

Local tennis column: Super Senior Grand Prix at Sterling Oaks starts Sunday

TOM RIFE

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NAPLES - It will a competition for the ageless when the Club at Sterling Oaks stages a Category II National Super Senior Grand Prix Tournament. Play begins this Sunday and concludes with finals on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 1-2.

This year's tournament is being presented by Hamilton Mike's P.A. and litestream Media and will bring many of the nation's top seniors to the facility north of Naples on U.S. 41.

The top seeds in the 55 division are Jeff Davis and Stuart Saiki, while top seeds in the 60s are Fred Robinson and Tom Smith. In the 65s are local standouts Larry Turville and Mike Dahm, and in the 70s are Jimmy Parker and local favorite Fred Drilling.

Topping the 75s are Lester Sack and Jerald Hayes, while in the 80s, it's Gordon Hammes and George McCabe at the top. Clement Hopp and Marvin Sears lead the 85s.

More than 280 players have entered the event. Sterling Oaks members who have entered include John Adam, Alain Berube, Rick Blossom, Joe Dyser, John Gillette, Paul Goodrow, Tom Haas, Gary Heinberg, Laszlo Nagy, Bill Nutting, and Denny Posteraro.

Admission to the event is free.

Local tennis column: National Super Senior Grand Prix tourney continuing at Sterling Oaks

TOM RIFE

3:39 PM, Jan 30, 2014

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Top senior tennis players from throughout the U.S. continue their Category II National Super Senior Grand Prix Tournament through Sunday at The Club at Sterling Oaks north of Naples on U.S. 41. Spectators may take in the action free of charge and for the local crowd, there are some favorites to root for.

Larry Turville of Naples is always a contender, and he's the No. 1 seed in the 65 age group. Estero's Fred Drilling is the No. 2 seed in the 70s, where Jimmy Parker is the No. 1 seed.

Gordon Hammes of Naples is the top seed in the 80s singles. Play goes all the way to Men's 90s singles, where Robert Klein of Naples is in the round-robin.

In the 55s, the top seed is Jeff Davis of Treasure Island. Orlando's Stuart Saiki heads the bottom half of the draw as the No. 2 seed. Charlotte's Fred Robinson headlines the 60s singles and the No. 2 seed is Tom Smith of Alpharetta, Ga.

There have been some weather delays, but tournament officials still hope to have everything wrapped up on Sunday.

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