

Niagara-on-the-Lake Tennis Club Newsletter



What's happening around the Club ...

August 30, 2022

So much news.....

You are going to want to settle in with a cup of coffee or a glass of wine (depending on the time of day you're reading this, or maybe just wine!). There's been a lot happening around our courts in the month of August. From the Canada Summer Games to doubles tournaments, celebrations of individual accomplishments, COVID continuing to wreck havoc with people we care deeply about, and things that are strange but true. There's lots of news to catch up on. Lest we be flatfooted which we know is not a good thing on the court, this month's newsletter also provides a sneak peak at events coming up in the blink of an eye. PS. You are going to have to master etransfer to participate! Let's get started.....



Canada Summer Games Reflections from Hugh Dow, the Club President

Like many big events in life, the Canada Games seemed to have gone by in a blur. Although I was at the Club every day of the week-long event, I had to think carefully about what really stood out for me.

I think what really impressed me above all were some of the unique sounds which are very rarely heard at our Club.

On day one I was struck by the sound of a tennis ball being hit exceptionally hard with great frequency. What a beautiful sound that is!

Then to see the athletes in action ... their speed around the court and again a sound, dare I say, I have never heard at our Club ... the squeal made by their shoes when they actually slide into a shot!

And then the sound of players being cheered on by their teammates ... this invariably seemed to involve drums, cow bells and even some pretty hoarse screams.

But of course the visual element was the most impressive. To see our courts filled with some of the very best up and coming tennis players in Canada was certainly something I will never forget.

Our Club, our courts enhanced by all the Provincial flags, and all of the on-site facilities looked amazing and made me very proud of what we all had accomplished. The blue-shirted volunteers were everywhere and certainly the players I talked to appreciated the care and attention they were receiving. And of course I would like to acknowledge our primary architects of the event - Marilyn Francis, Rosemary Goodwin and Shawna Macfarlane who really deserve enormous credit.

So what did we achieve through hosting the Games? Well it certainly increased our profile with our landlords, the Town. The Lord Mayor and the Council now better understand the significance of our Club and its importance to our community.

But of course the most obvious legacy has been the resurfacing of the courts and the soon to be installed night lights on courts 1 & 2. These have put us many years ahead of our upgrade plan and will allow us to consider even more additional improvements.

The Canada Games took a year of planning, untold hours of meetings, all undertaken by a team of Club volunteers who are passionate about our Club and the game of tennis. On behalf of the Club, I would like to express our deepest gratitude to everyone involved.

NOTL TC CANADA SUMMER GAMES VIDEO

For those of you who were out of town during the games, or for spectators and volunteers with a lifetime of new memories from watching the action, the video created by **René Bertschi of Skyview Arts** captures many of the highlights. See link above.



Among many visitors to the Club during the Games, we welcomed Dianne Weatherby, Chair of the Board of the Ontario Tennis Association. Dianne was in town for a business conference at White Oaks, and took advantage of the opportunity to visit our Club for the very first time. She was struck by the beauty of the setting and the enthusiasm of the Club volunteers. Yes, Dianne, we do have the best volunteers!



Coaches Corner and News From the Go Tennis Program

The Go Tennis Program has seen plenty of good tennis and with a welcoming team approach to helping our membership feel better on the court. We pride ourselves in our ability to cater to all ages and skill levels. On any given day our participants experienced innovative drills, improved agility, a better understanding of the sport and a fabulous time. Whether you were new to the sport and our Club or have been a fixture from the beginning, we all enjoyed a fun game of tennis.

Congratulations go out to Jayden Jeong, Felix Jeong, and Kendra Osa for their recent certification as Level 1 Instructors. They have enhanced our Go Team approach with a fresh excitement about teaching. Felix captured our philosophy, "One of the most important things I learned in the instructor's course was as Coaches we need to keep it fun to engage players to play tennis for a lifetime."

The Niagara on the Lake Go Instructional Team is seeking part-time instructors to join our team. Both volunteer and paid positions are available. The instructional times are primarily on weekend afternoons and weeknights. For more information, please reach out to Shawna Macfarlane (Director of Instructional Programming) to join the 2023 Team!

Club Doubles Tournament Results August 27, 2022

Congratulations to our winners and finalists.

Women's Doubles

"A" Division

1. Nicole Marsh-Burke & Michelle Marsh.
2. Mary Lou Turner & Barb Kavanagh

Men's Doubles

"A" Division

1. Chris Bandak & George Bandak
2. John Pilling & Scott Lewis

"A" Consolation

“B” Division

1. Natalie Early & Karen Rhind
2. Sylvia Allen & Amanda Thackray

1. Gerry McIlhone & Roman Korda.
2. Jean Lalonde & Shawn Parker

“B” Division

1. Jim O’Gorman & Bill Devolin
2. Jim Thackray & Glen Salzman

"B" Consolation

1. Les McFarlane & Terry Ratkovsky
2. Richard Berti & Ross Robinson

Grape and Wine Tournament Saturday, September 24



The Grape and Wine Tournament, in it's 5th year will be held on Saturday, September 24, commencing at 1:00 p.m. at Memorial Park. Ladies 3.0 and over - this is the event for you! Hosted by Trish and Christy, you are in for a treat.

The entry fee of \$20.00 includes prizes, snacks and a boxed late lunch after the games. Sign up as a solo and we will place you with a partner for an afternoon of FUN tennis.

Contact Trish Spagnol at pattianddave949@hotmail.com



Come Have a Ball at the NOTL Tennis Ball

Friday, October 21, 2022
6PM UNTIL LATE
Food! Music! Drinks!

Club Italia
2525 Montrose Road, Niagara Falls

Tickets \$85 by etransfer to
payment@niagaratennisclub.com

Tickets on sale now!



**Order your official Niagara-on-the-Lake
Tennis Club cap(s) while supplies last.**

\$30/each

Send your e-payment to the club's e-transfer email, after confirmation of payment, Club member Cu Van Ha & Brenda Parks will contact you to coordinate your tennis cap pick-up.

We May Not Be in Singapore..... But Here's the Thing

Since we've put down the new court surface, we've have had a couple of instances where gum was left on the courts and has removed the new paint.



Please don't bring any gum on the court. Help us preserve our new court surface.

Compliments and Feedback

We are always on the lookout for content for the newsletter. If you would like to share a story or have feedback, please email Natalie Early at natalie.early@outlook.com

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