



Newsletter



Greeting Waterloo Tennis Club Members.

As your new President, I have met and had the opportunity to get to know many of you at the club. I also recognize that there are still many members that may not know me. My family (Diana and our two boys Lev and Ilya) have been active participants of the club for

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President's Message

over five years and members for the last three. As a family, we have grown to love the sport and we are frequently at the club taking lessons, competing on the ladder or simply having a friendly match with friends. I look to continue to build on the friendships we have made at the club and I'm happy to take the time to chat with anyone whether it's about tennis, board activities or just simply about the weather.

I want to recognize Pat Craton and the wonderful job she has done as our Club President for the last six years. She put an incredible amount of her personal time and effort to ensure that the club would succeed and with that, the transformation under her has been incredible. Pat has navigated the club through some very difficult waters and successfully kept us all afloat through some of the most difficult years of the club's history. Considering the challenges, Pat has left the new board of directors with a healthy club under steady footing.

As your President, and along with the current board, we are looking to ensure the long term success and well-

being of the Waterloo Tennis Club. Much of the club's success is dependent on the satisfaction and engagement of its members. We will look to ensure the club continues to deliver on fun, social and competitive activities to meet everyone's needs. Our responsibility as a board is also to safeguard the long term financial strength of the club. Much of our objectives this year will be focused on long term planning to mitigate some of the significant risks to the club. Items such as replacing the bubble, lighting and facility upgrades will come at a substantial cost, therefore, as a board, we are committed to being prepared to meet the financial demands of the club moving forward.

The Waterloo Tennis Club feels like a second home to me and my family and I trust there are a great number of our members that feel the same way. It is genuinely important to me that the club thrives and continues to provide all of our members with the opportunity to play this wonderful sport for a very long time.

Bill Sherifali
President
board@waterlootennis.com



Newsletter

Manager's Message



What a busy summer season it was at the Waterloo Tennis Club! In addition to their regular groups, many club members participated in weekly round robins and Wednesday Drop ins, social events, league play and the club championships. Our coaches were kept hopping teaching clinics and adult lessons as well as running our very popular summer camps.

We've done a few renovations too.

The fence on the west side of the bubble was replaced as it was in danger of falling on the bubble.

We completely redid the walkway to the bubble and insulated it to keep the cold out this winter. This work will be completed before Christmas.

The board has approved replacing the lights in the bubble with LED bulbs. In the next couple of weeks, the lights will be installed on courts 7 & 8. If we are happy with the lights we will install them on all the courts before the new year.

The board and I need your help again to ensure that we are focusing our efforts on the things that mean the most to club members. Later in December we will be sending out a survey. Please take a few minutes to fill it out for us.

This winter we have a number of both social and competitive events on the calendar.

We invite all members to join us for our free Tennis Mix and Mingle event on December 10.

Also if you're wondering where you should spend New Year's Eve this year, look no further! We'll be hosting a New Year's tennis mixer and party to help you bring in 2018.

At the end of the summer we said a sad farewell to coach Kye Allen who moved to Toronto. However I'm delighted to let you know that Dave Rowat will be rejoining the coaching staff. Dave will be coaching on Tuesday & Thursday afternoons.

Helen McArdle
Manager
helen@waterlootennis.com



COACH'S CORNER

With
Gary Winter
Head Tennis Pro

Game Based Practice

Drill Games

When you are working on improving your tennis skills your training sessions will involve drills. Drills are structured patterns of hitting that focus on controlled repetition with a deliberate technical or tactical intention. For example you might have a drill where you simply rally cross-court forehands with your partner. In this way you get more comfortable with hitting a cross-court forehand groundstroke.

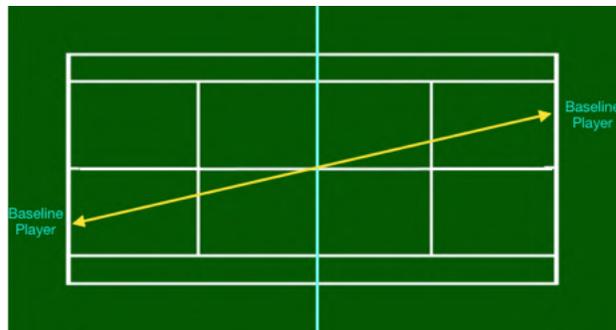
As essential as drills are, by themselves they do not develop your “game sense.” Game sense is basically your over-all understanding of how to play the game. The typical response is that you go out and play a match and you can’t do the same things in match play that you did in the drills. There might be a few reasons for this, but one solution that still involves playing games is adding “drill games” to your training. Drill games help you bridge the gap between drilling and playing matches.

Drill games are games that are structured to keep a competitive component to your skill development but in a more closed-ended or constrained fashion. Drill games involve a lot of chances to work on a skill (technical and/or tactical) during simulated point play. In this way, you give yourself a chance to further solidify the skill before using it in the much more open-ended, random environment of a full match.

For example, continuing with the above drill of hitting cross-court forehands, after co-operatively practicing your forehand groundstrokes for a few minutes (where you can focus on technique and feel) you will then play a game where you can only hit cross-court forehands. This drill game structure will give you lots of repetition on a particular aspect of the game (cross-court shots are the most advantageous shots to hit at all levels in singles and

doubles). In this way you can keep playing games while taking a more efficient approach to “owning” a skill that you can utilize in match play.

Cross-court Forehands Drill Game



You will start the point with a forehand groundstroke. Your shots have to land in the cross-court section of the court, from the centre service line (extending to the baseline) out to the singles or doubles side line. Use the singles side line if you want to focus on singles and the doubles side line if you are practicing for doubles.

Points usually start with two “friendly” shots. This means that you are simply getting the rally started in the first two shots rather than trying to win the point right away. Points are won and lost just as in a tennis game, however you will count by ones (i.e. 1, 2, 3, 4, etc).

Scoring

A typical drill game will be played to 10 points. I also like to use shorter games up to five points and then play best two-out-of-three games (which is more like the flow of a regular tennis game). You can even play best three-out-of-five matches if you want to go “Grand Slam.” Use traditional tennis scoring (i.e. 15 - 30) if you want it to feel that much more like a tennis game. The point is that you are using the structure of a game to get repetitive practice on a component of the over-all game.

Variations

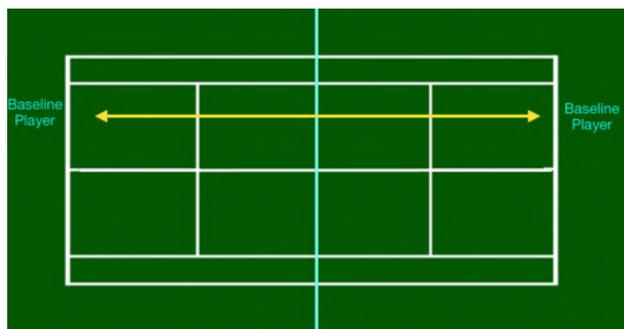
You can then do the same progression for the backhand side. This is often a more challenging side to work on, so be patient in order to get comfortable with this appropriate challenge. It is easiest to begin a backhand rally with a forehand.

Taking the basic forehand or backhand drill game, below are some variations that will focus on other skills.

Deep Cross-court

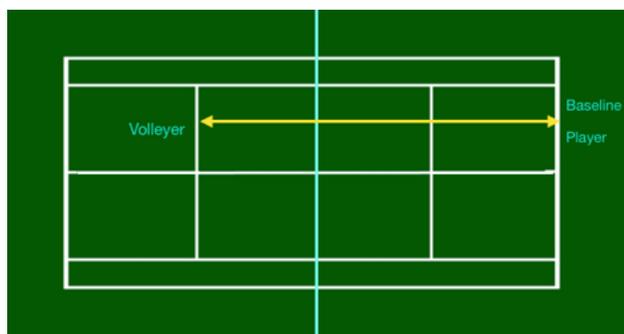
In this game, you are still playing the same cross-court shot but the shots have to land past the service line. This is a great game for 3.0 - 4.0 level players to get more proficient at receiving and sending deep balls. Hitting deep is a necessary skill to climb the ratings ladder.

Half-Court Groundstrokes



This is a good game to play if you are wanting to focus less on lateral movement and more on up and back movement. Both players are on the same half of the court with the dimensions from the centre service line (extended to the baseline) out to the doubles side line. You can also make this into a Half-Court Deep game.

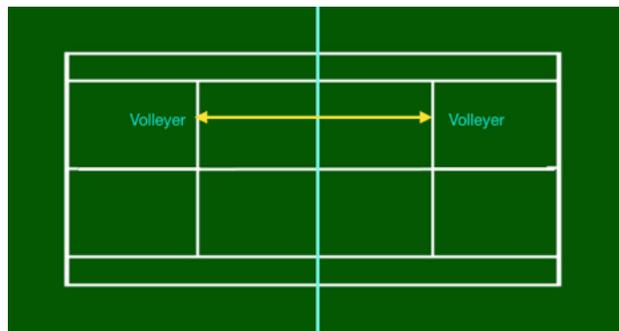
Groundstroke to Volley



In this game, one player starts at the net (on the service line) and the other player is at the baseline. The rally can be started by either player with two co-operative shots before game on. The net player can not hit a drop shot on their first shot. This game helps 3.5 - 4.5 players get better at net play as well

helping baseliners learn to defend with lobs and lower shots.

Volley to Volley



Just as it sounds, both players start at their respective service line and challenge each other to be the better volleyer. Play on just half the court from the centre service line to the singles sideline to force you to hit at each other. This is a great game to help 3.5 - 4.5 players develop quick reactions at the net. The points are typically shorter in this game. This is also a good game to start with four co-operative hits before the competitive point phase starts.

Both Back

Again, utilizing just half the court from the centre service line to the singles or doubles sideline, both players begin on the base line with the intention of advancing forward when they receive a short enough ball. You can give bonus points if you win the rally at the net to encourage you to move forward and get to the net.

Four Friendly

In this game you have to hit four friendly or co-operative shots before the point starts. In this way you ensure you are maximizing your focus on consistency before trying to finish the point. This is a great game for 2.5 - 3.0 players who are focusing on basic groundstroke consistency. It is helpful to call out "game on" when the fourth shot has been hit so you both know that the competitive part of the point has started. You can even make this six or eight friendly shots if you really want to make this a game that focuses on steady groundstrokes. This will help to develop your patience and consistency.

Both Back Doubles

Just like the singles game but where all four doubles players start on the baseline. This helps doubles players get used to the idea of playing beside their partner and encourages partners to move together.

Full Court

The full court game is most like playing a regular game of tennis but again starting the point with a cooperative groundstroke rather than a serve. You will play points out utilizing the full court. If you have played the other games, you will be building to this game where the challenge is much more open-ended.

Drill games allow for you to continue to play competitive games while working on the specific components that make up the game of tennis while also developing your over-all game sense. You can make up any kind of game to challenge the multitude of shots and game situations that happen in tennis. When you get back to playing a “regular” game of tennis, you should feel more in control of your technical and tactical skills giving you a greater degree of confidence, necessary to be an effective competitor.



Gary Winter
Head Pro
gary@waterlootennis.com

LESSONS

The Club offers lessons to its members at competitive prices. Take advantage of this to improve your game. Coaches Gary Winter, Mike Ratcliff, Robert Rotaru, Ned Lazoja and Dave Rowat look forward to helping you take your game to the next level. You can book a private lesson or find some friends to join you to share the cost. Mike Ratcliff & Dave Rowat also offers group clinics on a weekly basis on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. The signup sheets for these are on the club bulletin board.

COACHING PRICES

Private Lesson - MEMBER	\$50.00
Package of 5 lessons (Save \$20)	\$230.00
Private Lesson - NON-MEMBER	\$60.00
Package of 5 lessons (Save \$35)	\$265.00
Semi-private (2 people) - MEMBER	\$27.00PP
Package of 5 lessons	\$125.00PP
Semi-private (2 people) - NON-MEMBER	\$32.00PP
Package of 5 lessons	\$150.00PP
Three Player clinic - MEMBER	\$18.50PP
Three Player clinic - NON-MEMBER	\$25.00PP
Four Player clinic - MEMBER	\$15.00PP
Four Player clinic - NON-MEMBER	\$20.00PP



Christmas Mix & Mingle



As an early Christmas present to our members, the club will be hosting a **FREE Tennis Mix & Mingle on Sunday December 10**. We can accommodate up to 40 members for the tennis from 1 to 3 pm. From 3 pm to 5 pm we will be holding a social for **ALL** club members in the club lounge. Food, non-alcoholic punch and Christmas music will be provided. Please sign up on the club bulletin board for these events.



CELEBRATE NEW YEAR'S EVE AT THE WATERLOO TENNIS CLUB

Doors open at 7 pm

Social Tennis from 7-10 pm
Cost for tennis \$10

Ring in the New Year with your tennis friends.
No charge for the party but to gain access
you must bring an appetizer or dessert to share!

Open to members and their guests only.

Cash bar and music provided



SUMMER ACTIVITIES



Head Pro, Gary Winter and
Manager, Helen McArdle enjoying
the first hit on the clay for 2017.



Tennis Day in Canada
"Celebrating Canada turning 150!"
May 13, 2017



Opening Day & BBQ
May 27, 2017



WTC Century Challenge team at London Hunt Club



Outgoing president, Pat Craton with her
thank you gifts at AGM
September 21, 2017



98th Birthday celebration for club
member "Rocky" Rochejacquelin
November 8, 2017

Mixed Doubles Tournament Sponsored by Courts Plus



On June 24, twenty eight players enjoyed competitive tennis in Mixed Doubles Tournament sponsored by Courts Plus. Many volunteers worked to prepare and serve the delicious lunch provided.



"A" Finals:

**L-R: Chris Edwards (Courts Plus),
Bob Tamblyn & Marta Andrekovic
(Champions),
Jason Erb & Amy Choi (Finalists)**



"B" Finals:

**L-R: Chris Edwards (Courts Plus),
John Ferland & Helen McArdle
(Champions),
Samir Ghazi & Ay-ling Wang
(Finalists)**



"C" Finals:

**L-R: Chris Edwards (Courts Plus),
Marina & Shaman Seth
(Champions),
Juergen & Mary Ruelicke
(Finalists)**



Courts Plus is a racquet specialty store serving Waterloo, Kitchener, Stratford, Cambridge and Guelph. We offer professional advice and stringing services for tennis, badminton and squash.

55 Erb Street East, Waterloo, ON

519.884.6842

www.courtsplus.ca

info@courtsplus.ca

Breakfast at Wimbledon & Dress Whites & Woodies Round Robin

July 8, 2017



The chefs, Andrew Gillard & Nobuki Matsui, hard at work in the kitchen getting breakfast ready.



BBQ wizard, Remi Gagnon grilling up the sausages.



Perfect English Breakfast!



Coach, Mike Ratcliff ran and even supplied prizes for the event.



Doesn't everyone look grand in their white outfits!

Waterloo Inter-Urban Team Report

2017 Interurban – Congratulations Team Waterloo Tennis!!

The finals for the Interurban league were played August 8th and 15th in a home and away format with Waterloo matched up against Northfield, the reigning champions. The Waterloo team prevailed in a closely contested series winning 18 sets to 14 sets. After the first week of 2 men's, 2 women's and 4 mixed matches Waterloo was ahead by 2 sets after each team played their 2 sets. Halfway through the matches the second week after the men's and women's doubles the sets were tied but Waterloo was up 4 games. When the dust had settled after the final 4 mixed doubles matches Waterloo emerged as the winners after winning 6 of the 8 sets played.

Thank you to all 24 team and reserve members for representing our club in such an outstanding and sportsman-like manner.

Watch the notice boards and newsletter for tryout dates in May for next year's team.

Pat Babcock
Captain 2017

Men's team: Alex Costea,, Alan Farquhar, Neil Felder, Kelvin Hui, Ryan Hummel, Bao Lam, Colin Palmer, Alex Siuda, Joe Tran Reserves: Dilan De Zoysa, Mac Turchan and Reuben Wahab

Women's team: Martha D'Agostino, Suzanne Edwards, Rosemary Erb, Shirley Fenton, Dawn Gutscher, Nancy-Lee Ledgley, Ann MacMillan, Helen McArdle, Marina Seth Reserves: Stephanie Jordan, Yvonne Pezzack, Michelle Rogers



Seniors Interclub League

The Waterloo Tennis Club once again entered a team into the Seniors Interclub League. There were four teams in this league, Rosedale, Ancaster, Port Dover and Waterloo.

Our 2017 WTC Senior Tennis Team was strengthened with a few new members that allowed us to almost make it to the finals in this our 2nd year!

We hope that you all come back next June to continue our quest of competition and meeting new friends on the tennis courts.

Looking forward to getting more local Clubs involved next year.

Team list:

Men: Chris Edwards, Rudy Gatzke, Andrew Gillard, Dennis Huss, Victor Kteily, Rainer Langermann, Hugh Mellow, Ed Palmer, Juan Roman, Graham Snyder, Peter Winocour and Rick Zilinskas.

Ladies: Pat Craton, Suzanne Edwards, Roberta Garcia, Elizabeth Huss, Jeanette LeDuke, April Manahan, Carolyn McCallum, Carmen Miron, Joanne Raymond, Mary Sinclair.

submitted by Rudy Gatzke and Dennis Huss (captains)



Hardworking volunteers, Gord Thiel and Yvonne Pezzack, cleaning up all the leaves around the grounds.



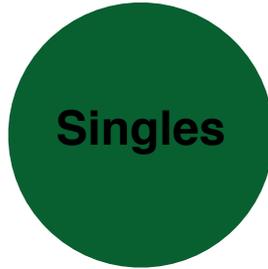
Coach Robert Rotaru's wife Christina gave birth to their third child Justus Christian on November 17.

Club Championships Results - Singles



Women's Singles

**L-R: Martha D'Agostino (Finalist)
Aldiana Lazoja (Champion)**



Men's Singles

**L-R: Filbert Nghiem (Finalist)
John Murray (Champion)**



Men's Singles 'B'

**Luke Young (Champion)
Alan Farquhar (Finalist)**



Men's Singles 'C'

**Juan Roman (Champion)
Ed Palmer (Finalist)**



Men's Senior Singles

**Chris Edwards (Champion)
Juan Roman (Finalist)**

Club Championships Results - Doubles



L-R

Women's Doubles 'A'

Marina Seth & Michelle Rogers (Champions)
Suzanne Edwards & Martha D'Agostino (Finalists)



L-R

Men's Doubles 'A'

L-R: Bob Tamblyn & Jason Erb (Champions)
Filbert Nghiem & Steven Nieboer (Finalists)



L-R

Women's Doubles 'B'

Ay-ling Wang & Nancy-lee Ledgley (Finalists)
Helen McArdle & Mary Ruehlicke (Champions)



L-R

Men's Doubles 'B'

Alex Siuda & Neil Felder (Champions)
Alex Costea & Alan Farquhar (Finalists)



L-R

Women's Doubles 'C'

Kristyn Clairmont & Ann MacMillan (Champions)
Yvonne Pezzack & Julie Zwarych (Finalists)



L-R

Men's Doubles 'C'

Ryan Haggarty & Remi Gagnon (Finalists)
Greg Knight & Andrzej Przepiora (Champions)

Club Championships Results



L-R

'A' Finalists

Matt Buckley & Helen McArdle

'A' Champions

Pat Babcock & Filbert Nghiem



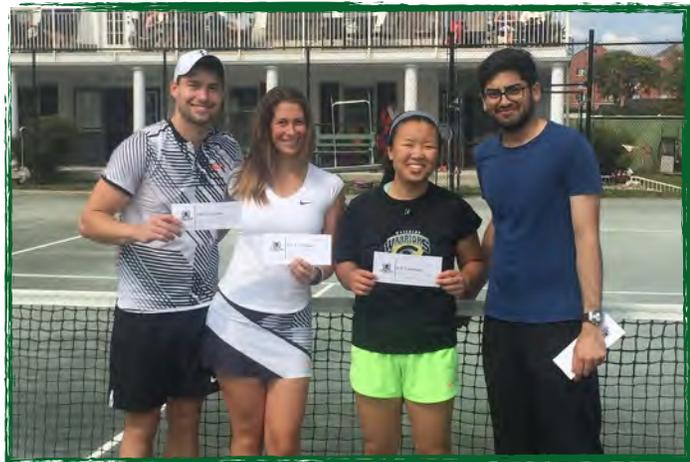
L-R

'B' Champions

Alex Siuda & Stephanie Jordan

'B' Finalists

Lucy Yao & Saifullah Shoaib



L-R

'C' Champions

Michelle Rogers & Hiep Vuong

'C' Finalists

Dylan De Zoysa & Aldiana Lazoja



END OF SEASON BANQUET

September 16, 2017



Members enjoying the banquet catered by Wok Wagon.



Pat & Filbert
Mixed Doubles



Jason
Men's Doubles



Michelle & Marina
Women's Doubles



Aldiana
Women's Singles



Club members dancing to the sounds of the Royal City Big Band.

Century Invitational Tournament

September 24, 2017

Our final event of the summer season was the Century Challenge Invitational Tournament sponsored by The Rae Lipskie Partnership and Dennis Huss. Six teams of six players from other clubs, including two WTC teams competed for the honour of raising the trophy at the end of the day. The combined ages of each of the pairings in men's doubles, women's doubles and mixed doubles had to be a minimum of 100.

Teams came from the London Hunt and Country Club, Royal City Tennis Club, Northfield Racquet and Fitness Club, Victoria Park Tennis Club to join our two Waterloo Tennis Club teams.

After round robin play the two Waterloo Teams had to play each other in one semifinal and London played Royal City in the other. In the finals the London Hunt Club team was victorious over the Waterloo Tennis Club.

Our thanks to Ken Rae and the Rae Lipskie Partnership and Dennis Huss for sponsoring the tournament. Everyone had a great time even in the 30 degree heat!



Summer Ladder Results

Over 70 members played this summer on the ladder. Congrats to the following players who won their boxes at the end of the season!

- Box 1 - Alex Suida
- Box 2 - Joe Tran
- Box 3 - Juan Roman
- Box 4 - Michelle Rogers
- Box 5 - Marko Okuka
- Box 6 - Martha D'Agostino
- Box 7 - Youngwon Kim
- Box 8 - co-winners Greg Knight & Adam Reed
- Box 9 - Remi Gagnon
- Box 10 - Jonathan Kofman

Fall Ladder

Our fall singles ladder is up and running and already has over 40 players competing in it. The box ladder format we're using is a good way to encourage more competitive and consistent play for all players. With this format, ladder participants will begin each month in a box consisting of four or five players of equal levels. Within the calendar month, players will arrange to play each of the other players within their box. At the end of the month, the top two players will move up a box and the bottom two players will move down a box. If you are interested in joining the ladder you can sign up on the club website or at the front desk. New players will be added at the start of each month so make sure you sign up before November 30.

Senior Competitors



John Murray

John made the finals of all four events he entered this summer. In addition to winning our club championships he also won the Audi Provincials in the 35+ age group.



Pat Babcock

Pat won three singles events this summer in her age group. At Nationals she won both the singles and doubles events! In November Pat also played in the Seniors World Championships in Miami and won the consolation final.



Guido Weber

Guido won the Men's Doubles 75 at the Steve Stevens Senior National Tennis Championships in Vancouver and finished 3rd in the singles. In November he competed for Canada in the Super-Senior World Team Championships in Miami.



Steve Stevens Senior National Tennis Championships Vancouver Aug 20 - 26, 2017

L to R: Guido Weber, Pat Babcock, Rosemary Erb, Gary Winter, absent Daryl Howes-Johns.



OTA Tennis Rocks Festival

June 3, 2017

L-R: Ned Lazoja (coach) Vedant, Filip, Annabelle, Lev (kneeling)

Ten of our juniors competed in the OTA Tennis Rocks Festival. Our U10 team once again claimed the trophy for the Waterloo Tennis Club!

Junior News



Elite camp with guest coach Erik Pohls

High School Tennis Championships

Congratulations to all the senior High School players who competed in the recent regional High School tournaments to qualify for the Provincial Championships (OFSAA) to be held in June 2018. The following are players who train at the Waterloo Tennis Club. A very good showing by WTC players who qualified in six of nine events. They won Gold in three events and Silver in three events.

OFSAA Qualifiers with their final result in the CWOSSA Tournament

Khaled Khalaf (Silver: HS Boys Singles)
 Aya Khalaf (Silver: Open Girls Singles)
 Youngwon Kim and Luke Young (Gold: Open Boys Doubles)
 Isaac Jean-Louis (Silver: HS Boys Doubles)
 Jack Witzel (Gold: HS Boys Doubles)
 Sarah Helsby and Jessie Bauer (Gold: HS Girls Doubles)
 Oscar Judson-Kelly (Silver: HS Mixed Doubles)

WCSSAA Open Results (to qualify for CWOSSA)

Aya Khalaf (Finalist: Girls Singles)
 Khaled Khalaf (Finalist: Boys Singles)
 Youngwon Kim and Luke Young (Champions: Boys Doubles)
 Jack Witzel (Finalist: Boys Doubles)
 Kim Shpeer (Finalist: Girls Doubles)
 Oscar Judson-Kelly (Finalist: Mixed Doubles)

District 8

Sarah Helsby and Jessie Bauer (Champions: Girls Doubles) Their third D8 Doubles Title!



L to R: Luke, Youngwon, Khaled, Aya

Junior News

Elite Juniors winning competitions around the province



WTC U10 Future Stars
July 15, 2017
Lev
Champion



ACE U14 Transition Tour
August 11 - 13, 2017
Lars
Champion



OTA U10 Provincials
Sept 1 - 4, 2017
Filip beat Lev for singles trophy.
Together they won the doubles title



ACE U12 Transition Tour
Sept 15 - 17, 2017
Thea
Champion



L-R: Gary Winter, Polina, Aaron, Mateo, Annabella

OTA U10 TDC Cup Tournament **November 18/19, 2017**

The 2017 OTA TDC Cup U10 Championships were held at the Aviva Centre. The competition was between teams representing 7 different Tennis Development Centres from Ontario.

Our team was made up of three of our Elite Juniors and a player borrowed from the tennisbyDennis club. On Saturday, Ned Lazoja coached the team to a second place finish in their round robin pool. On Sunday, Gary Winter coached the team through the consolation draw to the semi-finals.

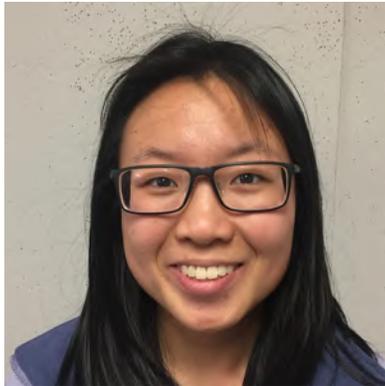
BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Bill Sherifali
President



Michelle Rogers
Vice President



Lucy Yao
Treasurer



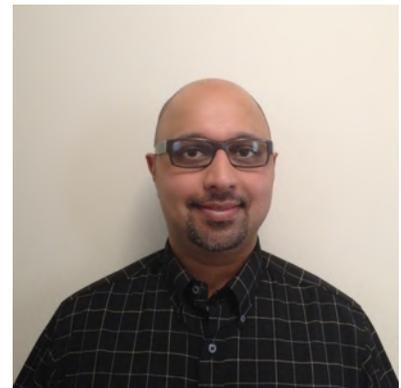
Julie Zwarych
Secretary



Nancy Lee Ledgley
Director



Tom Nguyen
Director



Meenesh Gopal
Director



Newsletter

WINTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday December 10th – Christmas Mixer & Mingle

Monday December 25th – CLUB CLOSED

Sunday December 31st – 7 pm New Year’s Eve Mixed Doubles & Potluck

Monday January 1st – CLUB CLOSED

Thursday January 4th - New Year’s Ladies Daytime Mixer

Saturday January 13th 9 – 10 am – Member Evaluation

Sunday January 21st - “G’day Mate” Century Mixed Doubles

Saturday February 3rd 9 – 10 am – Member Evaluation

Monday Feb 19th - Family Fun Day 1 – 3 pm

Sunday Feb 25th – Olympic Racquet Triathlon

Saturday Mar 3rd 9 – 10 am – Member Evaluation

Saturday Apr 7th 9 – 10 am – Member Evaluation

Sunday Apr 22nd - Finals of Doubles Tournament

Thursday Apr 26th - Daytime “Spring into Summer” Mixer

* Tentative schedule – dates and events are subject to change