

LocalSPORTS

NOTL Tennis Club doubles champions crowned

Mike Balsom
The Local

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Tennis Club held its doubles championships this past weekend at the courts at Memorial Park, with spectators gathered on the bleachers to catch some exciting men's and women's matches throughout a beautiful day.

LADIES

In the ladies' championship match, Cathy Reid and Margaret Hobbs Mancuso took the title after the match

had to be called due to an injury to Coral MacKenzie. She and partner Nicole Marsh Burke won the first set 6-4, but MacKenzie went down with a knee injury and couldn't continue.

Over on the next court, Fran Doran and Deb Robert claimed the consolation title, dropping opponents Shannon Brander and Charlene Juras in two sets, 6-3 and 7-5.

MEN'S 'A' DIVISION

It couldn't get much closer than this one. John Pilling

and Scott Lewis came out strong, winning the first set 6-3 over Rob Lipovsky and Brad Butler. But Lipovsky and Butler responded in set number two, pulling even with a 6-4 win. The four players battled it out back and forth in set number three, and it went to a super tiebreaker, Pilling and Lewis coming out as champions with a 10-8 win.

Meanwhile, in the Men's A division consolation final, Jim Reid and Manny Umoquit fought off Gerry McIlhorne and Peter Rider 6-3,

6-4 in a close-fought match.

MEN'S 'B' DIVISION

It was another close, competitive match between the pairs of Rob Lamond and Doug Campbell and David Rodgers and Flory Massi. Lamond and Campbell won the first set 7-6, forced to win 8-6 in a tiebreaker. They

went on to defeat Rodgers and Massi 6-1 in the second set to claim the title.

In the B division consolation final, Mac MacSween and Terry Ratkovsky emerged victorious, winning 6-1, 6-2 over Ted Scott and Glen Barr.

John Ramsbottom, a member of the club's board

of directors, tells The Local that the singles tournament is scheduled for the week of Sept. 11, with the finals set to go Saturday, Sept. 16. He's hoping for weather similar to this past Saturday's.

Club members are encouraged to sign up on the website at niagaratennisclub.com.



Margaret Hobbs Mancuso returns a serve during the ladies championship game. (Mike Balsom)



Ladies' championship finalists Nicole Marsh Burke and Coral MacKenzie, with champions Cathy Reid and Margaret Hobbs Mancuso. (Tady Saczowski)



Men's A championship finalists Rob Lipovsky and Brad Butler, with champions John Pilling and Scott Lewis. (Tady Saczowski)



Scott Lewis lines up a backhand during the mens A championship match. (Mike Balsom)

NOTL Minor Hockey equipment swap Saturday

Mike Balsom
The Local

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Wolves Minor Hockey Club is holding an equipment swap this Saturday, August 26 from 9:30 a.m. until noon.

Volunteer coordinator Carrie Plakett, who doubles as the president of the NOTL Soccer Club, says the event is timed perfectly with the end-of-season

soccer festival, also scheduled at the Virgil Sports Complex the same day.

Glen Davis, the club's equipment manager, says there are reams of hockey socks and retired hockey jerseys that need to be cleared out to make space for the new jerseys and other equipment that has been ordered for this year.

This Thursday, August 24, residents are invited to drop off any gently

used hockey items to the Wolves office at the Centennial Arena between either noon and 3 p.m. or 6 and 8 p.m. If it doesn't fit anymore, maybe someone else can use it this hockey season.

Entrance to Saturday's swap is only \$10. Participants in the swap will be able to claim a free pair of practice hockey socks and perhaps a retired jersey for use in practice.



NOTL Wolves equipment manager Glen Davis with an assortment of socks and retired jerseys minor hockey plans to give away at this Saturday morning's equipment swap. (Mike Balsom)