



NIAGARA TENNIS NEWS

MAY 2, 2010

Hello Tennis Friends!

After as beautiful an April as we can remember, the month of May has begun on a wonderful note as well. We hope you've completed your garden to-do list, such that Tennis can now claim a place on your regular weekly schedule.

Don Chambers and Ralph Mellanby extend a warm invitation to get Men's Night started on a high note. They'll be at the courts at 6pm tomorrow as well as on subsequent Monday evenings to greet you, make introductions, and help arrange games.

Likewise, Liz Vinassac will be on hand to greet members for Ladies Night on Wednesday. You'll find Liz there as early as 5:30pm in case some players want to make an early start.

Here is a rundown of what you can expect to find at the courts this week:

MONDAY	10:00	Ladies Round Robin
	6:00	Men's Night
TUESDAY	9:00	Co-ed Round Robin
	5:00	Junior Lessons
	6:00	Adult Lessons - Tennis 101 (1 court)
WEDNESDAY	9:00	Men's Round Robin
	6:00	Ladies Night
THURSDAY	9:00	Co-ed Round Robin
	4:00	Junior Lessons (to 6:00)
FRIDAY	10:30	Regular Game (3 courts)
	1:00	Go Tennis Clinic
	6:00	Co-ed Round Robin
SATURDAY	8:00	Regular Game (1 court)
SUNDAY	9:00	Go Tennis Clinic
	10:00	Junior Lessons (to 12:00)
	12:00	Junior Team Tennis (3 courts)
	12:00	Adult Lessons - Tennis 101 (1 court)

Please give me a call (905 468 5503) or drop me an email (rosemarygoodwin@mac.com) if you have any questions about these activities.

Junior Program

Starting this week, it's going to be fun to see lots of kids heading to the courts with racquets in hand. This afternoon, an organizing session was held for the new **Junior Team Tennis** program with 24 young players involved.

The program is designed to provide playing opportunities, so the youngsters can take the skills learned in lessons and transfer them to game situations.

Junior Program Director Charlene Juras was assisted today by Thitima Christopher, Ed Mesihovic and Jeremy Martino ... with Ross Robinson and Don Goodwin lending a hand as well.

Players will now be grouped into teams and will start a schedule of play next Sunday.



Charlene has done a truly extraordinary job of organizing the Junior Program and has over 100 players registered for lessons.

The lesson program will be led by tennis professional Shawna Macfarlane.



Shawna's Clinics

The adult clinics conducted by Shawna Macfarlane for the past two seasons have been a real boon to the Niagara-on-the-Lake Tennis Club. Shawna's energy on the court is a very positive force and many of our experienced members have found the clinics to be an enjoyable addition to their tennis week.

But Shawna also reaches out to players who have little (if any) experience with tennis and gently guides them to the stage where they can have real confidence in their game.

Her time here is limited by circumstances, but she tries to accommodate as many players as possible. Tennis 101 classes will be offered on Tuesday at 6:00 and on Sunday at 12:00 throughout the month of May. Go Tennis clinics (for more experienced players) are on Fridays at 1:00 and Sundays at 9:00. You can contact Shawna at addintennis@gmail.com or call her at 905 262 4529.



These players enjoyed lessons and clinics on Friday April 30 in superb conditions for Tennis. Jeremy Martino (front left) assisted Shawna with the Go Tennis clinic.



Friday Nights



Friday evenings have traditionally been a Mixed Doubles evening for our club, but with no particular organized format.

Quite a number of members played on Friday evenings at one time or another last season. Perhaps some suggestions will be forthcoming as to how we might set things up so as to provide a good experience for all this summer.

Ideas, anyone?

Membership Registration

It's been a busy time for membership registration over the past several weeks, and we hope we now have a very high percentage of 2010 members all present and accounted for.

A very big thanks is due to Treasurer John Christie and to Registrar Janice Schachtschneider, both of whom have done a tremendous amount of work to process all the information and the finances. We are indeed fortunate to have the benefit of their volunteer services.

Anyone who still hasn't settled their fees should go to the Recreation Office at the Virgil Arena during business hours, or call Janice at 905 468 7230.



Left: renewing member Joe Nixon was greeted by Directors John Christie, Irene Wall and Phil Landray ...
Right: Directors Elizabeth Vinassac and Janice Schachtschneider chatted about programs with Percy Webb and Thitima Christopher.



Everyone was happy to wish Shawna a Happy Birthday on May 1st with a piece of chocolate cake ... great to see Maggie Hammerling arrive on her bicycle.

A new Member Handbook will incorporate the Member Directory this season, with room for such information as extra cell phone numbers and multiple email addresses for each household. Please make sure Janice has all your latest up-to-date details.

Mark Your Calendar!

The new Virgil Stampede booklet has been printed, with a prominent section announcing our first ever **Tennis Extravaganza** on the courts in the Virgil Sportspark. The event will be presented by the Ontario Tennis Association, but there will be lots of fun jobs for volunteers throughout both Saturday and Monday (May 22 and 24) Let us know if you could give an hour or two to help with this event.

Our official **Opening Night** is scheduled for Friday June 11. Pam's Pro Shop will be our special guest for the evening and she is planning to bring some nice prizes as well as a good selection of new equipment for us to try.

We hope to present a special Family Hour from 5:00 - 6:00, with on-court games for the kids and any parents who choose to join in. From 6:30 - 8:00, a variety of on-court activities will be presented for everyone.

Dinner will be by way of a potluck buffet. It worked out so well last year, with everyone bringing a little something to share ... which combined to create a spectacular result. It should be a fine way to launch us into our 40th season.

Special Offer

Pam's Pro Shop (located at White Oaks) reminds us that this is a good time of year to check the grip and the stringing on your racquet.

To make things a little easier, Pam has offered to string the second racquet at half price when you come into the shop with two racquets for re-stringing. If you don't have two racquets in your bag or in your household, try to team up with a friend to take advantage of this spring special.

Racquet and string technologies have changed greatly in recent years. Pam has a lot of expertise and is happy to help you make the best choice for your playing patterns.

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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