

Tennis in the rural lane

By JENNIFER ENRIGHT

Since it started in 1976 the Nassagaweya Tennis Club (NTC) has been not only a sports facility but also a meeting place for the rural community

Jim Harding, a past president and member of NTC's executive, says the club was initially started to fill a need and he says even today the club provides one of the few recreational activities available in rural Milton. "Basically in the rural areas in and around Campbellville, there are the baseball diamonds and the tennis club."

Since its beginnings, NTC has occupied a site at 9267 Guelph Line in Campbellville on property owned by the Town of Milton. The site, which was formerly a gas station and motel, is now shared by the Town of Milton as well as the club.

Jim says initially a group of interested rural residents came up with the idea of setting up a tennis club and decided to hold a meeting to discuss the proposal. "I believe over 500 people showed up. The organizers were overwhelmed by the interest and I think that's probably one of the reasons why the Town of Milton decided to put the tennis courts out here (in Campbellville)."

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Over the years, Jim and fellow club member Mike Grimwood, who is also on the executive, say the club has had a good working relationship with the Town; both the Town and the volunteer members in the club share responsibility for maintenance. Last year, the club's three tennis courts were resurfaced as part of a joint project paid for by the Town and NTC with costs split equally between the Town and the club.

The emphasis today, as it was back in the 1970s, is on providing a relaxed atmosphere where people of all ages and abilities can play tennis. As Jim says, "We are much more a social club than we are a competitive club and I think that's always been the case."

The club provides a free junior program to encourage young players to take up the sport and the program this year, as it was last year, will be run by Nassagaweya resident Rob Wilson, NTC's Youth Co-ordinator.

Aside from activities geared to younger members, NTC also offers a series of free tennis lessons for three weeks during the month of May run by a tennis instructor. These classes are followed by a series of paid lessons that are designed for juniors, adult beginners, intermediate adults, and more advanced players.

As someone who has been with the club for 16 years, Mike says the club is a worthwhile one to join, and not just for the tennis. He says members get to know one another both on and off the courts. Mike says for adult players one of the best ways to feel they are part of their rural community is to simply take part in the house league. "I think that we found through the house league program that people get to know each other and that's important because we are pretty spread out in the rural community."

For the last 28 years, the NTC's home has been at the northeast corner of the 401 and Guelph Line, across from the Mohawk Inn.



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Glenn Goldstraw, a past president and member of the Nassagaweya Tennis Club, tries out a game of tennis wearing a kilt. Goldstraw is one of many rural residents that belong to the NTC. The club, located off Guelph Line in Campbellville, first opened in 1976.



PHOTO BY JENNIFER ENRIGHT
Members of the Nassagaweya Tennis Club are getting ready for another season of tennis this year with a full line up of programs for youth as well as adults. Some of the club's members include (back row, left to right) Jim Harding, Catherine Spence, Lauren Harrison, and Mike Grimwood. Mark Spence and Brooke Harrison are in the front row.

We invite you to join the

NASSAGAWEYA TENNIS CLUB

We are a socially oriented summer tennis facility serving Campbellville and the Nassagaweya area from April to October. We have three lighted, newly surfaced courts that provide great access with few line ups and no extra court fees. Last year we added a ball machine and backboard with grants from the Milton Community Fund. Whether you are a new player, a seasoned expert, or just looking for a new social outlet in friendly surroundings, the Nassagaweya Tennis Club has something to offer to players of all ages.

Important Dates

Clean up -Saturday Apr. 16th, 9:00 -12:00

Registration

-Saturday Apr. 16th, 1:00-4:00 pm

-Tuesday Apr. 19th, 6:00-8:00 pm

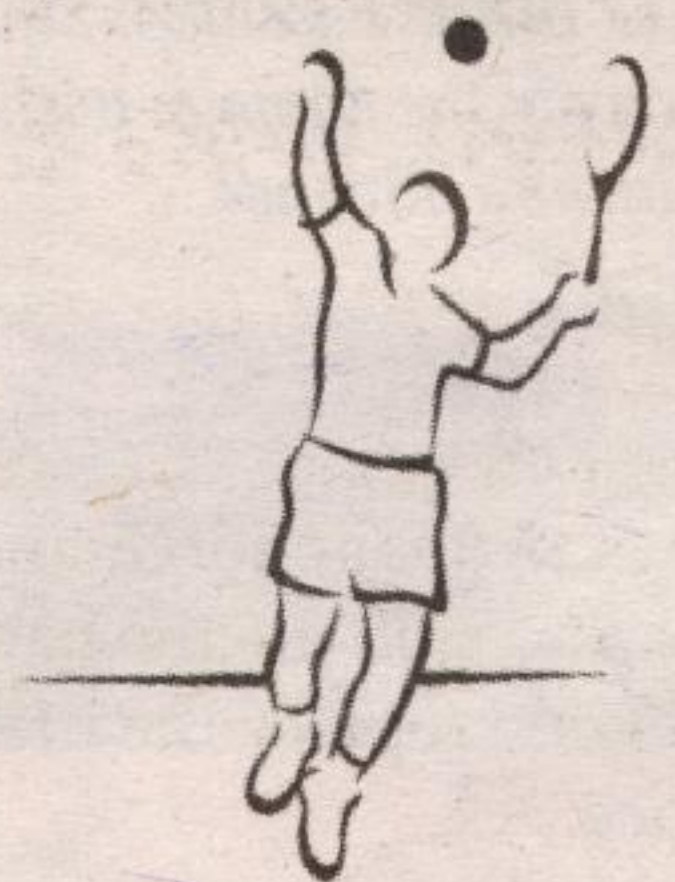
-Saturday Apr. 23rd, 1:00-5:00 pm

Open House and BBQ

-Saturday April 23, 1:00-5:00 pm

Mix and Match Tournament and BBQ

-Saturday May 14th, details to follow



***Lesson Programmes** are going to be available through-out the season! NTC has contracted Courtside Tennis Academy to provide three free lessons during May. This will be followed by a six week lesson package (details available at registration).

***Our Youth Co-ordinator** will return to NTC this year to continue the youth development programme through lessons, hit arounds, clinics and tournaments. Encouraging the youth of our community to play this great sport has become an important community goal and financial commitment.

***Spring House League** is a great way to play friendly, competitive tennis! Teams are organized, and play throughout May and June. Sign up at registration as a team member or as a spare. There's lots of tennis time for everyone!

***Rural League** is played inter-club and gives us a chance to try our skills against other communities. Details will follow as soon as the league is organized.

***Scheduled Drop In Tennis** has always been a part of our club. These flexible groups are created to match the needs and time demands of NTC members.

As a 'volunteer' club, we need your support for club activities! Please contact us if you are willing to assist, help or volunteer!

- Cleanup • Maintenance • Gardening • House league captain
- Tournaments • Executive • Telephone contact with members • Publicity

Contacts:

Kathy and Jim Harding • 905-854-2418 Mike Grimwood • 905-854-0627

NTC Clubhouse (in season) • 905-854-1696

Located in Campbellville at the North East corner of the 401 and Guelph Line, across from the Mohawk Inn.

REGISTRATION

**Nassagaweya Tennis Club
Box 201 Campbellville, ON L0P1B0**

Return form with cheque payable to
Nassagaweya Tennis Club.
Register by mail or in person. Please Print Clearly

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TOWN: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

NEW RENEWAL

Names of Participating Adults

1. _____

2. _____

Names of Juniors/Students

Name: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Name: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Name: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____

FEES

Family _____

Any 2 adults plus children in the same household - \$135

Adult Couple _____

Any 2 adults in the same household - \$115

Adult Single _____

Over 18 years of age - \$75

Senior _____

60 years of age or older - \$60

Senior Couple _____

60 years of age or older - \$100

Junior/Student _____

Under 18 years of age as of 2005-01-01 or full-time student - \$40

Spring House League _____

\$10 / person participating

1. _____

2. _____

Adult Mixed Inter-Club _____

\$10 / person - Rural League

1. _____

2. _____

TOTAL FEES \$ _____

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