

February 11, 2022

Dear Golf Club of Avon Members,

I am excited to inform you about our continued commitment to enhance our premier year-round family Club with exceptional recreational amenities and golf facilities. As you might recall, as part of the Blue 9 Initiative, we were able to fund the addition of a four Pickleball courts with lights and a new Paddle court to replace Court 1. With the installation of the new Pickleball courts along with the recent increased activity in Tennis and Paddle, the Board of Governors and I reviewed our Racquet Strategy for 2022 and beyond.

We concluded that we needed an expanded, full-time position to manage and oversee Tennis, Paddle and Pickleball. This new role "Director of Racquets" will work with the Board of Governors and Sports Committee, reporting to me with the responsibility to develop and maintain a robust Racquets program that suits all our Members.

I am thrilled to announce Macie Elliott as the Director of Racquets. Macie is joining us from the Country Club of Darien where she has assisted in building out successful paddle and tennis programs for the last 5 years. At the Country Club of Darien, Macie learned and loved to play paddle tennis. In 2020 she and Marcel Rodezno went on to win the APTA Women's National Paddle Title.

Macie is a PTR Certified Professional in tennis, pickleball and platform tennis and has a passion for teaching these sports to all ages. Macie received a full scholarship to play college tennis at Southern Methodist University where she received degrees in both Accounting and Economics.

We are very excited for Macie to join the Golf Club of Avon team. Her passion and enthusiasm for tennis, paddle and pickleball is infectious. She is developing a plan to create and maintain a best-in-class program with interclub play, round robins, clinics and junior programs. She is also working on a Racquet communication strategy. Along with the new responsibilities, Macie is building out a full line Pro Shop with apparel and racquets in the Tennis Shop.



Macie's official start date is March 28th but can be reached now via email at <u>mailto:melliott@golfclubofavon.com</u>. Macie will be here for the start of our inaugural Pickleball season and she wants to be sure that all the members are ready too! Please complete <u>this form</u> if you and your family members are interested in GCA Pickleball and/or Tennis equipment. You will want to be sure you have your racquets ready when the courts open in April!

We are working on a Meet & Greet day and time – more details to follow! Join us in wishing Macie luck as she is playing in the Short Hills Grand Prix Platform Tennis Tournament this weekend where she will be

announced as being from the Golf Club of Avon! You can livestream the tournament <u>HERE</u> (link will be active tomorrow).

We are saying goodbye to our Head Tennis Professional, Cristina Walters. We thank Cristina for her almost 30 years of service to the Golf Club of Avon. Cristina has been a dedicated and wonderful employee and person. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors. If you have enjoyed playing with Cristina, you will still have the opportunity to do that as a fellow member! In recognition of her outstanding service, the Board of Governors, has given Cristina a lifetime membership to GCA.

Cristina is available to Members through March/end of Paddle season. If you have any questions for the upcoming Tennis season, please direct them to Macie.

Macie and all of the GCA team are getting energized for the 2022 season! We will be sure to share more detailed information about our 2022 Racquet Strategy in the coming weeks.

Please join me in welcoming Macie to the GCA family.

Best regards,

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