



MARCH 27, 2011

NIAGARA TENNIS NEWS

Hello Tennis Friends!

That snowstorm on Wednesday was a cruel jolt for those who had been enjoying some early-bird March tennis on our Memorial Park courts. Let's hope it means that April will bring a warm spring. Your volunteer committee has already been working long and hard to plan activities for the new season.

Several were able to meet in the Boardroom of the Virgil Arena on Saturday, with new president Ian Waddell eager to coordinate efforts.

Janice Schachtschneider reports that advance registration has been steady, with many names ready to go into the early-bird draw on April 1st. If you've been a little slow getting yours in, give Janice a call to see if you might still make it under the wire.

Registration Days at the pavilion will be on April 30 and on May 7, from 11am to 1pm. Volunteers will be there to answer your questions, receive your comments, and explain the new keyless lock system. If the weather cooperates, there will be lots of time for some pickup tennis games as well. Plan to stop by to say hello and meet some new members.



*Seated: Janice, Ian, Charlene, Sarah
Standing: Rosemary, Don, John, Kay*

Registration forms have been distributed by email. Extra copies, along with club information, are available at the Recreation Office in the Virgil Arena. This is a good place to direct new players if you happen to receive inquiries from friends or neighbors about how to get involved in Niagara-on-the-Lake tennis.

JUNIOR PROGRAM



Registration for the 2011 Junior Tennis season took place at the Arena on Saturday, alongside that for Junior Softball and Junior Soccer. It's great to see our sport taking its place with the traditional team games.

Program Director Charlene Juras was there with Sue Werner, meeting families and helping them find the right groups for the kids.

This will be the third season with our top-notch coach, Shawna Macfarlane, at the helm. Both the players and the

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instructor team are getting better each year, as the program continues to be refined and improved and as everyone gains from experience.

The Junior Program consists of a Spring Series (May and June), and a Summer Series (July and August). Both will feature lessons, tournaments, special events and games, and a second season of Junior Team Tennis for our more advanced players.

Starting on May 5, there will be classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 4-6pm, and on Sundays between 10am and noon.

Information and registration forms are available at the Recreation Office in the Arena, or by contacting Charlene.

ADULT INSTRUCTION PROGRAM

Shawna Macfarlane is our Director of Instructional Programs, and has designed a bigger and better lineup of clinics and lessons to meet the needs of every player. With the motto "Tennis is where Fun and Fitness meet", the coaches will help every player, regardless of playing level or years of experience, to have more fun playing tennis. They can help us continue playing free of injury for as long as possible, and also teach us how to compensate for injuries or issues that are long-ingrained. With regular coaching, we're likely to play more often and with more vigor.

So plan on building coaching into your tennis routine for this season. It could be a clinic once a week or once a month; it could be a private or semi-private lesson once a month; it could be a regular lesson with 3 or 4 of your buddies. All are possible. But you need to get started soon ... available time and space are limited. Contact Shawna at addintennis@gmail.com or at 716 531 5862 to discuss your plans and your goals.

TENNIS 101 is for those just starting in tennis, or just getting back into the game. Clinics are on Thursdays at 6pm, Saturdays at 10am and Sundays at noon.

TENNIS 102 teaches strokes and strategy at the next level. Clinics are on Tuesdays at 6pm and on Sundays at noon.

GO TENNIS is a good solid workout for experienced players. Clinics are on Sundays at 9am.

The fee for each clinic is \$10. You can guarantee your place by purchasing a series of clinics in advance. Walk-ons will be accepted if space happens to be available.

MAY 1st is a Special Day : Come for the Early Bird Warmup at 10am. It's a great introduction to our instructional programs for the season, but also a chance to wish a special happy birthday to our head coach. [Shhhh! ... rhymes with "nifty"]



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KEEP IT GOING, CHARLOTTE!

As you read in the last issue of NTN, 14-year-old Charlotte Petrick became Champion of the Copa Universidad Galileo ITF Junior Tournament in Guatemala a month ago. She followed it up by becoming the **Ontario Under16 Champion** on March 15. In that event, she defeated the #1 seed Gloria Liang in the quarter-finals 6-3 4-6 6-2, and in the final beat the #3 seed Joulia Likhanskala 2-6 6-4 6-4.

But Charlotte's first ever title was 2010 Ladies Singles Champion of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Tennis Club. Here several of our members had the fun of playing against her and experiencing what it's like to be on court with a player of this level.

It was terrific of Charlotte to compete here, and terrific for the other players to make it all happen.



2010 NOTL Ladies Singles Championships

Now it's on to Vancouver, where Charlotte will try for the title "Canadian Under 14 Champion" at the tournament to be played at Hollyburn Country Club in Vancouver on April 4-10. The prize is an especially worthy one, since the finalists will become part of a Canadian team competing at the World Junior Team Championships. Charlotte has been nursing some injuries for the past couple of weeks, so we hope she'll be able to recover well enough to play her best. You can send Charlotte your good wishes at c.petrick@hotmail.com.

It's great that the local media has picked up on Charlotte's story. We hope the publicity for Tennis will bring more players out to our courts, and will inspire young players to give the sport some serious effort.



*Best regards,
Rosemary Goodwin*

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

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