



Kingston Tennis Club

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Fall 2014

Comments? Suggestions? Submissions?
Contact Claire
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AGM — Thu. October 9th @ 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.

Sore Elbow?

- Check your grip for proper size
- Check your string tension
- Stretch shoulders and arms regularly

Fall Cleanup: Volunteers Needed !

This year's Fall cleanup is scheduled for **Saturday, November 15 at 10:00am**. 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 wind-screens, moving the deck furniture and BBQs into storage, and a cleanup of the office area and change rooms. Many hands make light work!



Volunteering at the Rogers Cup Tennis Tournament

by Erling Armson

Did you ever want to help out at a premier tennis tournament, learn what it takes to put on such a sporting spectacle and get your fill of watching world class tennis matches? Well I did, so I signed up to be a volunteer at the recent Rogers Cup Tennis tournament in Toronto and here is my story.

The process is thorough but straightforward. Check out the Rogers Cup website



volunteer page in early March, fill in the application form with a picture of yourself, then if accepted (they must have missed my incident in Bolivia during my misspent youth!, just kidding) have a brief face to face interview at the Rex-all Centre during a two day period.

They are pretty accommodating for "out of towners" and as I was flying around Hudson Bay and James Bay during those days (and even if you're not) they will do an interview with you over the phone. There are over 1,000 volunteers at this tournament and you can request to be on a particular committee and they will try to accommodate you. For example, I was on the stadium control

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Time to say “so long for now” as the 2014 tennis season comes to a close at KTC.

We had an excellent year with many successful tournaments and social gatherings in terms of participation – the courts were extremely busy with a record number of members this year. The summer camps were fully subscribed and the pros were busy with lessons. This bodes well as the Infrastructure Committee for the new club house is hard at work.

This is a good time to thank all those who helped make our 2014 season so wonderful... namely the stewards, camp counsellors, our tennis pros and the volunteer Executive Board Members.



Energetic members willing to volunteer their time and effort to make our 2015 season even more successful are encouraged to contact Paula Loh.

Have a good winter, see you in Spring 2015!



Social Events by Lesley Furter

The 2014 social season kicked off with our inaugural social featuring a celebration to commemorate KTC’s 90th Anniversary including a speech about the history of the club by our President, Paula Loh. Members came out to renew acquaintances, play round robin doubles and enjoy a dinner followed by a special 90th Anniversary cake!

Two weeks later, on May 30th, we were joined by Larry Howes of Racquet Science who provided a showcase of the latest tennis racquets for play-



Above: Larry Howes of Raquet Science.
Left: Hungry players at the Tennis Social

ers to try out on the courts. As a special bonus, all those in attendance received a discount from Racquet Science! Larry has indicated that he would like to continue a partnership with the KTC and return for future social events.



For our Wimbledon-themed social event in June, members enthusiastically wore their ‘Wimbledon Whites’ and were encouraged to play classic tennis with wooden racquets provided by the club!

July featured a Davis Cup international theme where attendees tested their knowledge of tennis trivia with prizes offered to 3 winners!

Our final social took place on August 22nd, and despite the sudden downpour, members were in full attendance to thank our camp instructors and stewards for their excellent work in 2014!



2014 Club Tournament Results

Mixed Doubles - **Paige Ready & Sam Faris**

Womens Doubles - **Paige Ready & Lesley Furter**

Mens Doubles - **Neil Neasmith & Jeff Neasmith**

Womens Singles - **Judy Karpinsky**

Mens Singles - **Jeff Neasmith**

Mens Over-55 - **Tom Thayer**

Junior - **Gena Huang**

Note There will soon be many 2014 tournament photographs posted on the club website: www.kingstontennisclub.com



Mike Byrne with a sparrow on his head. The sparrow flew from person to person while we were watching the Singles Tournament in August then perched on Mike's head and started pulling on his hair. Mike says that now there is proof that he is a "bird brain"!

Canada as an Emerging Tennis Nation

The Canadian Davis Cup team made a memorable run to the World Group semi-finals in 2013 and in 2014 it was the Fed Cup team's turn to make history by gaining a place among the elite 8 of the World Group for the first time ever. Last week the Davis Cup team's victory over Columbia meant a 4th consecutive year in the World Group for Canada. The next Tie vs. Japan.

The success of Milos and Eugenie and Vasek are very important for the next generation of players because they showed to the world that Canadian players can actually win!

Freedom from Debt!

Our first tennis social of 2014 celebrated the beginning of the tennis season and the freedom from debt for KTC. In 1953, the club was in financial crisis and KTC members voted to sell the property to Queen's University as the only remaining option that would keep the club in operation. By 1997, the club was on solid financial ground and an agreement was negotiated with Queen's to buy back the property for \$320,000.

Under the leadership of Dave Reid, an initial mortgage was replaced with member debentures and *KTC Partners* was formed. We paid our final instalment on the debentures in April of this year and the general membership officially became full owners of the Kingston Tennis Club. We needed three of the many *KTC Partners* to sign off and release the claim on the property title. One of the three signatories selected was Dave Reid, to recognize the integral role he had played in establishing the structure



Treasurer, Taco Meuter, rips up the debenture document to signal the beginning of debt-free status for KTC, as President, Paula Loh, looks on.

that enabled the club to become independent once again.

We are now saving funds for the biggest investment in the history of the club - the building of a new clubhouse and the construction of an eighth court. We will be seeking additional, external, funding for the project and construction is scheduled to start in the Fall of 2015. - Paula

Volunteering at the Rogers Cup Tennis Tournament

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committee which involves being in the Centre Court stadium and making sure people have their tickets, get to their seats, don't move up and down when they are not supposed to, etc. Other volunteer committees include transportation, promotion, greeters, VIP and many more. As the tournament draws nearer there is orientation for new volunteers (optional for out of towners) and then the final meeting in Toronto for all volunteers where you pick up your loot (tops, pullover jacket, hat, water bottle, schedule, complimentary tennis tickets, parking pass and accreditation badge). Easy peasy right! This is a significant time commitment as you must do a minimum of 7 - 8 hour shifts for the duration of the tournament. You select via email forms the days you want to volunteer and the shifts you want to have (morning, swing, or evening to end of play) and Tennis Canada tries to accommodate you, however, you may not get all of your requested shift times.

I am fortunate in that my dad lives in Toronto and I could stay with him. There were, however, many other volunteers I met who came from other provinces and even other countries to volunteer. Some stay with friends or family, at York University Campus residences or in motels for the week. There is a designated parking lot for volunteers to park and a bus comes by fairly frequently to take you to the Rexall Centre tournament grounds. You go in through a designated security entrance (they check your bag and wand you). I went first to a spot called Volleys, which is the volunteers' hang out and eating facility room at the Centre. I then found out what section of the stadium I was to work in, report there for a briefing by the volunteer captain who also handed out the meal vouchers to the volunteers. It was then time to go to work.

So how did it go and would I do it again? Fantastic and yes! Oh., you

want details, I suppose. I met so many great people there from the volunteers to Tennis Canada staff, players, spectators and sports commentators. I even ran into a couple of Kingston Tennis Club folks who were there for the day. As I was stationed in the 100 level of Centre Court I saw 4 or 5 top quality matches a day (during my shift) by all the top players who were there and could watch more if I wanted before or after my shift. Even I at the end of the week had seen my fill of tennis! You had breaks and almost an hour for lunch or dinner (food was very good). They even have a dinner party for all the volunteers at the end of the tournament; unfortunately I had to go home and couldn't attend it.

Anyways, tennis fans, I hope that gives you a taste of what being a volunteer at the Rogers Cup is like and I'd recommend it to anyone.