

# 75-Year Journey

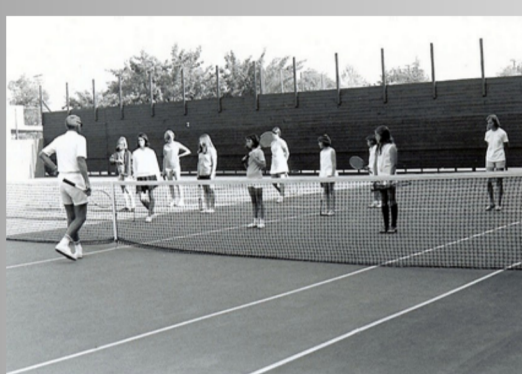
Unveiling the Tapestry of BRC

[bakersfieldracquetclub.com](http://bakersfieldracquetclub.com)



Gerry Carr assists with a junior clinic

Within the rich tapestry of BRC's 75-year journey, the vibrant stories of our youth stand as testaments to the power of mentorship and dedication. Since our inception in 1948, BRC's courts have been hallowed grounds where young talents, fueled by Lake Lovelace's vision, have blossomed into champions.



Pro Andy Davidson  
(1964-1972, 1977-1989)

Lake Lovelace's words, ***A Club where all members are equally important and a club where your kids want to be and where you want them to be...I think we have come close***, echoing through the years, encapsulating BRC's mission of unity and community.

Our courts have been a second home for budding athletes from the very foundation. Every swing of the racket has carried not just dreams of victory but also the values instilled by tennis legends local tennis legends.



Steve Williford Manager & Pro  
(1989-2005)



Jack Lynch

Jack Lynch, a National Champion at a young age, epitomized sportsmanship and kindness. His presence on our courts, even into his 70s, was an inspiration. A constant figure, Jack would play sets with any Junior who wished to share the court with him. His encouragement and grace created lasting memories. Jack won each game 6-4, regardless of his opponent's skill level, marked by his gentle spirit and a legacy that lives on.



Etta Lewis

Etta Lewis, a local star, didn't just excel in the game; she became a beacon of inspiration as a teacher, coach, and mentor to generations at Martin Luther King Park. Her laughter echoed through the courts, and her passion ignited a fire in every player she touched. In honor of Etta's profound contribution, the annual girls' high school Lewis Cup tournament bears her name, a legacy that resonates through the years.

The Central Cal Tournament was a significant milestone in BRC's history, and it gave our young players a chance to shine. Dozens of juniors regularly played So Cal tournaments each weekend to attain sectional rankings. Every racket swing carried the hopes of a future champion, and every match was a chapter in their growth story. Tennis Patron/KCTA events, since 1964, celebrated the camaraderie and talent fostered within our club.



Roger Almklov, Jeff Cowan, Gloria Pananides, Jim Armstrong and Bill Maze

In 2018, our low-cost membership initiative widened the embrace of our BRC family, beckoning high school players to join our vibrant community. The summer of 2023 saw a record number of 160 high school players participate in our summer program.



Our remarkable journey includes hosting KCTA High School Clinics twice a year—an event that is a testament to our commitment. Last Saturday, a record-breaking 328 girls participated. This event, alongside the efforts of our dynamic pros like Mark Fredriksz and Chuck Beatty, fortifies the essence of our legacy. Their involvement, alongside that of volunteers and sponsors, seamlessly weaves the dreams of these young talents into the ever-evolving tapestry of BRC.

Join us in celebrating our 75th journey and the bright future ahead. **Save the date: Saturday, October 21st**

### Event Timeline:

- 2:00-3:00: Tennis & Pickleball Live Ball
- 3:00-5:30: Tennis & Pickleball Randum Tandum (No Drop-ins)
- 5:30-7:00: Finals, Court-side Buffet, Dancing