

## Tennis singles could find doubles partner in Unstrung Racquets

In the game of tennis "love" means nothing, yet a group of single players might just find their perfect match through the sport.

Unstrung Racquets is a tennis and social club for singles. And while the group doesn't bill itself as a match-making service, the chance that a single player will find a doubles partner is always present.

"We have had people hook up and get married," said Luisa Cox, membership chairwoman for Unstrung Racquets.

Members are of all ages and from all parts of the Valley. Players get together in Scottsdale twice a week for matches, as well as for a monthly tournament and other social outings.

A member must be 21 or older and a true tennis player (with a NTRP rating of 3.5 or higher).

That requirement assures that all members have at least two things in common: being single and the game of tennis.

Despite the skill-level requirement, Cox said matches – and even tournaments – are not focused on competition.

"The thing is, it's such a low-key group. It's about getting to know people, and that allows people to become friends," she said. "There's never that feeling of, 'Oh my God, what do I do? What do I say?'"

"The first thing we have in common is the love of tennis," she said.

The monthly tournament is always followed by a party. Even after Friday's weekly



From left, Carla Gould, Jack Burton, Jean South, Steve Feldman, Lisa Lawing and Steve Vincent, all members of Unstrung Racquets, pose after a recent tournament.

matches, members often head out in a group for dinner and drinks.

"There's no pressure to form couples," said Cox.

Currently about 80 singles make up Unstrung Racquets. However, the group is making a big push this year to expand its membership, said Cox.

As such, the first Friday of each month, guests can join in the fun at no charge. In fact, guests are allowed three visits to ensure the group is a good fit for them.

"We invite people to come and experience us just to see if they like what we have to offer," Cox said.

Cost of membership is \$40

per year.

In addition to tennis matches, Unstrung Racquets organizes several trips, social outings and adventures during the year (such as hiking, cookouts, Diamondbacks games, Salt River Tubing and other excursions.)

"People will see that we really like to have fun," Cox said.

And perhaps for a lucky few, they'll discover that love means nothing, but only on the tennis court.

For more information about Unstrung Racquets, call Cox at (480) 991-3048 or see [www.unstrung-racquets.org](http://www.unstrung-racquets.org) on the Internet.