Area Tennis League. Today, our tennis league participation involves more than 45 USTA NorCal league teams and several San Francisco Peninsula Tennis League (SFPTL) teams. Over the years many of our USTA teams have gone to USTA District, Sectionals, and National Championships, and in 2007, Jake Karmendy's team won the USTA Mixed National Championship. Our Club and members have enjoyed many successful seasons and look forward to many more!

In July 1974, Rel Kempf and Aleck Townsley (Founding Fathers), volunteered to become the first interim presidents to help get the club started, as well as several others who agreed to serve as club officers until elections were held at the inaugural annual meeting. That same month, the first FCTC Newsletter was published to welcome new members and to inform of up coming events (a round-robin tournament) and to form a committee to create the bylaws, and set a date for election of club officers. There was also an invitation to all to come up with a club emblem. The newsletter mentioned that the club applied to be a member of the United States Lawn Tennis Association (now the USTA).



1974



1995



2015

In October, 1974, the club reported the results of the first annual meeting where club officers were elected and bylaws were approved. Eli Ortega was elected president, in addition to others who assumed officer positions to run the club.

The club would welcome all players, adults and juniors, and all levels from novice to advanced. Activities were geared to accommodate everyone and to be fun. Meeting new members would be the first priority of the new club. The club would sponsor a variety of events; introduction tournaments for beginners, fun days with members bringing pot-luck lunches, team tennis competition, evening drop-in sessions, and opportunity to join men's and women's tennis ladders to test your skills against others in the club. Members would also look for games on the club's contact list 'Tennis Anyone' that provided names, phone numbers, and skill rating.

### **Newsletters to Internet**

As the club and technology evolved, the club newsletter went from a typed mimeographed one page sheet that was handed out to members to a full-color multi-page glossy production with photos, mailed out each month to the growing membership. For several years, past president Ken Soohoo published our newsletter under the title of 'Spins and Slices' was sent out by email and posted online to our new club website.

With the embracing of the Internet, our club now has its own website, facebook page, and YouTube presence where members can view latest results, watch current videos and photos, and register and pay online for events and programs. Members can also review, select and order logo merchandise, such as hats, shirts, and sweatshirts. In the early years, members could contact others by reading through the printed directory provided each year, now member's information is posted on our website with phone numbers, emails, and photos.

## Club Competitions



Standing L to R, Regina Spadarella PB , Galynn Brady (Tom's mom...), Barby Pickett PP, Dora Kreidl, Vikki Mion PB, Karen Chew PB; kneeling L to R, Janice Coakley, Louisa Bussing, Olive Ebert PB, past board member PP, past president

From the beginning and through the years, our club would challenge other clubs for a friendly match that provided great play, great camaraderie, and bountiful food and drinks! Up and down the Peninsula clubs would meet for a day of fun and tennis, from Mountain View to San Francisco. Our sister club, the San Carlos Tennis Club has a long history of working together with us to meet the diverse needs of both our members.

One of the InterClub tournaments in the early 1990s found our club victorious over the 'Dai-Ichi' Tennis Club posting a 4-2 team victory. Players included Dora Kreidl, Joe Borzello (remember his little court-side dog!?), Rel Kempf, and Cynthia Gin.

In the recent years (2014), president Richard Chang created a unique event, the Interclub Challenge (or The Challenge!) that incorporated almost all levels of USTA competition, men, women, and mixed for a day-long competition to bring home the cherished wooden-racket trophy. This home-and-home challenger brought out the best players, for bragging right for the rest of the year, and the best food (Richard was well known for his wonderful garlic noodles!). It was great to see the high-end younger players cheering for the sage veteran players in this short 8-game format.

Our other past club tournaments varied in format and titles; some may remember the 'Rubber Ducky Raft Race Tennis Tournament', the 'Fantastic I and II (under 3.5) Tournament', the 'St Valentine's Day Massacre', the 'Brewery Tournament', the 'April Fools

Tournament', the 'Doubles Summer League', the 'Turkey Tournament' (sponsored by Reynaldo Zalles), the 'King and Queen Tournament (hosted many years by Reggie Regino), and the 'Old Timers Tournament'. In the past, the club sponsored fund-raising charity events and tournaments including the American Heart Association, the Lions Club, the March of Dimes, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, and 'Just Say No!' In 1975, the club hosted a 'Champagne Tournament' using a blind-draw format for mixed doubles, requesting folks to bring a bottle of champagne or wine, the club would provide hor d'oeuvres, and even have a television courts side for the Saturday football fans!

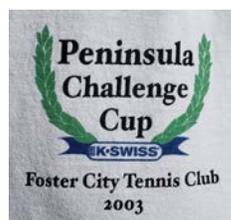
Rel Kempf remembers competition in the 1970s between individual apartment complexes in Foster City that lasted for several years until more formal leagues took over.

In 1980, the San Francisco Peninsula Tennis League was created as a women's doubles league in the San Francisco area and down the Peninsula. Many of our women members are regulars in this social-based league and continue to play in matches in Foster City. Our Club women participate during the bi-yearly daytime seasons with home matches held at the Edgewater tennis courts on teams such as the SeaGals, Lucky Stars, and Grand Slams. During their weekday matches, veterans like Jackie James, Shaun Lenihan, Galynn Brady, Jan Buchwald, Samantha Marshall, and the late Vikki Mion could be found enjoy tennis and friendship.

### **The Peninsula Challenge Cup (USTA Sanctioned NTRP Tournament)**



PCC Volunteers (L-R), Cynthia Gin, Marion Lawrence, ???, Kacey Karmendy, 2013;



PCC t-shirts

Beginning in 1994, the club held the USTA sanctioned tournament; 'The Peninsula Challenge Cup' (PCC) that hosted players from all over the greater Bay Area, as well as from as far away as Oregon and Southern California. This 3-day event was played on all 13 Foster City public courts, and many FCTC members either played in the tournament or worked as volunteers for this very popular gathering. Below is a brief attendance history and formats for several years of the Peninsula Challenge Cup that our club managed and sponsored.



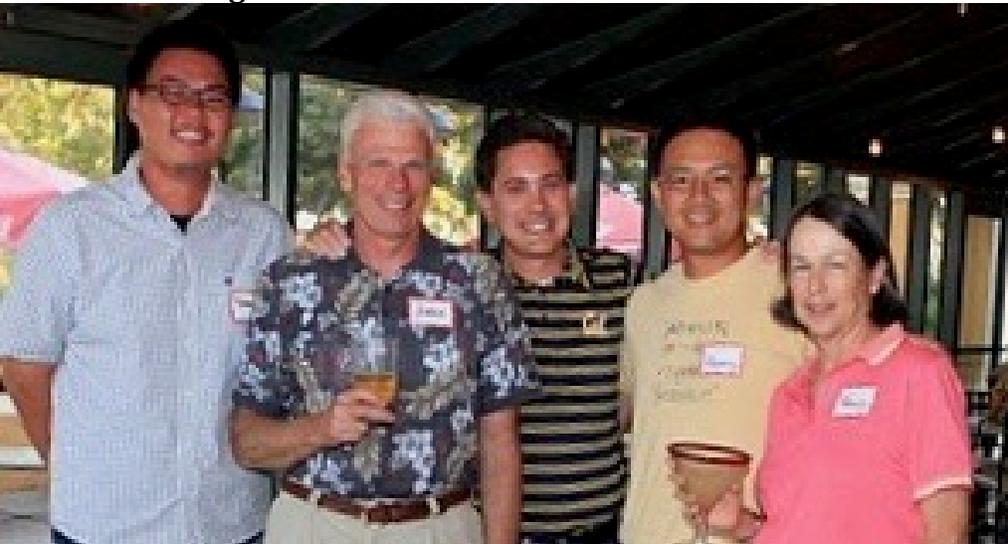
Jackie James with Dale Russell, Tournament Director (2007-2014)

2013; 92 players; 3.0-4.5 Mens/Women/Mixed; Singles/Doubles  
2012; 118 players; 3.0-4.5 Mens/Women/Mixed; Singles/Doubles  
2011; 153 players; 3.0-4.5 Mens/Women/Mixed; Singles/Doubles  
2010; 172 players; 3.0-4.5 Mens/Women/Mixed; Singles/Doubles  
2009; 138 players; 3.0-4.5 Mens/Women/Mixed; Singles/Doubles  
2008; 149 players; 3.0-4.5 Mens/Women/Mixed; Singles/Doubles  
2007; 123 players; 3.0-4.5 Mens/Women/Mixed; Singles/Doubles  
2006; 71 players; 3.5 and 4.5 only; Mens/Women/Mixed; Singles/Doubles  
2005; 98 players; 3.5 and 4.5 only; Mens/Women/Mixed; Singles/Doubles  
2004; 107 players; 3.5 and 5.0 only; Mens/Women/Mixed; Singles/Doubles  
2003; 171 players; 3.5 and 5.0 only; Mens/Women/Mixed; Singles/Doubles  
2002; 140? players; 3.5 and 5.0 only; Mens/Women/Mixed; Singles/Doubles



2002 Winners, and Judy Olson, Tournament Director (2002-2006)

### Mid-Summer Night Bash



Johnny Liu PB, Jake Karmendy PP, Ken Soohoo PP, Henry Lin PB, Kacey Karmendy PP, August 2010 (BM, board member, PP, past president)

For many recent years, the club has held the Mid-Summer Night Bash to acknowledge the volunteers who have helped out with the Peninsula Challenge Cup and other club volunteer supported activities. Many of these years, the 'Bash' was held at El Torito Mexican restaurant under the coordination and hosting of Gust Zumas (he always made sure there were plenty of Margaritas!). The club continues to hold the Bash, again to acknowledge the FCTC volunteers who help out during the year. For the past several years, Victor Luscap the club photographer has wowed the attendees with his video slide presentation of the members activities captured during the year.

## Annual Meeting and Party

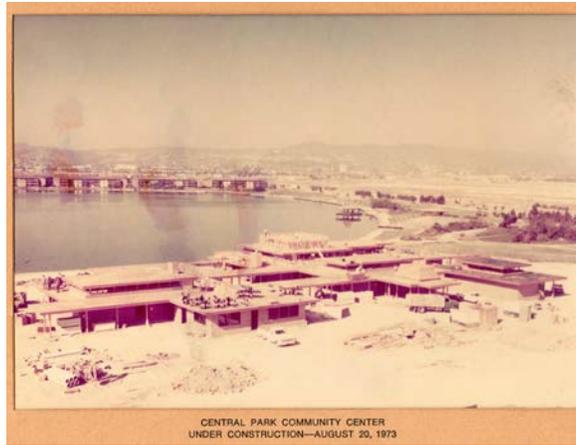
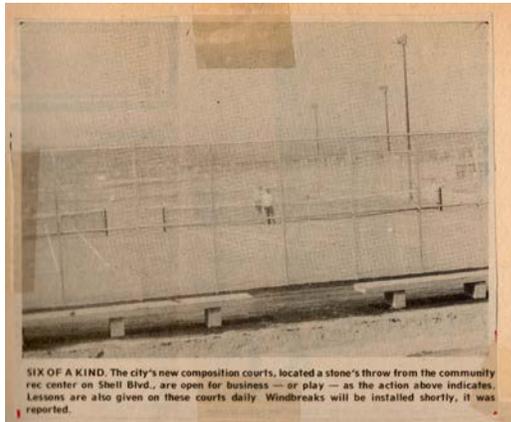


Beginning in 1974, the club has held an annual meeting and accompanying party to celebrate the members and review and recap the year. The annual meeting provided an opportunity to hear from the club officers on the status of events, finances, and membership. The membership would then elect the officers for the coming year, as well as, thanking all the volunteers who contributed their time throughout the year. Rel Kempf remembers that this event would typically be held at the end of the tennis season in late Fall. The first meeting was held in September 1974 to elect club officers. In 1975, a holiday party was tabled in favor of a Valentines Day party because of the overbooked holiday season. In 1990, the meeting was held in January to kick off the new season. Through the years, more focus was given to a holiday party for social fun and holiday spirit. However, because of other family, work, social commitments in December, the annual meeting and party was eventually moved to January to allow a more relax setting. The organization was usually given to the club social director with help from Board and club members. A few of the past Social Directors include:

1974, Rochelle Bingham  
1990, Dondi Gaskill and Cynthia Gin  
2007 Dale Russell  
2009 Scarlett Wood  
2010 Regina Spadarella  
2013 Lynn Presley  
2015 Joan Johnson  
2016 Alma Hwang  
2018 Patrick Chan  
2019-20 Patricio Barraza

## Courts and Venues

In 1974, the city completed construction on their new Recreation Center building, as well as, six new adjacent night-lighted hard-court tennis courts.



The tennis courts in Foster City have seen quite a few changes over the past several years. In 2005, two courts at the Shell tennis courts in Leo Ryan Park were removed to allow the construction of a new Teen Center, skateboard park, and to address the continuing problem of the near-by lagoon water seeping up through the courts. The city added a new court (#5) at the Edgewater courts that included a short fence along one side to accommodate lessons and a small set of bleachers for spectators.



Ribbon cutting at Edgewater Park tennis courts , 2005, to celebrate the addition of the new court #5.

L to R; unknown, Reggie Regino, USTA rep David Lee, City Rec staff Manny Hernandez, Mayor Pam Frisella, president Barby Pickett, Shaun Lenihan, Sam Marshall, Gust Zumas, unknown, unknown, past president Richard Olson; sitting, board member Vikki Mion,

In 2017, two more courts at Shell were converted to six permanent pickleball courts to meet the increasing public demand for this sport (and to maintain the integrity of tennis courts; each sport requires different court layouts and net heights). While the club uses the five

courts at the Edgewater Park for most of our activities and events, members continue to use the four courts at the Boothbay Park, the two courts at Catamaran Park, and the two courts at Leo Ryan Park (Shell courts).

Our local tennis players, always looking for new places to play, enjoyed several local indoor facilities, no longer open, including the Bayside and Sundown Tennis Clubs, and until recently, the Broadway Tennis Center in Burlingame (now part of Bay Club). On rare occasion, matches could be held indoors at the 2 courts at the Bay Club of Redwood City (formerly the Pacific Athletic Club).

For the adventurous, popular weekend trips found members off to Carmel, Lake Tahoe, Boulder Creek, and Napa and Sonoma.

In 1974, Carol Lefcourt of the 'Rally Alley' offered our members use of their facility for the discounted price of \$2.00 per hour, reduced from \$3.50 (that included use of their dressing rooms and showers).

That same year, the club bought 30 tickets to the quarter finals of the 1974 Pacific Coast Open (known as the Fireman's Fund International) was run by the Commercial Union Assurance Grand Prix, a professional tennis circuit administered by the International Lawn Tennis Federation (ILTF) which served as a forerunner to the current Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) that premiered such tennis stars as Stan Smith, Arthur Ashe, Jimmy Connors, Vitas Gerulaitis, Charlie Pasarell (who went on to create the Indian Wells Tennis Center), Tom Okker, Rod Laver, Billie Jean King, and Rosie Cassals. The tournament winner, Ross Case, took home \$16,000. Held at the Cow Palace, tickets went for \$6.00 (limit 2 per family!).

In 1975, the city Recreation Department was considering a court monitor system where that would use a time-metered clock to allow players specific amount of playing time. There was also a plan to issue stickers to residents to attach to their rackets to identify who would have access to the courts.

News bits from 1990; the parking lot next to the Shell courts has been paved! No more dust and dirt on the courts! A pay phone has been installed near the backboard at Edgewater Park. The city will keep the restrooms open in the rec center on the weekend if they have an event...nice?!? Please keep the tennis courts clean by picking up your empty tennis ball (metal) cans and lids.

In 1990 to memorialize the loss of his son, the local Mel Lee family donated funds to the Bowditch Middle School for the construction of four tennis courts as a venue for students to learn and appreciate the game of tennis, and of life. For many years, our tennis club collaborated with the School District to host USTA matches and keep the courts in good shape. In 2007, the courts were in need of resurfacing. So, under Jake Karmendy presidency, our club, Zalles Sports, and the school district assisted in raising the needed funds, along with guidance from the city recreation department and city council, our club help facilitate a contract with Saviano Company to bring the project to fruition. The school

voiced their tremendous appreciation and gratitude for everyone’s effort and contributions. For many years after, the club donated the used balls from the PPC tournament for the school’s tennis curriculum activities. This was yet another demonstration of the club’s involvement and support of the local community.

### City Partnership

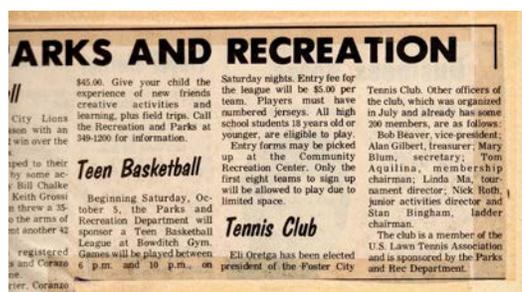
The collaboration and partnership with the city recreation leadership and staff continues to provide our club and membership, as well as the public, some of the best facilities and maintenance on the Peninsula. Our work with the city from 2002-2018 by Richard Olson, Barby Pickett, Gust Zumas, and Dale Russell has created a successful long-term relationship that benefits both the club and city.



City

Council meeting 2007, Richard Olson presenting plaque of appreciation to Kevin Miller (center, Director of Parks and Rec) to mayor ???, with our Gust Zumas (left). Right; Richard Olson, Barby Pickett, Jake Karmendy, Gust Zumas.

### The Parks and Recreation Department



- 1973, Director; Gordon Johnson; Superintendent of Recreation, Dick Mock; Recreation Supervisor, Brian Tibbetts
- 1974, Acting Director, Barry Bergman
- 1974, Director, Edward Adams
- 1990, Director, Stewart Frame; Park Superintendent, Kevin Miller
- 1990-2015, Director, Kevin Miller (City Manager, 2015-2019)
- 2015- 2020, Director, Jennifer Liu

In 2005, the FCTC moved their base of operation from the Shell courts (from the 4, now 2 courts) to the Edgewater (5) courts to allow more continuous play. The club and city partnered in constructing a new shed at the Edgewater Park to house all of our equipment, supplies, and gas BBQ and party materials (this greatly accommodated the running of the PCC tournament for several years).



Gust Zumas and Dale Russell, our new shed at the Edgewater courts, 2008.

Through our proactive communication with the city, many upgrades have been accomplished, such as new lights at Edgewater and Shell, resurfacing of all 13 public courts on a regular bases, new trash and recycling cans at all 13 courts, and weekly cleaning and maintenance (that includes net replacement when worn). For many years (2002-2015) the club worked with Kevin Miller, the Director of Parks and Recreation for Foster City (City Manager, 2015 to 2019). His dedication, support, and collaboration re-established our wonderful partnership in providing the outstanding facilities and maintenance. The club continues to benefit from the strong partnership and committed vision demonstrated by the city leadership.



L to R, Sam Hindi CC, Catharine Mahanpour CC, Mayor Herb Perez, Parks & Rec Director Jennifer Liu, FCTC President Dale Russell, Charlie Bronsky CC, 2016.

Under the FCTC Board of Directors approval, the club has pledged over \$22,500 to the city through the Foster City Foundation over the past 8 years (2012-2020) that mandates specific tennis court capital improvements. Another partnership the club supports includes recycling our used tennis balls to a consortium that refurbishes walkers for seniors and uses the tennis balls as cushions on the legs; we donate as many as 500 balls every couple of months.

The club has had many members and friends who have donated their time and money through the years to enhance our tennis experience. In 2016, the Vikki Mion Trust has made several substantial contributions to the facilities at the Edgewater courts, including upgrading the wind screens with windows to allow spectators to view matches, adding 10 new permanent benches courtside, replacing the information bulletin board, and providing funding for the large dining canopy with additional concrete picnic tables and serving table. Vikki was an avid long-time club and Board member, our USTA coordinator, and captain and player of numerous FCTC teams.

### **Foster City Sports Wall of Fame**



In 2016, with the encouragement of Jennifer Liu, Director of Parks and recreation, the Foster City Tennis Club was honored and excited to nominate Reynaldo Zalles as a candidate for the Foster City Sports Wall of Fame! That summer, Reynaldo was inducted before a large crowd of city dignitaries and many local supporters as the first-ever tennis advocate enshrined into the Sports Wall of Fame! A permanent bronze plaque celebrates his achievement on the SHOF Monument in Sea Cloud Park. Reynaldo has been the hallmark and significant contributor to the Foster City tennis community for the past 32 years, as a

coach, mentor, and volunteer, touching the lives of generations of young local tennis players. His relationship with the local schools included supporting the tennis program with new nets, wind screens, and equipment providing a quality tennis experience. For many years he coached and mentored the junior leagues and teams to great success. Throughout the years in Foster City, Reynaldo has also taken the lead in supporting many charity events, USTA tournaments, and for many years running his own high-level tournament to showcase the local premier players to the community. Reynaldo and his love of tennis have touched the lives of many young Foster City kids through the years. His enduring leadership and community strength are the fabric of the type of role models we all want our kids to appreciate and respect. We were proud to see our friend and pillar of the youth tennis community as an inductee to the Foster City Sports Wall of Fame!

### **Past Presidents**



L to R, Victor Luscap, photographer BM, Jake Karmendy, PP; Kacey Karmendy, PP; Dale Russell, PP.

- 1974 Rel Kempf and Aleck Townsley
- 1974 Eli Ortega
- 1976 Rel Kempf
- 1977 Henry (el) Vines
- 1978 Irv Ashe
- 1979 David Umlauf
- 1980 Rudy Gosienfiao
- 1981 Ray Rousseau
- 1982 Brian (Robin) Watwood
- 1983 Richard Schlueter
- 1984 Frank LaFon
- 1985 Mimi Kaminski
- 1986 Glenn Mendelson
- 1987 Nicholas Roth
- 1988 Susan Scott
- 1989 Burt Maertz

1990 Liz Titus  
1991 Jim Chavez  
1992 Walt Hobbs  
1993 Donna L. Leong  
1994 Ben Tolosa  
1995 Benita Zimmerman  
1996-1997 Pearl Pereira  
1998 Judy Olson  
1999 Jim Warner  
2000 Jackie James  
2001-2002 Jane Bagley  
2003-2005 Richard Olson  
2006 Barby Pickett  
2007-2009 Jake Karmendy  
2010-2011 Ken Soohoo  
2012-2013 Kacey Karmendy  
2014-2017 Dale Russell  
2017-2019 Richard Chang  
2020 to present Thom Maslow

### **USTA Connection**

Since the early eighty's, our club has participated in the USTA NorCal tennis leagues with many of our teams doing well to represent Foster City. Several of our members have contributed their time as volunteers at USTA, and provided USTA organizational information back to the club and members. Larry McKeller was elected to the NorCal Board of Directors in the late 1980's serving his 2-year term with distinction. In 2003, Judy Olson was selected as the USTA NorCal Local Area Coordinator of the Year for her support and leadership working with the many leagues and teams on the Peninsula. From 2006 to 2016, Dale Russell was appointed member, and later, Chair of the USTA NorCal Adult League Committee. Dale also served two terms on the USTA National League Committee, meeting each year in New York at the US Open. Past FCTC president, Barby Pickett, has served on the USTA NorCal Grievance Committee from 2014 to 2019. Shaun Lenihan has volunteered her time and knowledge as a USTA NorCal Tournament Official for over 20 years working both junior and adult venues from the late 1990's. Mona Simpson completed her training in 2015 as a USTA NorCal official and has mostly worked junior tournaments and events.

### Here is the history of USTA teams playing for the FCTC:

1998: 8 teams (Adult). Played at Shell, Bowditch courts. Ed Weiss, Richard Olson, Gust Zumas, Pam Frisella, Samantha Marshall, Peggy Cartwright, Lisa Chang, Betty Lam, Patty Coulson, and Jackie James were playing.  
1999: 13 teams (Adult, Senior, Mixed). Played at Shell courts.  
2000: 16 teams (Adult, Senior, Mixed). Played at Shell courts.  
2001: 8 teams (Adult, Senior, Mixed). Played at Shell (Leo Ryan)

2002: 18 teams (Adult, Senior, Mixed, 50 Mixed, Combo Men). Played at Leo Ryan courts. Added 50 Mixed, Combo Men.

2003: 26 teams (Adult, Senior, Mixed, 50 Mixed, Combo Men). Played at Leo Ryan courts.

2004: 19 teams (Adult, Senior, Mixed, 50 Mixed). Played at Leo Ryan courts. No Combo

2005: 22 teams (Adult, Senior, SS60, SS65, 50 Mixed, Combo M/W)  
 Added SS60, SS65, Combo Women. No Mixed.  
 Played at Leo Ryan, Bowditch courts.

2006: 25 teams (Adult, Senior, SS60, SS65, Combo). Played at Leo Ryan, Bowditch courts.  
 No 55 Mixed

2007: 22 teams (Adult, Senior, Mixed, SS60, SS65, 50 Mixed, Combo)  
 Played at Leo Ryan, Bowditch, Edgewater courts.

2008: 23 teams (Adult, Senior, Mixed, SS60, SS65, 50 Mixed, Combo)  
 Played at Edgewater courts.

2009: 20 teams (Adult, Senior, Mixed, SS60, SS65, Combo) Played at Edgewater courts.

2010: 27 teams (Adult, Senior, Mixed, SS60, SS65, 50 Mixed, Combo) Played at Edgewater courts.

2011: 23 teams (Adult, Senior, Mixed, SS60, SS65, S70, 50 Mixed, Combo)  
 Added S70. Played at Edgewater courts.

2012: 27 teams (Adult, Senior, Mixed, SS60, SS65, S70, 50 Mixed, Combo) Played at Edgewater courts.

2013: 37 teams (Adult 18, 40, 55, 65, 70, Mixed 18, 40, 55, Combo)  
 Added new age divisions. Played at Edgewater courts.

2014: 38 teams (Adult 18, 40, 55, 65, 70, Mixed 18, 40, 55, Combo) Played at Edgewater courts.

2015: 44 teams (Adult 18, 40, 55, 65, 70, Mixed 18, 40, 55, Combo). Played at Edgewater courts.

2016: 41 teams (Adult 18, 40, 55, 65, 70, Mixed 18, 40, 55, Combo). Played at Edgewater courts.

2017: 47 teams (Adult 18, 40, 55, 65, 70, Mixed 18, 40 (x2), 55, Combo).

2018: 43 teams (Adult 18, 40, 55, 65, 70, Mixed 18, 40, 55, Combo).

2019: 36 teams (Adult 18, 40, 55, 65, 70, Adult 18-45 Singles, Mixed 18, 40, 55, Combo, Tri-Level Team Tournament).

2020: USTA leagues were suspended in March through December due to the global Covid-19 Pandemic.

2021; USTA adult league continue to be suspended.

1998 – 2019:

- 583 USTA teams
- 195 teams to USTA Districts Championships
- 12 teams USTA Sectional Championships winners
- 7 teams to National Championships
- 1 team National Champions

## Juniors



As with most tennis clubs, juniors (kids under 18) have looked for opportunities to develop their skills and to continue to learn the game of tennis. The FCTC has had several programs, leagues, and events through the years to provide this function. In the 70's and 80's, club juniors (about 40 kids) were encouraged to enter selected tournaments, challenger ladders, and compete in Bay Area league challenges. As the USTA began to offer these activities, the club focus moved toward adults. Our local tennis shop (Zalles Sports) and city sponsored lessons have been to main source for our club juniors. Beginning in 1993, Reynaldo Zalles has provided the Foster City community his love of tennis through his guidance, his Foster City co-op tennis lessons, his wonderful summer camps at Bowditch Middle School (over 5,000 kids through the years), and his community volunteer support of tennis. Our own board member, Derrick Chua, began his tennis experience as a young student of the Zalles programs, and today his children are having the same opportunity.

## Tennis Expo



Great fun, Edgewater Park, 2015 Tennis Expo

Stanford (beginning with John Whitlinger, now Tom Sarsfield) has run lessons and Summer camps in partnership with Foster City for many years. Under the vision and guidance of FCTC Board member, Derrick Chua, and club supporter Reggie Regino, the club has hosted the Annual Tennis Expo since 2012, in collaboration with the city recreation department, the USTA local area coordinator, and Zalles Sports to provide juniors an introduction to the sport, active tennis drills, and general technique instruction.

**Future?**

As of 2021, our 48-year club history has seen many great tennis experiences and our members have shared many fun times together. We continue to enjoy a wonderful partnership with the City and their leadership, as well as benefiting from their attention and focus to our club and in maintaining some of the best courts and facilities on the Peninsula. We are also thankful to our many club members through the years that have contributed their time and energy in providing leadership, support, and participation. We look forward to the future and continue to enjoy our sport of tennis!