



KINGSTON TENNIS CLUB

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June 2012

KTC spirit out in full force for Spring Cleanup Day



Many members came out on April 14 to help prepare the club grounds for the 2012 season, making light work of all the tasks - thank you to everyone! Courts were swept, grounds raked, trees trimmed, nets and windbreaks hung, and storage rooms cleaned out and made safe (flooring was replaced where it had been excavated in the hunt for the elusive water leak last Fall). The reward was camaraderie with a coffee break followed by ad-hoc games of Doubles.



Upcoming Events

Friday-Sunday, June 15-17

MIXED DOUBLES TOURNAMENT

Our first club tournament of the season. The cost is \$15 per partner, which includes a BBQ on Saturday evening. The deadline to sign up is Thursday, June 14 by 5pm. All playing levels welcome!

Friday, June 22

TENNIS SOCIAL (ASIAN FOOD)

Sign up by Thursday, June 21 at 6pm for the next Mixed Doubles Social. Tennis is from 5:30-7:00pm, followed by dinner on the deck. Cost is \$12/person. BYOB.

Saturday, June 23

OUTING TO THE 1000 ISLANDS PLAYHOUSE

We will be attending the opening night performance of KTC past-president Doug Bowie's new comedy, *Somewhere Beyond The Sea*, at the 1000 Islands Playhouse in Gananoque (8pm curtain). Cost is \$28/person for the play. We also plan to eat beforehand at Anthony's in Gananoque to start off the evening. If you want to be part of the fun, sign up in the office and indicate if you would like to join us for dinner.

Open House



Another successful event, attended by many new and old members on May 5. Informal tennis games led to new acquaintances being made and phone numbers exchanged for future tennis games. The midday BBQ run by the club pros and stewards provided a popular social break.

Big winners (right) were KTC past-president Gill Turnbull and president Igor Kozin who proudly displayed their trophies obtained from a past "Garage Sale Open"!



Shot-of-the-Week

Looking to improve your game? Every Monday night at 6:30pm is a group clinic with a featured shot. Sign up in the office; the cost is \$10 per person for each week's clinic.



Infrastructure

All of the fences have recently been repaired to prevent balls rolling underneath them to adjacent courts or outside the property. Hooray!

Singles Ladder & Doubles Leagues

Mixed Singles Ladder

People seem to be slowly getting used to the new **Mixed Singles Ladder**. Although a majority of participants have not yet registered a score, this is nothing new from the old Groups system whereby each year by July many people would be dropped from it due to non-participation. The same will be done this year during the July 2 re-pool, although anyone can ask to remain on the ladder – with the assumption they will initiate games. Be forewarned that if you ask to get back in AFTER the July 2 re-pooling, you will find yourself re-inserted even further down than your last ranking.

If you find that you are contacting people that are within the 4 spots above you and they are not returning your calls, let Bud know. There is no reason why someone should not respond, whether they have other games arranged or not. For anyone that is going on vacation, injured, etc., remember to have the steward mark you "Temporarily Off". It will save others from calling you and you receiving unnecessary calls.

Also be aware that any ladder, and particularly this new format, is not a 'passive' system. Should you think that you are too low in the ladder and are capable of moving up, you need to make some phone calls to arrange games! People ranked higher than you are unlikely to call you - you need to call them.

It is only those that are below you that are most likely to do that. If you are not interested in playing those currently lower than you, then get yourself higher (and there's only one way to do that!). On the other hand, if you think you can't move any higher, then play those below you and wait for the next re-pool.

One final word: feedback is always welcome. It is possible that next year there could be separate Open, Ladies, and Junior ladders in this same format, IF that is what members want to see (and it would require significantly-strong feedback to make that happen). If you have a preference for the old Groups system over this one, we need to hear that, otherwise this new system will remain in place.

Doubles Leagues (Intermediate & Advanced)

Any members signing up that are new to these leagues will be contacted to verify their level of play. The system for getting into these leagues is currently somewhat 'loose' and we recognize the need for some standards to be met. The **Intermediate Doubles League** is definitely not for beginners, anyone with limited mobility, or those learning how to play doubles – that is for clinics or the weekly drop-in sessions. **Advanced Doubles** players need to be able to play their full game without the need to hold back on shots. If you are afraid of or incapable of controlling some hard serves/shots - don't sign up for this league!

Bud Nelson, Leagues Coordinator

KASSAA and EOSSAA at the KTC

The Kingston & Area Secondary School (KASSAA) Tennis Championship was held May 15 at the Kingston Tennis Club. 8 schools and 134 students from the Kingston region competed for the championship, including many young members of the KTC. Regi won the school team trophy and individual medals were won by the following KTC members:

Senior Boys Singles	Silver	Ken Napier
Senior Girls Singles	Gold	Isabelle Côté
Junior Boys Singles	Gold	Emile Flavin
	Silver	Jayson Huang
Junior Boys Doubles	Silver	Isaac Jones & Oussama Hefnawi

The Eastern Ontario Secondary School (EOSSAA) Tennis Championship was held May 23 at the Kingston Tennis Club. 150 students from 5 regions and 22 schools competed for the championship. The school team title was shared between Regi and Smiths Falls DCI. Individual medals were won by the following KTC members:

Jr. Boys Singles	Gold	Emile Flavin
	Silver	Jayson Huang
Sr. Girls Singles	Consolation Champion	Isabelle Côté
Junior Boys Doubles	Consolation Champion	Isaac Jones & Oussama Hefnawi



KCVI student Isabelle Côté with her coaches and parents after winning the Senior Girls Singles Gold medal. (All KTC members!)



First Tennis Social of the Season

The KTC has a growing membership that is keen to participate in our social activities, as evidenced by the overwhelming turnout for the first tennis social of the season, held on Friday, May 18, of the Victoria Day weekend. Players of all abilities played games of Mixed Doubles, followed by a BBQ on the deck. Our next tennis social will be on Friday, June 22.



Plans for the Future

NEW CLUBHOUSE

The Kingston Tennis Club was founded in 1924 and the existing clubhouse was built soon afterwards. At that time, the clubhouse backed onto Earl Street and the residences that are now behind Courts 1 & 7 were a club parking lot with open fields surrounding the club (you can view a black-and-white video from the 1920s on our website at <http://www.kingstontennisclub.com/History.php>). Over the years, the neighbourhood steadily developed around the tennis club, resulting in the property that you see today. The clubhouse has lots of character but unfortunately has many shortcomings: the building has deteriorated from age, it is uninsulated and the water must be shut off during the winter and the pipes drained, the physical layout of the building isolates the stewards upstairs away from easy access by members, and the location of the building on the property is unaligned with the entrance that is now on Napier Street.

There have been many informal discussions over the years regarding our need for a new clubhouse. This year we have formally embarked on the road to making that a reality as early as the Fall of 2014. The preliminary plan is to build a two-storey clubhouse that will serve as a controlled entrance to the club from Napier Street. It will be adjacent to Court 7 and occupy part of the grassy area. The old clubhouse will be demolished, facilitating the construction of an eighth tennis court.

We had our first (pre-consultation) meeting with the City of Kingston Planning Department on May 9th. Representatives from Utilities Kingston, Engineering, and Hydro were also present at the meeting to discuss our proposal and were generally receptive. We will need to obtain some minor by-law variances related to locating the building close to Napier Street and to the slightly larger size of the proposed building compared to our current clubhouse. We are in the process of preparing those applications. In addition, several other reports will also be required as a condition for this project, which is standard for any project in the City. Lots of work to look forward to!

As plans progress, we will be making presentations to the membership to receive feedback and approval.

CORPORATE BY-LAWS

Recent changes in the provincial rules for not-for-profit organizations, such as the KTC, are coming into force later this year. They are aimed at improving and simplifying corporate governance and accountability, clarifying rights and the scope of NFP activities, and aligning the provincial legislation with modern legislation in other Canadian jurisdictions (especially federal). This all means that we have to formalize our by-laws to conform with the new Act by the end of 2015. Work has already begun on this captivating task!