

The Inaugural World Doubles Junior Pro/AM Court Tennis Championship

Since its founding in 1886, a number of important inventions and “firsts” are alleged to have come from within the storied gates of Tuxedo Park and The Tuxedo Club, the home of the 2015 World Doubles Court Tennis Championship. To name just a few, these include; the invention of SONAR, the first game of Bridge played in the United States, and Pierre Lorillard’s introduction of the tailless black dinner jacket, which quickly became known as the Tuxedo.

This year, The Tuxedo Club has added another page its rich history, in a world where there are few “firsts” remaining.

This past weekend, The Tennis House at The Tuxedo Club hosted ***The Inaugural World Doubles Junior Pro/AM Court Tennis Championship – Sponsored by ZipLocal and United States Court Tennis Preservation Foundation.***

While the title of the event is a mouthful, spectators by the score that filled the dedans on the first weekend of World Doubles Championship Week at The Tuxedo Club were treated to more than an eyeful of great Junior ProAM Doubles Court Tennis action.

The first round format was a “double round robin” – pairing juniors together with a rotation of Court Tennis professionals – in a ten game, handicapped event. This was followed by a no-handicap, single-match elimination semi-final and final for the top four juniors and the top four Professionals.

It was rumored among the Court Tennis professionals that this event was “hit and giggle”. It may have started that way but after more than 12 hours of action over two gorgeous days at The Tennis House in Tuxedo Park, four juniors and four Professionals emerged to the final draw. They were, from the juniors, Messrs. N. Motz, C Motz and Barker of Princes Court, Mr. Hill of Boston T&R. Professionals advancing included Clare Fahey, John Lumley, Ben Matthews and Chris Chapman.

The final three matches of this historic event inspired the professionals to “up their games” as the sets featured several heated volley battles, balls stolen from the last gallery, plenty of winners in the hazard end galleries and dedans, and shots to the tambour that never emerged from Tuxedo’s dreaded and deep hazard end corner.

Ultimately, the Championship was competed for between familiar foes, Messrs. Barker and N. Motz who were ably supported by Claire Fahey and Ben Matthews with the pairing of Fahey and Barker taking the champion’s trophy.

While tournaments always end with the awards ceremony, on Sunday the discussion in the Greevy room after the matches had a different theme – remarks centered on the field of 13 juniors their sportsmanship and great promise for each these “future stars” of Court Tennis in the United States.

Special thanks from the event sponsors, ZipLocal and the United States Court Tennis Preservation Foundation, to the Court Tennis Professionals who give so much to advance and develop the sport – Ms. Claire Fahey and Messrs. Chris Chapman, Tim Chisholm, John Lumley, Ben Matthews, Cam Riviere, Matt Ronaldson and Rob Whitehouse.

A good time was had by all.

<u>Junior Competitor</u>	<u>Home Club</u>	<u>Total Points</u>
Barker	Prince’s Court	24 points
Bristowe	NY R&T	8 points
Capella	Tuxedo	17 points
Chisholm	Tuxedo	12 points
Drake	RCOC	13 points
Fornengo	RCOC	13 points
Hill	Boston T&R	18 points
Honor	Tuxedo	14 points
N. Motz	Prince’s Court	20 points
C. Motz	Prince’s Court	18 points
Scherer	Tuxedo	12 points
Vanderlee	Tuxedo	10 points
Yanuzzi	Tuxedo	17 points