



Anguilla Tennis Academy

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ATA Monthly

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Editor in Chief:

Jason Allen

oralevato@yahoo.com

264-476-0697

The ATA and Cuisinart work together!



The Anguilla Tennis Academy, a non profit organization, recently partnered with Cuisinart Resort and Spa. The ATA is now responsible for providing a tennis director to oversee the daily operations at the three courts. This is certainly an exciting new venture for the ATA as it will be a source of revenue which will help sustain the after school program throughout the year. Mitchell Lake, president of the ATA, has chosen Jason Allen, director of the ATA, to fill this position as the tennis director at Cuisinart. Jason began work when the hotel opened on October 31 and brings a great deal of experience to the tennis program at Cuisinart. With 13 years experience in the tennis teaching industry and 16 years experience of intense competition, he is certainly the best person for the position. He played number one singles and doubles for Gardner-Webb University while studying on an athletic scholarship and upon graduation, played the Florida open circuit until he began graduate school. He is also a certified USPTR (United States Professional Tennis Registry) professional and has coached many players to receive college scholarships and obtain state and national rankings. Jason commented, "I am excited to be at Cuisinart Resort and Spa. My role there will help improve the conditions for the children currently enrolled in the after school program. I also hope to upgrade Cuisinart's program and make it the preferred tennis destination on the island and in the region."

Denny Derrick, a former student of the ATA program, will be working as Jason's assistant pro. This experience will be invaluable for him as he will receive training on how the tennis industry functions as well as have the opportunity to play more tennis. Denny is currently in training and hopes to receive a tennis scholarship to study in the United States. Throughout the year, the ATA will expose some of its top juniors to the tennis industry so that they will be able to set goals and have more options to choose from in terms of choosing a career path. When asked about this exciting new venture for the ATA, Mr. Lake commented, "this opportunity will allow us to diversify our program and enable us to garner more resources as we interact with other tennis enthusiasts staying at a world-class resort such as Cuisinart I trust that other resorts in Anguilla will also seek to partner with the ATA whereby we can provide jobs and opportunities for children graduating from the program."

Stephane Zaharia, the new general manager of Cuisinart also commented, "we are also excited about this venture with the ATA and we hope to create a better tennis program with this partnership. It also gives us the opportunity to assist financially with the ATA and the development of the children here in Anguilla."

Mitch Travels to Philadelphia to visit the AAYTE



*Mitchelle Lake
Founder and President
Anguilla Tennis
Academy*

The Arthur Ashe Youth Tennis and Education (AAYTE), founded in 1952, is a non-profit organization that provides year-round tennis training supplemented by educational programming to thousands of area children with special emphasis on improving the lives of youngsters who have few positive resources. AAYTE is the umbrella organization for: Arthur Ashe Youth Tennis Center (AAYTC). Mitchelle Lake, founder and president of the Anguilla Tennis Academy recently traveled to Philadelphia, Pa to visit this foundation in hopes of establishing a partnership with the AAYTE and the ATA. Both organization have the same mission and philosophy and can learn a great deal from each other. In terms of both organizations working together, they can help each other so that they do not try to reinvent the wheel. Also, the partnership can provide for an exchange program to exist between the United States and Anguilla. Mitch commented, "I am excited about this opportunity to partner with the AAYTE. They will help us to provide more opportunities for the Anguillian children as well as help guide us along in our endeavors as they are nearing completion of their USD 10 million dollar facility."

One component the ATA would like to start providing is along the same lines of the AAYTE. The AAYTE is involved in the Goodstein Junior Leadership Program – GLJ's have the opportunity to learn and develop leadership skills through, trips, lectures, community service projects, mentoring of young children, and summer employment opportunities. Arthur Ashe Reading is fundamental – (AARIF) Room Library – AARIF room and library opened in February 2000 at AAYTC. The library has computers and over 1,000 books that were carefully selected to entice children into becoming life-long readers. Girls and boys are encouraged to take books home. Goodstein junior leaders use the library to read to and mentor the younger "munchkins". Academic Scholarships – each year AAYTE awards educational scholarships to help applicants achieve their academic goals whether it be for college, secondary schools or other related pursuits.

With this partnership, the ATA will most certainly be able to upgrade the overall quality of our programs. The director of the AAYTE, Scott Tharp, will soon travel to Anguilla for a press conference where he will outline the partnership. The ATA also hopes to entice big name professionals to come visit Anguilla and participate and endorse our program.



Arthur Ashe
*Was a pioneer in the
World of tennis. He is a grand
Slam champion and former
Number one in the world.*

Keithroy Proctor accepts job at Cap Juluca

Keithroy Proctor, one of the ATA's up and coming tennis players recently took the job as assistant tennis pro at Cap Juluca. He will be under the direct supervision of Sean Romney, formerly with the ATA in its beginning stages. This job will allow Keithroy to meet different people and train as well. He will also be able to save money for College while taking on this new endeavor. Cap Juluca's gain is the ATA's loss as we will be one coach short for the After School Program, but this experience will be invaluable for him. Keithroy also received a tennis scholarship to attend Lambuth University in Tennessee. He will start classes in the Fall of 2006. We wish him all the best and hope he makes the ATA proud!



Keithroy Proctor will be attending Lambuth University in the fall of 2006.

Anguilla Tennis Academy After School Program is progressing

The Anguilla Tennis Academy is working hard in the community to provide social outlets for the children. The After School Program has been in full swing since its commencement on September 5 this year. To date, the program boasts having 55 faithful participants, spread out over four groups. The ages of the children range from 4-17 and they are put into groups according to age and playing ability. Jason Allen is currently overseeing its daily operations while Marvin Hazell, the ATA head professional, is conducting the daily classes. Denny Derrick and Vallan Hodge are also assisting Marvin with the coaching aspect. Jason commented, "this is an incredible learning experience for all parties involved. The children are learning life skills, a challenging sport, how to give back to the community, social interaction and concentration skills. The coaches are also learning how to handle large groups and are refining their coaching skills. This is an ideal situation for everyone and I am excited to be a part of it and I can speak for the other coaches when I say that teaching is one of the most gratifying experiences one can have and we are proud to be able to do so."

There are many kids who have improved a great deal over the past two months. Yet, the ATA would like to utilize this forum to be able to highlight a number of players who have shown an extraordinary amount of improvement. In group one (4-6 years), Janelle Buffonge deserves recognition. Head pro Marvin Hazell commented, "Janelle is one of the youngest kids in the program and she has made advanced improvement over the past three weeks." In group 2 (6-10 years), Jacob Parles stands out. Marvin said, "he has shown immense improvement. He is also very attentive and listens well to his coaches." In group 3 (11-17 intermediate), Tamisha Richardson deserves the spotlight. "She is enthusiastic, a great listener and learns extremely well," Marvin commented. In group 4 (11-17 Advanced), Katie Hawkins is deserving of acknowledgment. Marvin said, "she is easy to teach and has made a great improvement over the past two years of the program."

The ATA will continue to highlight children in the community who do well in the program. The After School Program also encourages exemplary work in the classroom. One of the main goals of the ATA is to send students to college on athletic scholarships; therefore it is imperative that the coaches instill a sense of educational and athletic intrinsic motivation. The program continues to be successful. Marvin Hazel commented, "the program has progressed in a great way since we started and I am seeing a lot of great potential in our kids as they grow from year to year."



Coaches and Students in the After School Program



Vallan Hodge



Denny Derrick

Denny Derrick and Vallan Hodge are new assistant pros at Cuisinart Resort and Spa

Although both Denny and Vallan are still coaches in the After School program, they will now be assisting Jason Allen at Cuisinart Resort and Spa. The experience to train with Jason is very valuable for them as they will learn how to give lessons, maintain courts, string rackets, and be exposed to the tennis industry in its entirety. It also allows them to be introduced into a big community of fellow workers so that they can see how a big business functions. The ATA is proud them and we expect great things from both Denny and Vallan.

Facility Update

Phase on of the project is done. The building is complete and we are going to begin laying asphalt for parking and building the courts. We are hoping for the facility to be done by summer of 2006.



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Tennis Tips from Jason Allen: The Split Step!

The spilt step is a technique that is vital to any tennis player who wants to go to the next level. Preparation in tennis is essential as well as good footwork. The spilt step is the main principle of footwork as it gets you on your toes while your opponent is striking the ball. So, here is how to do it:
When your opponent is about to strike the ball you should be facing the net. Just as he or she is about to make contact leap in the air and land on your toes, from this point you will be able to push off in the direction your opponent has just hit the ball. See the photo to observe how you land.



Land on your toes, then push
Off to get to the ball.

First ever Women's Tennis League set to start in January

The first ever Women's Tennis League in Anguilla is almost here! There has been an outpour of support from the community for the ATA to establish a league so that all women from the island can have a chance to compete with each other in a friendly and organized environment. The AWTL will be modeled after the USA League sponsored by the USTA (United States Tennis Association). Of course there will be some modification due to a smaller community which leads to more constraints; some of those being a small number of participants, varying levels among the players, as well as people who live here year round and people who come and go for extended periods of time. Below is an outline of how this league will be organized.

1. There will be four teams in total (this number will increase and decrease according to number of players). Each team will consist of six members.
2. Each team will have a team captain who is responsible for coordinating and scheduling with all the players, conducting any practices, coordinating with Jason Allen, and any other administration that may arise. They will also be responsible for payment and collection of any fees.
3. Each team will choose a creative name.
4. A match consists of one team competing against another team playing 2 doubles matches and one singles match. Therefore there will be 5 ladies involved in competition with one substitute in the event a conflict arises.
5. There will be a number one doubles and a number two doubles. Typically you would put your best team at number one and your second best team at number two (there is some strategy involved here however). Moreover, there is a singles spot as well. You must choose a person from your team who feels comfortable with the singles spot.
6. Each doubles and singles match will consist of two out of three sets with a 10 point tiebreaker for the third set due to court time and time restraints. You will receive an addendum on how this tiebreaker is conducted.
7. For each match there will be a home team and a visiting team. The home team will be responsible for providing balls at each match.
8. Every team will play each team three times throughout the season. Matches are decided by the team who wins the most matches during a head to head competition. Typically, the team who gets to 2 first wins the overall match. There will be a ranking system which will be determined by wins and losses. The winner of the AWTL will be decided at the end of the season. The team who has won the most matches will be the winner. In the event of a tie, it will be decided by head to head competition and if it is not settled, it will then go by the number of matches or sets won. The first and second place team will receive a trophy at the end of the season.
9. The cost for participation will be USD \$50. This is a one time fee for the entire season. This fee will go towards administration costs, trophies, etc...(possible banquet at the end???)

If you are interested, please contact Jason at jallen@caribcable.com or 476-0697!

New Adult Tennis Clinic will begin Monday, November 28

As there is a growing interest in the Anguillian community for tennis, there also exists a desire for instruction. The Anguilla Tennis Academy is dedicated to create awareness of tennis within the community and the world. At Cuisinart Resort and Spa there exists the unique ability to unite Anguillians with the world as the travel to and reside at Cuisinart. We will achieve this by adding one more service to the Cuisinart Tennis program, an adult clinic. Currently there are 16 adults from the prominent business community that are interested in participating in this clinic as well as any guests that might be staying with us at Cuisinart. Moreover, this interest in tennis at night will allow the Cuisinart Tennis Program to establish a round robin tennis mixer once a week in which both hotel guests and participants in the clinic can attend. During the round robin mixer we could sell drinks and snacks provided by food and beverage. By adding this component, we will be able to upgrade our services immensely as well as generate more revenue. The proposed date for the clinic would be every Monday at 5:30 p.m. and would last for an hour in which the participants, if they decide, may stay and play. The round robin mixer would be every Wednesday at the same time.

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Anguilla Tennis Academy

P.O. Box 548
The Valley, Anguilla BWI

PHONE:
(264) 476 -3234 (Mitch)
(264) 476-0697 (Jason)

FAX:
(264) 497-8214

E-MAIL:
Anguilla70@yahoo.com (Mitch)
Oralevato@yahoo.com (Jason)

We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.tennis.ai

What is a tennis clinic?

A "tennis clinic" is nothing more than a session where you do drills with many other people while working on specific shots in tennis. It is meant to be fast paced with short pauses of instruction. Each session is also geared towards a specific goal. It is meant to be an intense workout in which the participants stayed focused. It is not a social event.

All participants and guests of the hotel will pay \$20 for the clinic which will include admission into the round robin. We will make available a discount to people who choose to pay one month in advance. They will be charged \$70 per person if they pay monthly, a \$10 savings. If one chooses to pay as they come, payment for each clinic is due upon arrival without exception. We encourage all to pay the \$70 per month fee as you are not just taking part in a clinic and round robin event, but supporting a program. Sixty percent of the fee will go to the Anguilla Tennis Academy's After School Program therefore it is a worthy cause.

Quick facts

1. Clinic will be every Monday at 6:00 pm
2. Cost is \$20 per person
3. There is a discount if patrons pay monthly; the fee is \$70. (if there are five Mondays in a month, the cost will still remain at \$70)
4. The clinic will roughly last one hour but if there is time, it could last up to 15 minutes longer.
5. Paying and participating in the clinic gives you admission into the round robin doubles tournament on Wednesdays starting at 5:30.
6. If you did not participate in the clinic, you will be asked to pay the fee to join in the round robin tournament on Wednesday.
7. If you pay monthly, that automatically includes you in the round robin doubles tournament.

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

P.O. Box 548
The Valley, Anguilla
BWI

