



## November Update

### MEET YOUR NEW BOARD

It truly is an honour to have been asked to serve as your Club's President. We have a great team of Directors who are well qualified to continue the enthusiasm and passion that has been a driving force of our Club.

2020 was a challenging year for tennis in general .We are fortunate that tennis is regarded as a relatively safe sporting activity and appreciate all members' compliance with our Covid protocols. 2021 will be a truly exciting year for our Club. We started the process for additional courts nearly ten years ago. They are now a reality. In 2021 we will have 50% more court capacity. That means 50% more social engagement(Covid permitting) and above all 50% more fun.

We thought you would be interested in some background on your new Directors together with their primary responsibilities on the Board.



### **HUGH DOW, President**

Born in Liverpool, England Hugh has been playing tennis for over 65 years and is still not satisfied with his game. In his youth Hugh actually played at Junior Wimbledon. Emigrating to Canada in 1967 Hugh enjoyed a 50 year career in the advertising agency business. On his retirement Hugh and his wife Joanne moved to NOTL. Hugh previously served on the Club's Board 2011-2016

**As President, Hugh has overall responsibility for all activities of the Club. He is the Club's spokesperson, is the liaison to the Town and OTA, handles marketing and public relations, instructional programs, and Club contracts.**

### **MARILYN FRANCIS, Treasurer**

Marilyn has been an active volunteer of the NOTL TC over the past 10 years, including Past President, Vice-President, Group Coordinator and Tournament Director. Her professional career has involved over 40 years of sales, marketing and management experience in global corporations and local business. Currently Marilyn is a real estate broker with Bosley Real Estate.



**Marilyn keeps the financial records of the Club, prepares financial reports, invoicing and membership registration. She Chairs the Club's Finance/Audit Committee and Governance review group, she also administers the Game Time system.**



### **BRENDA PARKS, Secretary**

Brenda was born in Niagara Falls. She returned to Niagara-on-the-lake in the early 90's with husband Brian after a lengthy career at the Ontario Association of Architects. Brenda started playing tennis at 60, loves the game and enjoys her standing as enthusiastic novice

**Brenda maintains the Board records, prepares Agendas and Minutes of meetings and edits the Club Newsletter. She also responds to emails sent to the website.**

### **ROSEMARY GOODWIN, Director**

Rosemary served on the Board previously from 2008 - 2012. She is a certified instructor. She founded the Niagara Peninsula Tennis Community as a Tennis Canada community champion in 2013, pursuing the objective of growing our game. The history of tennis in NOTL is a special interest.



**Rosemary's responsibilities include Club member program development policies, new member packages, Junior program initiatives and she has also been appointed by the Board as the Club's Historian.**



### **LARRY PLATT, Director**

Larry was born in Trenton, Ontario and has been involved in the wonderful world of sports all his life. Retired from the construction industry, Larry and his girl Mia have been in NOTL for three years. It was here that Larry was introduced to tennis, joined the club and is enjoying his second year on the Board.

**Larry is responsible for all of the Club's physical plant and equipment, liaising with the Town on Court maintenance issues, also procuring necessary Court equipment, in particular outfitting the two new courts.**

### **RICK SHERK, Director**

Rick was born and raised in Thorold, went to school at Denis Morris and later University in the Maritimes where he played sports other than tennis.

Upon graduation Rick entered the banking business and took up tennis playing starting in Windsor and later Sarnia and Hamilton and being on boards in 2 of those clubs. Moving back to Niagara in 1983 he joined the club in '84. Rick has enjoyed all the phases the club has gone through. Finding humour in what we do has been a big part of line calls and trying to remember the score.



**Rick is responsible for all of the Club social events, and for 2021 will be working on a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the two new courts and the 50th anniversary of the Club. He is also responsible for Club Tournaments and the Board nominations.**

## AND IN OTHER CLUB NEWS .....

### TENNIS IN NOVEMBER ?

Who would have thought that we would still be playing tennis in November? The Town has advised us that the nets will be taken down and the courts closed as of November 29. Two reasons for this: First, removal of the nets relieves the tension on the net posts which can be susceptible to frost heave and secondly, in the past the courts have been damaged by people using the courts as a skating rink. We support the Town's decision on this. The weather's cooperating so far in November . **PLAY ON!**

### NEW COURTS UPDATE-NEARLY THERE !



The fencing has just been completed and the asphalt has been laid. The final touch will be the entry gates and the final colour coating which will be applied in the Spring of next year.

A number of members have expressed interest in seeing the new courts colour surfaced in blue with a green surround (The colours used for The Rogers Cup and the US Open). What do you as a member think? We would welcome your thoughts on this. You can reach us at [askus@niagaratennisclub.com](mailto:askus@niagaratennisclub.com)

The Club extends its thanks to Dominic and his crew for the windscreen removal work, and a special shout out to Luc Caron for fixing the siding at the gable on the pavilion.

### BBQ FOR SALE !

Since we're all doing more cooking at home -- how about taking advantage of an opportunity to own a slightly used 3 burner BBQ, with heat gauge, it has been stored inside and comes complete with tank and cover. The Club no longer uses the BBQ and would "rehome" it for \$100. obo. Contact Larry Platt at [larrynotl@gmail.com](mailto:larrynotl@gmail.com)



## CLUB HISTORY

Although our modern club dates to 1970, the Niagara-on-the-Lake Tennis Club has roots going back to the earliest years of the sport. The first Wimbledon was played in 1877; the first US Open in 1881; and the first Niagara International was played in 1884 on the courts of the Queens Royal Hotel in the park beside the lake where the gazebo is the prominent landmark today.

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