



Anguilla Tennis Academy

December 15, 2005

Volume 1, Issue 3

# ATA Monthly

## Founding Members Club



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The Anguilla Tennis Academy announced it will establish a Founding Members Club for a limited number of Individuals and Villa Rental Properties. Founding Members will be provided not only a wide range of usage benefits within the ATA, but also a chance take part and be recognized as part of the initial sponsorship group to establish the Academy. Kamique Properties, the developer of a luxury Villa Resort to be opened in Anguilla in 2007, joined together with the ATA to create the framework for the Founding Members Club and committed to one of the 50 limited Founding Memberships to be offered. The ATA designed the Founding Members Club to take advantage of the many activities and facilities the ATA will have to offer including court time, group/private lessons, access to all facilities and an opportunity to be part of the larger sport and community development programs the ATA will lead for Anguilla's youth. "We have been intrigued and impressed with the ATA's efforts in developing a first class Tennis facility that will help foster more youth sports and community oriented programs for Anguilla" said Ira Bloom, Managing Director of Kamique Properties. "The Founding Members club is a unique opportunity for us to take part in the Academy and additionally offer our guests access to the wide range of programs and facilities the ATA has to offer". Mitch Lake, Director of the ATA, is understandably enthusiastic about the program. Lake commented, "I am excited about the Founding Member campaign and am certain that with the participation of villas, hotels, and interested individuals in the community a substantial sponsorship base will be formed to make the facility a reality." Lake also commented, "I applaud Kamique properties for their participation and encourage other villas to get involved in this worthwhile endeavor that will also provide hope and opportunity for our children". The Anguilla Tennis Academy (ATA) is dedicated to providing the highest quality tennis instruction to Anguillan, Caribbean and International youth in a competitive environment while encouraging exemplary sportsmanship. The primary goal of the ATA is to develop healthy minds and provide educational opportunities for children through the sport of tennis -empowering children with the skills and knowledge to become responsible citizens of their community. The ATA, in its tenth year, has seen over 1,000 participants go through the program and benefit from tennis. The ATA is now completing construction of the ATA Tennis Center which will house the youth instruction programs as well as provide residents and visitors to the island with a premier Tennis Facility offering a wide range of activities and programs. For more information on the Anguilla Tennis Academy please contact: Mitchell Lake – 1-264-476-3234, [anguilla70@yahoo.com](mailto:anguilla70@yahoo.com)  
For more information on Kamique Properties please contact:  
Ira Bloom – 1-264-497-8888, [ira@kamique.com](mailto:ira@kamique.com)

*The Anguilla Tennis Academy – "Shaping Lives and Building a Future"*

## Cable and Wireless donates USD \$100,000



*Cables and Wireless donates USD \$100,000. Left to right: Jason Allen (ATA Director), Brent Davis (ATA Treasurer), Michelle lake (ATA Founder and President), Avon Carty (C&W Corportae Communications Manager), Sutcliffe Hodge (C & W ChiefExecutive)*

Cable and Wireless in Anguilla has made a commitment of US \$100,000 to the Anguilla Tennis Academy (ATA) towards the contrsuction of the main stadium at the world class sporting facility at Blowing Point.

The company has so far joined the government and a number of other private sector organizations in giving financial assistance to the project. A symbolic check for the above sum of money was presented by Chief Executive of Cable and Wireless in Anguilla, Sutcliffe Hodge, to the founder of the tennis academy, Michelle Lake, on Monday, September 19, at the construction site.

Mr. Hodge said that his company had taken an interest in the annual summer tennis camps and the development of the sport by Mr. Lake but had taken a cautious approach to the project. Now that it had become clear that the tennis academy was going forward, the company decided to make a substantial contribution towards the completion of the facility. He stated that he had discussed the matter with his superiors and that the Executive Director for the Northern Islands, Mark MacFee, had visited Anguilla, examined the project and gave approval for the financial assistance.

Mr. Hodge said the US \$100,000 was probably the single largest commitment that Cable and Wireless had made to sports development in Anguilla. "That speaks volumes for the Anguilla Tennis Academy and certainly for Mitch lake's leadership to have actually convinced my colleagues in Cable and Wireless," he observing, noting that he had to get the approval from them to make that large contribution to the project.

Hodge said his company recognized that the future of Anguilla was dependent on its youth and that the tennis academy had an important role to play in helping to mold the lives of the young people. He stated that there was a need not only to harness their energies and to discipline them, but to assist them in furthering their academic development and to achieve a level of positive confidence.

He made the point that in carrying out its role, the tennis academy would ensure that Anguilla could be successfully passed on to the next generation. "By making a commitment of this magnitude we at Cable and Wireless believe that our involvement will be for many years to come" he added.

Replying, Mr. Lake said he was extremely grateful for such a generous sponsorship from Cabela dn Wireless which showed that the tennis academy was not alone and that companies in Anguilla were reaching out to assist in constructing a facility for the island's children.

"The Anguilla Tennis Academy is dedicated to providing the highest quality of tennis instruction to all interested children in a competitive environment, while encouraging exemplary sportsmanship," Lake went on. "The primary goal of the ATA is to provide educational opportunities for our children through the sport of tennis. It was founded on the principle of using tennis as a vehicle to reach and empower children and to equip them with the skills and knowledge to become responsible citizens in the community. "

"We are happy to partner with Cable and Wireless, one of the worlds leading international telecommunication companies, in our quest to construct a world-class tennis academy in Anguila. Cable and Wireless through its generous contribution of US \$100,000 towards the construction of our stadium will be recognized as our Grandslam sponsor and will become the official telecommunications partner for the Anguilla Tennis Academy."

He thanked the company on behalf of the ATA board and hoped that other businesses and developers on the island would contribute to the worthwhile endeavor. "If we invest in our youth today, we can hope for a brighter tomorrow," he added. Tennis director, Jason Allen, joined in expressing thanks to Cable and Wireless. He said he had arrived on the island three moths ago from the United States, to help Michelle Lake bring the project to fruition and that the contribution had brought the facility a big step closer to reality.

The presentation was followed by a guided tour of the main building of the facility which will have tennis courts on either side with a stadium in a commanding location.

# Anguilla Tennis Academy Initiates Community Project



Left to right: Aline Geyer, Angelique Laurent, Katie Hawkins, and Michael Matthew

On Saturday, November 26, many of the children in the after school tennis program conducted by the ATA began cleaning the courts at Ronald Webster Park. This community service project was initiated by Jason Allen, director of tennis for the Anguilla Tennis Academy and CuisinArt Resort and Spa. Mr. Allen recognized that the courts in the park were in serious need of attention. Therefore, he wrote a letter to Mr. Timothy Hodge of the Social Security Board as well as the Honourable Deputy Governor Mr. Mark Capes asking for their approval and assistance. The Social Security Board was originally responsible for building the courts as well as installing the lights. However, because of neglect, the courts have begun to deteriorate. The courts were not the only problem however as there is a great deal of glass, trash, weeds, tall grass, rocks and dirt on and outside the courts. There was also a need for new nets as both are in poor condition. Both Mr. Hodge and Mr. Capes gave Mr. Allen their approval to begin the project. Also, Mr. Hodge and the Social Security Board donated USD \$200 for any expenses for tools, trash bags, and water for the children.

The children began cleaning the west end court as it is the best of the two. All the brush, trash, rocks, and sand were removed from the court as well as around the playing area. Also, a new net was donated to the court by the Anguilla Tennis Academy. With the help of Sebastian Rogers, one of the many people from the general public who enjoy the court, the net was installed correctly. Mr. Allen commented, "the children enrolled in the after school program utilize these courts and I want them to have the best conditions available. I also want the children to learn that involvement in the community is an essential part of becoming a responsible citizen. Moreover, it is important that children respect the field or court on which they play and ensure its maintenance. I am enthusiastic about this ongoing community project and I would like to thank Mr. Hodge and Mr. Capes for helping me realize this initiative. We plan to clean the east end court in the park as well as the tennis court the east end primary school. Of course I must also thank the children and parents who got involved as this clean-up would not have been possible without them. They all worked diligently and efficiently and gave their court a face lift."

As Mr. Allen mentioned, this is an ongoing project that will last over the forthcoming months. The east end court of Ronald Webster Park is in extremely bad condition and is never used by the public or the children. It will require more work and resources as well as the court at the east end primary school. Mr. Allen also mentioned that it may be possible to have all three courts resurfaced professionally when the courts at the ATA facility are being done. In essence, there is only one court in all of Anguilla that can be used by the public and the kids. Therefore, this community project is warranted and will be carried out by the ATA in order to ensure that its philosophy is put into practice. The ATA wholeheartedly believes in educating children to appreciate and give back to the community.



All the kids join in on cleaning a very dirty area.



Coach Vallan and Marvin Scale the fence to clear out The vines.



We have a new net!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Tennis Tidbits****Marvin Hazell to begin work full time with the ATA****ATP Top Ten Ranking as on November 21:**

1. Roger Federer, Switzerland, 1345
2. Rafael Nadal, Spain, 953
3. Andy Roddick, United States, 617
4. Lleyton Hewitt, Australia, 498
5. Nikolay Davydenko, Russia, 478
6. David Nalbandian, Argentina, 474
7. Andre Agassi, United States, 455
8. Guillermo Coria, Argentina, 438
9. Ivan Ljubicic, Croatia, 436
10. Gaston Gaudio, Argentina, 410

**WTA Tour Rankings**

1. Lindsay Davenport
2. Kin Clijsters
3. Amelie Mauresmo
4. Maria Sharapova
5. Mary Pierce
6. Justine Henin-Herdenne
7. Patty Schneider
8. Elena Dementieva
9. Nadia Petrova
10. Venus Williams

Marvin hazell is currently the head pro for the ATA, but most do not know that he also has a full time job during the day working in Information Technology for the Government of Anguilla. After a full day of work, he coaches for two hours in the afternoons with the After School program. Marvin is one of the original students who began with the ATA as a kid and has now decided to come on board full time with the Academy. Marvin will still be responsible for coaching in the After School program but now he will be available to go to the various villas to do private lessons, work at CuisinArt with Jason as his assistant pro, and assist in the everyday operations of the ATA. This will also give Marvin the opportunity to train more under Jason as he plans to go to college on a tennis scholarship in the near future. It is important that Marvin has come on board full time as he encompasses everything the ATA strives to do. We at the ATA welcome him with open arms and we encourage all of our readers to do the same. Write him and e-mail at [marv2k@hotmail.com](mailto:marv2k@hotmail.com).

## Facility update

The Jeremiah Gumbs Tennis Pavilion was just recently visited by architect Myron Goldfinger. He was pleased with the work so far and gave Mitch the go ahead to move forward to phase two of the project, the construction of the tennis courts. The projected date for the completion of the facility is 2006. This tennis complex will have six regular courts and one stadium court so that it can be host to more large scale tennis events. Mitch has been meeting with people bidding on the courts and our decision will be made soon on who will actually build them. The construction of the courts should begin in the end of January. The interior of the building in now being painted and the project is moving ahead as scheduled. How can you help????!!!!

Buy a Brick Campaign [www.tennis.ai](http://www.tennis.ai)

Capital Campaign [www.tennis.ai](http://www.tennis.ai)

Donate in Kind



The facility is set to be finished in late 2006

## Tennis Tips from Jason Allen



You can always find some type of tennis tip to help you with a certain stroke, yet most times, the tip is very technical and it still takes away from the fact that tennis is a game that requires a great deal of focus and mental concentration. These mental aspects are my specialty and therefore will comprise the bulk of my tips. This month, I have two tips/strategies for you 1. be aggressive and 2. develop a weapon.

### Be aggressive!!!

During a match it is important to dictate play instead of your opponent controlling every aspect of the match. One of the best ways to do this is to focus on hitting the ball deep. Depth in tennis is of great importance for many reasons:

1. It keeps your opponent back and does not allow them to hit too many winners
2. Your opponent will usually return a deep ball short – and short balls are what you want, they are easier to hit and you can continue to be aggressive.
3. It forces errors – your opponent will end up hitting of their back foot and/or hit the ball late off both sides.

### Develop a weapon

In today's game, one area that is very important is the development of a weapon. A weapon can come in many forms such as speed, quickness, mental toughness, tactical understanding, the ability to generate pace, and consistency. A key element of a weapon is that you must be confident in that area and always feel that it will help you pull through a match. The development of a weapon takes time and perseverance so be patient and practice properly.

## Meet some of the kids!!!!!!!

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We're on the Web!

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Jelani banks  
Is 16 years old  
and is one of our  
up and coming  
students who is  
showing much  
promise.



Nzingha banks  
Is 12 years old  
Will soon be one  
Of the top girls  
On the island.



Sandrina Harris is 16  
and is Currently one of  
the best females on the  
island, She has a great  
deal of potential.

### *About the Anguilla Tennis Academy...*

The Anguilla Tennis Academy is dedicated to providing the highest quality tennis instruction to Anguillan, Caribbean and International youth in a competitive environment while encouraging exemplary sportsmanship. The primary goal of the Anguilla Tennis Academy is to expose children to the joys, discipline and rigor of the life long sport of tennis where they can acquire technical skill, experience ideal sportsmanship and develop a strong sense of community.

### ANGUILLA TENNIS ACADEMY

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