

VERNON TENNIS ASSOCIATION (VTA)

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PRESIDENT'S PASSING SHOTS

April, 2022

Welcome back everyone. The start of this year is certainly a lot different to the last as we have had many more registrations for this time of the year and I am sure more will follow. Welcome to our board of Jackie Labuhn, Frits Bakker, Carol Jenkins, Ron Burton, Brian vanBolhuis, Kristen Read, Karin Schjelderup and Ross Fedy.

OUR LEAGUES

We have had a record number of players wanting to play in our leagues. This has resulted in some restructuring for our 4.0 or A League. A few years back, we had 2 leagues going with 32 regular players. At the present, we have 47 regular player registrations but I am sure there will be more to follow. A very big thanks to Brian vanBolhuis and Kirbey Lockhart for all of their hard work. It is sure very much appreciated.

DROP-IN OPPORTUNITIES

While you might be playing in a league, please also consider the drop-in opportunities on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays. This way you get to meet more people and play with others at different levels. It would be great to see the courts full.

MORNING PROGRAMS – While we certainly support these programs, they are not part of the VTA. Presently, Women's and Men's leagues are running with the registration closed for regular players. However, spares are still able to register. To do so, please go to Vernon Parks and Rec. Services web site.

FAST (Fun Adult Starter Tennis) AND SKILLS AND DRILLS

The FAST program is for adults who are starting tennis. Skills and drills then follow on. It is planned to get these programs underway after the leagues have been set up and are running. There will be a maximum of four players per instructor. As the leagues will be running this week, the plan is to send out information about these programs a little later in May. There is a necessary fee of \$30/person for these programs, because they are extra to the other tennis programs running.

TOURNAMENTS

Tournaments in the Okanagan are run at the various levels and are a great way to meet players from other communities. For those 55+, there is the 55+ Games in

Victoria from September 13-17. These are well worthwhile attending. A great opportunity to play against others of your age.

MORE COURTS NEEDED

We are certainly in need of more courts in Vernon. We currently have 12 courts but based on our population the recommended number from the 2015 Parks Report would be 18. This is unfortunately just a blue print but it certainly does put us in a position to pursue at least 4 more courts at Marshall.

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT

Information about our junior development program will be sent out this week. As we are presently not permitted to rent courts to coach children except in the months of July and August, our program has had to be revised. In the long run this is not a bad thing as it will mean we will look to get kids out to play tennis with each other. Our junior development program will take a different look.

- **Courts for Kids** – As it has been found that the young players often take lessons but then do not continue to play, the plan is to contact the parents of the children who have received coaching lessons from us and have them get to know others who play tennis so they can arrange to play each other on their neighborhood courts.
- **Kids Leagues** – It is planned to set up some after school leagues so the young players can play each other. Again, this will help them to get to know each other and enjoy the game rather than just taking lessons.
- **Lessons** – It is planned to have lessons in July and August.
- **Tournaments** – Rogers Rookie Tours (Tournaments for kids) are now being held in the Interior. A couple were recently held at Predator and Kamloops, another is planned this month in Salmon Arm while another is to be held shortly in Lake Country. I am also planning to hold another at Predator in July. I would prefer to run it at Marshall but am concerned with the lack of washroom facilities close to the courts.

Graham Cooper

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A VTA WEBCAM

for showing the condition of the courts!

The VTA Board is happy to announce that you can now look at what the weather will be like before you go out to Marshall field. Yes, our trusted IT, Mikey, has installed a webcam in the Fabi Shack.

Go to the website www.vernontennis.com and click on the **WEBCAM** at the bottom of the MENU **OR** click on this direct link <https://vernontennis.com/webcam/>.

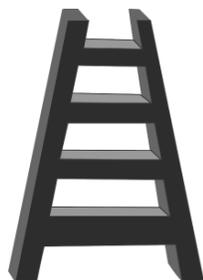
The webcam is dependent on the reliability of the Marshall field WIFI, so please be patient until it is stable. You will get a picture of the courts, and an indication of the present weather condition. The forecast is that of the Vernon area, but we hope in the future to have a weatherproof instrument that can be mounted outside for more accurate readings. We know it will add to the efficiency of being able to know if the courts are wet or not. Constructive feedback is welcome. Tell us how you like it too. This is another indication that the VTA is trying to do what our members want. Many thanks to Mikey Arce!!

This is what you will see on the webcam page:

Observed at 2022-04-30

10:45:04.053724

We hope to not see this kind of weather! What you will see is an Environment Canada weather chart for the Vernon area.



VTA SINGLES TENNIS LADDER - For Ladies and Men

The Vernon Tennis Association has a Singles Ladder again. Rules below.

The ladder is up and running again, and will provide an opportunity for those (male and female) players interested in competing in singles matches to be ranked according to their results. Register for the ladder with our new volunteer coordinator, [Stephen Blaxland](mailto:sblaxland.physio@gmail.com) -

sblaxland.physio@gmail.com or 604-360-6915 for rules and regulations.

You must be a VTA member to participate in the Ladder. The VTA Singles Ladder runs all year round. Play your matches on any courts, any time you wish then report your scores to the coordinator.

TENNIS LADDER RULES

- PLAYERS ARRANGE THEIR OWN MATCHES.** Ladder matches cannot be scheduled during VTA reserved times. Aim to play weekly, but it is understood that this may not always be possible. If convenient, some players may choose to play more than once per week.
- Play "Best of 3 sets" with a 10-point super-breaker (instead of a third full set) if the match is tied at one set each. This is a traditional tiebreaker but goes to 10 points (win by two) rather than 7.
- PLAYERS MAY CHALLENGE EITHER OF THE TWO PLAYERS ABOVE THEIR NAME.** If the lower-ranked player defeats the higher-ranked player, they would change spots. If the higher ranked player wins, both players are deemed to have successfully defended their current positions. If you would like to arrange a match with a lower-ranked player (one or two spots below), that is also acceptable. If the lower-ranked player wins, spots are traded. If the higher-ranked player wins, positions remain the same.
- MATCH RESULTS MUST BE EMAILED TO THE COORDINATOR, STEPHEN, A.S.A.P. after your match to: sblaxland.physio@gmail.com or 604-360-6915.
- The updated ladder will be e-mailed to all participants every Wednesday night. Please have match results into [Stephen Blaxland](mailto:sblaxland.physio@gmail.com) by 10 p.m. on Wednesday to be included in the updated ladder for the following week of play – Thursday through Wednesday.

Climb the ladder to your tennis success!

The ladder standings as of this date. If you have a reason why you do not want your name published in the Newsletter with the Ladder. Please let us know.

	W/L
Emilio Gonzalez	1-0
Jerry Reinhardt	
Kirbey Lockhart	0-1
Ben Johnson	

	W/L
Frank Bencze	
Matt Hill	
Mitkumar (Mit) Upadhyaya	2-0
Brook DesHarnais	0-1
Stephen Blaxland	0-1
Graham Cooper	
Dhruv Vaidya	1-0
Alex Sauve	0-1
Cheryl McCargar	
Ross Fedy	
Donna Hichok	
Heidi Roos	
Avi Koren	

Climb the ladder to your tennis success!

VTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING **APRIL 20, 2022**

We recently had our Annual General Meeting at the People Place in downtown Vernon. We very much thank those who chose to attend. A lot of business was concluded and those in attendance had a lot to say about how the VTA would work this season. We also gained three new Board member in addition to the six members who have promised to stay on the Board. Many thanks and congratulations to KRSTEN READ, ROSS FEDY, and KARIN SCHJELDERUP for being elected to the Board. The first Board meeting of the season will be held on May 11th to appoint the four main officials. You will be informed of the Board positions by email after the initial meeting.

Our Board meetings are open to all VTA members by submitting a written (email) request to attend, to discuss a specific subject.

THINKING ABOUT GETTING YOUR RACQUET **RE-STRUNG**

A really good idea!

The conventional 'rule of thumb' is to restring a racquet is as often per year as you play per week, but no less often than twice per year. It won't hurt your racquet to restring less often, but your strings might lose their responsiveness

The following are listed as tennis associated resources available in the area. The VTA does not endorse any tennis resource. It is up to individuals to request qualifications if required:

Racquet stringing

Jeremy Bell

1-236-768-6828

(Please note the new number)

Do you have tennis teaching qualifications? Private Tennis Lessons requested.

Is there anyone who has a tennis Instructor's Certificate who would like to give some private lessons? Please let us know at our email address – vtavernon@gmail.com. We will put you in our Newsletters, or put you in touch with those who have asked.

EXTRA COMMENTS FROM THE EDITOR

1. We will be running a workshop on the use of the Ball Machine very soon. Attending the workshop will enable you the use of the Ball Machine. Please keep a look out on your email for the date and time of the workshop.
2. Alcohol is NOT permitted in Marshall Field Park or anywhere near, or on, the tennis courts. It is a City By-Law that no alcohol be consumed in any City Park. If a By-Law officer catches anyone consuming alcohol during VTA reserved court time, the VTA could be closed down – please don't even consider it!
3. It has been brought to our attention that the courts are being fouled with cigarette butts and chewing gum. Please think twice before you deposit your gum or cigarette butts on the court. There are garbage cans provided, but make sure your butts are out before putting them in the cans.

