

President's Report April 2024

Hello Members,

Spring is here and a few hardy souls have been out on the courts already!

We have many new initiatives this summer. Our goal for 2024 is to bring back lapsed members and bring in new ones. You can help us with this by spreading the word to old players and to friends who have never even picked up a racquet before. We want 'em !

Our VP Niki Van Riel stepped down this year and we have brought on Mary Jane Saffrey as a director to the Board under the Bylaws to replace Ms Van Riel. Niki has been a driving force on our board since its inception and has been fundamental in moving the club forward. We thank her for all her guidance and hard work.

Newly minted director MJ Saffrey is out of the gates with our "Try Tennis" program.

Have you ever wanted to try tennis but didn't know where to start?

Chester Tennis Club is offering a series of small group lessons to get you started. If you decide to stay with the sport at the end of the sessions, you can subtract the cost of your lessons from your membership to CTC for 2024.

Ages: 18 up

*Dates: **Mondays** 5:30 to 7:00pm, May 27 to June24*

Cost: 40.00

Registration: Chester Recreation Department, 902-275-3490

At the other end of the spectrum, we have the Tennis Nova Scotia South Shore Summer League.

The purpose of this league is to provide meaningful matchplay opportunities to players in the South Shore, in a more convenient timeframe than a weekend tournament.

The first league launching in the summer of 2024 will have two doubles categories: beginner (2.0-2.5) and Intermediate (3.0-4.5). Matches will take place on a rotational basis at Chester, Mahone Bay, Bridgewater, and Lunenburg. The cost of entry covers the court time, balls, and admin fees. All matches will be recorded on tournament software and will contribute towards each player's WTN (World Tennis Number)

More details to follow.

We have TWO Pros so far this year. Michal Ciszek is back and will be running privates and clinics every Sunday this season. Matt Van Amburg is a Club Pro 2 certified by Tennis Canada who will be offering private lessons on Fridays and Saturdays. Matt will be running our Junior Spring "After School" program on May 18th and 25th. Welcome Matt!

We are still on the hunt for a coach for the summer Junior Program. If you have any suggestions, we are all ears.

MJ Saffrey will be running our women's morning program again this summer.

mjsaffrey@anchornet.ca

MJ has also been certified as an accessible wheelchair coach.

Guy Skipworth will be organizing our men's evening tennis again this year.

skipworthg@gmail.com

We received a grant from the Municipality to host an Open House family fun day. This will be in July. Details to follow.

You can still get your groovy Chester Tennis Club ball caps at last year's prices - \$25

See you on the courts. Bring your friends!

