



## President's Message – November 19, 2021

Greetings to all Racquet Club Members! We have lots of exciting news to share and wanted to make all Members aware of many recent Racquet Club developments.

### Election Results

At our Club meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup>, we finalized the Racquet Club Board members for 2022. Unlike in prior years, we elected a President (Bob James) and a slate of six “at large” directors (Carol Ann Ferrol, David Johnson, Lorraine Novellino, Ann Rike, Sid Saltzman, and Dannica Wood). Your new Board met and determined the following Board Officer assignments for next year from among the “at large” directors:

- Vice President            Ann Rike
- Treasurer                 Sid Saltzman
- Secretary                 Lorraine Novellino

### Committees

For 2022, we have added two new committees to help the board operate one of the largest clubs at Ocean Hills (more than 450 members and growing!). Here are all of the 2022 Racquet Club committees:

- Badminton: Bob James and Cliff Singh
- Education (new): Ron Boren, Guy James, Kevin Sorensen, and Patti Storm
- Paddle Tennis: Allen Singer and Dannica Wood
- Pickleball: Harvey Bernstein (co-chair), Sue Bixler (co-chair), Roxanne Dillon, Suzanne Forman, Sandy Reinhardt and Tom Vaccaro
- Social: Pele Pyle and Laura Urban
- Sunshine: Donna Ryan
- Tennis: Patty Coffey, David Johnson and Kory Ward
- Tournaments and Court Events (new): John Gildner and Felicity Swerdlow

### Education

We will be rolling out (sometime next month) a full-year Pickleball Education curriculum for 2022 featuring four progressive instructional tiers:

- Pre-Beginner: for people “brand new to Pickleball” – a jump-start to prepare for Beginner lessons
- Beginner: Mike Hoggatt’s winter session (starting in mid-January) and Herb Livsey’s summer session (approximately Memorial Day to Labor Day)
- Skills: individual one-hour small-group classes focused on Serve, Return of Serve, Third Shot, Dinking, Lobs, etc. - must be a successful graduate of the Beginner level lessons or a consistent Intermediate or higher drop-in player. These will be offered multiple times throughout the year.
- Strategy: custom small group classes offered periodically throughout the year by Brett Anderson or David Levine. These are generally best suited to our Ocean Hills “High Intermediate” and “Advanced” players.



Our other club sports (Badminton, Paddle Tennis, and Tennis) will continue to offer opportunities for new players to learn about the sport throughout the year and we will send additional information about these when they become available.

### Branding

At the recent Club meeting, we were excited to roll out our new club logo – you see it featured on this President’s Letter and will start to see it on our website, banners, and other material. There are sport-specific variations as well. We are exploring various options for putting this logo on clothing, hats, bags, etc. Look for announcements about this very soon.

### Special Events for 2022

Mark your calendars for our two annual parties:

- Winter Party (Abravanel Hall)            March 5
- Summery Party (Lanai)                    August 10

In the coming weeks, our Sports Committees and our Tournament and Court Events Committee will share some of their plans for 2022.

### Our Racquet Club Sports

I know, at times, it can seem like we’re becoming just a Pickleball Club. We most definitely are not – for 2022, we are a four-sport Racquet Club. There’s no denying that Pickleball is the fastest growing sport for “active seniors”, so it gets a lot of airtime and attention. In the Racquet Club, we have more than 300 active Pickleball players (and only about one-tenth of that number for each of our other three sports). So, to our members who enjoy badminton, paddle tennis, or tennis (perhaps in addition to Pickleball), please ensure that we hear your voices as well.

Everyone should feel free to reach out to the Sports Committees directly to talk about changes you would like to see at Ocean Hills related to our Racquet Club sports. The Sports Committees have a direct communication line to the Board (through a dedicated Board liaison assigned to each Committee), so your input will be heard and considered.

### Summary

The entire Racquet Club Board is honored to have the opportunity to serve our members. If you ever have a compliment (or a complaint), a suggestion (or a criticism), an idea for something we should do (or stop doing) ... please reach out to me, any board officer or director, or any committee leader for a conversation. We are looking forward to a great 2022 for all of our Racquet Club sports and we encourage you to join us whenever you can for exercise, camaraderie, and fun on the courts.

Best Regards,

Bob James  
Racquet Club President