

Tournament Talk



GHANA TENNIS TOURNAMENT A BIG SUCCESS

During the many years that **Narh Tetteh** has been a pro at **Little Neck Swim and Racquet Club**, members have witnessed his modest efforts to collect gently used tennis equipment and clothing, a collection he then takes to his homeland to distribute to aspiring young tennis players. Narh grew up in a poor community in **Ghana**, and he is sensitive to the needs of the youth in his country. Narh was the youngest of six children and his father died before he was two years old. Narh says it was through the grace of relatives who took them in, coaches who encouraged his tennis development, and the unselfish acts of philanthropists who promoted and ensured his participation in such prestigious tournaments as the qualifying tournaments at Wimbledon that led to his being named “**Sportsman of the Year**” for his country, and ultimately to his success as a tennis player and pro. Narh says he has been “blessed” despite the hardships he has faced. He says returning to Ghana each year to assist the youth of his country is his way of “paying back, reciprocating the good will that has been extended to me.”

Two years ago, some members at **Little Neck Swim and Racquet Club (Carla Peay, Mavis McKenley, Marilou Kollar, Sue Flora, and Amy Courtney)** decided to get involved and assist Narh’s efforts by hosting a tennis tournament to raise money to help defray the cost of shipping this equipment and to further Narh’s good works. This year the tennis tournament and social was held Saturday, October 20, 2007. Forty eight tennis players of varying abilities signed up for the mixed doubles tournament venue; play was held on all courts, including the two newly constructed clay courts at LNSRC. Players were issued score cards, with play rotating between courts and players. The tournament concluded with the players with the highest totals (**Diane Yates, John Derrick, Imogene Vaughn, and Vani Manickavasagar**) playing against each other on center court.

The tennis tournament was followed by an evening dinner and social attended by approximately 100 people. The menu included traditional food from Ghana prepared by Narh’s wife, Phyllis. Music and dancing prevailed into the night. By all accounts, this was a hugely successful event, enjoyed by the many people who attended. Hosts of this event are grateful to the Patrons and the many sponsors who support the game of tennis. Thank you for contributing and for joining us for this worthwhile event! We hope to see you again next year!

-Amy, Mavis, Carla, Sue, and Marilou
