



OPEN COURT

A City of Atlanta Department of Parks and Recreation Publication Volume 1 | Issue 5 | July 2021

A Message From The Deputy Commissioner

Thank you for opening our latest edition of the Open Court newsletter. For the past five months, we have tried to provide updated information regarding the operation of the City of Atlanta Tennis Centers. This month, we are pleased to introduce you to three of our new tennis operations managers: Andre Pattillo, Luke Burden and Bob Smith. Each has an enormous amount of experience operating facilities and athletic programs. We are fortunate to have them join our team! As the City continues to progress through COVID-19 re-opening phases, our new managers are excited to provide programming opportunities at each of our five centers. Stay up to date by connecting with us on social media. We are extremely excited to share some of the completed upgrades at our tennis centers: painting at both our Joseph McGhee and Washington Park tennis centers as well as the installation of new court benches at several facilities. In addition, court renovations at Perkinson Park are now complete. Thank you for continuing to visit our tennis centers, and for providing feedback through email, in-person conversation and our monthly Zoom calls. We look forward to serving you!

Doug Voss, DPR Deputy Commissioner

Welcome Our New Team Members!

Andre Pattillo is the Facility Manager at Joseph McGhee and Washinton Park tennis centers. A former Atlanta Braves Minor League Baseball player and Morehouse College graduate, he



ANDRE PATTILLO

has spent most of his career holding various positions at his beloved HBCU. Among them, Director of Athletics where he oversaw tennis, basketball, baseball, track and football programs. An all-around sports enthusiast, Mr. Pattillo served as a Division 1 NCAA Basketball Official for 25 years and has the distinct honor of refereeing six Final Fours and eight SEC championships. Pattillo says, "Having the opportunity to work with the City and manage the tennis program is rewarding!"



LUKE BURDEN

Luke Burden is the Facility Manager at Bitsy Grant and Chastain tennis centers. He moved to the U.S. from Australia 21 years ago and has

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new team members continued...

directed tennis programs in Australia, Florida, Georgia and in the UK. Before taking on his current role with the City of Atlanta, Burden served as a General Manager at a large academy in Florida and was later offered the position of Athletic Director for a country club in North Georgia. He has been privileged to coach at all four Grand Slam tournaments (aka majors). When asked what attracted him to his new position, he replied:

“Atlanta is regarded as the tennis capital of the world and what better place to work and be involved than with the City of Atlanta's largest facility!”

Bob King is the Facility Manager at Sharon Lester Tennis Center at Piedmont Park. He brings a wealth of experience to our tennis family. King relocated to Georgia from Texas in 2019 and has



BOB KING

owned and established tennis clubs during his career. Voted a three-time Tennis Pro of the Year in Texas, he served 22 years as the Director of Tennis in Houston and was the Regional Director of Tennis for Club Corp. where he oversaw all of Texas and Oklahoma. King also has experience managing country clubs and tennis resort clubs and served as the Vice President of Facilities for a major oil company. He is excited about this new chapter and says, “It’s such a privilege to have this opportunity!”

Tennis Project Updates

Perkerson courts are complete, and benches have been installed at several sites. Check out the latest updates at your City of Atlanta Tennis Courts!



Stay Informed

reserve:

Remember, all City of Atlanta residents receive discounted rates at our tennis courts. The next time you reserve a court, be sure to stop by and let our staff know so that you can receive the appropriate discount.

know:

For general tennis information, visit us at <https://www.atlantaga.gov/government/departments/parks-recreation/city-of-atlanta-tennis>.

connect:

We've added a new location to our online tennis community connection - WELCOME CHASTAIN! Join any of our *Friends of Tennis* meetings on Zoom and bring a friend!

2nd Tuesday – Chastain @ 6:30 p.m. * **NEW**

2nd Tuesday - Joseph McGhee @ 7:00 p.m. & Bitsy Grant @ 7:30 p.m.

3rd Tuesday - Sharon Lester at Piedmont @ 1:00 p.m. & Washington @ 6:30 p.m.

SIGN UP TODAY! Email Dereka, Adrienne or Charles or call us at 404.546.6788.

visit:

Also, follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram for timely updates and information from the City of Atlanta Department of Parks and Recreation.



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Contact Us

We're here for you and happy to answer your questions! Email our friendly staff or call **404.546.6788**.

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