

## BE BRAVE, RISE TOGETHER

When we moved to Ireland, we were incredibly lucky that Ben (my husband) landed a spot in the local tennis club—something rare in a place where everything has long waiting lists. With his talent, he quickly became a local favorite, and weekends soon turned into family outings at the club, watching him play. It's a wonderful community, and the kids love seeing their dad in action.

As I stand on the balcony, watching not just Ben but the other matches unfolding around me, there's one thing that always catches my attention—**the power of teamwork in doubles.** No matter how the game plays out, partners stand by each other. When one player makes a mistake, feeling the sting of a lost point, their teammate is right there—offering a high five, a pat on the back, or a few words of encouragement. There's no frustration, no blame—just an unspoken message:

**"I've got you."** Even when you're not at your best.

And every time I witness this, I walk away thinking—how beautiful would life be if we all showed up like that? For our friends. Our spouses. Our kids. Our teams at work. It's easy to cheer when things are going well, but true support is shown when things get tough—when someone stumbles, and instead of stepping back, we step up. We lift their chin and remind them they're not alone.

While planning our Be Brave events for Namibia this August, I had a conversation with Hykie Berg (a renowned actor and public speaker) about this year's theme and the message we want to share. He reminded me of something that truly landed:

Don't wish for things to be easier—wish to be better.

Don't wish for fewer problems—wish for more wisdom.

🔆 Don't wish for fewer challenges—wish for greater skills.

And suddenly, it all connected. Life is like a game of doubles. When things don't go as planned—whether on the court, in life, or at work—don't just wish for the struggle to pass. Wish for the right teammate. The leader. The friend. The person who will straighten your crown and help you see it through—so that in the end, you come out stronger.

Be that teammate for someone today. And surround yourself with those who will do the same.

