

# ADVANTAGE

Official Newsletter of the USTA/PNW Tennis Officials Organization  
Issue #50

May 15, 2008

## In this Issue:

- Notes From The Editor
- Final 2008 PNW Officials' Training
- Go The Distance
- Volunteers Needed
- New Balls Please
- Chair Umpire Handbook

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## Notes From The Editor

By Dave Muhich

Greetings everyone! Hope you have all had a great spring so far, and are all looking forward to summer as much as I am. We have had some great junior and college tennis so far this year in the PNW, and are now entering what is, in my opinion, the stretch of this area's best tennis. Between the circuit events that stretch from Southern Oregon to Seattle, to the area's one and only USTA Pro Circuit event, the Odlum Brown Vancouver Open, this summer is shaping up to be another great one. See you on the courts!

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## Final 2008 PNW Officials' Training

By Perry Hines



If you live in British Columbia or Alaska and want to become USTA certified for 2009, you can attend a school taught by PNW Sectional Trainer/Evaluator Perry Hines on the following:

### **VANCOUVER, BC**

May 27, Tuesday (USTA sectional certification class),  
and May 28, Wednesday (Referee certification class)

At Vancouver Lawn Tennis & Badminton Club

1630 West 15th Ave

Vancouver, BC V6J 2K7, Canada

[www.vanlawn.com](http://www.vanlawn.com)

6pm-10pm (Both evenings)

Contact Lois Ker for registration

[lmker@telus.net](mailto:lmker@telus.net)

## **ANCHORAGE, AK**

June 14, Saturday

At Bill Cotton's house:

2054 Saratoga Ave.

Anchorage, AK 99517

9am-1pm (start time may change)

Contact Allen Clendaniel for registration

[clendaniel.allen@dorsey.com](mailto:clendaniel.allen@dorsey.com)

Attendees **MUST** download and complete the tests prior to the class. Bring your (completed) answer sheet with you to the class...it will be graded there. The exams, cover sheets (test instructions) and answer sheets are available for download at:

<http://www.usta.com/rules/default.sps?iType=1059&icustompagid=20193>

Contact Perry Hines at [phines@teleport.com](mailto:phines@teleport.com) for further information.

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### **Go the Distance**

By Victor Kollock

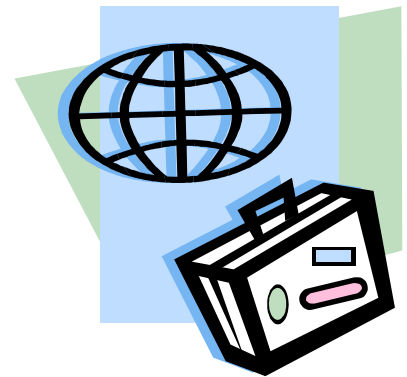
Doesn't ring a bell? Need a little help with your movie trivia? OK, I'll give you an easy hint; "If you build it, he will come." Are you onboard yet? The voice in the cornfield from the movie "Field of Dreams." Never saw it? Rent it. Believe me, in the sports movie genre, it's a lot better than the movie "Wimbledon." Either way, if you saw the movie and recall the quote or not, read on.

If I could pass along a piece of advice to my fellow officials who have 1 to 5 years of experience, it would simply be "go the distance." Now don't get me wrong, it's not magic and certainly not a cure all for your own officiating career. It is simply an aspect of officiating that has served me well over the last five years and has afforded me some great officiating experiences. So much so, I wanted to share it with you.

I'm not exactly strategically located when it comes to officiating assignments. If you wish, locate Evans, Washington on the map and you'll understand what I'm talking about. Every officiating assignment involves a distance for me. Whether it was shadowing in Tacoma, shadowing chairs at the University of Washington or dealing with winter weather to attend the annual USTA class, I accepted the distance and benefited from the experience awaiting on the other end.

That same willingness to go the distance has allowed me to officiate as a rover, a linesperson, and as a chair at a variety of collegiate and professional events within and outside our section. Don't let the distance deter you from an assignment that can offer experience to enhance your officiating. I'm paying the same or more at the pump just like you. You won't earn more money, in fact you'll likely not break even, but the experience, advice, and encouragement are rich rewards if you are willing and able.

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## Volunteers Needed - Write an Article for Advantage Newsletter

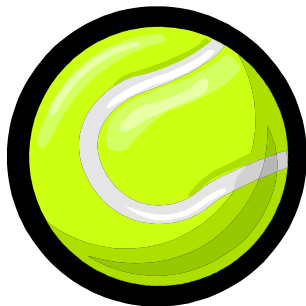
By Victor Kollock

Many of our officiating colleagues have experience that covers ten, fifteen and even twenty years. I encourage them to use our newsletter as a forum to share their advice in addition to what they do on an individual basis at events. Individually, we only get to interact with a handful of other officials during the entire year. The newsletter, along with mentoring, was intended to enhance the flow of information among officials. We look forward to reading your advice.

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### New Balls Please

By Victor Kollock



The ITA Division I Women's Operating Committee conducted a survey in March among Division I women's tennis coaches regarding use of the Regular Duty ball: 116 coaches responded and 76 percent *voted to return to using the Extra Duty ball for the 2008-09 season* for all ITA events and dual matches.

You might not be aware of tennis balls for men and tennis balls for women unless you've been involved with collegiate or professional tournaments. With respect to the Wilson US Open ball, the men use the extra duty ball (black **Wilson** lettering) while the women use the regular duty ball (red **Wilson** Lettering).

The tennis ball universe seems to be expanding with balls available from Dunlop, Gamma, Head, K3 Tennis, Penn, Prince, Slazenger, Technifibre and Wilson.

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### Chair Umpire Handbook

By John Rodenberg

A good little handbook called, "Basic Chair Umpire Handbook – a step by step guide for beginning chair umpires" used to be readily available and handed out at annual training. It is now only available as follows:

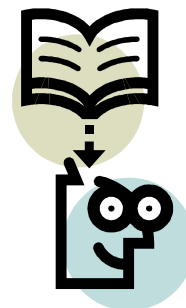
The chair umpire handbook is only available on the USTA umpire web page by clicking the following link:

[http://dps.usta.com/usta\\_master/usta/doc/content/doc\\_13\\_2319.pdf](http://dps.usta.com/usta_master/usta/doc/content/doc_13_2319.pdf)

Hard copies of this booklet are no longer published by the USTA Officials Department.

I suggest that you download a copy for your study if you are:

- An experienced chair, and have not referred to it for a while
- A prospective new chair, who shadowed some at ITA, but have not done a USTA or ITA chair
- A prospective USTA chair, who has shadowed USTA chairs
- A person who wants to see what and how chair umpires do



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**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](mailto:tennisracq@wa.net) and [davemu21@hotmail.com](mailto:davemu21@hotmail.com). We're committed to deliver you the "ADVANTAGE" when it comes to officiating in the PNW Section.