

by Jackie Perrone

Freddy Goodman

Freddy Goodman did not start his professional career as a tennis pro, but after some successful years as a salesman, he gravitated to the tennis world, and has been there ever since. As he sums it up, “Tennis was always the love of my life.” A collection of trophies and awards testifies to that, and so will the many high school students and country club members who learned the game from him.

Goodman grew up in Orangeburg, attended the University of South Carolina, and found a home in Lexington County. He worked as a salesman for Binswanger Glass for 15 years and for Beasom Automatic Doors for 10 years. In both companies he won many awards, and in 1988 was the first president of the South Carolina Glass Association.

In 1997 the tennis and swim club known as Coldstream was reopened after shutting down for several years, and Freddy joined the staff as tennis pro. The name of that club was changed to Rawls Creek Tennis and Swim Club in 2007, and now, 25 years after its rebirth, the club is operating at full membership. In 2001 the club won South Carolina Tennis Club of the year, the same year when Irmo High Men’s Tennis Team won the state championship for that year. Freddy Goodman was Assistant Coach at that time, and later became head coach. He was named Region Coach of the Year twice.

Looking back over those years, he reports he has been a player, coach, tournament director, and referee over the past 40 years. He was instructor for the USTA All-Star camp for 10 years, and chairman for two years.

“We survived Covid well because we were an outside sports activity,” he says.

Tennis provided a welcome respite from the quarantine-based restrictions during the worst of the pandemic.

Freddy’s wife is named Janie, and they have four children: Elizabeth, Catherine, James and Christopher, and nine grandchildren. “I love this community!” Freddy says. “It’s always been a family to me.” ■

