



NIAGARA TENNIS NEWS

AUGUST 1 2010

Hello Tennis Friends!

August ... how did we get here so quickly! It was sad to see the rains wash out Ladies Night on Wednesday, but they've been a real blessing in giving us bright and clear and fresh days ever since. Niagara never looked more beautiful.

And our tennis courts have never been so busy. Many players are now watching carefully to see the patterns of ebb and flow, looking for an opportunity to get some extra playing time. To help this process, the plan is to create a weekly usage schedule to post on the bulletin board, and a daily schedule to post on the gate. This should be a useful supplement to the information we try to keep updated on the website.

Almost every day, we hear the question asked : when are we going to get more courts? The population of Niagara-on-the-Lake is far greater now than when the courts were built in 1986, and developers pay fees on each new house to contribute to the cost of recreation facilities to serve the incoming home-buyers. No doubt there is a lot of competition for those dollars, so perhaps it's time for a working committee of tennis players to take on the assignment of lobbying our Town fathers on the benefits of Tennis for the community. Any takers?

Inter-Club with Welland Tennis Club



There was perfect weather last Thursday evening for an inter-club mixed doubles with players from the Welland Tennis Club.

Pat Young organized the event, which featured lots of wonderful tennis, some lovely refreshments afterwards, and an unscheduled adventure that proved all 16 players could work together as a team.

Top left: Dianne Beaulieu & Nelson Walroth (W), Pat Bryan & Harv Bussey.



Top right: Nancy & Tady Sackowski (W), Gillian & Vittorio Venturi



Bottom left: Larry & Pat Young, Marie & Shawn McCauley(W)



Bottom right: Mary Pohorly, Flory Massi, Linda Anderson & David Mitchell(W).

Men's B Doubles (Encore)

You heard about it last week, but some stories take longer to come to a conclusion.

The final match of the 2nd flight of the Men's B Doubles Tournament was played on Friday morning, with Wayne Vent & Ian Waddell taking the victory over Ross Robinson & Cecil Browne by a score of 8-5. Ralph Mellanby was on hand to make the awards presentations : lovely wines from Palatine Hills Winery, and Babolat hats courtesy of Pam's Pro Shop.

All the players in the tournament showed great sportsmanship in allowing Cec Browne's matches to be played on four separate days. At 81, Cec still loves his tennis, but is able to play just one match at a time.

It certainly begs the question: why aren't we having a super-seniors day at our club? We'd certainly have some takers for the 75+ category, and the 80+ category, and the 85+ category. Perhaps on a weekday in September?



Ross, Cecil, Ralph, Wayne, Ian

What's the Rule on that ?

Most of the time, when we're playing, we have a general idea of the Rules of Tennis, and come to a common agreement whenever there's any doubt. The process serves us well. But during tournament play, various incidents stir our curiosity as to what would be done if the Rules were applied precisely.

In the Women's Doubles Tournament, a receiving team inadvertently switched sides for one point, after which the error was discovered. The question became : what happens now? The twofold answer is found in Rule 27.

- (1) the result of the point stands;
- (2) the receiving team maintains the "wrong" positions until the conclusion of that game, then resumes their original order after that.

Thanks to Shawna Macfarlane for clarifying this for us.

Training of Officials is one of the functions of Tennis Canada and the OTA. Do we have any members willing to take this on?



Richard Berti made a beautiful net-measure for the club, with a notch for the height at the center (3') and the height at the posts (3.5').

Phil Landray restored our elegant umpire chairs last season, crafting the seats from cedar after painting the frames. Jim Juras added the casters over the winter.

I Believe in Angels!

There's an ABBA song from the 1970s called I Have a Dream. In it, there's a lovely melodic phrase to which is sung "I believe in angels!" Can you hear it humming in your head?

Tennis in Niagara-on-the-Lake has benefitted from some generous but anonymous-by-choice "angels" recently. The first instance was a gift in the amount of \$500 for our Junior Program ... sufficient to purchase a substantial amount of equipment for all that program director Charlene Juras wanted to accomplish this summer.

The second instance involves the courts at Rye Heritage Park. The park is only a minute or two up the road from our home base at Memorial Park, so functions as an overflow outlet from time to time, as well as being a nice place to play for all the children who live in the King-Charlotte part of town.

But for one reason or another, the tennis courts had fallen into acute disrepair. It was definitely not up to the standards of the Town. Town staff undertook a cleaning operation to tidy things up and found a way to repair the broken fence. Our angel made arrangements to have the weeds removed from the cracked asphalt and then had the patches filled in. It's a big improvement and certainly sends a much more positive message about our attitude toward Tennis here in Niagara-on-the-Lake.



Thank you, angels!

Before ...



After ...





B&B Asphalt Sealer made the repairs to the surface. It took no time at all before Diego and Michael found the improved conditions to their liking. That's my own personal angel, Don Goodwin, looking things over up above.

October 15th is the Big Day!

When Charlene Juras addressed a group of members recently, reminding them to circle October 15th on their calendars, the question was asked : "What will be the cost for the tickets?" It's a good question and reminds us we should start a little piggybank fund ... adding perhaps \$5 per person per week for the next few weeks. Then we'll be all set to buy our tickets.

It's a really big job for an organizing committee to pull together this type of special event. They want to make it as nice as possible and include all the elements people like to have, and yet they want to keep the cost very reasonable.

We can be absolutely certain that the price Charlene comes up with is the very best possible, so let's do our share by having our \$\$\$ ready to go. It's our 40th Anniversary and it's been a long time since the club had a dinner-dance party. It's something special and worth a celebration.



Flashback of the Week

The 40th anniversary party on October 15th will be a good chance for a stroll down Memory Lane.

Can you identify these finalists from the Men's A Doubles Tournament in 1992?



Meet your fellow members



Ray and Myrna Cutts bought their Niagara-on-the-Lake home on Shaw's Lane last fall and have been enthusiastic new residents ever since. Ray's wonderful paintings were on display in the 'Art By The Lighthouse' show this weekend. He featured landscapes and still life work, along with this portrait of his grandson.

Ray & Myrna's 1969 Morgan pre-dates the start of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Tennis Club!



Coming Up This Week

Next Sunday is our **Tennis Access open mixed doubles tournament**, which we hope will be an interesting spectator opportunity for everyone.

Since it will pre-empt the regular clinic on Sunday morning, Shawna Macfarlane has agreed to present **Go Tennis! on Thursday evening** this week from 6:00-7:30. We'll set aside two courts for this purpose. All members are welcome, but please call to make sure there is a space for you. [addintennis@gmail.com]

The **Rogers Cup** qualifying tournament is next weekend at the Rexall Center on the campus of York University in Toronto. Admission is free, so if you're in the area it's a good chance to check out the facility. The main action starts a week tomorrow (tickets required, of course) and runs August 9-15 with all the ATP superstars expected to be in the draw. There's even a birthday party for Roger Federer this Saturday night (he'll be 29).

Best regards,

Rosemary Goodwin

on behalf of,

Don Chambers

Phil Landray

Janice Schachtschneider

Sarah Chapman-Jay

Peter Marchesseau

Elizabeth Vinassac

John Christie

Ralph Mellanby

Irene Wall

Charlene Juras

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