



Newsletter



President's Message



Greetings Waterloo Tennis Club Members

I have the pleasure of being your new Club President, taking over from Michelle Rogers this past September. I want to thank Michelle for her 6 years of contributions to the Waterloo Tennis Club (WTC) Board, most recently as President.

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Many of you may know me as I have been a member of WTC for the past 8 or so years. But for those of you who don't, I thought I should introduce myself. I am an avid tennis player, having played the sport since I was 11 years of age. Growing up in Sudbury, I could only play outdoors as there were no indoor facilities, so I had to make the most of my tennis playing days, becoming a fixture at the local outdoor club. Having moved to Kitchener-Waterloo, I took a hiatus while finishing my university degree and starting my family. I started playing again at the Northfield Racquet Club (now Greystone) and played there for 15+ years before transitioning over to WTC.

Having joined the Board in September 2021, I have had to quickly orient myself to what is expected of Board members of WTC. While I have had experience as President of the local HR professionals' association and am a Board member with Community Justice Initiatives, each Board has a different set of responsibilities. I want to thank both Michelle Rogers and Helen McArdle for guiding me and filling in the blanks.

I am happy to report that this past year was busy and quite successful. As you are all aware, the biggest change was putting up the new bubble. That was no small feat and there was a lot of holding

our breath and crossing our fingers for good weather to make that happen. I think it is safe to say that the result is a smashing success (pardon the pun). I have had many positive comments from members about the improved lighting and court partitions with the mesh allowing for better climate control to the back courts.

I think we can all agree that it has been nice to get back to some normalcy at the club, with pandemic restrictions being lifted thus allowing us to play the game we have all come to love. We have also been able to reconnect with our tennis friends in meaningful ways and thanks to the new balcony railing installation, enjoy a beverage while watching matches taking place on the outdoor courts.

I would like to take this time to thank management and staff of the club. You have all been instrumental in making the club safe and in welcoming us all back when the time was right. It was really nice to see all the familiar faces behind the front desk and on the courts. You all make the club feel like home and for that I am truly thankful. A club's success relies heavily on management and staff and we have the best team we could ever ask for.

We as a Board are always interested in hearing from members. Please feel free to reach out via the board email

(board@waterlootennis.com) and let us know your thoughts. Also, if you are ever interested in becoming a Board member, please send us an email. It's always nice to have fresh faces and ideas on the Board.

I look forward to serving as your President in the year to come. On behalf of the Board, I wish you all some amazingly fun tennis!!!!

Roxanne Chartrand
President
board@waterlootennis.com

Manager's Message



What a great summer and fall we've had this year! The outdoor courts were opened by May 1st and kept hopping with regular play along with our social events and tournaments all summer long (pages 3 – 8).

Congrats to the Senior Intercity team who won the league this year! You can read all about their victorious season on pages 11 & 12.

We've made lots of upgrades to the facility this year. The

first was installing new fences around the outdoor courts. Then we said goodbye to our old bubble and watched as the new one rose from the ground. What a difference, especially with the new LED light fixtures that were also installed at the same time! In the fall, all the windows in the clubhouse were replaced and new flooring and furniture put in the upstairs lounge. See page 17 for pictures.

Under the bright lights in the new bubble we've already held a few wonderful events like our Let's Be Thankful Tournament (page 12), our Pro-Am (page 13) and our Christmas Mixer (page 14)

This year the University of Waterloo varsity team was coached by Ned Lazoja along with assistant coach, Ryan MacLean. Read about how they did in the OUA

Championship Tournament on page 18.

Our junior and senior club members have been busy competing all over North America. See how they've done on pages 19 to 22. Club members have also travelled far and wide to watch tennis. To find out where in the world they were spotted turn to page 7.

My thanks to the coaches (page 13), staff (page 23) and the board (page 24) for making this another amazing year for our members.

I can't wait to see what 2023 brings!

Helen McArdle
Club Manager
helen@waterlootennis.com

DONATION OF \$1500

On behalf of WTC I would like to thank the University of Waterloo Tennis Club for their generous donation of \$1500 to us.

Helen McArdle (Club Manager)

Opening Day Boot Camp

Our Opening Day Boot Camp was a huge success! Our coaches, Martin Holy, Mohsen Soleimanipour, Raj Solanki, Mike Ratcliff, Milos Jovkovic and Ryan MacLean put our members through their paces. The Ontario Tennis Association also brought their Smash Cage to make the event even better. Everyone then enjoyed the barbeque lunch prepared by Andrew and his volunteer crew.



Courts Plus Mixed Doubles Tournament

On Saturday June 4th, 48 players came out to compete in the Courts Plus Mixed Doubles tournament. Ryan MacLean organized the tournament which ran smoothly from start to finish. Andrew Gillard made the refreshing fruit salad and the salads that accompanied the delicious sandwiches catered by Davenport Catering.

Thank you to Chris Edwards from Courts Plus for once again sponsoring the tournament.



Mixed Doubles 'A'
L-R

**Ryan Hummel & Roxanne Chartrand (Finalists),
Colin Stranc & Helen McArdle (Champions)**



Mixed Doubles 'B'
L-R

**Liz Demers & Victor Kteily (Finalists),
Bridget Lewis & Field Westbroek (Champions)**

Memorial Pathway

In June we unveiled our new memorial/donation pathway. Two stones were unveiled, one for former staff member, Julia Riley and the other for former member, Mary Murray. Tennis friends of these two lovely lovely ladies donated money to purchase these stones, and many were also involved in organizing the event.

The families of Julia and Mary were able to attend along with over 40 members and former members.

Club President, Michelle Rogers, opened the ceremony. Heather Wakeling spoke about Mary Murray and Assistant Manager, April Manahan spoke about Julia Riley. Afterwards everyone was invited to the lounge for desserts and drinks.

Many thanks to Heather Wakeling, Doris Ernst, Jackie Campbell, Jan Mellow, Norah Crone-Green, Irene Schmidt, Linda Daniel, Ellen Molenaar, Carol Williamson, Agnes Pitsch, Marg Gaber, April Manahan and all the other volunteers for all their work creating such a wonderful, meaningful event.

If you are interested in purchasing a memorial/donation stone, please contact Club Manager, Helen McArdle at helen@waterlootennis.com.



Breakfast at Wimbledon Woodies & Whites Mixer

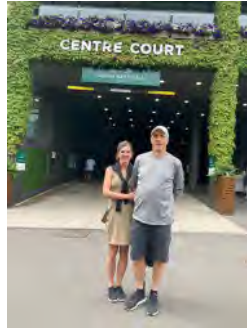
On Saturday July 10th, club members gathered in our club lounge to watch the Wimbledon women's final between Elena Rybakina and Ons Jabeur. Members were cheering for Ons as she had played on our courts in an ITF Challenger event. It wasn't to be as Elena won the match 3-6, 6-2, 6-2. While watching, members enjoyed a delicious breakfast cooked by Andrew, Ike, Nadia & Shelley. Afterwards, Mike Ratcliff organized a round robin where everyone had to play with a wooden racquet.



Where in the world are our club members?



Helen & Mark McArdle
Wimbledon - Nadal vs Fritz



Carolyn & Chris Smyth
Wimbledon



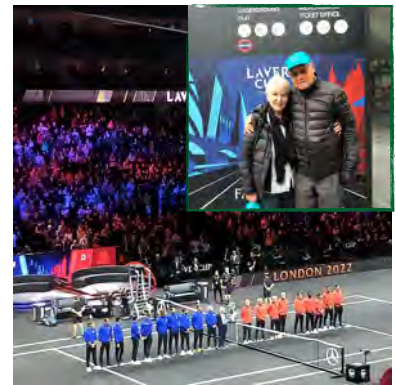
Sue Klopchic (right)
Wimbledon



Helen & Mark McArdle
Serena's last match
at National Bank Open



Club Members at the Finals
National Bank Open



Shirley Fenton & Murray Young (inset)
Laver Cup



One of our Elite players, Nimi Pal was one of the future stars that got to ask Leylah Fernandez a few hard-hitting questions at this year's National Bank Open in Toronto.

The Blue Shoe



It began with a beautiful (beauty is in the eye of the beholder) table centerpiece and a dismal, snowy April afternoon. A group of 8 ladies gathered to play a weekly game of enjoyable doubles but little did they know they were about to embark on a journey of the 'Blue Shoe Event'. The participants were asked to tally their scores at the end of the 2 hours. Here comes the fun.... a spin of the racquet will now determine who will take the Blue Shoe home to proudly display until the next Blue Shoe game is declared! If the racquet spins 'up' high score wins, if the racquet spins 'down', low score wins! Blue shoe traveled and was photographed in MANY different places including photos with evening gowns, the shores of Lake Huron, horticultural displays and even WIMBLEDON! Blue Shoe was honoured by over 20 different women. A fun way to add some exhilaration to your regular game!

Written by Kristyn Clairmont, collage created by Pam Sauve.



Club Championships Results



Women's Singles
L-R: Jovelyn Merle (Champion)
Michelle Rogers (Finalist)



Men's Singles
L-R: Filbert Nghiem (Champion)
Alex Siuda (Finalist)

Singles



Women's Singles 'B'
L-R: Kartika Nataprawira (Finalist)
Hyesuk Kim (Champion)



Men's Singles 'B'
L-R: Colin Stranc (Finalist)
Ilya Sherifali (Champion)



Senior Mixed Doubles
L-R
David Montieth & Gail Lockyer (Champions)
Carmen Miron & Ed Twardus (Finalists)

Seniors



Senior Men's Doubles
L-R
Ed D'Agostino & Ed Twardus (Finalists)
Mark Carlin & Victor Kteily (Champions)

Club Championships Results - Doubles



Women's Doubles 'A'

L-R

Helen McArdle & Michelle Rogers (Finalists)
Thea Bozsitz & Aldiana Lazoja (Champions)



Men's Doubles 'A'

L-R

Alex Siuda & Steve Nieboer (Finalists)
Kristian Kopic & Matt Buckley (Champions)



Women's Doubles 'B'

L-R

Yvonne Pezzack & Pat Craton (Champions)
Not pictured
Christie Ledgley & Suanne Edwards (Finalists)



Men's Doubles 'B'

L-R

Colin Stranc & Ryan Hummel (Champions)
Joe Lee & Kinson Ho (Finalists)



Mixed Doubles 'A'

L-R

Filbert Nghiem & Aldiana Lazoja (Champions)
Evi Zafiris & Alex Siuda (Finalists)



Mixed Doubles 'B'

Ilya Sherifali & Erin Pan (Champions)
Nicole & Tom Irvine (Finalists)

Senior Inter City League

While the Inter Urban league, the competitive inter-club competition made the decision to delay the resumption of competition for another year due to the lingering doubts over covid, the intrepid members of the Seniors' league decided to go ahead with their own after a two-year hiatus from competitive play.

The league which consists of four clubs, Rosedale Tennis club in Hamilton, Ancaster Tennis club,

Waterloo Tennis club and Port Dover have been contesting for the title of South Western Ontario senior tennis champions for the past eight years or so with the exception of the two years lost to the pandemic. For most of its short history, it had been mainly a battle between Rosedale and Waterloo for this title. The summer of 2022 was no different.

The regular league matches began Tuesday, June 7 (and thereafter played every Tuesday starting at 10 a.m to 12:15 p.m.) saw Waterloo going undefeated for the month of June, including a win against archrival Rosedale, the defending champion of 2019. However, heading into July the situation changed when Rosedale got the better of Waterloo in a second encounter which was to set a pattern for the rest of the season. Waterloo had a further setback in August due to a rare loss against Ancaster losing 11-13. The Waterloo team was without its top line of men and women that week. This served to put a little more distance between the two clubs but even then it was still possible for Waterloo to regain first place if it could manage a win against Rosedale in the final match of the regular season. Alas, It was not meant to be as the result again went Rosedale way 14-10, cementing them in first place with Waterloo second followed by Port Dover and Ancaster.

In the playoff rounds in late August, both Rosedale and Waterloo predictably won their matches against Ancaster and Port Dover respectively. This set up the Championship final played September 13 in Hamilton, a week later than scheduled, due to rain. Cool and wet conditions also prevailed on September 13 but this time Rosedale was prepared for the possibility and booked their indoor courts in advance. Under the dome were har-tru courts, a surface familiar to Waterloo. Whether this was a factor or not, the Waterloo team, very much the underdog, produced some of their best and spirited tennis. With a rare Waterloo win at no. 2 women doubles, (the Rosedale pair had been Waterloo's nemesis) the score after the first round was 6-2 to Waterloo and 10-6 after the second round. The



third and final round was the mixed doubles. Rosedale gained an additional 4 points while Waterloo gained 2 with one match, a nail-biting close one at that, yet to be completed. The score at this point was 12-10 to Waterloo which meant a loss by Waterloo would mean a tie for the title. In a tense tie-break, Waterloo's no. 1 pair of Chris and Suzanne Edwards did what they had done for most of the summer - they came up trumps. To borrow a line from one of the witty seniors, "The match was one for the aged." Next year 2023, the league will be welcoming Victoria Park. This addition is sure to shake things up.

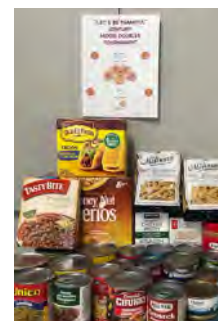
We thank captain Rudy Gatzke for his time and efforts organising the team. Thanks also to all the members who stepped up willingly to assist with various new tasks. Everyone's efforts and dedication to the team contributed to the success of the season.

The members of WTC's 2022 senior team were: Anne Brisland, Anne Cerar, Pat Craton, Chris Edwards, Suzanne Edwards, Rudy Gatzke (captain), Andrew Gillard, Kirstie Golden, Janet Haraszthy, Kelvin Hui, Nancy Lee- Ledgley, April Manahan, Tony Pimenoff, Andrzej Przepiora, Juan Roman, Graham Snyder, Ed Twardus, Michael Watson.

Written by Patricia Craton

Let's Be Thankful Century Mixed Doubles Tournament

On Thanksgiving Monday, we held our "Let's Be Thankful" Century Mixed Doubles Tournament. Participants brought in 64 lbs of food for the The Food Bank of Waterloo Region! Everyone enjoyed the competition and being able to work off their Thanksgiving dinner. Congrats to the winners, Nancy-Lee Ledgley and Kelvin Hui.



L-R: Jeff & Andy (finalists), Kelvin & Nancy-Lee (champions)

Pro-Am Mixer

We held our Pro-Am Mixer in November. Thanks for all the coaches who donated their time for the event: Martin Holy, Ned Lazoja, Ryan MacLean, Mike Ratcliff, Raj Solanki & Spencer Tully. Special thanks to Ryan who not only ran the event but also baked the delicious cupcakes we got to enjoy in the lounge afterwards.



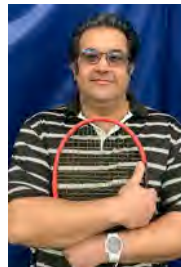
Coaches Corner



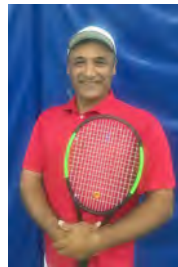
**Martin
Holy**



**Mike
Ratcliff**



**Raj
Solanki**



**Mohsen
Soleimanipour**



**Ryan
MacLean**



**Ned
Lazoja**

Interested in lessons with one of our coaches? Log on and click 'Book A Private Lesson' under the 'Register for Programs, Lessons, Camps & Events' tab. You will see the contact info and pricing for coaches offering lessons.

Christmas Mixer

As a thank you to our members, on December 11th we held our annual Christmas Mixer which was free to members. Thirty two members signed up to participate. They were able to play and socialize with fellow club members during the two hour round robin organized by Ryan MacLean. Afterwards everyone was invited up to the new club lounge for some treats while they enjoyed Christmas music played by the Grand River New Horizons Music Band lead by club member Paul Ellingham. Some club members even got an extra workout by putting on their dancing shoes!



Our Family's Spain Tennis Camp Vacation

Our daughter and her family moved to London, England eight years ago. During a recent conversation she mentioned that our 11 year old grandson wanted to play more tennis. That was all I needed to suggest a week at a Tennis Camp. After some research we booked a week at the La Manga Club in the south of Spain. The resort had 28 courts with the majority being beautiful red clay courts.

Our four bedroom villa was literally across the street from the club and restaurants were just as close.

Each morning one of our group had a private lesson from 8 to 9am and our grandson also attended a one hour fitness session. While our grandchildren went to the kids camp, my daughter, son-in-law and I attended a 2 hour group lesson with the pros. The programs were excellent with lots of tips and they worked on all shots. After our busy mornings we would meet up with my wife Jan and spend most afternoons by the pool either swimming or resting. Our daughter also played tennis in the afternoon with attendees she had met. The club also organized a mixed round robin event that we played in.

Over the week, we met many fellow campers and have lots of invites to visit them and play tennis on our next trip to England.

A great week was had by all. If asked "Would we do it again?", the answer is an overwhelming "YES"!

Written by Hugh Mellow





Winter Ladder

Adult Winter Challenge Ladder

Exciting news! We are revamping our adult winter ladder from box ladder format to challenge ladder format this year. This format provides more opportunity to play other club members at different levels, meet other players, and improve your game. Players can challenge six players above or below their current rank to move up the ladder. Rules of play are available on the Portal.

Junior Winter Box Ladder

Also new this season, we added a junior box ladder! With both recreational and elite divisions, we're looking for our younger club members to come out and join the fun. The box format encourages better matchups and players may be moved into a different box every six weeks to ensure the challenge continues.

We'd love to have you join the fun! If you are interested in joining either of the ladders, please reach out to Ryan at ryan@waterlootennis.com.

Congrats to the top three of the Winter Challenge Ladder so far this season!

1. Isobel (Izzy) Speiran 2. Ian Carswell 3. Kirstie Golden

Bubble



OLD
←

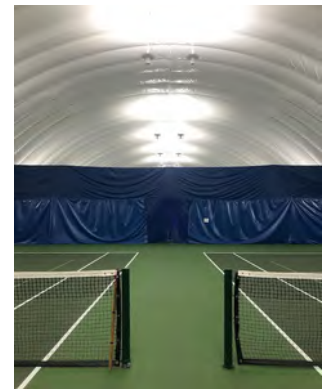
NEW
→



Out with the old!



Installing the insulation



All ready for play!

In late June, the Farley Group took down the old bubble and lights. They then installed a new bubble but reused the existing insulation. At the same time we installed new LED light fixtures and upgraded the wiring in the bubble.

Lounge



Our Property Committee, Nancy-Lee Ledgley, Monica Heinrich, Bill Roth and Helen McArdle, came up with a vision for upgrading the club lounge. There are still some things left to be done but we hope you'll enjoy socializing with your tennis friends in the new space.



University of Waterloo Varsity



Men and women's tennis finish fourth at OUA Championship

Both the men's and women's tennis teams had strong showings at the 2022 OUA Championships hosted by York at the Mayfair Tennis Club.

In their opening round matchup, the men's squad cruised past the Brock Badgers by a score of 7-0 to secure their spot in the OUA semifinals against Western. On the women's side, it was much tighter competition, where it came down to the singles matches. *Savanna Cornfield (Vancouver)* earned a big victory in her match to give Waterloo a 4-3 win over the Badgers, punching their ticket to the semifinals against Western.

In the semifinals, Western, the eventual champions on both the men's and women's side, got the better of the Warriors, defeating the Warrior women by a score of 7-0 and Warrior men 6-1. The Warriors got their match win from *Alex Oancea (Thornhill)* who won his singles match in a thrilling 3-set win.

The loss put the Warriors in the OUA bronze medal match with the women facing off against McMaster and the men playing the host York for third place. The black and gold came up just short in those matches with the women losing 0-7 and the men 3-4 to settle for a pair of fourth place finishes.

Submitted by Ned Lazoja (Head Coach)

Seniors



Two of our club members represented Tennis Canada in the ITF Super Seniors World Team Championships in Florida in May.

Congrats to Pat Babcock (W65) and John Tibbits (M75) for helping their respective teams finish 6th in the world!



In July four club members were finalists in the Credit Valley Tennis Club ITF Tournament in their age categories. Congrats to John Tibbits, Daryl Howes-Jones, Pat Babcock & Michelle Rogers.

Congrats to our own club member, Pat Babcock for winning the Women's 65 Singles event at Steve Stevens Senior National Championships in Vancouver in August.

Juniors

U10 OTA Team Event

The OTA and Tennis Canada hosted the U10 Team Championships in November at Sobey's Stadium in Toronto. 23 boy's teams and 13 girl's teams competed for the team trophy. There were over 140 U10 players competing in this prestigious team tournament.

Our team was one of the youngest and for some of the players it was their first time competing in a Team event. Our Girls team made it to the main draw and Boys team competed well and had some victories in Singles and Doubles in Consolation draw. Coaches Ned Lazoja and Kartika Nataprawira were courtside for the matches to give advice and encouragement to the players.



L-R: Kartika (coach), Seemontini (cheerleader), Paris, Emma P, Ned (coach), Emma A, Nimi



L-R: Youssef, Ari, Ned (coach), Ethan, Jenson

U12 OTA Team Event

The OTA and Tennis Canada hosted the U12 Team Championships mid November at Sobey's Stadium in Toronto.

Our team lost their first match which put them in the B draw. They ended up winning their remaining matches! Coaches Ned Lazoja and Martin Holy helped the team out over the weekend.



L-R: Riona, Paris, Ned (coach), Seemontini, Anna

Juniors



Six of our junior club members, Kyden, Slobodan, Peter, Seemonti, Paris and Aarna, competed against players from other clubs in the Ontario Tennis Association U12 Transition Tour tournament held at the club in July. Congrats to two of our Elite Juniors, Kyden Ho (Boys) and Seemontini Pal (Girls) for winning the tournament!



Club junior, Aldiana Lazoja was a finalist in the Ontario Women's Open held in Ottawa in July.



Lev Sherifali
Champion
Blackburn U18
Ottawa

Juniors



Emma Dobreaan
Champion
Little Mo Internationals U9
California



Seemontini Pal
Finalist
Little Mo Internationals U11
New York



Emma Allen
Finalist
Cedar Springs U10 Rookie
Burlington



Riona Berbatovci
Finalist
Hillfield U12
Burlington



Ilya Sherifali
Champion (D) & Finalist (S)
OTA National Selection U12
Ottawa



Erin Pan
Champion
ACE Cedar Springs U14
Burlington

WTC STAFF



Neil Fogarty



Andrew Gillard



Kristian Kopic



Ryan MacLean
Assistant Manager



April Manahan
Office Admin



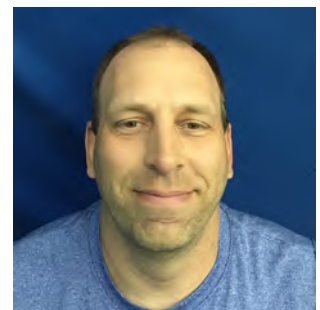
Helen McArdle
Manager



Bill Roth
Maintenance Manager



Spencer Tully



Nick White

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