



KINGSTON TENNIS CLUB

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October 2013

The 2013 Season

Autumn leaves have arrived and the tennis season is winding down. Hardy players still have a few weeks of playing time ahead of them, but dress warmly! The Thanksgiving weekend will see the last days for the stewards to be on duty this year. After this date, the club grounds and change rooms can be accessed using the combination locks on the main gate and on the change room doors. The combination is the same for both areas - if you don't know it, now is the time to ask a steward or a fellow player! After Thanksgiving, if you are the last to leave at any given time of the day or night, please lock the change rooms and the front gate.

A big "thank you" to our stewards for a great job: Leo Burns Scully, Asia Zolnierczyk, Rebecca McGillivray, Jennifer Karmally, and Isabelle Côté (who filled in after Labour Day). Thanks also go to former head steward, Sam Faris, for his unsolicited help in familiarizing our three new full-time stewards in club culture and operations. Our enthusiastic junior camp staff, led by Philippe Côté, created happy summer memories while building tennis skills for many children. Gary Orpana, Philippe Côté, and Floyd Shou effectively taught lessons to adults and juniors seeking to improve their game skills. We look forward to many of our staff returning for the 2014 season!

Junior Tournament by Floyd Shou

Thanks to the nice weather, the Junior Tournament was held successfully on Saturday, September 7th. Participants were split into two groups for a round-robin in the morning. The first, second, and third-place winners of each group were then matched to play each other. Will Cockfield and Nicolas Badalato were the finalists of the tournament this year. The tight pro set match was won by Will Cockfield, age 11, after saving two breakpoints. Congratulations to the winners!



Isabelle Côté and Asia Zolnierczyk

This photograph can also be viewed on the club website - mouse-over the clubhouse image at the top of the page!

Fall Cleanup Volunteers Needed

This year's Fall cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, November 16 at 10:30am. Please set aside some time on this day to work with your fellow members to prepare the clubhouse and the grounds for the upcoming winter season. Activities include raking and bagging leaves (bags provided, please bring a rake), taking down windscreens, moving the deck furniture and BBQs into storage, and a cleanup of the office area and changerooms. Many hands make light work!



Will Cockfield, Nicolas Badalato

Survey for Indoor Tennis Facilities

Every year as outdoor temperatures begin to cool, thoughts turn to indoor tennis. Kingston's only permanent indoor tennis facility closed over ten years ago, leaving KTC members with a long drive to the nearest indoor facilities in Belleville. The parent of one of our junior tennis campers expressed interest in exploring the possibility of the provision of these services by the City of Kingston; this enquiry and subsequent dialogue led to the formulation of a survey to gauge the potential demand for indoor tennis facilities. A link to this online survey was sent out in early September to the membership. Four days later, 146 responses had been received. Due to use restrictions by the free online survey tool, only 100 entries could be tabulated.

[Note: The original email inviting members to participate in the KTC survey incorrectly named the City of Kingston as being involved in the survey. We apologize for any confusion.]

Survey results are as follows:

Q1. If affordable indoor tennis courts became available in Kingston, would you be interested in playing tennis in the winter?

A1. Yes: 99% No: 1%

Q2. How important, in your opinion, is the availability of indoor tennis facilities in Kingston?

A2. Not important: 0% Somewhat important: 8%
Important: 15% Very important: 77%

Q3. How important, in your opinion, is the availability of indoor tennis facilities for the development of athletic programs for youth in Kingston?

A3. Not important: 2% Somewhat important: 9%
Important: 17% Very important: 72%

Q4. Do you know of other people (not members of the KTC), including youth and students, who would be interested in playing tennis indoors in the winter?

A4. Yes: 85% No: 15%

Q5. Provided that affordable indoor courts are available, how many times per week would you be interested in playing?

A5. 1x: 6% 2x: 33% 3x: 35% 4x: 8% More than 4x: 17% No response: 1%

Q6. How much would you expect (or be prepared) to pay for court rental indoors? Choose from the following options but try to be realistic!

A6. Less than \$15/hr: 16% \$15-20/hr: 38%
\$20-25/hr: 19% \$25-30/hr: 14% \$30-40/hr: 11%
More than \$40/hr: 1%

There are community-based tennis facilities that operate in conjunction with a municipality. An example includes the newly-constructed Youngs Sportsplex that hosts the Welland Indoor Tennis Club (www.youngssportsplex.com/index.php). If anyone is interested in developing this option here in Kingston, please contact a member of the Executive and we will put you in touch with likeminded people!

KTC History by Paula Loh

The Mystery of the Clubhouse Location

You may have wondered why the clubhouse is located off to one corner of the property, as most facilities have the clubhouse at the entry point to the grounds. The answer lies in the history of the club. When the courts and clubhouse were constructed, the club's property included the three residential lots that lie to the north of Courts 1 & 7 and the clubhouse. You can see in the B&W film from the late 1920s that is on our website that there are cars parked in this area - Earl Street was the main entrance and the street address for the club. What happened?

Property transfer documents in the Queen's Archives hold the key. The lots fronting on Earl Street (187, 188, 189, 190), part of City Block 358, were severed and sold by the tennis club in 1942 and 1943 as three residential building lots. This presumably represents the initial sale of club assets in an attempt to overcome the financial difficulties from the Depression and the war years. The club received a total of \$1,600 in 1942/43 from these three sales. Ten years later, two of those three properties re-sold for \$12,850 and \$18,000, totaling \$30,850 (part of this increase in value would reflect the construction of homes on the lots). The sale of the remaining property of the tennis club to Queen's at the discounted price of \$6,613 followed in 1953.



Silver trophies won by Grant MacLachlan in 1926 & 1933.
Kindly donated to the club by his grandson, Ross MacLachlan.

Tournament Trophies

Back in the early days of the club, the KTC awarded tournament winners with their own miniature silver trophy. The trophy from 1926 is hallmarked as sterling silver, whereas the two from 1933 are not stamped. Ross MacLachlan found his grandfather's trophies stored away and forgotten in a cardboard box. The removal of almost a century's worth of black tarnish revealed the treasure hidden beneath the surface. Hopefully these are only the first of many pieces of KTC memorabilia that will be displayed in the new clubhouse.

AGM — Thu. October 10 @ 7:30pm

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is open to all members and will be held at the clubhouse.

The agenda will include a review of this year's operations and the financial statements, the election of next year's volunteer Executive Board, and a report from the Infrastructure Subcommittee

regarding the progress that has occurred during the past year and aspects that are in progress.

All members are encouraged to attend and to have their voices heard! Refreshments will follow the conclusion of the meeting.

2012-2013 Volunteer Executive

Igor Kozin (President)
Anees Karmally (Vice President)
Taco Meuter (Treasurer, Website Editor)
Paula Loh (Secretary, Newsletter Editor)
Nancy Dyck (Advertising & Publicity)
Erling Armson (Infrastructure)
Bud Nelson (Membership, IT)
Claire Tremblay (Social Chair)
Doug Bowie (Past President)
Gill Turnbull (Immediate Past President)

Singles Ladder by Bud Nelson

The winners of the Singles Ladder shirts for 2013 were announced at the end of August. The decision of who receives these shirts is completely arbitrary, made by the league coordinator with input from the stewards.

Thank-you to Larry Howes of Racquet Science for donating the shirts and logo-imprinting.

Yaoting Zhang receives the Participation shirt. Yaoting has played the most matches, and met the widest variety of members over the season ... the best way to improve your game.

Most Improved goes to **Paula Loh**. She is currently ranked 4th-highest amongst ladies, as well as playing very capably in the Advanced Doubles League. Big improvements over last year.

Marie Ready also gets a shirt. Marie plays lots of matches, as well as supporting everyone with that great attitude of hers.



Yaoting Zhang, Paula Loh, Marie Ready

Honourable mentions: **Sam Faris** has occupied the #1 ranking more than anyone else this season, only dropping down during the automated re-ranks. **Judy Karpinsky** has been the highest ranked on the women's side of the ladder. **Leo Burns Scully** might have made Most Improved, but was a late-starting novice to tennis, now well into the learning-curve in the latter part of the season.

Court 1 Painting

The surface of Court 1 had become worn in places, creating a hazard for players when transitioning from one section to

another as there were different levels of traction. In June, this court was repainted, converting it from the least-desirable to the most-desirable court on which to play.



The finished surface awaits the repainting of lines.



Specialty paint is applied in three thin coats with a squeegee.

2013 Club Tournament Results

Mixed Doubles - Lesley Furter & Dan Purdon
(Finalists: Judy Karpinsky & Len Guttenberger)

Ladies Doubles - Judy Karpinsky & Claire Tremblay
(Finalists: Lesley Furter & Christine Scott)

Mens Doubles - Sam Faris & James Nearing
(Finalists: Dan Purdon & Martin Arh)

Ladies Singles - Lesley Furter (Finalist: France Couture)

Mens Singles - Jeff Neasmith (Finalist: James Nearing)

Mens Over-55 - Jim Muzzin (Finalist: Graham Lord)

Junior - Will Cockfield (Finalist: Nicolas Badalato)

Note There are many 2013 tournament photographs posted on the club website:

www.kingstontenniscub.com/Photo%20Gallery/index.php



"Pistols at dawn"?

Neil Sengupta and Erling Armson resume battle.



Men's and Women's Doubles Tournament

The Kingston Tennis Club held its annual Men's and Women's Doubles Championship on the July 12-14 weekend.

This year's Men's Doubles tournament was well-attended, with 11 teams participating. The Women's Doubles tournament had a roster of only 6 teams, partially due to injuries and conflicts with scheduled holidays. All ages were represented, with pairings including the father-son team of Jean and Philippe Côté, and high school tennis coach David Stocks partnered with teenager Emil Flavin. Special commendation goes to our club steward, Asia Zolnierczyk, who took up tennis only this summer and entered the tournament with partner, Isabelle Côté.

In the finals, Judy Karpinsky and Claire Tremblay rallied from a 5-1 opening-set deficit to win the Women's Doubles title, beating Lesley Furter and Christine Scott in straight sets, 7-5, 6-2.

Sam Faris and James Nearing won their second Men's Doubles championship, defeating Martin Arh and Dan Purdon in straight sets, 6-1, 7-6(3). It was the third consecutive Doubles title for James, who won with his brother, Andrew, last year.

Singles Tournament

The weather gods smiled upon us and provided pleasant conditions for the club's 2013 Singles Tournament, held on the weekend of August 16-18. Twenty competitors entered the Men's Singles, ten entered the Women's Singles, and there were six entries for the Men's Over-55 Round Robin. Participants' ages ranged from 16 to 85

years young, with some players having only picked up the sport in the past year. Valuable experience was gained by all, while having fun both on and off the courts.

Now in her eleventh year as a member at the club, Lesley Furter won her first Women's Singles title (6-4, 6-4) against last year's finalist and previous champion, France Couture. Jeff Neasmith returned to the championships this year to reclaim his title of 2010, defeating James Nearing in the Men's Singles (6-3, 7-6(4)). Jim Muzzin won the Men's Over-55 Round Robin - played to a pro set of ten games - in the final match against Graham Lord (7-1 (retired)).



"Orange is the new black"

Paula Loh, Elena Persenova, Mariana Silva, Louise Stalker

Len Guttenberger learned that a game of Doubles can leave an imprint on you - especially when your partner is serving! Pictured here with Sam Faris, Leo Burns Scully, and Allan Johnston.