

Tennis Academy launches its Founding Members Club programme

ANGUILLA—The Anguilla Tennis Academy (ATA) is offering Lifetime Founding Membership to a limited number of individuals, hotels, and rental villas. The Founding Members will have 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 state-of-the-art Tennis Academy.

On Tuesday March 28 at a cocktail reception hosted by the Acting Governor, Mark Capes and his wife, a donation of US\$5000.00 was made by Ira Bloom of Kamique Properties to become the first member of the Club. “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 programmes for Anguilla,” said Bloom. “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 programmes and facilities the ATA has to offer.”

Capes welcomed those present at the reception and urged support for the ATA which he says is doing a good job. Founder of the ATA, Michelle Lake thanked the Capes for hosting the reception and the other persons present for attending. He noted that the ATA is at a vital and exciting stage and announced that the tennis courts will be started in three weeks time. He explained that villas and other properties without tennis courts can benefit from being members of the Founding Members Club by paying US\$5000.00 and then an annual membership of US\$100.00 per room for the first five years. Benefits of membership include court usage for all guests, priority court booking, weekly clinics, group and private lessons, player matchmaking services, and recognition for Founding Members. Lake noted that funds raised will assist in completing the construction of the courts that he hopes will be completed by December.

“I applaud Kamique properties for their participation and encourage other villas to get involved in this programme that offers access and usage to what will be a great tennis centre,” said Lake.

Ira Bloom said it is a great programme that can benefit guests from properties without tennis courts. He said the ATA is doing a great job and congratulated the coaches for the work that they are doing.

The tennis facility at Blowing Point will comprise six lighted tennis courts, a stadium court with seating for two thousand and a building with two full locker rooms, offices, a pro shop and a state of the art multimedia room for conferences and meetings. The stadium court will also house a gym, locker room for players and an eating area. The project was designed by Myron Goldfinger.

The ATA’s primary goal is to develop healthy minds and provide educational opportunities for children through the sport of tennis. The ATA is in its tenth year and some 1000 participants have benefited from the programme. The ATA is now completing the construction of the Tennis Centre at Blowing Point where youth instruction programmes will be carried out and residents and visitors can enjoy the tennis facility which will offer a wide range of activities and programmes.