



# Newsletter



## President's Message



Hello Waterloo Tennis Club members. It great to see the membership enjoying tennis throughout the winter. We've had some very chilly days outside, but the bubble has been bursting with energy. We continue to see growth at our tennis club and the board is working hard to ensure that we continue to

deliver improvements to all our members while keeping a long-term outlook for our club. The gentlemen members of our club would have noticed some work occurring in the men's locker room. Over the next couple of months there will be a transformation that will hopefully brighten and modernize the men's locker room that has been showing its age for some time. This change has been something that's been brought to our attention with our club surveys. With that in mind we are always listening to our members. If you have any thoughts or ideas on what could be done around the club, please use our suggestion box, email us at [board@waterlootennis.com](mailto:board@waterlootennis.com) or even reach out to our manager Helen directly.

The board has also recently approved the addition of surveillance cameras at the club. This is an item that has been on the board's agenda for the last couple years, but with the completion of the tunnel, we are now able to proceed with this need. The board believes this is a crucial

item for the ongoing safety of our members and staff, as the club is open late and often under the observation of a single staff member. Due to the size of our property, we wanted to ensure we provide our staff with the best ability to ensure they can monitor activity around the club and to maintain security around the club when we are closed. The camera's will cover the tennis courts, parking lot, lobby and lounge areas. If you are interested in learning more about this, please feel free to reach out to myself or Helen.

We are approaching the end of our winter session and hope that it has been an enjoyable winter tennis season for our members. We will slowly turn our attention to the summer season and with some luck we will be back on the clay by early May. Let's see what the WTC groundhogs have to say.

**Bill Sherifali**  
**President**  
[board@waterlootennis.com](mailto:board@waterlootennis.com)

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# Newsletter

## Manager's Message



It is hard to believe when I look out the window and see all the snow that a few weeks ago I was enjoying the heat of the desert! I hope you enjoy reading about our adventures in Doha (pg 15-17).

Having worked with Pat Craton for many years, it was wonderful to see her be given an honorary lifetime membership to the club at the Fall AGM.

Please read why she was given this honour (pg 3-4).

We're bringing back the Marten Johnston Memorial Team Tennis tournament but with a twist. All the matches will be 10 point tiebreakers (pg 14). The winners will have their names engraved on Marten's memorial bench.

Our last winter tournament will be our doubles tournament on April 21st.

Looking ahead to the summer season, I'm pleased to let you know that the board has voted to once again maintain the current membership rates.

The University of Waterloo will be paying to resurface

courts 7 and 8 over the summer for which we are very grateful. During this time we also plan on changing the current dividers between the courts.

Also this summer we will have two new sheds installed so we have storage for all our tools and machines.

The board, staff, coaches and I continue to work hard to constantly be improving the club for you. I especially want to thank our assistant manager, April Manahan for helping me handle this very busy winter season.

**Helen McArdle**  
**Manager**  
[helen@waterlootennis.com](mailto:helen@waterlootennis.com)



Pro-Am Mixer  
 Nov 2018

## Patricia (Pat) Craton receives Honourary Lifetime Membership

Pat and her family, husband Michael and three children first joined the Waterloo Tennis Club in 1988. In 1990, Pat joined the board and served one term (two years). Demands of a growing and active family prevented her from serving another but she continued to volunteer in other small ways. For nine years, before the time of emails and texting, she organized a number of women groups, mainly 8, but often 12 and even 16 for Monday and Thursday afternoons. That came to a halt in 2011 when she became president and more pressing duties took up her time. In her prime playing days she was one of the club's competitive players, even winning the club's women singles championship one year, and over a longer span of years won several women "A" doubles titles and mixed doubles titles with her son, Darius.

As a solid member of the Inter-Urban teams, she was asked by the players in 2008 to captain the women's team for both divisions Div 1 and 2 - this weekly event continues to take place in the summer, lasting four months. In 2010 she took over the responsibility of the men's teams in addition to the women. Having charge of the entire IU operation had never been done by one individual before but she made it work even when both teams competed in the top division a couple of years. In 2016, her last year managing the IU teams, she introduced a third team to accommodate the overflow of members wishing to participate making it three teams that represented the club that year. Fortunately no one will be required to repeat the task as there is only one division in IU now. It was no easy task to juggle the lineups to make sure the teams were competitive while still having fun and staying within the IU rules and for that, she was respected by the players for her fairness and ability to do so.

Pat, states that her years volunteering as the writer recapping the day's play for the Women of Waterloo (WOW) tournament, (an international tournament on the Challenger circuit where budding professionals gain points to move up to the elite level of major tournaments) was a hectic and physically draining volunteer activity but in a good way. For four (2010-13) of the six years the WOW was held, she watched by day and wrote late into the nights, the reports of the matches and highlights of each day's play. The reports had to be ready before 8 a.m the following day. They were appreciated by the players and tournament fans alike and even gained the notice of Tom Tebbut, Canada's foremost writer on Canadian tennis.

In 2009, Pat became involved with the University of Waterloo varsity tennis teams when the then Head Coach asked her to help with the teams. When he resigned a year later, at the very last minute before the start of the new season and no coach was available at such short notice, she was asked by the Athletic Dept. to oversee the program for a year.

That was in 2010. In the 2014-15 season, Pat was voted the Ontario Universities Athletics Association (OUA) Coach of the Year for both the men and women categories by her fellow OUA tennis coaches; this was followed by another award in 2015-16 season for the men. She is the only female head coach in OUA tennis and one of only two or three Head Coaches who manages both men and women.

In 2015, the year of the club's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Pat was successfully nominated to receive an Ontario Tennis Association (OTA) Distinguished Service Award. She was one of only three so named that year which was a tremendous honour considering the hundreds of clubs and the many more dedicated volunteers in Ontario. She was selected for her contributions to the Waterloo Tennis Club for her range of volunteer activities.

For the club, nothing was more important or critical for its continued existence than when she was elected to the WTC board in 2011 and became the club president that same year. She served for six years, the maximum allowed for any member to serve consecutively on the board. Under her leadership, the club went from having a deficit and an uncertain future to having six consecutive years of surpluses which enabled the club to afford much needed and required refurbishment of facilities and amenities. She was largely instrumental in the club being awarded a \$64,400 Trillium grant in 2014. Besides the financial turnaround, cordial links were re-established during this time with both of the club's partners, the City of Waterloo and the University of Waterloo. With the university it was through happenstance that she, being the Head Coach of its tennis teams, proved to be lucky for the club when amending the contract between the two organizations in 2014. The club's financial stability and subsequent growth, began during her stewardship and continue under the present board and management.

These significant contributions are the reasons why Pat was granted an honorary lifetime membership to the Waterloo Tennis Club at the club's AGM in 2018. She becomes one of only six members to be bestowed this honour. Other honorary lifetime members are Ron Wagner, Ralph Tailby, Bill Lobban, Jane Young and Helen Nethercott.



# Breakfast at Wimbledon & Dress Whites & Woodies Round Robin

July 14, 2018



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



Ike Husain cooking BBQ wizard, Remi Gagnon grilling up the sausages.



Perfect English Breakfast!



Coach, Mike Ratcliff ran the event. Here he is giving a bottle of Pimms to Andrew.



What a good looking group all dressed in white with their wooden racquets!

# Century Invitational Tournament

## July 22, 2018

Two Waterloo Tennis Club teams and a team from the London Hunt Club competed against each other in this year's Century Challenge Invitational Tournament. Each club team was made up of six players. 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.

Our thanks to club members, Ken Rae and Dennis Huss and the RaeLipskie Partnership for sponsoring the tournament.

Because of rain we were forced to play the event indoors. However this didn't dampen the fun or the competition. This was the fourth year hosting the event and the first time that the Waterloo Tennis Club's name will be engraved on the trophy!



**The competitors**



**The prize table encouraged everyone to play their best!**



**The winning WTC team getting their prizes from sponsor Ken Rae.**  
L to R: Chris, Martha, Pierre, Ken, Suzanne, Jim & Helen

# Waterloo Inter-Urban Team Report

2018 Interurban – Congratulations Team Waterloo Tennis!!

The finals for the Interurban league were played August 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in a home and away format with Waterloo matched up against Northfield. With Waterloo having upset Northfield for winners bragging rights in 2017 Northfield was out to avenge their loss.

The Waterloo team prevailed in a closely contested series winning 17 sets to 15 sets. After the first week of 2 men's, 2 women's and 4 mixed matches Waterloo was ahead by 4 sets. Northfield fielded a very strong team the second week resulting in Waterloo losing 7 sets to 9 sets but coming out ahead as the overall winner by 2 sets. Well done team.

Thank you to all team and reserve members for representing our club in such an outstanding and sportsman like manner. Also thank you to the many members who came out to watch and cheer on the team during our home matches.

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

*Pat Babcock*  
*Captain 2018*

**Men's team:** Chris Edwards, Alan Farquhar, Neil Felder, Kelvin Hui, Bao Lam, Louis Liu, Tai Nyugen, Alex Siuda Reserves: Graham Snyder, Nobuki Matsui, Quentin Cheung, Ryan Hummel

**Women's team:** Martha D'Agostino, Suzanne Edwards, Shirley Fenton, Stephanie Jordan, Nancy-Lee Ledgley, Ann MacMillan, Helen McArdle, Michelle Rogers, Marina Seth Reserve: Carmen Miron



# Seniors Interclub League

The Waterloo Tennis Club capped off a season of dominance in inter-club leagues play. Following on the success of the club's inter-urban team in August, the club's senior counterparts were not to be eclipsed when they, too won their Seniors Inter club league in the final played in early September.

In only its third year of participating in the league, Waterloo has risen from the basement after the first year in 2016 to almost making the final in 2017, losing to the then defending champion, Rosedale. In 2018, WTC took two steps further by first winning the regular season ahead of Rosedale. This achievement set them up to face 4th placed Ancaster in the semi- final. Waterloo swept Ancaster 24-0 to set up a much anticipated final against three –time defending Rosedale which had taken care of Port Dover 16-8 in the other semi-final. In a closely- contested match with the outcome not determined until the last set was over, the win and title of seniors champions went to Waterloo by a score of 13-11.

Many congratulations to our competitive seniors team which keeps getting stronger every year with new additions to the team. The competition is open to those 55 years and older and every match is a challenge as many of the participants have been former competitive players. If anyone has the competitive spirit still needing to be satisfied or is now ready to start on a competitive career playing against age related peers, this league is for you. Please give in your name at the club if you are interested and you will be contacted by the convenor/captain. League play start in June and takes place weekly on Tuesday mornings starting at 10 a.m. and typically is over by 12:45 p.m. followed by refreshments.

A special Thank you to captain Rudy Gatzke who has been one of the driving forces getting Waterloo participating in the league from the beginning and who, despite personal family worries this past season, kept his hand in to organizing and steering the team in the winning direction. Thank you to the various members of the team who stepped up to take on captain's duties when Rudy was not available. Congratulations to all our participants.

I am sure our players will agree to join me when I say, we dedicate this year's senior's victory to Beryl, Rudy's wife who passed away in December 2018. Beryl was a former club member and volunteer.

*submitted by Pat Craton, senior team member 2018*

## Team list:

Men: Kim Catcher, Doug Caverly, Chris Edwards, Rudy Gatzke (captain), Andrew Gillard (assistant captain), Kelvin Hui, Harry Jadwani, Louis Liu, Martin Morris, Ed Palmer, Tony Pimenoff, Juan Roman, Graham Snyder, Ed Twardus, Peter Winocour and Rick Zilinskas.

Ladies: Pat Craton, Suzanne Edwards, Roberta Garcia, Nancy-Lee Ledgley, April Manahan, Carmen Miron, Joanne Raymond.



# Club Championships Results - Singles



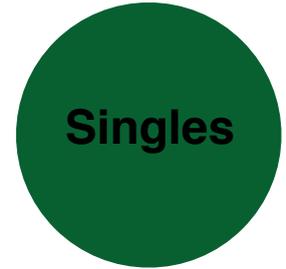
**Women's Singles**

**L-R: Aldiana Lazoja (Champion)  
Michelle Rogers (Finalist)**



**Men's Singles**

**L-R: Luke Young (Finalist)  
Kristian Kopic (Champion)**



**Men's Singles 'B'**

**Kirill Kokorin (Champion)  
Doug Laginskie (Finalist)**



**Women's Singles 'B'**

**L-R: Stephanie Jordan (Finalist)  
Bea Li (Champion)**



**Men's Singles 'C'**

**George Dobrean (Champion)  
Ed Twardus (Finalist) not pictured**



**Men's Senior Singles**

**L-R: Chris Edwards (Champion)  
Ed Twardus (Finalist)**

# Club Championships Results - Doubles



**L-R**  
**Women's Doubles 'A'**  
**Marina Seth & Helen McArdle (Champions)**  
**Monica Heinrich & Nancy-Lee Ledgley (Finalists)**



**L-R**  
**Men's Doubles 'A'**  
**L-R: Matt Brown & Sungmin Yoon (Champions)**  
**Neil Felder & Alex Siuda (Finalists)**



**L-R**  
**Women's Doubles 'B'**  
**Pat Craton & Mary Ruelicke (Finalists)**  
**Kristyn Clairmont & Ann MacMillan (Champions)**



**L-R**  
**Men's Doubles 'B'**  
**Colin Gabriel & Frank Bonet (Finalists)**  
**Kelvin Hui & Bao Lam (Champions)**



**L-R**  
**Mixed Doubles 'A'**  
**Filbert Nghiem & Pat Babcock (Champions)**  
**Helen McArdle & Matt Buckley (Finalists)**



**L-R**  
**Mixed Doubles 'B'**  
**Nick White & Ann MacMillan (Champions)**  
**Mary Ruelicke & Bao Lam (Finalists)**

# END OF SEASON BANQUET

September 15, 2018

Members started the evening mingling with friends and watching a slideshow of the pictures taken throughout the summer. Then they sat down and enjoyed the banquet catered by Wok Wagon. After dinner the trophies were presented to those that won the club championships earlier that day.



**Aldiana**  
**Women's Singles**



**Kristian**  
**Men's Singles**



**Matt**  
**Men's Doubles**



**Helen & Marina**  
**Women's Doubles**

# Summer Ladder Results



Colin Palmer  
Summer Ladder Winner

The singles ladder was very active with 160 matches being played over the summer. Congratulations to Colin Palmer for winning the top box of the ladder. Congrats also to Scott Kirkwood, Mike Nghiem, Jonathan Kofman, Dawn Gutscher, Ben Cohen and Nancy Corbett for winning their respective boxes.

## Winter Ladder

Our winter singles ladder has over 50 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 players of similar levels. Within a certain time period (usually a month), players will arrange to play each of the other players within their box. At the end of the period, our tennis co-ordinator Andrew Gillard will regroup the players in the boxes to ensure that the level of play is fairly even. Typically 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 are normally added at the start of each month. However if you're keen to start, send an email to [andrew@waterlootennis.com](mailto:andrew@waterlootennis.com) to let Andrew know and he'll do his best to get you in.

# Senior Competitors



## Pat Babcock

In August, Pat competed on the O60 National Team for Canada in Germany at the Seniors World Championships. She then flew directly to Montreal to compete in Nationals where she won the W60 doubles event. She also won the first ITF Seniors O60 singles event of the year held in Toronto in January.



## Guido Weber

Guido won the Men's Doubles 75 at the Steve Stevens Senior National Tennis Championships in Montreal. Christel and Guido went down to sunny Naples for the winter. Guido has won both a doubles and a singles event since they have been down there.

## “G’day Mate” Century Mixed Doubles



Some of the participants  
January 20, 2019  
John Ferland and Ann MacMillan (Champions)

## Vital-Links Doubles Tournament



All WTC members in the Men’s ‘A’ Finals of the Northfield  
Vital-Links Doubles Tournament  
L to R: Alex Siuda & Steven Nieboer (Champions) Vital-Links  
sponsor, Matt Gartner & Youngwon Kim (Finalists)  
February 23, 2019

# Marten Johnston Memorial Tournament



Cost \$20/member \$25/non-member

**Sunday Mar 24th  
9-5pm**

### TEAM TENNIS FORMAT

Each team will be made up of four players, two men and two women.

Each round you will play a doubles match and a mixed doubles match against another team. The matches will be FAST as each will just be a tiebreaker!

Make up your own team or signup individually on the bulletin board.

# Tennis and Falcons in the Desert

Helen and I really enjoy watching great players battling in the game we both love. We particularly enjoy watching professional women's tennis. The points are longer and involve a greater variety of shots, and it's just more interesting and entertaining to us. We still love a good men's match, but if we were to choose, we'd rather watch the women play.

This month we had the opportunity to go to a part of the world we've never been to before: Qatar. It's a country bordering Saudi Arabia on the Persian Gulf. It's a very wealthy country due to its oil and natural gas reserves, and its three hundred thousand citizens live very well with the assistance of the over three million ex-pats who constitute much of the population. It is ruled by the Emir and his family. When our friend and WTA Tour Supervisor Tony Cho extended the invitation, it didn't take us long to jump on it.

The Qatar Total Open is a "WTA Premier" event, with \$916,131 in prize money. It is a 32-player qualifying draw and 32-player main draw tournament played on hard courts. It alternates with the Dubai tournament played a week later each year as a "WTA Premier 5" event with a larger prize money pot.

We arrived on Monday and knew that Genie Bouchard was unfortunately knocked out in qualifying. But we still had WOW Challenger alumnus Gaby Dabrowski, Alison Riske, Nicole Melichar, Ons Jabeur and Fatma Al Nabhani in the draws. One of the things we love most about going to WTA events is seeing and sometimes meeting with players who participated in our WOW Challenger tournament. It was great to spend a few minutes with Gaby and Alison Riske after their matches. One of the things everyone who volunteered in the WOW Challenger should feel good about is how important the challenger tournaments are to young players starting out in their professional career. You can't help but smile when you see one of our alumni playing at centre court in a big WTA event.



**Helen & Gaby Dabrowski**



**Alison Riske & Helen**

The draw for Doha suffered some casualties due to illness and injury. The top ranked player in the tournament was Simona Halep of Romania. Those who pulled out were hoping to be in better form for the next tournament in Dubai (with more prize money and points up for grab).

That didn't diminish the quality of the tennis at all. Because of the weather in Doha, matches started at 3pm or later. What we weren't expecting (or prepared for) was how cool it was in the evenings. Who brings sweaters to a desert? Well, top tip for those of you who may travel to the middle east in the future – bring some warm clothes!

Experiencing different cultures is a wonderful benefit of going to tournaments in places you've never been. Qatar is an Islamic monarchy. There is a requirement for women to dress "modestly" (dresses below the knees, shoulders covered), and alcohol is only available at high-end resort hotels. Fortunately, we were staying at a very nice hotel. Unfortunately, we discovered that in January 1, Qatar instituted a 100% tax on alcohol and pork. The tax on soft drinks was "only" 50%. I can state confidently, that I've had the most expensive rum and coke of my life in Qatar.

Away from the tennis centre, we went on an adventure called "dune bashing". It involves a local driver with an SUV taking you into the desert to drive up, down, across and through the dunes. It was an amazing experience. Prior to leaving the road, our driver dropped the pressure in the tires so that there was a wider contact patch for the sand. He has been doing this for 12 years, and said the dunes are constantly changing. It's not something I recommend a tourist doing with their rental car. We stopped a few times to take in the views, and at one point, we could see Saudi Arabia in the distance. I brought back some sand as a souvenir.



Speaking of cars, the cars in Doha were stunning. We saw Rolls Royce and Bentley SUVs that I didn't know existed. One of the contests we had was finding the license plate with the lowest number. Qataris bid for these plates, and the lower the number, the more it's worth. I found 109 outside the famous Nobu restaurant.

While we're on the topic of things Qataris spend their money on, I should mention the falcon we saw. Qataris are passionate about falcon hunting. One of our excursions took us to the Souq Waqif. The souq is a market, and it dates back to the earliest days of Doha. It was, and is, a market where Bedouins and locals would trade spices and other goods. Today, one of the areas of the souq is the "Falcon Souq". This is where one can procure all manner of gear for one's falcon. There is even a falcon hospital. This may seem a bit much until you realise how much a falcon can cost. We "met" one outside the hospital, and its handler told us it cost 1.3 million Riyals. That's about \$500,000 Canadian. I call it the Rolls Royce falcon. I will think of that bird every time I fill my car with gas.



One of the highlights of our trip was playing tennis. The Four Seasons has two outdoor courts. Tony had arranged to get a fourth for us to play both days. We were thrilled when the "fourth" on Thursday was Gold Badge chair umpire Kader Nouni from France. You may not know his name, but you definitely know his voice. He's the chair umpire with the unmistakable deep "Deeuuuuce" voice. I kept asking Kader for the score just so I could hear his voice. He's a wonderful guy with a great sense of humour. If you want proof, just ask Helen to play her phone's ringtone.

Back at the Qatar Total Open, we were treated to some great battles in the semi-finals. Ons Jabeur and Alison Riske lost to Anna-Lena Groenefeld and Demi Schuurs. In an upset, Elise Mertens defeated Angelique Kerber while Simona Halep bested Elina Svitolina in 3 sets.

On Saturday morning we played doubles with Tony and yet another Gold Badge chair umpire – Marija Čičak from Croatia. Marija was also wonderful and we could not get enough of the stories she shared of her life in the chair.

Helen and I were acutely aware that we were playing on a court with 2 Gold Badge chair umpires (Tony and either Kader or Marija). As you can imagine, we did not dispute any of their calls! We enjoyed some time at the beach and in the pool, knowing that in 24 hours we'd be flying home to a lot of snow.



The finals were a fitting end to our trip. More great tennis. The pace of the doubles final had me reflecting on my own game. These players are so smart and talented. The rapid-fire rallies were made possible because these players seem to have a sixth sense about where the ball is going next. In the end, the Chan sisters defeated Groenefeld and Schuurs in a tiebreaker. The “big event” was the singles final. It's a bit unfortunate in my opinion how doubles is treated. It's great tennis and I wish more of it was televised.



**<=== Yep that's us in the stands watching the electronic coin toss to start the singles final.**

There were a lot of Romanian flags in the crowd, and the fans waving them were loud! I felt concern for Mertens as the underdog. Halep has such powerful strokes. She looks more like a gymnast than a typical tall slender tennis player. But as the match got underway, we saw that Mertens was not here to lose. In the end, Mertens came out on top, and definitely earned the title.

The post-match ceremony gave me some ideas in the event we ever bring back the WOW Challenger! The Qataris put on a great show, with a special multi-piece stage, and a laser light and fire show to close the event.

We celebrated with Tony back at the hotel that night, and started our voyage back to the great white north early the next morning. It was a wonderful event, and an opportunity to see up close the best women tennis players on the planet.

***Submitted by Mark McArdle***

# Recap of 2018 U of Waterloo OUA varsity season

University of Waterloo 2018 varsity teams had one of their toughest seasons in a decade. The men ended with a 3-3 win-loss record for the exhibition season, the women 1-5.

Looking back, the teams' misfortunes were a combination of unfortunate circumstances and some bad luck, not all of our making. An example was the men's team at the all important season-ending OUA Championships when an incorrect ranking resulted in Waterloo coming up against a stronger opponent than it should have in the first round. Waterloo was beaten by a vastly superior York team compared to the one it sent out during the exhibition season, which Waterloo had beaten 5-2. The two teams should not have been first round opponents based on the overall standings of the exhibition season. York ousted Waterloo 1-6, with the sole win coming from #4 Josh Worme with a three - set win. The women also lost 1-6 to third ranked Toronto with Waterloo's sole win coming from Nancy Baloescu at no. 1.

The less than stellar results do not reflect the whole story of the season. There were wonderful and determined 'come back' performances by Josh Worme and Peter Hull. Apart from the excitement such close matches generate, the greater good that was achieved was the belief gained in their ability and not to give up.

The results of Waterloo's no.1 woman player, Nancy Baloescu, a native of the K-W area, gave our women team, a more inexperienced one than those of the past years, a measure of pride and respect. In this her last year as a varsity player, with the team's win loss record at 1-5 for the season, her personal record was much different. She lost only one of her singles matches and that was 7-10 in a third-set tiebreak against Western, the defending and repeat OUA women champions. It was the only time the women's team were swept 0-7 and that included the OUA tournament. Such a talent will be hard to replace but that is the nature of varsity tennis. Students graduate eventually.

The men's team too will be losing their star and veteran player John Chan, a resident of British Columbia. John has been one of Waterloo's most effective players over the past five years. He is no stranger to the club's elite junior program, hitting with and helping coach the elite juniors when needed. For the past two years, John had been handicapped with a troublesome ankle so was relegated to playing doubles and the occasional singles. He and DJ Fenerty, played at no.1 and won every doubles match they played save for the OUA match, when partly hampered by the ankle, they lost for the first time in the season against an accomplished duo. Later in singles, the ankle finally gave up on him and within a few games, he had to retire. It was a disappointing end to a distinguished varsity career but it would have taken nothing less than this to make John finally decide that he had to hang up his competitive racquet.

The sharing of tennis facilities between the university and club, makes university tennis very much part of our club's organization. Since the varsity program's inception, the coaching staff have been mainly drawn from club members and/or teaching staff. This year was no different. Many and grateful thanks to club members and asst. coaches, Filbert Nghiem who has been involved with the team for four years and Matthew Buckley for the last two along with Robert Rotaru, one of our club pros, who became officially involved with the team this past season and Nathalie Skaf, the women asst. coach and a graduate of the varsity program a year ago. All of them volunteers, they believe in helping the Waterloo tennis community whenever and wherever they can, of which the varsity and other students- related programs are integral parts. Thanks also to club manager Helen McArdle for her always cheerful support.

***Pat Craton***  
***Head Coach and club member***



# Junior News

## Elite Juniors winning competitions around the province



**ATI Veneto U16 Provincial  
Circuit  
September 28th-30th  
Aldiana  
Champion**



**OTA #1 U10 Player 2018  
NAT Future Stars U10  
November 3rd-4th  
Christian  
Champion**



**Total Tennis U14  
Transition Tour  
December 7th-9th  
Lev  
Finalist**



**ORC Yearend U9 Future Stars  
Dec 2018  
Kyden (second from left) finished  
the year ranked 2nd in U9  
Champion**



**ACE U12 Transition Tour  
January 4th-6th  
Annabelle  
Champion**



**Total Tennis U14  
Transition Tour  
January 11th-13th  
Thea (with Coach Robert)  
Champion**



**Total Tennis U14  
Provincial Circuit  
February 8th-10th  
Thea  
Champion**



**OTA U10 Champions  
Feb 15th-18th  
Ilya (with tournament  
sponsor Murray Rubin)  
B Finalist**

# Junior News

## High School Tennis Championships

Congratulations to all the senior High School players who competed in the Fall regional High School tournaments to qualify for the Provincial Championships (OFSAA) to be held in June 2019. The following are players who train at the Waterloo Tennis Club. A very good showing by WTC players who qualified in six of ten events. They won Gold in five events and Silver in two events.

OFSAA Qualifiers with their final result in the CWOSSA Tournament

- Khaled Khalaf (Gold: HS Boys Singles)
- Aya Khalaf (Silver: HS Girls Singles)
- Oscar Judson-Kelly (Gold: HS Mixed Doubles)

- Kristian Kopic (Gold: Open Boys Singles)
- Luke Young (Silver: Open Boys Singles)
- Youngwon Kim and Matt Gartner (Gold: Open Boys Doubles)
- Agnes Hekler and Kalista Ho (Gold: Open Girls Doubles)



**Elite camp with guest coach Erik Pohls**



**ACE U18 Provincial Circuit  
Sept 28-30  
Luke  
Champion**



**L-R: Angela, Annabelle, Coach Ned, Anvika and Lena**



**L-R: Kyden, Ilya, Peter & Akshaj  
with Coach Martin Holy behind them.**

## OTA U10 & U12 Team Championships November 2018

WTC sent two teams to the U12 Ontario Tennis Association Team Championships. Coach Ned Lazoja was on court to give advice when needed to the players.

U12 Girls: Lena, Annabelle, Anvika & Angela

The girls were the finalists in the B draw!

U12 Boys: Lev, Vedant, Shiming & Aaron

The boys lost in the B quarterfinals to the eventual champs.

The following weekend we sent a boys team to the U10 OTA Team Championships. On Friday Coach Martin Holy was there to encourage the boys and Coach Ned attended on Saturday.

U10 Boys: Kyden, Ilya, Peter & Akshaj

Just like the U12 team, the U10 boys also lost in the B quarterfinals to the eventual champs.

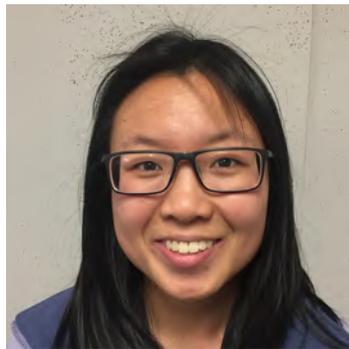
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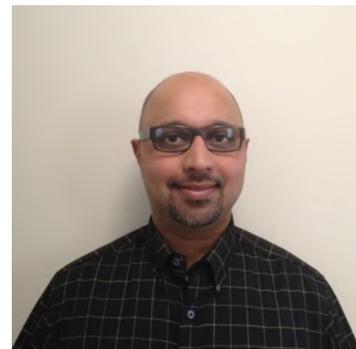
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