



Anguilla Tennis Academy

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ATA Monthly

The ATA continues to receive support!

Feature Articles

- The ATA continues to receive support! **page 1-2**
- Jason Allen travels to PTR International Symposium **page 3**

Other Articles

* New ATA Elite Group **page 2**

* ATA and Deputy Governor to host cocktail party for Founding Members Club **Page 4**

* Vallan Hodge named player of the Year **Page 5**

* Tennis Channel partners with the ATA **Page 6**

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A letter to Mitchell Lake from Paul Lowerre.....

Dear Mitchell:

I am sorry for the delay in formalizing our verbal commitment to you and the Anguilla Tennis Academy (ATA), but the first part of the year has been focused on our professional activities, to the exclusion of our philanthropic agenda. But, as they say, somebody's got to pay the rent!

Let me first say how much Cornelia and I enjoyed playing tennis with you and your "protégés" when we were in Anguilla for Christmas. Not only was it a privilege to have our doubles game honed by a pro of your caliber, but it was also a pleasure to meet two of the future stars coming up in the ATA program. Their good game, good nature and good manners made them good partners, and they were really positive representatives of the mission of the important program you have founded and developed over the last ten years. Bravo!

Secondly, we all enjoyed the tour of the ATA center under construction down on Blowing Point Road. It is really exciting to see, first hand, what you have been able to accomplish, pulling together support from an amazingly diverse group of local and international friends. We know from our own fundraising activities, just how challenging it is to take a good idea from "concept" to actually getting it financed and built. You have come many miles with this project and you should be very proud.

It is more than just a cliché to say that the children are the future of any community, or nation, and it is incumbent on the present generation of leaders to do their best to create opportunities for young people to strive for a better future. This is exactly what the Lowerre family sees in the ATA program. When it is fully formed and operational, the ATA will open a clear pathway to a bright future for young Anguillians, through the wonderful game of tennis. Not only will it provide a healthy, positive environment for after-school activity, but it will also help to instill in participants the character and critical life skills that come from goal oriented, disciplined training and drilling as a team.

Furthermore, as my family experienced with your young associates, competency in tennis can lead to helpful, or at least interesting and eye-opening relationships with visitors to Anguilla from all over the world. Over the years, our children have met many young Anguillians through tennis, enjoying an ever-deepening appreciation of the Anguillian culture, and sharing some insights into our own American culture. In an increasingly interrelated world, cross-cultural experience, competency and connections will make a student a far better candidate for University or a good career. Our involvement with an international university in Switzerland informs us first-hand of the truth of that statement.



*Above: Mitchell Lake,
Founder and President
of the Anguilla Tennis
Academy*

*Below: ATA coaches
and the advanced
group.*



So it is with congratulations to you and your associates on your accomplishments to date, and it is with great affection and appreciation to all Anguillians for so many years of warmth, welcome and friendship to our family, that we commit to the following support of the Anguilla Tennis Academy:

Once the tennis courts are complete we will underwrite the cost of landscaping the center, up to US\$30,000

We will organize and establish a Scholarship Endowment Fund, at UBS Financial Services in New York, and seed it with a grant of US\$30,000, the principal amount required to cover a family membership in perpetuity.

We will provide unrestricted annual support of US\$2,500 to help offset ongoing operating expenses.

We look forward to following the progress of the ATA and we wish you continued success.

Paul, Ursula, Lavinia and Cornelia Lowerre

Introducing the ATA Elite Group

One of the most difficult aspects of teaching is the fact that a teacher will consistently have different levels of ability in large groups. It is for this reason why I have decided to initiate an Elite Group. The function of this is to pick the top 8 players in the After School Program and provide them with extra attention in an environment where they can grow. There will be certain criteria for this group that all participants must follow in order to remain in the group:

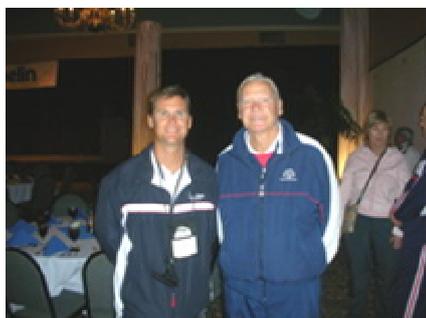
1. Each participant must currently be in the advanced group
2. Must be a good student
3. Must have a good attitude at all times
4. Must be active in the community
5. Must be committed traveling to tournaments
6. Must be a positive role model

The Elite Group practices will be at Cuisinart Resort and Spa where I can work with them directly. It is my hope that the children will recognize that being invited to the Elite Group is an honor only attained by those who work hard. It is also my hope that this will be an incentive to all the other children to work harder so that they can be invited to the group.

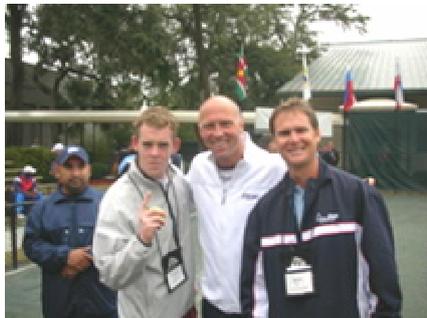
Jason Allen

Jason Allen travels to PTR International Symposium

On February 15, ATA Tennis Director Jason Allen left Anguilla to attend the 2006 Professional Tennis Registry International Symposium in Hilton Head, South Carolina. The main focus of the symposium is to give current tennis professionals an opportunity to attend many different sessions so that one can be recharged and learn how to better coach. Over 123 countries were represented at the event with over 70 sessions ranging from basic coaching to advanced high performance coaching. The range of topics was diverse and beneficial for all involved. It was also a great opportunity to expose Anguilla and the Anguilla Tennis Academy to many professionals across the world. Jason will be sharing information with Mitch Lake as well as the other coaches employed by the ATA. He is confident that the new knowledge learned will help the ATA move forward and continue to grow as an organization. His trip was made possible by Cuisinart Resort and Spa, American Eagle and the Anguilla Tennis Academy.



Jason Allen with PTR
Founder and President
Dennis Van der Meer



L – Charlie Bartlett,
M – Luke Jensen, 1993 French
Open Doubles Champion
R – Jason Allen



Charlie Bartlett and Will
Edmonds, visiting Coaches
to Anguilla 2004,2005



Bill Riddle and Charlie Bartlett



ATA and Deputy Governor to host Cocktail Party for Founding Members Club – All hotel and villa owners/managers invited



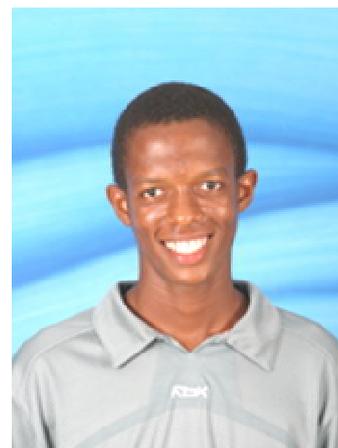
On Friday, March 24 at 6:30pm, The Honorable Deputy Governor Mr. Mark Capes and Tamara Capes will host a cocktail party at their house in support of the Anguilla Tennis Academy. The reason for the get together is to officially launch the Founding Members Club. Kamique Properties will also present a check to ATA Founder and President Mitchelle Lake for USD \$5,000 for membership. All hotel and Villa managers as well as owners are invited to attend the party as it is the hope of the ATA that hotels and villas that do not have tennis facilities will join the founding members club. Founding Members will be provided not only a wide range of usage benefits within the ATA, but also a chance to 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 develop 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, President 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

Vallan Hodge Named Anguilla Tennis Player of the Year

During this years sports awards, in February, Vallan Hodge received the honor of best Anguillian junior for 2005. Not only was Vallan recently certified with the Professional Tennis Registry, but he was hired full time with the Anguilla Tennis Academy where he assists Jason Allen at Cuisinart Resort and Spa and Marvin Hazell in the park with the After School Program. The main factor that led to his award was the fact that he won the Anguillian National Tournament ousting former top junior Keithroy proctor in the finals. He has indeed come a long way since that tournament and is fully deserving of such recognition. The ATA expects great things from Vallan in the future and is confident that he will continue to grow in the sport.



Vallan Hodge – 2005
player of the year

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 will discuss shot tolerance.

I recently attended the PTR International Symposium in Hilton Head, South Carolina. It was a great way to refresh my mind with many points in tennis that can help us all improve our game. One of the most beneficial presentations I attended was conducted by Eliot Teltscher. Eliot played on the pro tour for 10 years and reached a world ranking as high as number 6 in the world. He won 10 ATP titles and played USA Davis cup for three years. He spoke on many topics, but the one that stood out most for me was **shot tolerance**. In college, it was this topic that propelled me to win the majority of my matches. In essence, how many shots can you hit before you feel like you need to go for it? Also, how many shots is your opponent willing to hit before they feel they need to go for it or end the point. If you can figure this out by scouting your opponents, then you will know how many shots you need to keep in play before you can expect your opponent to go for it or get nervous. The name of the game is to keep the ball in play, even for the pros. Pro matches are never decided by how many winners are hit, they are decided by who kept the ball in more and who forced more errors. So remember, a high shot tolerance means you have a higher chance of winning – a low shot tolerance means you better be able to hit winners from anywhere on the court – the only guy I know that can do that is Roger Federer.

Tennis Channels partners with the ATA

On February 18, 2006 the Tennis Channel began airing a Public Service Announcement (PSA) of the Anguilla Tennis Academy (ATA). This 30 sec. PSA was produced by Greg Travis of Travis Television in Nashville, TN. The Tennis Channel broadcast to every state and to the top twenty television markets in the United States. The network champions the game with exclusive, comprehensive tournament coverage that matches the intensity of the sport's competition schedule. Tennis has long been one of the sports world's most storied entities, yet its popularity continues to surge. Drawing in millions of new fans each year, tennis has hosted an array of colorful personalities, from legends John McEnroe, Billie Jean King, Martina Navratilova and Jimmy Connors to new idols Andre Agassi, Andy Roddick, and Serena and Venus Williams. The Tennis Channel taps into the phenomena of these high-octane personalities, threading tennis' ever-evolving place in pop culture with the explosive power of the sport on the court. The ATA, through this partnership will be exposed to millions of tennis enthusiasts around the world thus making it an internationally recognized tennis facility. When asked about this remarkable feat, Mitchelle Lake founder of the ATA replied, "I am grateful to the Tennis Channel for this gratis exposure. It is my hope that as we strive to create awareness about the ATA and its programs that people will continue to embrace us and support our mission."

Anguilla Tennis Academy

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We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.tennis.ai

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.

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