

Amy Newberg
3770 Menasha Ave
Manitowoc, WI 54220

Public Infrastructure Committee,

I am writing to propose the dedication of Lincoln Park's tennis courts 1, 2, and 3 as the "Coach Bob Feller Tennis Courts." These courts, currently undergoing renovations, have served as the coaching grounds for Coach Feller at Lincoln High School for 50 years. This year marks his retirement and honoring him by naming these courts after him would be a fitting tribute to his five decades of dedication.

Should this dedication be approved, we plan to display a tennis ball-shaped sign bearing the new court names on the fence. We intend to fundraise to cover the cost of this sign and would require the assistance of the Manitowoc Parks Department for its installation before August 17th, 2024. We will provide design samples at the upcoming common council meeting pending your approval.

Coach Feller has profoundly impacted many lives over his tenure—not only as a coach but also as a mentor and friend. His holistic approach to coaching focuses on personal goal setting, strategic game-play improvement, and fostering a strong team spirit supported by community involvement, as evidenced by the team dinners and annual awards nights he has championed.

His legacy includes not only decades of direct coaching but also contributions to tennis at a broader level, such as co-directing the Nelson-Feller Tennis Camp for 23 years, developing youth programs and running coaching clinics. His recognition includes induction into the Wisconsin High School Tennis Coaches Association Hall of Fame, the Lincoln High School Wall of Fame, and multiple coach of the year awards.

Coach Feller's commitment has also inspired many former players to pursue coaching, spreading his influence even further within the tennis community.

Thank you for considering this significant way to honor Coach Feller's half-century of service. Should you need further details or wish to discuss this proposal, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Warm regards,
Amy Newberg

Enclosure: Exhibit A (Coach Feller's Mission and Achievements)

Exhibit A

OUR PHILOSOPHY A MISSION STATEMENT

The Lincoln High School Boys' Tennis program fosters individual growth through a highly competitive regimen that offers quality tennis instruction, encourages personal effort, mental resiliency, positive thinking, and teamwork in order to prepare young men for the everchanging world in which we live.

LHS Tennis is a no cut program, sponsored through the USTA. Everyone plays as long as eligibility requirements are met and maintained: school attendance, practice attendance, grades, conduct, and the athletic code.

We believe in positive messages, "do", rather than negative messages, "don't". We look for "win-win" situations rather than "win-lose" situations. Tennis is a game of opportunities. Every ball that comes over the net is another opportunity to win the point. We live and play in the present tense, so we need to be concerned with what is happening at that moment. Making errors is part of being human, so forgive, learn from the past, and let go of it. Remember that tennis is, after all, a game. You are always 'becoming' in tennis: becoming a stronger player, a smarter player. Give your best effort, have a game plan, control the things you can control, and move on to the next point, the next game, the next day of your life.

We believe that a well-conditioned athlete is a confident athlete. We also believe that conditioning includes a nutritionally sound diet. A well-conditioned athlete will be able to perform nearer to his potential. If athletes want top performance, use good fuel. Food is fuel for that performance. Training also helps develop self-discipline. Alcohol and drugs (as well as energy drinks) are counterproductive to athletic performance. In fact, they are not healthy for a growing body and mind at any time. To that end, coaches will abstain from alcohol during the season as a way of modeling that expectation.

We ask ourselves and our athletes to set goals, short term, and long term. We establish covenants that set the tone and identity of our team that given season. We expect our players to be knowledgeable about tennis, just as they expect us to be knowledgeable about tennis. We expect to have fun and work hard. The moment is NOW! It's time to roll up our sleeves, grab our lunch boxes and go to work.

Coach Bob Feller
Tennis Coach – Manitowoc Lincoln High School

A Brief History of LHS Tennis

Robert Feller Coached from 1974 to 2024

There have been only five coaches of boys' tennis in the history of LHS. In that time, the Ships boys' program has accomplished much:

State Champions – 1930, 1936, 1951, 1954, and 1962

State Runners Up – 1931, 1953, 1957, 1959, 1963, 1968, 1970, 1974, and 1985

State 3rd Place – 1952, 1961, 1994, 1996*, 2000*

State Singles Championships – 1951, 1953, 1954, and 1964

State Doubles Championships – 1930, 1931, 1936, 1954, 1958, 1962, and 1974

More specific stats from 1975-2023:

Conference Championships – 1980, 1982, 1984-1990, 1993-2000, 2007, 2008

Sectional Championships – 1982, 1984, 1987-1990, 1994, 1996-1998, 2000

Sectional Runners Up – 1978, 1980, 1981, 1983, 1985, 1986, 1993, 1995, 1999, 2006

State Finishes:

2nd Place 1985

3rd Place 1994

3rd/4th Place 1996 (*Team format)

3rd/4th Place 2000 (*Team format)

4th Place 1984

4th Place 1989

5th Place 1990

5th Place 1993

7th Place 1988

8th Place 1982

8th/7th Place 1997 (team format)

8th/7th Place 1998 (team format)

9th Place 1979

Top Seeded Doubles Teams: 1979, 1985, 1990, 1995, 1996, and 1997

State Qualifiers: 1978 – 2014, 2018, 2019, 2021-23

Conference Dual Meet Record: 243 - 73

Overall Dual Meet Record: 381 – 213

Top Ranked Teams: 1996