



Chickee Chatter

Royal Palm Tennis Club

Founded in 1960

February , 2023

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2023

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Hello everyone,

As you all know, we have started our long-overdue fencing project. Courts 1, 2, 9 and 10 are now complete. It took a lot longer than expected (so what else is new) due to the fact that the old



poles were buried very deeply in concrete – as in more than 4 ft of concrete in some places. We are rescheduling the next court fencing phase (courts 3, 4, 11, 12) starting on March 20, when there is spring break, the Miami Open etc. and there is usually less court usage.

On a positive note, the large areas of deep concrete that we have discovered show a real potential for hiding a body, and yes, I mean Andy. Another year of working with him could lead to violence...

The Racquetdesk software is finally up and running. It took a while to integrate it with our accounting system, but it will make our club more efficient and professional. We are currently working out all the smaller kinks in the system as this is new for Royal Palm members and the employees.

The idea behind this software is to have one central location for members to sign up for clinics, lessons, leagues, pay their bill, court usage reports and more. Many of these benefits will get rolled out in a staggered way so we don't overload anyone. Anne and Sabrina have been doing an amazing job trying to get this software up and running and they are available for questions if anyone has (sabrina@rptc.org)

You may have noticed a tall, beautiful, blonde hitting the heck out of the tennis ball (no, it is not me. I am not blonde). Her name is Eugenie Bouchard and she was a former #5 player in the world. She is on the road back (after a shoulder injury) to the pro tour, and is practicing with Eric. Royal Palm's reputation as a stellar tennis club is always improving. By the way, the board has voted that touring pros who practice at Royal Palm are encouraged, but not required to wear all white.

Thanks!

See you on the courts!

Joan



HISTORY



Since we are approaching the opening dates of the Miami Open, I thought it would be interesting to give you a little history of the Open and the Royal Palm member, Butch Bucholz, who founded the tournament.

Butch Bucholz (born in St. Louis in 1940) was an outstanding junior player, winning all three Boys' Single slam titles in a row during 1958 -59: the French Open, Wimbledon and the Australia Open. He played for the US Davis Cup and reached the semifinals in 1960, losing to Rod Laver in five sets.

Butch turned professional in 1961. He won the US Pro Championship in 1962, by beating Pancho Segura. Over the next few years, he won 22 professional tournament events. After injury ended his 10 year professional career, he stayed active in tennis as a tournament promoter and network television commentator.

In 1980, Butch was the executive director of the Association of Tennis Professionals (the players' union). He met a VP of the Lipton Company, who liked his idea of creating a two week players' tournament. A sponsorship agreement would eventually be reached for \$1.5 million a year for five years, with Lipton owning the title.

The 'Winter Wimbledon' as it was first dubbed, would be the first major tournament of the year (the Australian Open was then held in December). It was first held in Delray and then Boca Raton, before it moved to its permanent home in Miami's Key Biscayne in 1987. .

HISTORY CONTINUED

Merritt Stierheim, the Dade County manager (and also a RP member) was instrumental for the move. Butch approached both the ATP and WTA and offered prize money, a percentage of ticket sales and world wide television rights. In return, Butch wanted the rights to run the tournament for 15 years. The associations agreed.

The Lipton was amazingly successful and was one of the largest tennis tournaments in terms of players, prize money and attendance.

The Tournament is now the Miami Open. It moved from Key Biscayne in 2019, as legal restrictions prohibited the upgrading of facilities to its current location.

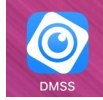
Butch continued to be active in tennis, forming a company to oversee tennis tournaments in Latin America. He also helped secure the continuation of the Orange Bowl International Tennis Tournament.

In 2005, he was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame.

He currently resides in Westport, Connecticut.

CAMERA

Download the *updated* DMSS app



Once app is downloaded, you'll be required to create a *personal* login in

After login is created and you are signed into the app go to the top right hand corner and press the plus sign with a circle around it (+)

A drop down will appear and click the "IP/Domain" option then click the "Wired Camera"

Input the following information:

Port: 37777

Address: 96.85.238.22

Device Name: member (case sensitive— make sure to use a lower case "m")

Username: Royal (case sensitive—make sure to use a capital "R")

Password: 12345

Save settings, and then press live view! You will now have access to the Rain Camera

A screenshot of the DMSS app's settings screen for a camera named "member". The status bar at the top shows "AT&T", signal strength, Wi-Fi, the time "5:32 PM", and battery level. The screen has a back arrow on the left and a home icon on the right. The settings are as follows:

Register Mode:	IP/Domain >
Name:	member
Address:	96.85.238.22
Port:	37777
Username:	Royal
Password:	•••••
Live Preview:	Extra >
Playback:	Extra >

At the bottom of the screen is a grey button labeled "Start Live Preview".



PROS CORNER

Miami Open



The Miami open has always been a special event for me. Growing up as a junior player, being able to see Agassi and some of these other first class pros compete in my backyard really inspired me to work hard and become the player that I was. The feel for the tournament has definitely changed me quite a bit going over to Dolphins Stadium versus being on Key Biscayne. There's just something different about the tournament being on Key Biscayne and feeling like "Miami."

After college I had the privilege to hit with Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal during the same tournament which also changed my perspective on how each player should approach practice in a different manner. Roger was very to the point on working on specific shots for his game, and Rafa had a very physical and intense practice.

Next in 2019, I had my first experience coaching a player there with Venus Williams. This was at Hard Rock Stadium and created some incredible insight about All the In-N-Outs that go on behind the scenes from the warm up, to booking the courts to the gym, and the media.

Therefore from my experience truly take advantage of this incredible tournament in your backyard go to the event especially on one of the early days watch the players warm up, bring your kids have them be inspired by the meticulous attention to detail with these pros have, and then marvel at the details that they put into from every shot of every practice. We might not be able to hit as hard as them or run as fast as them, however we can learn from their focus and discipline and integrate that not only into our tennis but into our daily lives.

- Eric

DOUBLE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

The Doubles Club Championships will be a tournament style format with matches on Friday Evening, late morning Saturday, and late morning Sunday. The Finals will all be played on a separate weekend with all divisions playing at the same time. Sign-up is open now until 4/14. Rain Make-ups will be in the afternoons on the day of the match or on Monday evening if necessary.

A Division: Minimum for men (8.0), For women no minimum

B Division: Maximum of 8.0

C Division Maximum of 7.0



The Dates Will be the Following:

April 21st — 23rd A and C (rain make-up 4/24)

April 28th — 30th B (rain make-up 5/1)

May 6th Finals (make-up on 5/7)

Sign up deadline April 14th
Royalpalmtennis@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE