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*It's Not My Fault -or-
Can A Rabbi's Son Find Happiness As A Tennis Pro?*
By Daniel I. Waintrup, MBA

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Can A Rabbi's Son Find Happiness as a Tennis Pro?

No, it's not the final question on the Talmudic Scripture exam... It's the title of a hilarious new book about life at a posh New England country club as told by their balding, out-of-shape "schlepper" of a Tennis Pro
- Dan Waintrup!

Dan Waintrup is suffering from a severe case of Jewish guilt.

His mother wants him to work at his Uncle Perry's law firm in Chicago. His father wants him to become a respected Rabbi like himself. His wife just wants him to get a "real" job. And the J.A.P.s (Jewish American Princesses) on his Ladies Doubles' team just want him to stop making them run so much before they... God forbid... break a sweat.

Oi vey, what's a Jewish Country Club Tennis Pro to do, bubby, but shrug his shoulders and say, "It's not my fault!"

In his new book, *It's Not My Fault - or - Can A Rabbi's Son Find Happiness As A Tennis Pro?* (Acanthus Publishing, September 2005), author Dan Waintrup succeeds at making one gigantic joke out of his life. You thought you had it bad? Upsets seem to follow Dan Waintrup wherever he goes. His once-promising tennis career left him dead-ended as a country club pro, his first marriage ended in divorce, and he crashed his prized Volvo convertible into a tree. Now in his late forties and hopelessly back in love, Dan's therapy comes in the form of writing this tell-all book, where he pokes fun at himself (especially!) as well as the many eccentric CEOs, trust fund babies, and J.A.P.s he encounters while teaching New England's social elite to play tennis.

You won't learn much...but you'll learn something...

- Learn some of Dan's personal survival techniques for keeping his wealthy clientele from beating him with their racquets.

Rule #2: Never force anyone at a country club to do anything they don't want to do. I had a tennis pro friend who insisted on ignoring this important idea, forcing his country club students to start their lessons off with sit-ups and wind sprints. Last we heard, he was fixing pipelines in Iraq!

- Discover the spiritual meaning of tennis and learn from Dan's dad, the Rabbi, why tennis is the secret religion containing your ultimate path to happiness.

No escaping from tennis, it has all the litany of religion: Love, Serve (God), watch out for your Faults

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(your sins), repent – Return – the Ball of Life properly and you'll be a winner!

- Read excerpts from Dan's popular Q & A forum, "Letters to the Country Club Pro," and learn what Dan's pupils – and celebrities like Ted Kennedy and Paris Hilton – really think of him!

Dear Mr. Country Club Tennis Pro,

What did you mean yesterday when you said I had a "Yom Kippur forehand"?

Signed,

Lucille Mendelson

Dear Lucille,

What I was trying to say to you yesterday was that the only way you're ever going to get your forehand in the court was through a "@%#\$LOAD OF PRAYER!"

Signed,

The Pro

- Learn some of Dan's favorite drills he likes to use with his pampered students.

The Hit and Complain Drill: *The country club pro should be prepared for many variations of this drill. At most Jewish country clubs, the drill may be better known by the name "Hit and Kvetch."*

The Hit and Relax Drill: *The successful country club teaching pro must never overwork his new clientele. "Forehand, backhand, two minute rest... Forehand, backhand, two minute rest..."*

But wait...What about my two minute break?

Throughout the book you'll hear directly from Dan's disappointed father, the Rabbi ("Where did I go wrong?"); Dan's bewildered son ("I came from this man?"); and Dan's embarrassed best friend (Who wishes to remain anonymous... can you blame him?) - all of whom contribute their thoughts and anecdotes on life with Dan. Even the ex-wife manages to get in a few digs below the belt ("Real people don't hang out at country clubs all day, play tennis with rich guys, and flirt with their wives. What a shmendrick... You'll be hearing from my lawyer!").

And because no book (even this one) should go without teaching you something of value, scattered throughout the book, you'll also get some tennis pointers from Dan that will seriously help your forehand, backhand, volley, and serve.

Part memoir, part tennis instruction manual, part Friar's Club Roast... *It's Not My Fault* is like no other book you have ever read. Why? Because there's never been a messagunah quite like Dan Waintrup.

"If you are Jewish, you will love this book. If you play tennis (or wish you could play tennis), you will love this book. If you're not Jewish and don't play tennis, welcome to a world that will keep you smiling from the Table of Contents to the Epilogue." --JEFF BUKANTZ, Captain of the 2004 US Olympic Fencing Team

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About The Author

Seriously...

Dan Waintrup was born the only son of Rabbi Harold Bernard Waintrup, in Abington, Pennsylvania – also known as “the town next to the town where all the Jews lived.”

Growing up the son of a prominent Rabbi wasn't easy. Dan felt the pressure to be a good Jewish boy volunteering at Temple, but he also felt rebellion brewing.

“Like a lot of R.K.s (Rabbis' kids) that I knew in my life, I really wanted to push the envelope as far as I could,” Dan writes. “My main goal in life during my teenage years was to see if I could date every great-looking shiksah in town. And you know what, I think I came pretty close.”

As it turns out, the rabbinic seminary was not for Dan, but partying with gorgeous blondes in college between tennis matches was.

Dan was a top ranked player in the '80s and '90s. After a stunning defeat in a major competition sidelined him from national competitive play, he got a plumb job in an exclusive country club, where he partied and flirted his way into the social elite of New England's business community. His father, the Rabbi, wailed and prayed and asked God where he went wrong.

Dan later completed an MBA and is now affiliated with a New York-based investment company. His social connections brought him face-to-face with the woman of his dreams, to whom he is now happily married. They live in a beautiful home in Brookline, MA, and travel the world. He drives a Mercedes convertible and knows the difference between a goal and a fantasy. He's achieved his goals. His most recent goal was the completion of this book. With its publication, he has found his true calling.

What's next? The movie, the sitcom, the musical? Who knows... But rest assured there's more-where this came from. Fasten your seat belt; Mr. Waintrup is on a roll!

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Interview Questions

Expect a guest with a lotta balls...

1. What's the hardest thing about growing up as the son of a Rabbi?
2. Are there any perks to being a Rabbi's son?
3. Seriously, did your father really want you to be a Rabbi, or did he have something else in mind for you?
4. When did you decide that tennis would be your sport?
5. Who was your favorite tennis player growing up?
6. What held you back from following your life's dream and joining the Pro Circuit?
7. In your book you say that a country club tennis pro has to be an excellent liar in order to survive. What do you mean by that?
8. What was the most embarrassing thing that happened to you during your career as a tennis pro?
9. Is it harder to teach tennis to men or women?
10. In your book, you tell us about the time you met Donald Trump. How did that happen?
11. In 2005 you won the men's singles championships at the Palm Springs Country Club. What was it like to win such a major competition at the age of 50?
12. Do you ever miss your days of being a country club tennis pro?

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