



JULY 28 2011

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# NIAGARA TENNIS NEWS

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Hello Tennis Friends!

We're three months into our 2011 season at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Tennis Club. It's been a wonderful first half and there's every reason to believe the second half will be even more so. Interest in Tennis is growing on every side. The Tuesday evening Tennis 101 class is filled with more eager newcomers to our game, while the graduates of that program from '09 and '10 are now fully active members of the club. Thanks to Shawna Macfarlane, along with her son Rob and assistant coaches Sarah Chapman-Jay, Thitima Christopher and Janice Schachtschneider for making this possible.

Some of those recent graduates are part of Regular Games on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. They play alongside some of our Super Senior members, with the emphasis on the "Super". Next Tuesday - August 2nd - there will be a Garden Party for all these players ... all those who are part of the men's and women's **Tuesday and Thursday Regular Games**, whether roster players or spares.

**Check your  
Birth Certificate:  
1936 or earlier?**

A **Special Invitation** is hereby extended to all members of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Tennis Club who will reach or pass their 75th birthday during 2011 to come and join this celebration. The Ontario Championship for age competition was played recently in Toronto. They crowned champions up to an Over-80 category. We're hoping to have enough players to conduct a friendly match or two, such that we could crown some champions of our own on Tuesday.

So do come and join the party. We'll have a mixed doubles round robin (no age restrictions involved), some special feature foursomes, and lots of snacks and conversation along the sidelines.

Members (and spouses) who aren't in one of the invited groups, or don't make the age criteria, are welcome to come along to cheer on the play and share in the hospitality.

*From the left: Phil Landray, Pat Odey, Brenda Parks and Pete Unger are looking forward to the special event.*

**Tuesday August 2nd,  
8:30 - 10:30 am**



## WOMEN'S DOUBLES TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to Thitima Christopher and Sarah Chapman-Jay, winners of the D&D Lailey Trophy and 2011 Women's Doubles champions of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Tennis Club. They were the best of a strong field which enjoyed spirited competition on Saturday July 23rd. Finalists were Lil Cohen and Shirley Rednall. Along with Thitima, it made for three left-handers in the final ... something not often seen.

Winners of the Niagara Motors Trophy and the Wonderful Red Shirt are Gillian Mellanby and Patricia Ridesic. Finalists were the sister combo of Dorothy Booth and Sheila Krause.

Winners of the 3rd flight are Marlene Walther and Susan Vriens. Finalists were Brenda Parks and Brenda Sabine-Green.



*Sarah Chapman-Jay, Thitima Christopher, Gillian Mellanby, Patricia Ridesic, Marlene Walther, Susan Vriens*

A Club Tournament can only happen with the help and support of a lot of people. Thanks to Donna Lailey and the Lailey Vineyard, and to Dave Dick and Niagara Motors, for their title trophy support, and to Pam Seitz of Pam's Pro Shop for lovely prizes. Thanks to Patrick MacNeill and the Quartec Group for our professional looking draw sheets and also for prize support.

Thanks to Pat Henry and the Irish Tea Room for a wonderful lunch. Everyone loved the Kerry Pie made with layers of roasted vegetables wrapped in potato pancakes.

Thanks to Dorothy Booth who shared with us a treasured collection of Tennis Babes coffee cups. And thanks to Janice Schachtschneider who gathered all the entries and looked after all the food and refreshments. Special thanks to Patricia Campbell who labored for many hours with hosting duties, and to all the players who stayed afterwards to help with the cleanup. And thanks to the many fans who stopped by to enjoy the matches and lend their support and encouragement. Altogether it made for a fine show.

There was a consensus that next year's tournament should be moved to a later date. Mark the weekend of September 8-9 on your calendar for the 2012 Women's A-B Doubles Tournament. The C Doubles will likely be made into a separate event and held during the week of July 23 2012.



*Front (from the left) : Elaine Weiss, Sheila Krause, Dorothy Booth, Patricia Ridesic, Gillian Venturi  
 Second row : Carmen Bowron, Anne Robinson, Brenda Sabine-Green, Brenda Parks, Shirley Rednall, Lil Cohen, Sue Werner  
 Third row : Sarah Chapman-Jay, Thitima Christopher, Marlene Walther, Susan Vriens, Pat Young, Gillian Mellanby  
 Top : Stefa Korda, Johanne Cote-Crawford*

*Patricia Campbell  
 doing player  
 registration.*



*Draw sheets by the  
 Quartec Group.*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Inter-Club Match vs Grimsby TC	August 7
Mixed Doubles Tournament	August 26-27
Singles Tournaments	September 4
Penguin Tournament [New date!] (with <i>Tango Boutique</i> )	September 7
Men's A Doubles	September 10

### INTER-CLUB MATCH

Our home match versus Grimsby Tennis Club is scheduled for **Sunday August 7th at 3:00pm**. Do plan to come out and cheer on your home team. We had a close match with them on July 10, so will be hoping to edge ahead with the return encounter.

Of special interest will be the return to Niagara-on-the-Lake of Anne Kravchenko as a member of the Grimsby TC team. Anne recently retired from her position at Ridley College and relocated to Grimsby. She's known to many here from her years as the resident teaching pro from 1995 to 2002.

The home team will be bolstered by the addition of Nancy Berkhout and Don Pozojevic who will try to meet the strong challenge from the visitors. They'll be supported by teammates Scott McGregor, Gary Inkster, Helmut Hammerling, Sarah Chapman-Jay, Dorothy Booth and Shirley Rednall.

There will be one round of Men's Doubles and Women's Doubles, followed by a round of Mixed Doubles. Spectators are very welcome!

### MIXED DOUBLES TOURNAMENT

This event is the jewel in our crown ... the biggest event of the year after Opening Day. It features lots of good competition for members of all playing levels and is one of the few times we get so many members together.

For the past two years, we've managed the hospitality by way of potluck. For a change of pace this year, Albert Reyes has kindly offered to bring onsite his well-known barbecue and cooler facilities. Albert has a great enthusiasm and flair for good food and good times. The details of what will be cooked and how it will be managed are yet to be finalized. Albert invites feedback from players ... what would you like to see for a Saturday night dinner party at the pavilion after the tournament? Please let us know.

We plan to offer the tournament in two separate draws : an A-B event for players at a 3.5/4.0+ level ... and a C event for players at a 3.0/3.0+ level. The hope is this will encourage lots of participation across a broad spectrum of the membership. Play starts on Friday August 26 and continues through Saturday August 27.

The time to make your plans is NOW! Entry forms will be available by August 1 and entries should be in by August 17th in order to avoid the disappointment of draws being filled. Late entries will be accepted only if space is available.

## LAWN BOWLING, ANYONE?

Have you been over to see the new Lawn Bowling Complex at the Community Center? It's quite something and certainly sets a new standard for sports facilities here in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

A good time to pay a visit will be on Saturday August 6, when it will host the Ontario Mixed Pairs Tournament. The event will feature 32 bowlers. Most of the play will conclude on Saturday; finals will be played on Sunday.

If you go, please take note of the amenities, the aesthetics, the viewing facilities and any other features you think could be helpful for Tennis. We've been looking for inspiration as to where our Tennis Complex should be heading in the next few years. Perhaps the inspiration is just around the corner.



## AUTOGRAPH, PLEASE!

Diane Hanson was delighted to turn the pages of her recently-received *Ontario Tennis* magazine and discover an article about the origins of the Rogers Cup tournament right here in Niagara-on-the-Lake.



She was even more pleased to ask Charlotte Petrick, author of the article, to autograph her copy of the magazine as a souvenir.

The Canadian Open Championships were played here from 1895-1913, enjoying a huge following and world-class players. Thousands of people came to Niagara-on-the-Lake for the event each year, and the champions were often the winners of the US Open and of Wimbledon. World War I interrupted the tradition, and it was the 1970s before the tournament ever regained the brilliance of the Niagara-on-the-Lake years.

That's a nice thought to take with you as you attend the Rogers Cup matches in Toronto in two weeks time. Charlotte researched the connection as part of a History project at school this spring. She's currently preparing to play in the Canadian U18 Championships at the Ontario Racquet Club in Mississauga on August 7-12.

If you don't receive *Ontario Tennis* by mail, you can pick up a copy at the pavilion office.



## A NEW LOOK

Have you noticed how many passers-by stop to look at our Omni Courts? Or even how many tourists arrive in Town with their tennis gear and racquets in the car? Lots of people include tennis in their holiday plans and are very happy to find our lovely courts available to them on a pay-for-play basis.

Another common feature is locals strolling through the pavilion, browsing the bulletin boards and watching the on-court action. Many would like to have more information about the Tennis Club.

The information sign on the fence was outdated and needed to be replaced. We thought it was a good time to send a warm message to all those passers-by, letting them know that Tennis is for everyone.

Many thanks to Brian McVanel and McVanel Communications for the design of the on-court sign, and thanks to Patrick MacNeill and the Quartec Group for the oversize printout of the information sign in the pavilion. Special thanks to Richard Berti who removed the old sign, relocated the clock and installed the two new signs. It's a team effort!



### In Memory of Ken Goodwin

Sincere condolences are extended to Nicole Goodwin on the death of her beloved husband Ken on July 22nd. Ken and Nicole have been members of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Tennis Club since 1995 and always traveled to the courts by bicycle. Ken was warm and gentle and gracious, a beautiful person in every way. He lived a life of service, a brilliant example for all. At the jam-packed memorial, there were many tennis players among those who also knew Ken from Hospice Care, from Amnesty International, from the NOTL Museum, from Save-One-Mile-Creek, from the Sailing Club, and from the Rotary Club where Ken championed the Gift of Life program for disadvantaged children in need of acute medical care. He will be greatly missed, and long remembered.

*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.*