



Niagara Tennis News

Stories, reports and ideas about Tennis in Niagara-on-the-Lake and beyond.

August 27 2012

Calling all Singles Players!

The 2012 Singles Tournaments will be played throughout September, rather than on one particular day. We hope this will allow more members to participate, as well as providing for longer matches.

September is a wonderful time for playing Singles, so why not throw your hat into the ring? The categories are : Women, Men (A and B), Junior Boys and Junior Girls.

To enter (or make inquiries), drop an email to rosemarygoodwin@mac.com or phone 905 468 5503. Entries close on September 1, so ACT NOW!

Doubles Clinics

Members have all received news of the Doubles Clinics organized by Albert Reyes as part of the lead-up to the Men's and Women's Doubles Tournament on Sept 8-9.

The clinics are open to all members, regardless of whether we're playing in the tournament or not. And we're free to take as many of them as we wish!

Lead Instructor is Adam Svoboda, a highly trained coach who is new to our area and keen to get to know as many players as possible.

Register for the clinics by contacting Albert at aareyes@bell.net. And don't forget to come to watch the matches on Sept 8-9.

Pam's Pro Shop

Did you know that Pam Seitz is celebrating 25 years of service to the racquets and fitness community? We do know it's hard to imagine being without her wonderful little shop, located in the foyer of the Club at White Oaks. Pam always has the right answer, no matter what your equipment question or problem.

In recognition of Tournament Season at our club, Pam has some special offers for us. Details have been circulated to all the members, so make sure you take note of the "while supplies last" provisions.

Jump in this week to take advantage of a very special price for having your racquet restrung. Pam can be reached at 905 685 5594.



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and other information

www.tennisniagara.com

Mixed Doubles Tournament

August 25

Congratulations to all those who played in this wonderful annual event, and special thanks to Gerry McIlhone who served as Tournament Director. He assembled a top-notch team with Jackie Donnelly, Carmen Bowron, Marilyn Francis and Monica Berti providing all the support services required to look after the players from 9:00 in the morning until almost 8:00 in the evening. It was a long hot day, but thanks to excellent organization was very much enjoyed by all.

Photos by Terry Belleville



In the final match for the Donnelly Trophy, Nancy Berkhout and Don Pozojevic (left) defeated Thitima Christopher and Hugo Lirio.



The semi-finalists for the Donnelly Trophy played off for bragging rights, with Sarah Chapman-Jay and Gerry McIlhone (left) prevailing over Shirley Rednall and Hugh Dow.



In the final match for the Niagara-on-the-Lake Realty Trophy, Scott McGregor and Dorothy Booth (left) defeated Bonnie and Jordan Sartor.



Finalists for the Crabtree & Evelyn Trophy: Gary Inkster and Rosemary Goodwin (left) defeated Amy Weiner and Peter Marchesseau.

Right : Tournament Director Gerry McIlhone did double-duty, acting as chair umpire for the NOTL Realty final. Photographer Deb Robert captured the moment.



Bottom of preceding page: : Fans were happy in the shade. Molly Bowron did a great job of treating the finalists to ball-person services.

7-month-old Abigail and her mother, Maris, were on hand to cheer for Grandma Nancy.



It takes a lot of food to fuel a tennis tournament. Special thanks to Perry Johnson and Stone Road Grille for help with our lunch sandwiches. Players and guests were happy to settle in with lasagna and salad at the end of the day.



Ontario 55+ Games August 14-16

From the Opening Ceremony to the Closing Gala, it was a lovely experience for the 14-player team from Niagara District at the Ontario 55+ Games in Brampton. Team members had qualified through the District Games in May, so were happy to be re-united in Brampton. The 55+ events were played on hard courts in beautiful Chinguacousy Park, while the 65+ and 75+ players were treated to the wonderful hartru courts at Brampton Tennis Club.

The 55+ team did very well, with Don Pozojevic and Maria Dinga winning a silver medal in Mixed Doubles, and Alex Kemeter and Ole Tang winning the silver medal in Men's Doubles. In the 75+ category, Richard Berti and Ray Cutts won the bronze medal in Men's Doubles.

Honorable mention goes to : Coby Dommasch & Aileen Hannaway, Joan Sim & Pat Whittaker, Gerry Walsham & David McCulloch, Jim Thackray & Rosemary Goodwin. Plans are already being made for the 2014 Summer Games in Windsor/Amherstburg. It's especially tantalizing for the players who are moving up a division ... they can hardly wait to be the youngest in the group, rather than the oldest.



Bronze medalists Ray Cutts and Richard Berti with some of the countless volunteers at the Ontario 55+ Games.

What do 35 and 45-year-olds dream about as they dash through busy days caring for their careers and their families? Nowadays, the surprising answer could be they're dreaming of the day they can join the ranks of the 55+ and 65+ and 75+ generation.

Because the 55+ generation isn't what it used to be. The new 55+ (and 65+ and 75+) are often more fit and active than their children, and are great role models for their grandchildren. They're delighted to find they finally have time for themselves, and are determined to use it to have fun and stay fit.



That active and healthy lifestyle is celebrated and nurtured at the Ontario 55+ Summer Games, held every two years. The 2012 Games staged in Brampton featured 1300 participants from 40 districts throughout the province playing in 18 events.

The change in attitude exemplified by the 55+ generation is bringing about profound changes at all levels of society. Whereas this provincial program used to be called Senior Games, the label was changed because the term "Senior" had come to denote something in the public consciousness that doesn't match the reality. The new 55+ generation wants and needs increased and improved fitness and sport facilities that will support their vital and active lifestyle. Good health is their highest priority, and sport provides the

essential elements of exercise and fun and fellowship.

This change is of particular interest and importance here in Niagara-on-the-Lake. We're in the vanguard of the new movement with 6750 of our 15,400 residents (44%) being 55 years of age and more. Another 2325 are in the 45-54 bracket, making a total of 9075 residents who are 45 years of age and more ... that's 59% of our total population.

This age bracket is heavily represented among those who continue to relocate to Niagara-on-the-Lake each year. It will be important for our Town to plan for the development of sport and fitness facilities to support the active and healthy lifestyles of these residents. Having an aging population is no longer a negative : this group rocks! And they love playing tennis!



*Photos (clockwise from top):
Opening Ceremony;
Don and Maria;
The gang : Ole, Maria, Aileen,
Coby, Pat, Alex, backed by Deb
and Don;
Closing Gala, Rosemary and
Monica;
Closing Gala: Maria and Joan.*



Tennis Fan

Emira Mesihovic is among the keenest of our young members, being a tennis fan as a spectator as well as a player. Her patience was rewarded at the Rogers Cup when champion Novak Djokovic stopped to sign her giant tennis ball.

This year, she and her father - Club Director Ed Mesihovic - are making their first trip to the US Open. So if you see someone who looks like this in the crowd while you're enjoying the many hours of TV coverage each day, it may well be Emira.

New Member

When Sue Johnson and her husband moved from Victoria BC a couple of weeks ago, they spotted a tennis photo in the Niagara Advance and made inquiries as to how they could get involved.

This morning, Sue received a warm welcome from Margaret Waddell, Joanne DeFalco, Kay Woodfine, Mary Mathews, (that's Sue in red), Marlene Walther, Estelle Simons and Maria Budin.



Lost and Found

There's an umbrella, an insulated cooler, a red carry-all, a set of keys, visors and hats, water bottles, several pairs of sunglasses, a man's jacket, and a folding blue chair (not in photo). If any of it is yours, please contact Rosemary Goodwin or Marilyn Francis. We'd love to get it back to you!



Revised Court Schedule for Labour Day Weekend

If you're looking for some court time on the holiday weekend, please note that availability will be a little different to the normal pattern.

On Saturday, courts are booked from 10:00 through 3:00, and on Sunday, they're booked again from 9:00 through Noon.

On Monday, however, there will be at least two courts open from 10:00 through to the start of Men's Night at 5:00.

Plans for Improving our Courts

Close watchers of the NOTL.org website will have noted with interest the record of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on August 13. *[Quicklinks to Council/COTW Agendas to Committee of the Whole to Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee]*

Our alert Parks & Recreation Director, Clive Buist, spotted a new offering of grants from a federal program called the Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund. This meshed with conversations he's been having with Club President Ian Waddell in which they were seeking to resolve the issues of resurfacing the Memorial Park courts as well as reclaiming the two courts that used to be adjacent to them.

Council has agreed to a plan to seek financing from the Fund for the purpose of converting to a six-court setup of hard courts at the Memorial Park Tennis Centre. Accordingly, an application was filed at the deadline date and we now await a determination as to how much, if anything, may be awarded.

The proposed project includes updating the lighting system and is estimated to cost \$280,000. A total of \$95,000 would come from the Town and \$45,000 is pledged from the Tennis Club ... all contingent on 50% financing in the amount of \$140,000 from our federal government. Construction would commence in September 2013.

Our young Canadian superstar has a top-16 seeding at the US Open, so we'll all be watching with keen interest to see if he can successfully navigate his way to the 4th round. What a great opportunity, but what a huge amount of pressure. Imagine how it must feel! It looks like our coverage is going to come by way of TSN and TSN2 ... enjoy!

Best regards, Rosemary

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