



Niagara-on-the-Lake Tennis Club Newsletter

August 28, 2023

Oh my gosh, we blinked and August is almost over! The good news is that September and early October are often the best weeks for tennis. The Club calendar is still pretty full. While the mixed and doubles tournaments are in the record books, the singles and Grape and Wine tournaments are scheduled for September as is the Davis Cup. The Fall Social and Club AGM are also in a few weeks. To extend the season and our time together, a new comedy "night out" is being organized by Rosie Sherman for October.

That's all looking to the future. Grab a cup of coffee, and settle in for some Club news from the last few weeks....

Picture of the Week

Thursday's Top Gun group enjoyed the annual Samosa and Sweets celebration courtesy of Shan and Sushma Jain. Here's looking at a happy and well fed bunch of tennis players....



Doubles Tournament Highlights

What a wonderful week of tennis culminating in great matches all around. Here are the final results from the Championship and Consolation Finals.

Ladies Championship Match

Champions: Cathy Reid & Margaret Hobbs Mancuso

Finalists: Coral MacKenzie & Nicole Marsh Burke

Frustratingly this match had to be called due to an injury to Coral. She and Nicole won the first set 6 - 4 but she injured her knee and couldn't continue so had to retire. It was a very competitive match up to that point. We wish Coral a speedy recovery!

Ladies Consolation Championship Match

Champions: Fran Doran & Deb Robert

Finalists: Shannon Brander & Charlene Duras

Another well played, competitive match with Fran & Deb emerging winners with a 6 -3, 7 -5 victory.

Men's A Championship Match

Champions: John Pilling & Scott Lewis

Finalists: Rob Lipovsky & Brad Butler

This match came down to a super tie breaker to decide the match after the teams split sets. Pilling and Lewis won the first set 6 -3; Lipovsky & Butler took the second set 6 - 4; Pilling and Lewis won a tight tie break, 10 - 8.

Men's B Championship Match

Champions: Rob Lamond & Doug Campbell

Finalists: David Rodgers & Flory Massy

Another competitive match with the first set going to a tie break which Lamond & Campbell won, 7 - 6 (8 - 6 in the tie break) and they also took the second set, 6 - 1.

Men's A Consolation Final

Champions: Jim Reid & Manny Umoquit

Finalists: Jerry McIlhone & Peter Rider

Reid and Umoquit won in straight sets(6-3,6-4) in a close fought match.

Men's B Consolation Final

Champions: Mac MacSween & Terry Ratovsky

Finalists: Ted Scott & Glen Barr

Mac and Terry emerged the winners with a 6 - 1, 6 -2 victory over Ted and Glen. Good sportsmanship and humour on display in this one!

Running a tournament requires a lot of help behind the scenes. Shout outs to the following volunteers for their assistance in making the tournament the success it was:

Marilyn Francis
Jill Evans
Jayden Jeong
Janice Schactshneider
Hugh Dow
Shawna MacFarlane
Mother Nature!

... and let's not forget the tournament director John Ramsbottom. Thanks John!!

The singles tournament is scheduled for the week of September 11th with the finals on Saturday, September 16th. Sign up on the website.

Here are some snaps from the event courtesy of our intrepid Club photographer Tady





TNiagara Slam Regional Tennis Championships

Congratulations to Kendra Osa and Mohsin Kamran! Each is Singles Champion in the Gold Division of the Niagara Slam Regional Tennis Championships, hosted by the Fort Erie Tennis Club from July 17-30. The tournament attracted over 150 players, with competition in singles and doubles across three playing levels.

Both are also participating in our Club's singles ladder, working toward a rating with the [World Tennis Number](#). This international program aims to calculate an objective rating for every tennis player, based on results of our games. To get involved, contact [Rosemary Goodwin](#).

Ontario Senior Games

Our Club was well-represented at the Ontario Senior Games, hosted in Brantford on August 9-11. The program featured 20 sports in both 55+ and 65+ age categories, with winners from OSGA's 33 districts. Niagara is District 24, and playoffs were held here in May to determine qualification for the provincial competition. Mike Robinson (Welland TC) has championed OSGA competition here for many years and was the leader of our Niagara team.

Fran Doran had the honour of carrying the District 24 flag in the Opening Ceremony, and went on to win the silver medal in 65+ doubles with partner Kim Laidlaw. Gold medals were won by both Gerry McIlhone and Manny Umoquit : Gerry partnering with Hank Andrulis in the 55+, and Manny teaming with George Najbert in the 65+ division.

The gold medalists have qualified for the 2024 Canada 55+ Games, to be played in Quebec City next August. Congratulations!!





Davis Cup Visit to NOTL



The town of Niagara-on-the-Lake was honoured to host the Davis Cup trophy on August 3rd, the final stop on its cross-country tour before going to the National Bank Open in Toronto and Montreal, then back to Europe for the start of the 2023 Davis Cup competition.

The event was a homecoming for Team Canada Captain, Frank Dancevic, who was born in Niagara Falls and had his early tennis years throughout Niagara Region. It was also a recognition of the tennis history here in Niagara-on-the-Lake, with Queens Royal Park being home to major international tournaments from the 1880s to 1920s. As a crossroads among players from around the world, Niagara-on-the-Lake was an incubator for development of bold ideas such as the Davis Cup annual competition.

The setting for the event provided a reminder that while so much has changed, two things have not : (1) Queens Royal Park is a glorious gathering-place on a summer afternoon, and (2) the sport of tennis forges bonds among players and fans that run deep. Our sport is 150 years old this year (1873 - 2023). It has stood the test of time, and will continue to change lives and create friendships far into the future.

The history of tennis in Niagara-on-the-Lake is something we can all be proud of. Larry Mantle and Tady Saczkowski have done a fabulous job of gathering it on our club website. Next time you're filling time with screen-scrolling, give yourself a treat and visit <https://niagaratennisclub.com/History>.



Fall Tennis Social
September 16th
NOTL Sailing Club



There are about **10 tickets left** to make the Fall Tennis Social an official sellout. Don't be disappointed. Get your tickets today. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

To register, eTransfer \$50.00 per ticket to payment@niagaratennisclub.com.

On the notes line, identify the names on the tickets and any dietary restrictions: i.e., gluten free, vegetarian, allergies.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

September 27, 2023 6:00 PM

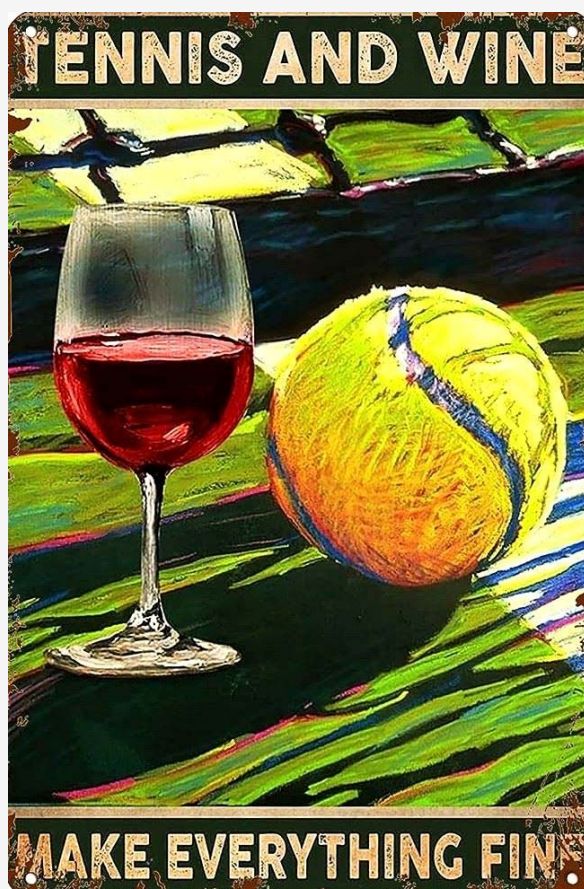
Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre, Simpson Room

Get involved with understanding how your Club operates. The Board welcomes all Members to attend our annual review of Club financials, past season activities, plans for future years and election of Directors.

A wine & cheese reception follows the meeting to give Members a one-on-one opportunity to chat with your Board of Directors

Have you considered serving on your Tennis Club Board?

As terms come to an end, we have a number of board vacancies that will need to be filled at the AGM including the role of Treasurer. Have questions, or would like additional information about the role of Board Director? Reach out to anyone on the current Board. They will share with you how rewarding the experience can be.



Grape and Wine

All ladies, 3.0 and over are invited to the annual Grape and Wine Tournament, a great way to finish the summer games!

Mark the calendar: Saturday, September 23, 12:00 to 4:00

The format is round robin, sign up as a single and you will be randomly placed with a partner for the afternoon.

The fee is \$25.00 and includes games, a boxed meal, snacks and prizes.

Payment can be made by e-transfer to Christy Pennington at the following email address. christypenn@hotmail.com

Comedy Club Night Out - Friday, October 13th

Come join fellow Club Members for a night out at the Comedy Club. Please see the flyer below. Tickets are \$20 which includes one drink ticket.

To purchase tickets, please etransfer Rosie Sherman, \$20.00pp at shermanrosie@hotmail.com You can pick up your tickets from Rosie directly or

at the Pavilion on September 16th during the Singles Finals from 10 am to noon.

Parking is always a challenge in downtown St Catharines. You may wish to consider carpooling. There's lots of time of time to organize that.....

SHOWTIME ENTERTAINMENT

Comedy Show

Friday, October 13

Entry Ticket **\$20**

Doors open 7:30pm
92 St. Paul St
St. Catharine's

TICKET INCLUDES 1 FREE DRINK

For more info and tickets :
shermanrosie@hotmailcom



Let There Be Shade

You may have noticed some "gerry rigging" or should we say "George S rigging" of shade umbrellas on the court to offer some respite from the sun. Let us know what you think.

A gentle reminder to close and tie the umbrellas after use to prolong their life.

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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