

VERNON TENNIS ASSOCIATION (VTA)

www.vernontennis.com

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PRESIDENT'S PASSING SHOTS

Welcome back everyone. Many of our programs are now underway with others commencing in the very near future. Welcome to our current board of Ron Burton (Vice-president), Carol Jenkins (Secretary), Frits Bakker (Treasurer), Jackie Labuhn (Membership & Communication), Brian van Bolhuis, Karen Schjelderup, and Rob Vandersanden (Directors at Large).

VERNON FEES ASSESSMENT SURVEY

While we are a registered society and are a non-profit organization that promotes tennis in our community and looks to provide tennis opportunities for players of all ages, we pay the same rental rates that are applied to an outside organization or private company. Consequently, the majority of our Membership fees go towards renting the courts. These rental fees also make it difficult to run tournaments.

It was our intention, this year to meet with the Recreation Departments representatives to discuss lowering the rental fees in light of what our association contributes to Vernon; however, there is currently a survey asking for input regarding rental fees. As we now plan to meet with Vernon Recreation once the survey has been completed, I would encourage all members to complete this survey. The link is:

https://www.engagevernon.ca/parksandrecreation/survey_tools/greater-vernon-recreation

OUR LEAGUES

Our leagues have become very popular. Currently, our 3.5 league is held on Tuesdays and the 4.0+ is on Thursdays. A big thanks to Brian vanBolhuis and Kirbey Lockhart for their tireless efforts to ensuring these leagues are running smoothly. It is planned to start up 2.5 to 3.0 league shortly on Fridays. Deanna Jones is also looking to start up a ladies' league on Wednesdays. If you want to be involved in a league, please check with a coordinator.

DROP-IN OPPORTUNITIES

If you would simply like to hit a few balls, play a few sets and get to meet others then please come to the drop-in opportunities. These are currently held on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays evenings, and Saturday mornings. The aim is to play with others who are a similar level to you.

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 now closed for regular players. However, spares are still able to register. Ivan Prohier has also worked hard to re-establish a social morning tennis group. Registrations are still open. As all of these are Vernon Recreation Services programs, please go to the Vernon Rec Services web site if you wish to register.

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. Information about these programs will be on our web site shortly.

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 are the 55+ Games at Abbotsford from August 22-26. 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 14 courts but based on our population the recommended number from the 2015 Parks Report would be 21. This is unfortunately just a blue print but it certainly does put us in a position to pursue at least 5 more courts at Marshall.

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT

Information about our junior development program will be sent out next week. We are presently not permitted to rent courts to coach children except in the months of July and August.

- **Lessons** – It is planned to have lessons in July and August.
- **Ladders** – We have set up ladders at the various skill levels so parents can contact each other and have their children play with others at their skill level.
- **Tournaments** – Rogers Rookie Tours (Tournaments for kids) are now being held in the Interior. These tournaments are currently held in Kamloops, Salmon Arm, Lake Country, Kelowna and Lakeview Heights and Predator Ridge. I would like to

run a tournament at Marshall but am concerned with the lack of washroom facilities close to the courts and the cost involved in renting the courts.

WHAT DOES SAFETY IN SPORT MEAN?

(Reprinted from Via Sport March 2023 Newsletter)

Safety in sport means knowing the difference between belonging and bullying behaviour. And knowing what to do about it.

It's not just about preventing harm. It's about changing sport culture for the better – promoting equity, respect and inclusion so everyone can do their best, grow and have fun. We all have a role to play in making sport safer, from athletes to coaches, parents, staff and board members. It all starts with you.

Want to know where to begin? With the right tools, you can make a difference. Check out our links below to get started:

- [PlaySafe BC Tools and Resources](#)
- [Try our Flag Tool](#)

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED

Help is always needed. As a 'participating' VTA member you can help in many ways. You can have a direct impact on tennis in Vernon by volunteering to coordinate an evening session, a competitive league, help out on court, or any other program. **WE ARE A PUBLIC TENNIS CLUB, AND ALL OUR BOARD MEMBERS AND COORDINATORS ARE VOLUNTEERS.** Contact us if you would like to help. vtavernon@gmail.com It would be much

appreciated. 😊



THINKING ABOUT GETTING THAT RACQUET RE-STRUNG BEFORE SPRING SURPRISES US

Racquet stringing

Jeremy Bell 1 (236) 768-6828

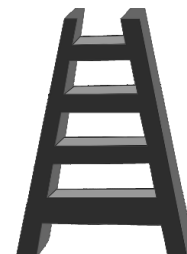
VTA SINGLE'S LADDER STANDINGS AT START OF MAY 2023

1st	Jerry Reinhardt
2nd	Kerbey Lockhart
3rd	Cliff Winter
4th	Matt Hill
5th	Akeem Olatunde
6th	Pat Stich
7th	Stephen Blaxland
8th	Brook DesHarnais
9th	Paige Garbutt
10th	Mark Vuckovic
11th	Shawn Jennings
12th	Graham Cooper
13th	Alex Sauve
14th	Mahmoud Farajmandi
15th	Ross Fedy
16th	Derek Rajakumar
17th	Cheryl McCargar
18th	Coral Rosario

CONTACT:

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TO CLIMB THE VTA SINGLES LADDER TO SUCCESS!



WELCOME BACK FUN TENNIS PARTY SATURDAY, MAY 27. See page 3 below....

WELCOME BACK VTA MEMBERS!

**SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2023,
9:00 AM. – NOON**

MARSHALL FIELD TENNIS COURTS

THIS IS YOUR DAY TO HAVE TENNIS FUN
AND RE-ACCQUAINT YOURSELF WITH OLD FRIENDS,
AND MEET SOME NEW ONES.

\$5.00 to cover a BBQ lunch

Payable when you arrive at the courts.

9:00 am. is when we start the first round of tennis. You can join the group right away at 9:00, or you can come any time during the morning, but you may have to wait up to 30 minutes to get on a court.

Tennis will be first come first on court – this is how it works. When you get to the court, anytime during the morning, we will put your name on the whiteboard for an available court. Three other players will be placed onto the same court (keeping in mind the different levels of play).

You will play Double or Mixed Doubles for 30 minutes. At the sound of the whistle, ALL players will exit the courts. Another 16 players will be ready to go onto the courts for their 30 minutes. You will be able to socialize, take time to have refreshments, and put your name down on a court for the next round. We will try to have 6 rounds by noon. Lunch will be available from 11:00 am. - 12:00 pm. or when the last round is finished.

⇒ [No pre-registration required – just be there Saturday!!](#) ⇐

