



LEASIDE Tennis Club



FALL WRAP UP

The club's 2020 season come to a close. The summer and fall weather cooperated for us to fit in some great days of tennis. We even left 2 nets up to continue play as the snow falls.

Even though it was an unusual summer at Leaside Tennis Club, we are all hopeful that 2021 will see us start our club open in April.

BOARD MEMBER VACANCY:

There is a vacancy in the board and we currently looking to fill the position. Please contact Tony Saunders if you are interested in exploring this opportunity. tony.saunders@travelbrands.com

Happy Holidays to everyone!! Stay Safe!

-Tracy Ghan

HONORARY MEMBER



Rita Lee

Rita Lee began volunteering at Leaside Tennis Club in 2008, and has served as the club's President from 2009-2019. Under her leadership, the club modernized its membership systems, established an online presence, and built a stronger relationship with city officials to better serve the LTC community.

Rita's commitment to tennis also extends beyond LTC, where she has served on numerous tennis and community organizations, including the OTA Board of Directors (2009), Thorncliffe Park Tennis Club's Executive (1990 to present), and with Tennis Toronto (2013 to 2018). She is also one of the founding members of the Leaside Sports Hall of Fame where she served on its board for five years.

Rita has volunteered with the OTA for over 25 years, as a volunteer coordinator for Member's Day and at the OTA booth during the Rogers Cup.

Promoting Junior Tennis has always been important to her. In 2005 and 2006, she ran one of the largest club level "Pathway" junior tennis programs in Ontario, benefiting over 700 children each year.

For her contributions, the OTA twice recognized her as Volunteer of the year, twice with its Regional Award, and also with the Bruce Child's Award.

Additionally, in 2015, she received the OTA's highest honour: the Distinguished Service Award.

For over thirty years, Rita has, and continues to be, a tireless ambassador for our sport. Her positive attitude and sense of fairness encourages others to volunteer with her to promote and further develop the sport of tennis.

In recognition of all her contributions, we are proud to award her with the Leaside Tennis Club Lifetime Honorary Membership.

HONORARY MEMBER



John Drummond

John Drummond has been involved with the sport of tennis for close to eighteen (18) years since 2002.

He became a member of Leaside Tennis Club in 2003. John's initial involvement at Leaside Tennis club was when he held the position of House League Convenor from 2012-2020. During his tenure, he organized the House League and chaired captains of the house league to develop interest in members for the house league. He also helped in organizing social events such as the House league Bash.

Soon after John quickly became involved with the start of the 55 plus daytime league and served the Inaugural captain of this league in 2015. In September 2018, John became a Director of the Board at Leaside and served in this capacity until 2020, he was the Communications and Marketing Director from 2018-2019 and House League Chair from 2019-2020.

John has also volunteered for numerous years at the OTA Booth at the Rogers Cup.

John is always willing to assist whenever necessary and embodies the quintessential spirit of the word volunteerism. His leadership skills are befitting of the Leaside Tennis Club's Honorary Member Award.



MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD MEMBERS:

President Message

We've had a fantastic year even though we started rocky with the Pandemic monopolizing a lot of the board's time determining if we should open or not. I think it is worth noting the various issues the board was faced with at the beginning of the year as the Pandemic took hold of our country and the economy and health care systems.

We were faced with something new, something that hasn't happened in over 100 years and certainly not something I have gone through in my life.

The Government made the decision early to close everything, and later allowed singles tennis. At Leaside we still couldn't open as we didn't have access to the Club house, as the City of Toronto had locked us out, leaving us without necessary washrooms or water available to clean.

We were finally able to open late in July as public courts once the City Counsellor gave us approval, first as singles or doubles within one household and then doubles.

The public courts worked well for a few weeks, and as Public Health policies changed, we were able to regain access to the club house. This enabled us to revert back as a club, albeit with many changes from how we normally run.

We were very happy to be able to bring back Friday Night lights and House League, both popular activities although modified to be in compliance with COVID guidelines.

New this year has been the introduction of a General Manager at the Club House, Rita Lee. This position has been a huge success, and I can't imagine what we would have done without Rita. Rita was instrumental in setting up all the COVID protocol, hiring and securing the Court Monitors, which was a requirement to have during operating hours. Rita, worked tirelessly over the spring with myself, and the board, keeping us abreast of the latest updates with respect to both the provincial and city guidelines. On the financial side, in addition to all the hours Rita spent at the club, she helped out getting all our records and data in QuickBooks, ensuring the club has up to date financial records.

I would like to have a special shout out to Rita Lee, Christine Barachina and John Drummond, all who were instrumental in getting our on-line booking system up and running, for bookings, house league and Friday night lights program. Further, I would also like to thank all the remaining board members for all their hard work and dedication during what was a very difficult year. Another, significant change we made was to introduce on-line booking, allowing members to book 2 times ahead of time, rolling out as you play your game, with no restrictions on non-core hours. This change was required to facilitate compliance with city requirements relating to contact tracing. For the most part, this system was a well-accepted procedure. Although, with all new processes or



MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD MEMBERS:

President Message...Cont

procedures we need to refine, enhance and improve. It has come to my attention that some members were booking ahead of time but not showing up or utilizing their court time booked. As you can imagine, this is not fair particularly during prime time hours when others were denied bookings when in fact courts were available. The board will consider this issue and come up with an appropriate solution for 2021.

The addition of Ivan as our club pro this year has been an overwhelming success and I have heard nothing but positive comments about Ivan's clinics and lessons. I can tell you first hand Ivan is very interactive and relates well to the members.

The year-end tournament although administered virtually, was another positive success.

Finally, I would like to review the issue of refunds, as a result of the late opening of the club this year. The board has discussed this issue extensively.

We have issued refunds to members who have experienced financial hardship as a result of the pandemic. The Club has incurred additional expenses as a result of COVID, (Court monitors, PPE, and IT costs associated with upgrades required to Jegggy soft, our online booking system). The amount of the refund after taking into consideration the additional costs would work out to be approximately \$25, not making it worth all the time and labour required to issue the refund.

Therefore, the board has made the decision to not refund to the members, and instead roll the money over to a Capital reserve account and a reserve for possible additional operating costs for next year if we operate for a full season. We anticipate that overall expenditures may be much higher, due to increased monitoring costs, then in previous years.

We have also taken the opportunity this year to segregate the excess cash in the account, restricting it to capital as we anticipate that we will need to spend significant capital to properly repair the courts of cracks, and depressions. We don't anticipate that although the city is responsible for reconstruction will do this in the foreseeable future. Our thoughts are that this will never be in the City's budget, as it struggles to overcome the cost of COVID.

In closing, I would encourage everyone to volunteer in some capacity, as the success of the club is based upon volunteers at the club. We have a Board position opening this year, so I would encourage people to come forward and volunteer your time. It is not onerous, only requiring a meeting once month, in addition to your portfolio responsibility.

-Tony Saunders



MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD MEMBERS:

Membership Report

For the membership year of 2020, we started returning members' renewals in November and we finished accepting applications at the end of January.

As of October 24, we have a total of 722 adult members, 158 senior members, 25 students and 324 junior members. In addition to this number we had 37 Members securing their spots with a Holding membership which allows no playing time. We accepted 203 new Adults, 70 new juniors, and 13 new seniors in 2020. As of October 24th, we currently have 869 adults and 114 juniors in our waiting lists.

Member Type	#
Adult	722
Student	25
Junior	324
Senior	158
Total	1229

The membership renewal process for 2021 started on November 16, 2020 and will end in January 31, 2021. Please note that the membership renewal is later this year as we will be upgrading our system. The electronic registration is the preferred method of registration as it is simpler for both the members and for us to administer. If you require assistance please contact Christine Barachina, at membership@leasidetennis.org We will not be able to offer membership to members after the deadline.

Please do not delay in renewing your membership. We would really like to see you all back in 2021!

-Christine Barachina

MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD MEMBERS:



Treasurer Report

Leaside tennis Club LTC total revenue was \$161k, comprised of Annual Membership (\$145k), Guest Fees (\$8k) and other revenue (\$8k).

At the end of the 2019/2020 fiscal year, the club reported a surplus (profit) of \$72k. This healthy surplus is the result of the club not being opened and operational for the entire 2019/2020 season. The club was opened for three months (August 2020 - October 2020). During the limited opening, the club incurred expenses totaling \$89k. The main contributors were:

- Court Supervisors - \$38k: Due to the pandemic and safety requirements provided by the City of Toronto, the club needed to have court monitors available on the premises during opening hours from 7:00 am until 11:00 pm. The club monitors regular non pandemic hours were from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm and from 3:00 pm to 11:00 pm.
- Total COVID-19 cost to the club was \$21,203 (A breakdown of the costs are provided in the financial statements attached in the member area). The biggest cost of \$15k, was due to having the court monitors being available to members during operational hours. The total cost of PPE was \$4k. The total COVID-19 costs are embedded in various sections of the expenses in the financial statements.
- Social cost of \$10k is the result of partial cost for the 2018/2019 Year end celebration. In fiscal year 2019/2020, there were no social events due to the pandemic.

Statement of Financial Position Total Assets (cash) for fiscal year 2019/2020 is \$156k. This is all cash from revenue accumulated during the fiscal year combined with prior years additional surpluses that is invested through a mutual fund. Please note that the mutual fund can be readily convertible into cash on short notice and is not locked into for any specified time.

- Cash is now broken out into three groups:
- Cash - \$39k: This amount will be used to in fiscal year 2020/2021 expenses
- Cash - Restricted for Capital Reserve - \$60k: This amount is set aside for the resurfacing/reconstruction of the courts in the upcoming future
- Cash - Term Deposit - \$57k: This amount is also set aside for the resurfacing of the courts

Membership fees will not be increasing for 2021.

-Curtis Lezama



MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD MEMBERS:

Adult Development

Adult Clinics: We ran nine Club Sponsored Clinics during August and one during September. Each clinic was comprised of 4 hours of instruction. In total, 56 members participated in these sessions.

In addition to the Club sponsored clinics, our Head Pro, Ivan, offered a variety of stroke clinics, Liveball and California Doubles sessions during the season that were well received.

Many thanks to Ivan and his Pro team for the expert coaching that was provided during the clinics in a fun and positive manner.

Friday Night Lights: We ran a modified version of Friday Night Lights from early August to mid-October. These sessions, organized by Ivan, were very well attended and provided a good opportunity to play with a variety of other members. Due to Covid, we were unable to incorporate instruction into the Friday Night Lights sessions this year however will look to do so again next year.

If you have any suggestions to improve the Adult Development Program please submit them to adult_clinics@leasidetennis.org

-Peter Drumm

Adult Teams Director:

Our plans for the year started out well: all 7 of our adult teams were signed up and tryouts were scheduled.

Unfortunately our plans were thwarted by "The Covid". The leagues were in limbo, but it was fairly obvious early on that Interclub tennis was not going to happen this year.

At this point all teams' standings are on hold until next year. Hopefully, things will return to "normal" by then. Stay tuned, Stay Safe and enjoy the winter season.

-Cathy Southey

MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD MEMBERS:



Tournaments Report 2020

This began as a very difficult year for the club on many fronts, and tournaments were a particular source of challenges. Even after opening the club, we were confronted with City of Toronto operational “guidelines” that restricted group activities; these made it impractical to organize the types of one-day events that have been held in past years. However, the decision was taken to hold the Club Championships, since that tournament could be conducted without having large numbers of players congregating.

Fifty-nine members entered, many competing in more than one draw. The tournament was originally scheduled to run over nine days. The weather was mostly favourable, though rain-induced cancellations extended the timing for some of the draws. The names of the winners and runners-up in each draw appear below.

My thanks go to assistant pro Sean Kern for setting up the draw and handling the scheduling of the games; to the court monitors for their assistance in reporting scores and reorganizing courts as required when matches ran late or weather intervened; and to all who participated.

Next year, the hope is that we can offer a couple of one-day tournaments, including the Philpott tournament that raises funds for inner city tennis programmes; and the Club Championships with even wider participation.

-Chris Hale

MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD MEMBERS:



Results for 2020 LTC Club Championships

Women's Singles

Winner - Laurel Neal
Runner-up - Maureen Bratkiw

Women's Doubles

Winners - Stephanie Petsis and Thalia Petsis
Runners-up - Monica Byrne and Peggy Donahue

Men's A Singles

Winner - Wyatt Neal
Runner-up - Josh Peplow

Men's B Singles

Winner - Jack Shapiro
Runner-up - Reza Salehzadeh

Men's A Doubles

Winners - Thomas Lawlor and Wyatt Neal
Runners-up - Nader Balata and Colin Henry

Men's B Doubles

Winners - Eric Shapiro and Jack Shapiro
Runners-up - Fred Yagi and Gary Rollerson

Mixed A Doubles

Winners - Laurel Neal and Thomas Lawlor
Runners-up - Stephanie Petsis and John Marcine

Mixed B Doubles

Winners - Michael Law and Shewana Sheikh
Runners-up - Cathy Southey and Ted Southey

MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD MEMBERS:



House and Courts:

It was an extremely challenging year and we must all extend a very special thanks to Rita, who, with her team, Alan, Al, Eric, Jimmy, Pat, Andrew and Ivan worked hard to overcome the many and variable obstacles to get us open and running safely, and in compliance with the fluid environment.

We should also thank The City of Toronto for granting us permission to use courts 1 and 2 after our permit had expired in the fall. In the future, we will try to keep all courts open in the fall for as long as they are playable.

We invested in PPE, sanitizer, signage, and new policies and procedures which all helped to reduce our vulnerability to COVID-19 and fulfill our obligation to provide contract tracing to public health. Through the winter, we will follow any operational changes so we can adapt and get the courts open safely in the spring.

It was a difficult year for lessons and clinics. Our new head pro, Ivan Lauzon, has done a great job at managing the hurdles, and he and assistant pro Sean Kern have been received enthusiastically by the membership. We look forward to continuing to grow our tennis game under their guidance.

Looking to the future, we must keep in mind that the base asphalt layer of the courts has long passed its life expectancy. Old asphalt dries out, becomes brittle and cracks. Because of this, we must anticipate having to resurface (paint) the courts more frequently and should continue to build and maintain a reserve to do so. The base asphalt layer is the responsibility and property of the City of Toronto and we continue to request it be replaced.

Have a great safe winter, and I look forward to seeing everyone for the raising of the nets and windscreens in the spring.

-Ted Southey



MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD MEMBERS:

Social Director:

Writing a Socials Report for 2020 is like rubbing salt in a wound... we never had the chance to catch up over nibblies and beverages on Opening Day nor to celebrate another great season by dancing the night away at our End of Season soiree! It was a sad year. I was heartened to see the courts being used when it was safe to do so and to see, and play with, friends from a safe distance! We made the best of a bad situation. I am hopeful that if we all pull together and keep ourselves and each other safe and healthy, the 2021 Socials Report will be a much livelier account of a good year!

Wishing you and yours a safe and healthy winter.

-Xenia Proestos

House League

Even though our 2020 tennis season was curtailed, Leaside Tennis Club was able to run a full Summer session of House League.

My thanks go out to Chris Hale who stepped up as the convenor, in my place. I made a personal decision not to participate in tennis this year. Our female registrations were down from previous seasons forcing a change to the team structure. We did get 8 volunteers to serve as Captains! The team captained by Juris Kornets and Catherine Lenihan prevailed as champions. Congratulations! I am not sure what 2021 will offer but I will be stepping down from my involvement in House League. Someone else needs to step up if this most popular Leaside program is to continue!

I wish everyone a Happy Holiday season and all my best for 2021.

- John Drummond

Junior Development

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to Ivan, Sean and Wyatt. Due to COVID the Spring clinics were cancelled and with restricted registration for the fall clinics, the junior participation was, 4 individuals for the Beginners, 20 for the Novice and 6 for the Intermediates.

We look forward to seeing everyone next season.

- Anna Wolfe