



APRIL 29 2011

NIAGARA TENNIS NEWS

Hello Tennis Friends!

Now is the time for the closet journalists and photographers to come out of hiding. Don and I are leaving for a trip to New Zealand to visit my brother, but we'd like to see *Niagara Tennis News* continue regardless. All it will take is for any and all of you to send notes and photos by email. Let's give it a try, and see how much we can make this electronic age work for us throughout the month of May. Send the news to rosemarygoodwin@mac.com.

It looks like the sun is going to shine on the first of our Registration Days ... a good omen, for sure. The courts have held up well despite the tough weather conditions, and we can be truly thankful that our excellent drainage makes them playable very soon after each rain.

There has been a delay in the installation of the new keyless-entry lock system. It seems the weather conditions haven't been suitable for the welding involved. As your membership fees are received, Janice will be sending you the Access Code by email. If you encounter difficulty with the lock, please contact any of the volunteer committee and we'll try to sort it out.

MEN'S NIGHT



If it's Monday evening at 6:00, it usually means the sun is shining and the men of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Tennis Club will be gathering for a few rounds of high-spirited tennis. All are welcome. If you're new to the group, or if you're having difficulty putting names to faces, just reach out a hand and introduce yourself ... friendships form readily on the tennis court.

The people to look for if you have questions are Don Chambers and Larry Mantle. They'll do their best to make everyone feel at home and keep the games moving along.

LADIES' NIGHT

Liz Vinassac and Kay Ashwood report that Ladies' Night open play will start on Wednesday May 4th at 6pm. Everyone is welcome to drop in each Wednesday throughout the month of May.

During the months of June, July and August, there will be scheduled play with sessions starting at 6:00 and at 7:30. All women members are invited to register for those sessions, either as a regular or as a spare. Signup forms will be available from Liz and Kay at any time, or at the registration days (April 30 and May 7).

New balls are provided for the Ladies' Night games, and social events are held on one Wednesday evening each month.

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FRIDAY NIGHTS

Ever since our club began, Friday evenings have been set aside for open play with both men and women. The idea is for all members to feel free to come to the club to meet and play tennis with other members whom they might not know otherwise.

The program suffers somewhat for the lack of an organizing committee. We know for certain there are a significant number of members with an interest in Friday evening games, but it's difficult for any one individual to make a commitment to being there every week to provide organization. Ideally, there would be a group of 3 or 4 (or more) who would take on the challenge of coordinating things. If this could be you, please do let us know ... your contribution is needed and will be welcomed!

In the meantime, players who arrive at the courts on Friday evenings are asked to self-organize in whatever way seems best to all involved. Perhaps the picture will become clearer as the early weeks unfold.

REGULAR GAMES

The next best system we have for keeping our courts filled, and for providing means for members to get to know each other, is a setup we call Regular Games.

Any member, who is prepared to undertake the responsibility of maintaining a weekly game of at least two courts, is eligible for reserved space for the game.

The experience of the past three years has shown that it takes considerable effort, and a list of many players, in order to maintain such a commitment. Through the necessity of recruiting spares, new players are introduced into groups and the groups grow as well. The system has worked because of the steadfastness of the volunteer organizers in maintaining their games week in and week out.

On weekdays, there are two morning time periods available for Regular Games : 8:30-10:00 and 10:00-11:30. In addition, there is time available each afternoon, on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and on weekends. Any member who has a game they'd like to propose for Regular Game status is asked to get in touch with Rosemary at rosemarygoodwin@mac.com.

The Monday morning period from 8:30 - 10:00 is set aside for a weekly Ladies' Round Robin, to which all women members are welcome.

OPENING DAY - SATURDAY MAY 28

By popular demand, this special event has been scheduled two weeks earlier than in previous years. It will be held on Saturday afternoon in hopes of finding some nice weather for playing tennis and sharing a potluck meal in the pavilion.

Pam's Pro Shop will be on hand with great advice, samples of the latest in racquet technology, and special offers. Plan on joining in and meeting your fellow members!

2011 CLUB TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

July 9	Men's B Doubles <i>James & Kevan O'Connor Trophy</i>
July 23-24	Women's Doubles <i>D&D Lailey Trophy</i> <i>Niagara Motors Trophy</i>
August 26-27	Mixed Doubles <i>McVanel Communications Trophy</i> <i>Roy Page Trophy</i>
September 4	Singles (Men, Women, Juniors) <i>Rive Work Room Trophy</i> <i>Gerald & Carole Kanters Trophy</i> <i>Niagara Battery & Tire Trophy</i> <i>Lezlie Murch Trophy</i> <i>Michael Alexander Trophy</i>
September 10	Men's A Doubles <i>Roman & Maria Korda Trophy</i>

OTHER TOURNAMENTS

The **Niagara Peninsula Inter-Club** Schedule was outlined in the last issue of NTN. Several players have indicated an interest in participating, but there's still lots of time to get involved. Just indicate your interest in an email to rosemarygoodwin@mac.com. First match is on July 10; first home match on July 17. We'll field a team of 4 men and 4 women for each match.

Don't forget the **Rally For The Cure** day at Welland TC on Saturday June 4. This is a women's doubles event. Contact Judy D'Angelo 905 735 7423

And we have been invited to participate in the **Canada Week Mixed Doubles Tournament** at the Grimsby TC on Saturday June 25. Details will be included in a separate pdf along with your NTN email.
www.grimsbytennis.org

The **Rose City Classic** will be played at the Welland TC on June 8-12.
www.wellandtennisclub.com

The **Dr Brown Can-Am Tournament** will be held at the Ft Erie TC on June 24-26.
www.forterietennis.ca

COACHING

Shawna Macfarlane has things all set to go for the biggest and best clinic program yet. There are opportunities for everyone to improve their tennis or just to get an extra workout.

If you have friends or neighbors who are interested in giving tennis a try, please do encourage them to contact Shawna regarding starter clinics. It's not necessary to be a member to take them. Beginners should feel free to come and give tennis a try. They can always join the club later when they find they've become hooked.

Our motto is Tennis : Where Fun and Fitness Meet.

Check out Shawna's flyer, included as a separate pdf with your NTN email. First clinic is 10:00 on May 1st.

JUNIOR PROGRAM

Charlene Juras has the Junior Program ready to go for the third year. The young players showed marked improvement last season, and we're looking forward to another quantum leap this summer. A club member reported seeing four youngsters enjoying a game of doubles on the courts last weekend, and remarked on what a pleasure it was to see them having fun with it.

After-school lessons start this week on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and Sunday morning classes begin on May 8. Information is available by calling Charlene or by picking up brochures at the Recreation Office in the Virgil Arena.

ROGERS CUP

Club President Ian Waddell attended the OTA annual meeting in Toronto on April 16, and reports the following Preferred Ticket Price Program for the 2011 Rogers Cup. It's the WTA (women's) tournament this year; dates are August 6-14.

- Gold Level : 30% off; Silver Level : 20% off; Bronze Level : 15% off; Level 300 : 10% off.
- Organize a group of 50 or more and receive 50% off Level 300.
- Enjoy the luxury of a private suite and receive : reserved parking, terraced balcony seating, climate controlled suite, complimentary souvenir magazines, optional catering. Prices are 'per person' and include all taxes and fees :

Monday matinee \$50; Monday evening or Tuesday matinee \$70; Tuesday evening or Wednesday matinee \$80; Wednesday evening or Thursday matinee \$90; Friday matinee or evening \$95.

- As an OTA member, you have access to this program. To reserve seats call 416 665 9777 ext 4306. To book a suite, contact Ronald at 416 650 7928 or write to rpersaud@tenniscanada.com.



PAVILION LOOKING GOOD

That's a picture of the cleanest pavilion floor in many a year.

Many thanks to the Town crew who gave it a thorough power washing this week.

The picnic tables will now be moved back into place in time for our opening weekend activities : Registration on Saturday from 11am to 1pm, and Go Tennis on Sunday from 10am to 11:30am.

The pavilion was built by volunteers from the Tennis Club almost 20 years ago and it has served us very well. Plans are being made to expand the storage area this season, with a second enclosed space on the side opposite the existing unit. The new space will store all the supplies for the Junior Program and for coaching clinics, and will make it possible for us to have a ball machine as well.

The existing locker behind the kitchen will be used to store pavilion and kitchen supplies.



LATEST DISPATCH FROM MEXICO

You'll recall that Charlotte Petrick is in Merida Mexico this week, competing in the Regional Qualifying Tournament for the World Junior Team Championships. Canada's U14 team played their match versus Cuba today and came away victors. Charlotte won the first singles 7-6 6-2, then was part of the winning doubles team 6-3 6-1. It was three hours of tough competition in 40 C heat ... quite a challenge. Tomorrow's match is against Team USA.

*Best regards,
Rosemary Goodwin*

*on behalf of your Volunteer Committee : Ian Waddell, John Christie, Janice Schachtschneider,
Liz Vinassac, Charlene Juras, Sarah Chapman-Jay, Don Chambers, Larry Mantle, Peter Marchesseau.*

www.tennisniagara.com

