

# Kingston Tennis Club

March 2016



45 Napier Street

P.O. Box 621

Kingston ON K7L 4X1

613.542.2467

[www.kingstontennisclub.com](http://www.kingstontennisclub.com)



## Upcoming Events

**Early Bird Deadline**

*April 8th*

**Spring Cleanup**

*April 16th at 10:30 am*

**2016 Opening Day**

*April 30th*

**Junior Open House**

*April 30th 11 am - 2 pm*

**Singles & Doubles Ladders**

*May 1st*

**Adult Open House**

*May 7th*

**Club Social**

*May 20th*

**Mixed Doubles Tournament**

*June 17-19*

## *2016 Season - Isabelle Pollock*

While the capital project has been placed on a temporary hold, there are several changes in store for the new season: online registration, parking permits, and a new website. Please refer to page 6 for registration instructions.

The Executive is working hard to improve the tennis experience at the KTC for returning and new members.

We are happy to welcome back stewards Max Kuntz and Neil Sengupta.

Volunteers are always needed whether it is on Cleanup Day or for various other jobs. Have a look at the new Volunteers Needed section of the newsletter (page 5) to help your club.

Let's make this the season of Pitchin' In!

### 2016 VOLUNTEER EXECUTIVE BOARD

Paula Loh - President  
David Stocks - VP, Staffing  
Lynne Hanson - Secretary  
Tom Thayer - Treasurer  
Ginette Blais - Social Director  
Doug Bowie - Member-at-Large  
Rick Donaldson - Infrastructure & Maintenance  
Sam Faris - Tournaments Director  
Isabelle Pollock - Newsletter Editor  
Jocelyn Purdie - Governance



Back row (l. to r.) Tom Thayer, Rick Donaldson, Dave Stocks, Doug Bowie, Jocelyn Purdie, Flame Eadie and Sam Faris  
Front row (l. to r.) Lynne Hanson, Isabelle Pollock, Paula Loh and Ginette Blais

# OFF-SEASON ACTIVITIES



*During the winter months, fortunate club members find ways to continue playing tennis by heading off to warmer locales. However other hardy souls, by dressing warmly, have even managed to play on Christmas day at Napier Street.*



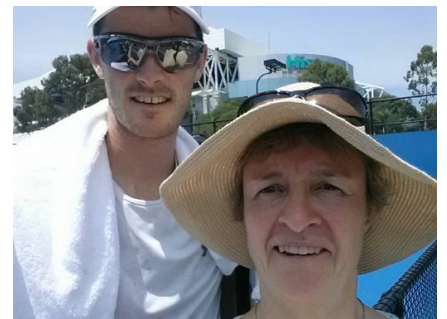
*(l. to r.) Jocelyn Purdie, Sunil Chaudhry, Lynne Hanson & Barbara Muirhead*



*Gill Turnbull outside the Rod Laver arena*

*Past president, Gill Turnbull, has been touring Down Under including a stop at the Australian Open. Gill had a chance to view some excellent tennis at all three of the big courts: Hisense, Rod Laver and Margaret Court.*

*She watched singles and doubles matches that included players Stan Wawrinka, Kim Clijsters, Jamie Murray and Andy Murray. According to Gill the city of Melbourne knows how to cover Grand Slam tennis by telecasting the matches on big screens throughout the city.*



*Selfie extraordinaire: Gill and Jamie Murray*

## *President's Message - Paula Loh*

Welcome to the fast-approaching 2016 tennis season. The KTC volunteer board has been meeting regularly since the AGM in October and has several major initiatives to roll out.

### **New Website**

When you renew your membership online this year, the first change that you will notice is the new look of the website. It has been completely re-designed using the powerful and flexible tools now available to build websites. This will allow us to easily update the website's content in the future and increase its effectiveness as a communications device for existing and potential members. Thank you to Kurt Carter for providing his expertise in this area.

### **Online Club Software**

The club's operations have been using a blend of standalone systems that do not communicate and share information. This situation, combined with volunteer management and seasonal staff, has made it difficult to run the operations efficiently and there have been many opportunities for errors in the past, which in turn creates more work for everyone involved.

We have improved our processes by implementing Jegysoft online club software. Jegysoft is a Canadian company that specializes in software solutions for clubs. They recognize that each club operates slightly differently and offer a customizable platform - this is great for the flexibility that it provides us, but the downside is that it is a huge amount of work for us to spec, test and implement. The process will be ongoing as we bring modules online at different stages during this season and next season.

Membership registration is the first module to be implemented. Gone are the days of everyone writing out forms and cheques to put in the mailbox. We now accept online payments by credit, and Interac e-Transfer. You may continue to mail in a cheque, if preferred, but your registration will be pending until the payment is physically received by the club. Members may take advantage of the early-bird membership rates until April 8; regular rates will apply after this date.

### **Junior Tennis Camps**

Registration for junior tennis camps is the second module ready to go. We will now know immediately when we reach each session's maximum enrolment, and be able to easily communicate with individuals or groups of parents on matters relating to the camps. We have made several changes to the camps this year, one of them being that full-day sessions are now open to all children from 5 to 14 years of age. We ask that parents use their discretion when sending younger children for the full day, as a sports camp is tiring and not every child can handle a full-day session. A pizza lunch will be provided on the final day of each session for all participants to celebrate the end of a fun week at camp; we ask that parents send a lunch for their children on the other days.

### **Parking Permits**

Street parking has been an issue for the club since the City implemented time restrictions on neighboring streets on May 1, 2015. Commuters then began parking on Napier Street, leaving few places for tennis players. As an initial step, the City implemented time restrictions on Napier Street and issued the club several complimentary parking permits to be used on a shared basis. We have since negotiated a permanent arrangement whereby the City will license and charge us an annual fee to issue our own parking permits. The club will recoup its costs by charging a small fee to members who elect to purchase a parking permit (\$25/year). We are optimistic that the City's staff recommendation will be approved by council at its next meeting on March 22 and have been working with this assumption in order to have permits available for members by the beginning of the 2016 tennis season.

### **Membership Survey**

Once the work of planning for the current season is complete, the board's attention will be turned to long term plans involving our capital project. We are distributing a survey to all members to gain feedback on what is important to our wide membership base. The KTC board and its committees will subsequently evaluate features for implementation that will ensure the ongoing viability of our vibrant community club.

In the meantime, we look forward to seeing everybody out on the courts soon and playing tennis!

## *Treasurer's Report - Thomas Thayer*

For 2016 our main financial goal is to continue to build a reserve to pay for a capital project and to fund major maintenance on courts.

In November's vote on the proposed capital project, many members expressed support for a variety of alternatives and different levels of financial commitment. This Spring members will be surveyed on their opinion on a variety of issues including the nature, size, and scope of a capital project. Whatever the project, it is likely that it will be funded partly from reserves and partly from debt. It is a shame to go into debt so soon after retiring our mortgage, but the debt will allow us to start a project sooner rather than later and will serve to spread the costs out over time, ensuring that future users pay a share.



The other priority is maintaining the existing courts in good condition. Over twenty-five years each court will be patched and repainted four times and resurfaced once. The total cost per court, in today's dollars, is about \$45,000. These costs come in lumps – maybe zero cost for three or four years and then \$40,000 in one year. Therefore, it is wise to set aside, in a separate reserve, about \$13,000 per year to cover these costs.

Overall the club is in good financial shape. We have no debt and steady growth in membership fees and junior camp revenue provide us with the wherewithal to meet our financial requirements.

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## *Governance - Jocelyn Purdie*



In order for the Kingston Tennis Club to comply with current legislation, the club's by-laws need to be revised. The club is fortunate to be receiving assistance from the Queen's Business Law Clinic. The first draft was recently completed and the next step will be for the governance committee and the Executive Board to discuss the revisions.

Subsequently, recommendations will be put forward to the membership. The goal is to present the revised by-laws to the membership prior to the next Annual General Meeting in October, where they will be voted on.

# Volunteers Needed!

ARE YOU A CLUB MEMBER WANTING TO PITCH IN?

ARE YOU A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER HOURS?



IT'S EASY .....



1. CHOOSE A JOB
2. CONTACT RICK DONALDSON:

[rick\\_donaldson@kingstontennisclub.com](mailto:rick_donaldson@kingstontennisclub.com)

## JOBS:

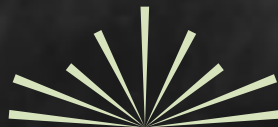


**FLOWERS & PLANTERS**  
Planting annuals in pots & containers on deck and balcony

**TOUCH-UP PAINTING**  
of benches, etc...

**POWER WASHING**  
of tennis courts  
4-5 hr commitment

**TRIMMING**  
of shrubs  
along fence line



# NEW REGISTRATION PROCESS GUIDE

Starting this season, KTC will adopt a new registration process that will be online. All members will initially need to set up an online account.

The steps are as follows:

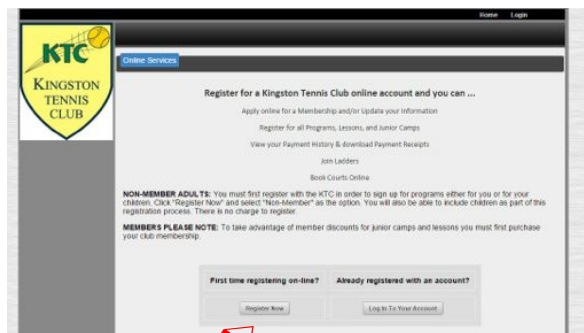
1. Go to the KTC website at <http://www.kingstontennisclub.com>



2. Click on **Member Login**



3. Click on the box **First Time registering online?**



4. Follow the prompts