

Shout Out: Mark Baladad, Glenview Tennis Club general manager



Mark Baladad was hired as the new general manager of the Glenview Tennis Club on April 24. (Glenview Park District)

By **Alexandra Kukulka**
Pioneer Press

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Mark Baladad, 52, was recently hired as the general manager of the [Glenview Tennis Club](#). He started the position April 24, and before that he was the assistant manager of the River Trails Tennis Center in [Arlington Heights](#) for over 10 years. Baladad received his bachelor's degree in business management from Ripon College in Ripon, Wisc. He married his wife, Jackie Popp, about a year ago. He grew up in [Deerfield](#) and lives in Chicago.

Q: How have you enjoyed your new position so far?

A: It has been fantastic. The people here are very helpful and friendly.

Q: What inspired you to apply for the job?

A: My predecessor, Dave, I had known, and I knew he was retiring. I talked to him about it and he said he enjoyed it.

Q: Do you have any changes to the facility planned yet?

A: We have a remodeling project coming up. We will be giving a facelift to the lobby. Besides that, I am taking time to learn the facility.

Q: How does this job differ from your previous job?

A: The biggest difference has been I recently worked at a private club so everything was done in house. Working with the park district, there are teams, like IT and Human Resources, that help with what we did on our own.

Q: What is your favorite childhood memory?

A: A lot of it was surrounding our neighborhood. We'd just hang out with friends and play in backyards.

Q: Who do you look up to?

A: My dad. I'm actually following his footsteps. He was a tennis pro and went into club management.

Q: If your life was made into a movie, which actor would you like to play you?

A: [Tom Cruise](#). Growing up I enjoyed him in "Risky Business." Everyone seems to like him.

Q: What advice would you give your college-aged self?

A: The biggest thing would be don't be afraid to be yourself and don't worry what other people think.

Shout Out is a weekly feature in which we get to know and introduce our readers to their fellow community members and local visitors throughout suburban Chicago.

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