

# LTC

LEASIDE TENNIS CLUB ~ NEWSLETTER

October 2008

## Mark Your Calendar

❖ **LTC Annual General Meeting**  
**Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm**  
**LTC Club House**

Our AGM is held every year to inform members of previous and future activities. The AGM is the forum for the election of directors for the Club.

It is an opportunity for the members to be given information about the Club's accounts and to ask any questions regarding the decisions the Club has taken in the past and will take in the future. *See Agenda page 6.*

All members are welcome. Pizza, soft drinks, tea and coffee will be served from 7:00pm.

❖ **End-of-Year Party – Saturday, October 18 at 7:00pm**

- Full Buffet dinner and refreshments at 7:30 p.m.
- Adults only. One guest per Club member.
- Tickets are \$10.00 each and will be available from the Court Supervisors at the Clubhouse starting September 29th.
- There will be a seating plan again this year.
- Be sure to purchase early, as this is the best meal deal in town.

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## Presidents Message

It's nearly the end of August and although it is 30C outside today, it feels as though the season is drawing to a close. We only have the Club Championships, the finish of the house league, the Annual General Meeting, the end of season party, and the season is over.

Despite all the rain, the teams managed to get all their matches played, except for the house league, which seemed to suffer the most from the rainouts. The summer house league, however appears to be faring better weather-wise and still has some

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weeks to go before it finishes. The ladies teams did exceptionally well, winning the Division A-1 day league, and being invited to play at the Rexall Centre in the Miele Challenge, during the Roger's Cup Tournament. Unfortunately the team they were to play backed out of the invitation, so our team won by default. The Ladies Evening League team won the Division 3 league by the narrowest of margins and is promoted to Division 2 next year.

Fred Yagi, our Tournament Director, has also reported a lack of players entering the competitive programs we have organized, to the point that the Mixed Doubles Tournament in June had to be cancelled. He also notes that the number of players entering the Club Championships is quite low to date, despite the fact it has been opened up to the better juniors this year, but perhaps it will improve as families return from their holidays at the end of the month. The subject of allowing select juniors to play in the "A" division of the Club Championships has been a controversial matter for quite a while. At one time juniors were encouraged to play in the adult tournaments, but about eight years ago a decision was made to exclude juniors from the senior tournament, as they had their own tournaments to play in, unfortunately those that made the decision never played in the "A" division of the Club Championships.

In regards to our ongoing discussions with the City of Toronto, Parks & Recreation Dept., on the six items we raised with them last April, I have to report we are no further ahead, despite constant E-mails and telephone calls. The six items under discussion for those of you who are not aware are as follows: (1) to allow the Club to pave the area between the double gates at the north-east corner of court 3 to the sidewalk to facilitate the access of maintenance equipment. (2) To allow the Club to pave a 6 meter wide strip across the south side of the Trace Manes building to assist our young juniors to

play mini-tennis, without interfering with the main courts. (3) To allow the Club to tile the shower areas in the men's and lady's changing rooms, as they are in an unusable condition. (4) To have the City remove their security lighting from the Club's electrical system as per our January agreement. (5) The renewal of our current lease agreement, which will have been in effect for 35 years in January 2011, and has not cost the former Borough of East York, or the City of Toronto one cent since 1968. During this period the Club has rebuilt the tennis courts, and resurfaced them every 4-5 years, installed a new lighting system and later reinstalled a superior updated lighting system, which is re-lamped every 3 years. We increased the playing area of the upper courts, reconfigured the court layout to provide more space between the courts and installed new fencing. Last year we replaced the kitchen, installed a dishwasher and provided a new refrigerator. We therefore cannot understand the City's reluctance to renew our lease; it is only to the ultimate benefit of the local residents and the City. (6) We have also asked the City, that based on our past performance, we be allowed to lease part of the 4.5 acres of zoned public park land in Leaside's industrial area, so that the Club could install more courts with winter tennis capability to offset our full capacity membership and our current 150 plus waiting list. Anyway as mentioned earlier nothing has been done to resolve these items and our politicians and bureaucrats seem to be just self serving.

Well enough of this diatribe, I hope you enjoy the rest of the season, and I look forward to seeing you all at the Annual General Meeting and the End Of Season Dinner Party.

John Hunt  
President

## Jeff's Journal – The Coaching Corner

### Tailoring the game for kids



A question that I get asked a lot is, "When should I start my child playing tennis?" My first response is usually, "When a child shows some interest in the game." It usually seems that if a parent watches or plays tennis, the child will be interested in learning.

Another consideration is to look at the motor skills of your child. Children under 7 years old can develop basic movement and hand-eye coordination skills. For a child to be ready to start tennis skills, they should have some skill in catching and throwing a ball. Having these skills will make hitting the ball a lot easier.

Within the junior programs at Leaside this year, we have started kids at age 5, with some kids starting as early as age 4. The key to success at this age, is maintaining the kids enthusiasm with frequent changes of activity. Most importantly, the child has to want to do it.

Every youth sport has modified the equipment so that kids can enjoy learning the game. Tennis has now done the same. The three things that are adjusted for kids are the size of the court, the racket, and the tennis ball. The Merchant of Tennis has rackets and tennis balls for every age if you are interested in starting your child in the sport.

Jeff Durrante  
LTC Head Professional

## Casual Employment Opportunity

*The Club is searching for interested applicant(s) for the 2009 tennis season to function as Court Supervisors. The hours of work are:*

*Monday, Wednesday: Friday 6pm – 11pm*

*Tuesday & Thursday: 9am – 12 Noon; 6pm – 11pm.*

*Saturday, Sunday & Holidays: 9am – 12 Noon; 1pm – 5pm; 7pm – 10pm*

*The job starts mid April and runs continuously through to mid October. The proposed work schedule is one week on; one week off. There are too many hours for one person to work continuously every week. Ideally two supervisors would work best. Due to the requirement for supervisors to work the Tuesday & Thursday morning socials, this position would be difficult for a student to fulfill as they would be in school during April, May, June and September, October. Duties include – but is not limited to - enforcing the Club Rules and Regulations, some light maintenance ensuring that Club Members obtain court priority over non-members, assisting with organized club programs (House League, Inter-county nights, Socials etc), and providing security for club facilities.*

*This position would be ideal for a retired person with an interest in furthering the game of tennis in the community. Remuneration is currently at \$12.00 per hour. To obtain further information please call Bill Foster, House & Courts Director at 416-481-4890.*

## **Leaside Teams**

Leaside Tennis Club was well represented in many levels of inter-club play this year.

In the Evening Divisions, our two ladies teams again fared very well. The Division 3 team, captained by Sheila Hunt, won the division and Erica Gilbert's Division 4 team placed 4<sup>th</sup>.

Our Evening Mixed Inter-county teams faced very stiff competition but came away with some wonderful wins and some very close losses. Final results are not available due to a few rain outs still to be played, but it looks as if the C team, captained by Karen Martin, is assured of at least a top 5 finish and the A team, captained by myself, will be near the bottom, but not last!!

In the Ladies Daytime League we had 2 competitive teams. The A1 team, captained by Kristi Duncanson, placed first in their division and the C2 team, with Joan Nutt at the helm, placed second.

Thanks to all who played on Leaside's teams. The commitment and sportsmanship you showed speaks volumes about the quality of our wonderful club. Hope you can all find courts to keep sharp on over the winter and meet back at Leaside next spring, ready for battle again!

A BIG thank you to all captains for rallying the teams to such success.

Gillian Kern  
Director of Teams

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## **Junior News**

### **Junior Team Results**

**Further congratulations are due to the Leaside Junior Team for their** results in the Inter-County Boys Majors East Division: Leaside placed second overall. Congratulations to all team members for these terrific results!

### **Junior Tournament**

The Junior Tournament is scheduled for the weekend of September 10, 20 and 21. There will be separate singles draws for girls and boys in the following age categories: U18, U16, U14, U12 and U10.

Sign-up sheets will be posted in the clubhouse the first week of September. The deadline to sign up for the tournament is Tuesday, September 16. Make sure you sign up before the deadline and we look forward to seeing you all there!

Diana Woodhead  
Junior Development

**2008 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA****Thursday October 16, 2008****(Trace Manes Community Centre)****7:30 p.m.**

(Pizza and Pop will be served at 7:00pm)

1. Approval of Minutes of the October 11, 2007 Annual General Meeting and Business arising.
2. President's Report and Discussion, John Hunt
3. Directors' Reports:
  - a. Bill Foster                      House and Courts
  - b. Joyce Macmillan              Membership
  - c. Roman Kucharczyk          House League
  - d. Gillian Kern                    Teams
  - e. Fred Yagi                        Tournaments
  - f. Diana Woodhead              Junior Player Development
  - g. Dick Harrald                  Senior Player Development
  - h. Susan Rutherford              Social
  - i. Joan Edwards                  Publicity
4. Treasurer's Report and Discussion, Vicky Kovacs
5. Election of New Directors
6. Other Business
7. Motion to Adjourn

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**Adult Clinics**

First, I would like to thank our head coach, JEFF DURANTE, for his skilled professional teaching that met the needs of the various levels of tennis players. My thanks also to Jeff's able and ever up-beat assistant, NICK D'AMICO. Both coaches worked as a great team. Unfortunately the many rain-outs were a scheduling problem, but for the most part, make-up clinics took place.

We surpassed last year's registration with a total of 206 placements. I hope that everyone has learned, and put into practice, some of the skills and strategies taught.

I would also like to encourage members interested in taking adult lessons next year to watch for the registration in the Spring 2009 newsletter. Members, get your applications and payments in early to avoid disappointment for those prime time slots!

Thanks to those who participated in the clinics. Have a great indoor tennis season this winter.

Dick Harrald  
Senior Player Development

## OCTOBER 2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 19:00-21:00 HL	2 9:30-11:30am RR	3 19:00 Comm. RR	4	5 13:30-15:30 RR
6 7:30pm Board Mtg	7 9:30-11:30am RR	8	9 9:30-11:30am RR	10 19:00 Comm. RR	11	12 13:30-15:30 RR
13 THANKSGIVING	14 9:30-11:30am RR	15	16 9:30-11:30am RR 7:30 AGM	17 19:00 Comm. RR	18 YEAR END PARTY PARTY	19 13:30-15:30 RR
20	21	22	23	24	25 COURTS CLOSED	26
27	28	29	30	31	Legend RR - Round Robin HL - House League	

**Membership 2009**

- **If** you do not receive your 2009 Membership by the end of January
- **If** there is an error in the 2008 Club Directory under your name
- **If** you have a change of address or telephone number
- **If** you are going to be away during January 2009

**Call the Membership Secretary, Erica Gilbert at 416-445-3341**