



ADVANTAGE

Official Newsletter of the USTA/PNW Tennis Officials Organization
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In this Issue:

- **2007 Work Card Submission**
- **Codes of Conduct 13 and 14**
- **An Article from USTA National Officials Website**

FINAL REMINDER: 2007 Work Card Submission

By Dave Muhich



Greetings again, everyone! This is an **urgent** final reminder for those of you who have not yet turned in your work cards. You have until **10/15/07** to get them into John's hands, so send them along as soon as you read this newsletter, if you are one of the remaining few yet to submit yours. A few suggestions and reminders below:

- Please pay special attention to the items listed below, as they are the 3 most frequent errors on the work card:
 1. Missing officials signature (on cover page)
 2. Missing USTA card number and expire date (on cover page)
 3. Missing 2007 class attended information (on inside)
- Easy fold directions for the card: fold it the long way, at 90 degrees to the fold that it comes with. It will fit, with this one fold, in a legal envelope, with one stamp. No need to add more. Some officials pay up to \$2.50 for postage and a bubble wrap envelope, which is not necessary. No faxes accepted: you must send originals.
- Make a copy in case USPS loses your card. It has happened to officials in the past, so don't let it happen to you this year!
- Send it to: Chair, Officials Committee, John Rodenberg, 2202 27th PL SE, Puyallup WA 98372

Codes of Conduct 13 and 14

By Bill Haskin

#13

As professional officials we cannot work in any capacity at any tennis match when we are not at our best, and certainly using alcohol, drugs or medication which affects our decisions cannot be tolerated. We are a select group of officials who can make a difference in any match we are working, so any substance which can affect our level of performance is not allowed. In many respects, the use of judgment or physical capacity altering substances is much like the workplace: if they affect performance, then they are not allowed. We can all imagine what players may think if they see one of the officials having drinks while still in his or her uniform either before or after the matches, how could they have any confidence in this official working their matches.



#14

This is an open ended code of conduct; our national and sectional committees are working to better the work we do so why would we not cooperate with them and follow the simple rules the committees put in effect.

Final Word

By USTA National Officials' Office



We are always reminded that the Roving Official has the most difficult job in tennis officiating. The skills include patience, communication skills, rules knowledge and good judgment. During a long day, the Roving Official must deal with emotional players, parents, coaches, and fans. In a sport like baseball, confrontation is sometimes the norm among the officials and the participants. This is NOT the case in tennis.

In every emotional moment from a participant there is an underlying question being asked. Rather than add to the spiraling dynamic, the Roving Official must identify the question and address that issue professionally and to be a calming influence. The Code of Conduct and quiet diplomacy are valuable tools to control any difficult situation and the referee on site is there to assist if necessary. The Roving Official's role is problem solving and conflict resolution. That's the job. Acting otherwise gives tennis officiating a bad name.

ADVANTAGE is the Official Newsletter of the PNW-USTA Officials Organization. **John Rodenberg**, Contributing Editor and **Dave Muhich**, Managing Editor. Send comments to tennisracq@wa.net and davemu21@hotmail.com. We're committed to deliver you the "ADVANTAGE" when it comes to officiating in the PNW Section.