



Dear 2008 Liberty Open Participant:

Thank you for participating in this year's Liberty Open! The 2008 Liberty Open has been designated a GLTA Masters Series Event and as a result the tournament committee is excited to bring you a fantastic tournament. We will be playing at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, home of the US OPEN. Some important information follows:

### **DRAW PARTY**

Thursday, July 3rd 6:00-9:00 PM

**Hotel Roger Williams** – 131 Madison Ave. at 31<sup>st</sup> St., Veranda 411 on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. 212-448-7000

Hotel Roger Williams is our host hotel and will be welcoming tournament participants to kick off the festivities. The hotel will also offer tournament participants a special price-fixed meal in their lounge. The closest subway stop is the #6 train to either 33<sup>rd</sup> St. or 28<sup>th</sup> St. You can also take the #4, #5, #6, or #7 to Grand Central Station (42<sup>nd</sup> St.) and walk a few blocks downtown.

Draw sheets and schedules will be available there. If you are unable to make the draw party and would like to find out the starting time of your first match, please e-mail [LibertyOpen@aol.com](mailto:LibertyOpen@aol.com). Or, on Tuesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> between 7:00 and 10:00PM you can call Marsha Silverman (212-873-1127). Draw sheets will also be posted at the tournament area of the GLTA web site by June 30<sup>th</sup> and here is the link:

<http://glta.tournamentsoftware.com/sport/tournament.aspx?id=19045>

### **USTA BILLIE JEAN KING NATIONAL TENNIS CENTER**

We are pleased to once again play on the courts at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, home of the US OPEN. We are guests there and we ask your help in maintaining our good relations with the Center's management. If you need to reach the tournament desk, please call Mark Reiter 917-596-5699 or Marsha Silverman 917-880-7178.

### ***SITE INFO:***

#### ***Tournament Desk Location:***

The tournament desk will be located at the US Open Store near court #11. Please allow at least 15 minutes to walk from the subway or parking lot to the tournament desk.

#### ***Match check-in:***

You are required to check in and be ready to play your match at least 15 minutes prior to the start time of each match. Please adhere to this rule as it will help keep us on schedule.

#### ***Match Statistics:***

Have you always wondered how many forehand winners or backhand errors you had in a match that just started to slip away. Or, how many aces you had on that day that you wished you could bottle your serve and save it forever. Well, now you can find out. For a \$20 charitable donation for our designated charities, you can have statistics tracked for each singles match. Since this service will be tracked by a limited number of volunteers, you should sign up in advance with Danny Reichert at [DANPREICH@AOL.COM](mailto:DANPREICH@AOL.COM). Or, you can decide during the tournament to have it done and sign up on the sign-up sheet.

#### ***Massage Therapy:***

Anthony Lewis will be providing massage therapy during the tournament. He will be on-site starting at about 1:00pm on Friday and will be there throughout the weekend. Time is available in 1/4 hour blocks up to 1 hour and rates vary accordingly. You may schedule an appointment with him at the site or if you want an advance appointment e-mail [LibertyOpen@aol.com](mailto:LibertyOpen@aol.com)

***Stringing:*** We will have stringing services available on site at the NTC Pro-shop.

**Food services** are very limited in the area without transportation. However, the grill on site will be open during the tournament on Friday and Saturday, 8 am until approximately 3 pm. We will also be able to order from Kane's, a local diner, which will deliver to the Tennis Center. For a delivery from Kane's, we will need to combine orders because they will not go back and forth for small orders. Menus will be available at the tournament desk.

**Clothes:** Proper attire and sneakers are required. All participants **MUST** wear shirts during play.

**Pets:** Absolutely **NO** pets are allowed on the grounds of the Tennis Center.

### **INDOOR COURTS (In Case of Rain)**

Due to the construction at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, there are no indoor courts available on site. In case of rain, we have two sites that we will play at: Queens College Tennis Center and the Dick Savitt Tennis Center at Columbia University. Please check with Mark or Marsha before going to an alternate site. It will also be posted on the website if we have to move to an alternate venue.

### **BANQUET**

Sunday July 6th 6:30 – 10:30 PM

**Porcao Churrascaria** – 360 Park Avenue South at 26<sup>th</sup> St. 212-252-7080

The closest subway stop is the #6 train to 28<sup>th</sup> St. All tournament participants are invited to join this festive event. Guests of participants can attend for a fee of \$50 payable at the tournament desk prior to the banquet (pending available space).

### **HOUSING**

If you requested housing, you should have already heard from us. If not, please contact Patrick So at [patrickso2020@yahoo.com](mailto:patrickso2020@yahoo.com)

### **DONATIONS and RAFFLE**

We will once again raise money for GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network), the largest national network of parents, students, educators and others ending discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity/expression in K-12 schools. For more information, visit [www.glsen.org](http://www.glsen.org).

In addition, we will raise money for Sylvia's Place which provides emergency shelter to homeless LGBTQ youth in NYC. Thank you to those who have already contributed and we encourage all players to buy raffle tickets to help increase the donations.

### **CLOSING PARTY**

Monday, July 7th 6:00ish

**Bamboo 52** – 344 W. 52<sup>nd</sup> Street (between 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Aves) 212-315-2777

Bamboo 52, a wonderful bar, lounge, and sushi bar, is a sponsor of Liberty Open. For anyone who will be around after tournament play is over, we will gather for a farewell until next year. The closest subway stops are the E & C train to 50<sup>th</sup> St & 8<sup>th</sup> Ave or the #1 train to 50<sup>th</sup> St and 7<sup>th</sup> Ave.

If there is anything we can do to make your Liberty Open the best that it can be, don't hesitate to call on either of us anytime during the tournament and we will help point you in the right direction.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL HERE!

MARSHA, MARK, AND THE ENTIRE 2008 LIBERTY OPEN COMMITTEE

## DIRECTIONS TO SITES:

### USTA BILLIE JEAN KING NATIONAL TENNIS CENTER

**By Train:** *SUBWAY* #7 to Willets Pt - Shea Stadium stop. No express service on weekends. The train ride usually takes approximately one hour from Manhattan so please leave enough time to get to your match on time.

**By Car: From Manhattan:** Take the Triborough Bridge to the Grand Central Parkway (East). Travel approximately three miles until the I-678/RT-25A E/Northern Blvd exit -- toward the Whitestone Bridge (it's exit #9E). Then take the RT-25A E/Northern Blvd ramp toward Shea Stadium. At the exit ramp, make a right onto Stadium Road. Take that road straight until the second stop sign, where you will then take a left. The Tennis Center will be located on your right. **OR** Take the Long Island Expressway/I-495W, and exit just before the Grand Central Parkway, at College Point Blvd. Take College Point Blvd. to Avery Avenue, and make a left onto Avery Avenue. Go to the corner stop sign and make a right. Follow that road until you get to a stop sign and make another right. Go straight and the Tennis Center is located on your left.

**From Brooklyn:** Take the Jackie Robinson Parkway to the Grand Central Parkway (West). Travel three miles toward the Triboro Bridge, exit at the Flushing Meadows/Corona Park/Tennis Center (it's exit #9P). At the end of the exit ramp make a left. Then at stop sign make a right onto Meridan Road. The Tennis Center is located on your right.

**From Long Island:** Take the Long Island Expressway/I-495W to exit number 22A, which is the Grand Central Parkway (West). Travel half a mile toward the Triboro Bridge, exit at the Flushing Meadows/Corona Park/Tennis Center (exit #9P). At the end of the exit ramp make a left. Then at stop sign make a right onto Meridan Road. The Tennis Center is located on your right

### QUEENS COLLEGE

We will try to coordinate car pools from the National Tennis Center.

**By Subway/Bus:** LIRR or #7 train to Main Street. Take the Q25 or Q34 bus to the College Main entrance. **OR** E/F/G/R subway to 71st and Continental Avenue. Exit at the North side 70th Ave & 108th Street. Take the Q74 to the Main Gate.

**By Car: From Manhattan:** Take the LIE East to Exit 24 (Kissena Blvd.). Immediately go to the far right lane, and turn right almost a U-turn) onto Reeves Avenue. Make the first 1st left onto campus through Gate 3. Make the 1st right, go past the gym and then turn right and park in front of the bubble.

**From Long Island:** Take the LIE West to Main Street. Make a left at the light and cross over the expressway. Make a left onto Reeves Avenue. Turn right onto campus through Gate 3. Make the 1st right, go past the gym and then turn right and park in front of the bubble.

### DICK SAVITT TENNIS CENTER at COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

**By Subway:** No. 1 train to 215th Street, walk to 218th street and turn left crossing over Broadway. Walk about three blocks up 218th street. You'll see Football Stadium on your right and Seaman Avenue on your left. Driveway to the tennis center is on your right directly across Seaman Avenue. Walk down driveway and go all the way to the back. Walk is less than 10 minutes from the subway.

**By Car: From Manhattan:** Henry Hudson Parkway (West Side Highway) north to Exit 17 -- Dyckman Street, and proceed east to Broadway (first major intersection). Make a left on Broadway and go 20 blocks to 218th Street. Turn left at 218th Street. You'll see Football Stadium on your right and Seaman Avenue on your left. Just past the stop sign, turn right into Driveway to the tennis center (directly across from Seaman Avenue). Drive down driveway and go all the way to the back. Tennis center is there with parking.

**OR** Take the Harlem River Drive north. After the 155th Street exit, stay in the right lane toward Dyckman Ave.; do NOT get in the left lane towards George Washington Bridge. After the split, continue approx. 1.5 miles to the first traffic light at Dyckman Ave. Bear left onto Dyckman. Continue straight about 5 blocks & turn right onto Broadway. Go 20 blocks to 218th Street. Turn left at 218th Street. You'll see Football Stadium on your right and

Seaman Avenue on your left. Just past the stop sign, turn right into Driveway to the tennis center (directly across from Seaman Avenue). Drive down driveway and go all the way to the back. Tennis center is there with parking.

**From Queens and Long Island:** Take Long Island Expressway to Clearview Expressway north, or Northern State Parkway/Grand Central Parkway to Cross Island Parkway north, to Throgs Neck Bridge. Bear left after toll for Cross Bronx Expressway (I-95) South. Take the Henry Hudson Parkway (West Side Highway) north to the second exit, Dyckman Street and go 20 blocks to 218th Street. Turn left at 218th Street, go about 3 blocks. You'll see Football Stadium on your right and Seaman Avenue on your left. Driveway to the tennis center is on your right directly across from Seaman Avenue. Drive down driveway and go all the way to the back. Tennis center is there with parking. *Alternate Route from LI or Westchester:* Major Deegan to 230th Street in the Bronx. If you are traveling north on Major Deegan or I-87, take a left at the end of the ramp and cross the expressway. If you are traveling south on the Major Deegan, turn right away from the highway. This street going west will end at Broadway in about a half a block at a light. Take a left on Broadway and shortly you will cross the Harlem River Bridge into Manhattan. Take the first right after the bridge onto 218th St. After 3 blocks, you'll see the Football Stadium on your right and Seaman Avenue on your left. Just past the stop sign, turn right into Driveway to the tennis center (directly across from Seaman Avenue). Drive down driveway and go all the way to the back. Tennis center is there with parking