

QUAKER PARK TENNIS CLUB 2023

QPTC FALL NEWSLETTER



● FALL GENERAL MEETING

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! The fall general meeting (FGM) will take place on Thursday, October 26th at 6:30pm at Activity Haven, 180 Barnardo Avenue. We are looking forward to sharing our ideas about our year with you as well as the exciting changes we have for next season.

● PRESIDENT'S REPORT - FORGE HAMU

Well, the 2023 season is just about done. If you have been on the CourtReserve site, you have probably seen the official closing date of the club set as October 15th at 10 am. We are planning to leave at least two courts open for play after that date, however, clubhouse services will close shortly thereafter as we prepare to put the club to bed until next year.

It has been quite the season with many changes all happening at the same time, our long-term club manager was replaced by Robert and Andrew Szilagyi, the introduction of our new court booking system, the demise of our ancient clay roller and replacement with a new walk-behind roller, the challenges of the heavy and fierce rainfalls throughout July and first part of August severely affected our play and the scarifying and re-grading of our courts, giving them a new lease on life.

Much more work is needed to both maintain and extend the life of the courts; however, this will come at a significant cost to the club. An irrigation system needs to be installed which will reduce our clay and maintenance costs as well as the unearthing and re-establishment of the court playing area to prevent grass growth. The cost is estimated at approximately \$60,000 for the irrigation system and possibly an additional \$30,000 to properly dig and establish the court playing area. The club has submitted another Trillium request for funding but has yet to hear if we qualify or not.

We are positioned to repay the CEBA loan by December 2023 thereby benefiting from the \$10,000 forgivable portion. Our current Trillium loan was subject to a renewal this year at the rate of 9.45%. Our current balance is approximately \$23,000 with monthly payments of \$850.

Clay will be ordered within the next few weeks for delivery in April. We are hopeful to secure today's prices as clay has almost doubled in price since 2021 when we received a full shipment. Club operational costs will continue to be a concern for the upcoming Executive, and we may need to prepare ourselves for some increases in fees to maintain the club.

As the season closes, we look to those members who have not had an opportunity to volunteer, to assist with the closing. We also recognize several members who maintain some core services behind the scenes, such as Lynn Yule who has been caring for our first aid kit (which we are glad has had little use of this year) and Jim Sutcliffe who has been religiously testing our defibrillator to ensure it is in working order should the need arise. There are several behind the scenes volunteer members who provide key core services and deserve a big thank you from our club.

Your 2023 President, Forge
president@quakerparktennis.ca

● QPTC EXECUTIVE SLATE FOR 2024 SEASON

President	Andrew Galvin
Past President	Forge Hamu
Secretary	Lillian Horn
Treasurer	Heather Casey
Property Director	Abhishek Udawat
Fundraising Director	Carolyn Condon
Membership Director	Heather Shute
Publicity Director	Melissa Harvey
Tournament Director	Rachel Bronson
Youth Program Directors	Bill Devitt and Chris Dummitt
Social Director	Christine Clinton
Ladies League	Patricia Day, Joan Livingston
Men's League	Andy Kulik, John Curley, Art Herold
Competitive Wednesday Evening League:	Patrick Henry

● PROPERTY DIRECTOR - CAROLYN CONDON

Andrew and Robert certainly had their challenges for their first year as managers at the club. Along with Jared, they were wet to the bone some days.... literally, in trying to prepare courts with the unusual amount of rain, and high number of rainy days. Members do help with the maintenance of the courts, when needed, and a special thank you to Ed Salahub for his continued weekly (all season) support to the staff.

A new roller was purchased for \$8,700.00, as the old one posed a health hazard. Bathroom repairs, wear and tear and a repair to the fridge door was approximately \$400.00-500.00. General upkeep of various areas are always ongoing. Some boards need to be replaced by the entrance. Members were a great help to tend to the lawns, thank you Jim Bischoff for grass cutting, trimming by Brent Butler, and others I may not know about. Replacement of ONE light on court 5 was \$1350.00. I was glad I was sitting down hearing about this invoice, but I have been told bringing in a cherry picker is the main cost. If you KNOW of any other options, please let us know.

Many members are not aware of the costs, day to day, week to week regarding property, but it all adds up as you can see. QPTC is VERY fortunate as we have members who are willing to help with many other things to be done which saves the club considerable costs. Thank you to Richard Morrison for donating and refilling all the water bottles for the Water fountain, and his sidekick Gerry Mastroianni.

The property was cleared of tree limbs/branches along the fence lines by Vital Tree Care.

Thank you to all members who helped throughout the season, especially Gene Moher and Phil Adams, who continually donate their time, advice, tools and skills to the club.

This season, we are fortunate that the Fundraising amount raised off-set close to all property costs once the club opened. (The spring work done before opening was just over \$16,000.00). Moving forward I would strongly suggest we have a "Contingency Fund" for unexpected issues, and upgrades that deem necessary.

The Garden Keepers: Thank you to Julie Stark, Denise Kouri, Julie Bell and Catherine Dalton for tending to the gardens all season! Thank you, ladies, they looked great.

Carolyn Condon

property@quakerparktennis.ca

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR - HEATHER SHUTE

A new on-line Membership Application and Payment system was brought in this year, and it ran quite smoothly and was very successful.

Each member submitted membership details directly to the database, so we know it was accurate and e-transfer payments were quick and easy. Except for a few being directed to the Treasurer rather than Membership, which we were able to correct. This year we had 218 paying members, of which 27 were new to the club and 24 were Family Juniors so we hope that means future members. Although our membership was down this year, we are encouraged by the number of new members. Pickleball has been a factor for sure in our membership, but we also have a few crossovers. Thank you for your support and we hope to see you all again next year. Recruit your friends and family members. We want everyone to know that tennis is a great game.

Heather Shute

membership@quakerparktennis.ca

LADIES LEAGUE - JOAN LIVINGSTONE / PATRICIA DAY

What a stellar tennis season we've all enjoyed! Our league keeps developing and growing as we welcomed 15 new members this year! Not only does the Ladies' League attract players who wish to develop and improve their skills, but it also provides a wonderful opportunity to meet new friends!

When we're playing during our scheduled court hours, it warms my heart to see the other courts being used by former members! They've embraced the game of tennis and grown!

During the season, we enjoyed two fun "Potluck" luncheons, one in June and another in August and our annual July "Red & White" Tournament, which was again, very successful! We recently had an end of season Luncheon to celebrate our "25th Anniversary" of being with QPTC!!! Fabulous food and great camaraderie! Some members from over 30 years ago attended! It was amazing to reconnect! We had a 'memories' table with 25 years of photos, newspaper clippings etc.! We also had a copy of the original letter from Mr. Andrew Galvin, then President of QPTC, March 1998 inviting the ladies from another facility to join Quaker! The journey began! At our luncheon, we held a Silent Auction to raise funds for QPTC. We raised \$360.00! In summation, our year was fabulous, and we are looking forward to 2024 with great anticipation!

Thank you!

Joan Livingstone, Patricia Day & our Executive Team

ladiesleague@quakerparktennis.ca

MEN'S LEAGUE WRAP-UP 2023 - JOHN CURLEY

This was another busy year for the Men's League. We had 48 players and used about 500 hours of court time. We played our usual Tuesday and Thursday time slots from mid-May through October in five sessions, with games scheduled among teams arranged according to skill levels and experience. We encourage our guys to come out for the club closing to help with nets and windscreens again. As we head our separate ways over the winter, we hope you all keep active and healthy.

Andy Kulik, 748-6111, aakmps@gmail.com

John Curley, 745-9490, jpcurley@gmail.com

Arthur Herold, 536-0035, herold@nexicom.net

● WEDNESDAY EVENING ADVANCED LEAGUE – PATRICK HENRY

Another great season with 30 members signed up. The purpose of this league is to have a place where more experienced players can enjoy a more competitive, higher-level brand of tennis (fun is still the key goal). This year we are glad to have 4 women in the line-up. We do welcome new members who may be looking for this fit and had several new players join this season.

Patrick Henry
henryfamily@wisponline.ca

● JUNIOR PROGRAM DIRECTORS - CHRIS DUMMITT / BILL DEVITT

The new Junior Tennis Club was very successful this summer. We had between 10 and 18 out each Sunday night with a few kids attending both sessions. All the kids had fun, improved their skills and made new friends. They all know the rules and can play matches on their own. We had a Davis Cup Tourney in September with Team USA beating Team Canada in a final match. We are hoping to have a team (Aces) in the Intercounty Metro Junior League in the spring. Discussions around this will take place soon. Practice sessions in March and April will be important to make this a reality with help from parents.

Thanks to Rachel Bronson Gerry Itong, Abhi Udawat, Javier Fonruge, Chris Cordy, Beth Fraleigh and others parents who helped. A big shout out to Chris Dummitt for starting this program. The future of Junior Tennis at Quaker has never been brighter. All spring, summer and fall tennis instruction programs ran well under the capable leadership of Andrew, Robert and Jared. Feedback from parents and kids was excellent. Another great year!

Chris Dummitt and Bill Devitt
juniors@quakerparktennis.ca

● SOCIAL AND TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR - RACHEL BRONSON

Our last social play occurred on September 24, after having to postpone from the original date of September 10 due to continuing unfavourable weather conditions. A good number of members showed up to play, and we enjoyed a BBQ at lunch. The food that was served was Greek style, prepared with a variety of salads and skewers, appealing to both meat and vegetarian eaters. Thank you to our volunteers, Laurie Fulcher and Will Skilton for managing the players, Marg Tough for the player check-in, and Denise McLean and Linda Galvin who rocked as Grill masters, and cooked the skewers to perfection! Thank you also to Carolyn Condon as well our student volunteers Melina McArthur and Olivia Bronson with the setting up and tear down. Honourable mention to Julie Stark for providing the pasta salad and Catherine Dalton for the delicious chocolate cake.

A pre-Christmas gathering is being planned at Ashburnham Alehouse for Thursday November 23 at 6pm. This is just a gathering of friends and members with a limited seating capacity for 36 people. Each person will be responsible for their own bill. Please reserve your seating by sending your request to social@quakerparktennis.ca. **Please RSVP no later than October 31, 2023.**

The response to the tournaments this year has been incredible. It is encouraging to see registration numbers on the rise again, especially in the women's competitions. Thank you to all those who have participated in this year's events and made these tournaments so successful. Even though tough competition occurs on the courts, it is always wonderful to see the camaraderie and friendships in the making off the courts.

A huge thank you to Mark Arbogast and Rob Szilagyi for always being available to help with the draws and arranging the games. Thank you to all our other volunteers who have assisted in various capacities and

making these events easy to manage: Nancy Shoemaker, Carolyn Condon, Bill Devitt, Peter Bronson, Tracy McCabe, and our student volunteers Jacob Bronson, Grace Bronson, and Grace Hughes.

Congratulations to our 2023 QPTC Club Tournament Champions and Finalists:

TOURNAMENT	CHAMPIONS	FINALISTS
ZOOMERS	Julie Dotsch & Ted Horbyluk	Carol Donaldson & Greg Donaldson
MEN'S DOUBLES	Jim Wasson & Jared Thomas	Javier Fonruge & Mark Arbogast
WOMEN'S DOUBLES	Jane Rosborough & Melissa Harvey	Ania Gabychowicz & Rachel Bronson
MEN'S SINGLES	Jim Bischoff	Jared Thomas
WOMEN'S SINGLES	Ania Gabychowicz	Christine Champagne
MIXED DOUBLES	Javier Fonruge & Ania Gabychowicz	Abhishek Udawat & Sarah Thompson

Rachel

social@quakerparktennis.ca

tournaments@quakerparktennis.ca

FUNDRAISING DIRECTOR - CAROLYN CONDON

It has been both a successful and fun season for fundraising. A HUGE thank you to all members who donated items/baked goods/time/energy and passion to the club's fundraising. The total is just over \$13,000.00!!

The kickoff was the May 27th sale, with an exceptional group of ladies heading up 4 areas:

Plants: Lillian Horn, Pat Parnall, Catherine Dalton, Lynda Neck, Diane Paget, Pat Smith, Linda Nicholson, Ava and Stella Champagne, a truck load of mulch donated and bagged by Ania Gabychowicz and Jacob from Vital Tree Care.

Raffle Sale: Shirley Bacigalupo (thank you Shirley for suggesting this at the spring AGM) and Heather Shute, Bake Sale by Deb Paget, Judy Cory, Sue MacKenize, Nancy Shoemaker, Marg Steffler.

Crafts and Clothing: Rachel, Peter, and THE ENTIRE BRONSON FAMILY, Beth Fraleigh, Chris Cordy.

Beverage Table: Judy Mitchell and Monica Muszynska, Ceciley Parker, Julie Dotsch. Signs and Posters by Laurie Fulcher.

Overseer and supporter of all things, Julie Stark. We raised approximately \$4,400.00!

Well done to all and thank you to ALL members who contributed by donating baking, plants, clothing, and tennis items. A huge thank you to ALL members who came, purchased and spread the word to family, neighbours and friends.

An evening hosted by Julie Bell and John Bruce raised \$875.00. Thank you both and Chris Dummitt for an informative chat about Peterborough's history.

"Off My Block" was A VERY entertaining play arranged by Maureen Corrigan and Sue MacKenzie. If you were fortunate enough to attend, you are probably still chuckling! We were happy to raise \$2,200.00!

Thank Rachel Bronson for heading up all tournaments, serving your "Martha Stewart" lunches, and a BIG thanks to Mark Arbogast for convening all the matches! Thanks to Bill Devitt for organizing the Zoomers once again, which was enjoyed by all! Tournaments raised \$1225.00 and Fall BBQ & Social raised \$555

The free membership draw tickets are still being sold but expected funds to be raised \$1,750 - \$1,800.

Thanks to Kathrine Schmidt and Maureen Corrigan \$200.00 was raised from all of your "empties".

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE BUSINESSES WHO SUPPORT YOUR CLUB BY COURT SPONSORSHIP:

Court 1	Andrew Galvin and the Galvin Team
Court 2	Paul Moher Remax
Court 3	The Ale House
Court 4	Vital Tree Care
Court 5	McLeods EcoWater

Funds raised through court sponsorship were \$2,000.00.

Next year, we are planning even more fun events, a huge garage sale in early June, so save all your STUFF over the winter to donate! We will be doing a repeat of the May Major Fundraising morning, and we are still looking for ideas for a substitute for the fall Gala the club used to organize.

If you are interested in meeting for lunch over the fall/winter/spring with a few other members to share ideas for the 2024 season, please let me know.

Don't be shy to suggest events/evenings or ideas. It DOES NOT mean you have to organize or run it. As you saw over the season, we had a great group of enthusiastic members giving back to the club.

A HUGE thank you to ALL of you, and I sincerely hope I didn't miss anyone! Or lunch is on me!

Carolyn

fundraising@quakerparktennis.ca

● NATIONAL BANK OPEN AT AVIVA CENTRE (ROGER'S CUP) – DONNA MCGILVRAY

The Executive would like to give special thanks to volunteer Donna McGilvray, who arranged getting club members (and others), tickets and transportation to the National Bank Open in August. Those who have organized this trip in the past (Carolyn), know the work involved. And those who were fortunate to join in on the bus trip were happy that it saved them from making the drive on their own. Thank you, Donna!!

● CLUB MANAGERS - ROBERT & ANDREW SZILAGYI

We would like to thank all club members and the executive board for their support throughout our first year as club managers. Your feedback and words of encouragement went a long way! A successful season wouldn't be possible without you all.

We are pleased to report that almost all junior programs were at capacity throughout the spring, summer and fall sessions. Our adult clinics were also very well attended on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

It was also a challenging season at times, due to the heavy rainfall in the summer months. Necessary court improvements were made in the spring (laser grading), but many new improvements will be needed. Court irrigation and grass removal will be at the top of the list, for optimal drainage.

A presentation of these improvement plans will be made at the fall AGM.

Thank you all for welcoming us into our new role. We could not have done it without you all!

Andrew Szilagyi, Co-Owner - Tennis Twins

Phone: [\(705\) 559-3742](tel:7055593742)

Email: andrew@tennistwins.net

● SOCIAL MEDIA DIRECTOR – MELISSA HARVEY

You can find us online: Facebook at Quaker Park Tennis Club, and Twitter @QPTennisClub
2023 Volunteers of the month are listed below. QPTC would like to thank each of them for their dedication and enthusiasm (and hope they played their best match of the season with their free balls given as recognition of their volunteer time.

VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

May	Gene Moher
June	Laurie Fulcher
July	Julia Bell
August	Maureen Corrigan & Susan McKenzie
September	Mark Arbogast & Ed Salahub

Reach out to me if you have any questions or if you have some fun pictures/ideas that you would like to share.

Melissa

socialmedia@quakerparktennis.ca