



**SENIORS TENNIS ASSOCIATION
OF THE NORTHSORE INC. 1988**
c/o Delbrook Community Centre
600 West Queens Road
North Vancouver, B.C. V7N 2L3

E-mail: ns.seniorstennis@gmail.com Website: www.seniorstennis.ca

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MARCH 2017

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Variath Kutty

Since our last Newsletter, our Programs Director Ron Ranquist has resigned from our board. Ron has done an excellent job of running our programs and obtaining reserved courts for our winter and summer play. We will miss him and at our April meeting, we shall find a replacement. I take this opportunity to thank him for his commitment and service to STANS.

We continue to have a willing and cooperative team of directors to help with the running of our programs and social events. In addition, we are fortunate to have the help of a number of volunteers. I thank them all for their contribution and hope this will continue in future.

John Kennedy, Will Phillips and Don Mackinlay, court captains for our indoor tennis teams, have been running our indoor tennis programs efficiently and ably. Shirley and Bob Young continue to run their Tuesday/Thursday indoor games well. My sincere thanks to these hardworking captains for their continued assistance.

This year's Christmas Social went very well. We had six courts for the evening and many players got to play two or three times! Pari Koch had the punch bowl going and a variety of finger food and sweets on the table. We missed Judith this year. Don Mackinlay had a new system for organizing teams and it worked very well. We might borrow this idea for our April social. Ron and Bella were busy registering players and there was minimum delay. Denis wisely brought his lovely wife to collect renewals and cheques - she did a marvelous job, while crafty Denis was very active playing tennis.

Pari Koch maintains excellent relations with North Shore News, who have been most supportive of our activities. Last year they included our picnic news, photos and published a paragraph about our Christmas Social. We are hopeful they will continue their support in the coming years.

We have an indoor Spring Social planned for April 28, 2017. Details are given elsewhere in this Newsletter. This would mark the end of our winter indoor sessions. Theoretically outdoor reserved courts become available to us from April 1. We urge everyone to come out once or twice a week and join play at Murdo Frazer or Cloverly or the other reserved courts. Please be a sport and follow the rules explained below. This is senior social tennis, where the importance is having fun and building friendship. There are players of differing abilities: but they all want to play and have fun.

The website developed by Françoise du Pauw and our Facebook page are seeing visitors. We urge our members to visit our website which may be reached by typing: <http://seniorstennis.ca/>. We take this opportunity to ask our members to canvass for new members and paid advertisements in our Newsletter.

For your reference our website address is <http://seniorstennis.ca/> and our email is ns.seniortennis@gmail.com.



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You can reach our Facebook page by typing: <https://www.facebook.com/stanstennis/>. Please note that you don't need a Facebook account to visit our page. Francoise has been very creative and you can see some great photographs there.

2017 SOCIAL AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our Social & Annual General Meeting will be held Wednesday 12th April 2017, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm, in the Marine Room (Cafeteria) at West Vancouver Senior Centre (695 21st Street), West Vancouver.

We expect most of the Executives currently on our Board who are eligible to stand for re-election will do so. We also expect to recruit one or two new board members. As always further nominations will be accepted from the floor during the meeting.

Refreshments will be served and we look forward to seeing you. Membership renewal forms will be available so you can sign up for 2017 if you have not already done so.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL AND FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

If you are a paid up member of STANS you will receive our Newsletters three times a year. If you have not registered as a member and/or have not yet paid your membership, we would encourage you to do so now to avoid disappointment. This will be your last Newsletter and we'll miss you, so please

renew so we can all stay in touch. And one other point: the liability insurance we carry applies only to members of STANS and it is therefore doubly important that you be a paid-up member so you can play on the courts reserved for STANS members.

We are pleased to welcome the following new Members to STANS:

- Bill Barrie
- Gord Blwyn
- Adela Feher
- Cherrill Fleming
- Laura Gibson
- Chay Kho
- Ross McDonald
- Diane Winram



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GRANTS FOR YOUNG PLAYERS

For this year's grant we have received the names of three young and upcoming tennis players from their respective coaches.

Wayne Elderton of North Shore Tennis Centre

Danny Yassine.

Danny Yassine is turning 11 years old this year. He is currently ranked fifth in B.C. in U12 Provincial play. Danny will be representing BC at the upcoming U12 Indoor Nationals hosted in Calgary. He is currently part of the National Training Program. In the previous two years, he has received the award for top U10 players at NVTC. Danny shows all attributes needed to become a strong national level player. His work ethic and commitment to his tennis is what makes Danny a special young athlete.

Fabio Walker of North Shore Winter Club

Yasmin Mansouri.

Yasmin started tennis at the age of eight. By the age of twelve, she started competing at an international level, e.g, Orange Bowl, Casely tournaments in Florida. Her dedication to tennis led her to compete for the National Team, representing team BC, since 2014. A year later she competed in the Junior Fed cup, Asia and Oceana Group. She continues to compete at National and ITF level, ranked #1191. She won the 3rd National Selection event for BC in Feb, 2017. Her love and passion for tennis has helped her learn that any spectacular win comes from a spectacular preparation.

Paul Tornquist of West Vancouver Tennis Club

Rachael Kaluza.

We would like to nominate Rachael Kaluza for the STANS award 2017. She has been a long time student in our high performance program and has been a student with great potential. Her high performance personal coach Dennis Simsek writes:

As a personal coach for Rachael Kaluza over the entire last summer as well as this fall/winter season I full heartedly believe she deserves any type of sponsorship we can offer. Rachael's work ethic and drive to pursue a long term tennis career is incredibly admirable, and the other kids in the group feed off of her passion daily. I believe

Rachael is a true role model for her tennis colleagues and through her leadership on and off the court deserves this scholarship, as well as any other means we can put together to further her talent and passion for the sport of tennis. Paul Tornquist talks about this fourteen year old athlete's hard work, willingness to help others and her ambition to win a scholarship to play at university level and represent Canada as a top ranking tennis player.

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55+ BC Games 2017

The 55+ BC Games will take place in Vernon and Area from September 12-16, 2017. North and West Vancouver are under Zone 4 and you may contact Colin McLean, Tennis Coordinator for Zone 4. He may be reached at 604 261 0296 or by email at colmav@shaw.ca. The link to their website is <https://www.55plusbcgames.org>. ALL STANS and other North Shore Tennis players are invited to join the fun!

SPRING & SUMMER TENNIS PROGRAM

April 1, 2017 to October 1, 2017

STANS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

April 12, 2017

PROGRAMS REPORT

We can report that all STANS events and programs for 2016/2017 were quite successful with the help of many volunteers, court captains and food organizers. Following is a summary of past and upcoming programs for 2016/2017.

The North Shore District Courts have been booked from April to September 2017 as follows:

MURDO FRAZER

3 Courts - Monday to Friday
Times: 8 am to Noon.

CATES PARK

2 Courts: Tuesday and Thursday
Times: 8 am to Noon

CLOVERLY

2 Courts: Monday to Friday
Times: 8 am to Noon.

The West Vancouver District Courts have been booked for the same period as follows:

AMBLESIDE

3 Courts: Monday, Wednesday and Friday
Times: 7 am to 9 am

BENBOW

2 Courts: Tuesday and Thursday
Times: 8 am to Noon
Murdo Frazer courts have been the most popular on the North Shore. There has not been much interest in West Vancouver courts



ANNUAL PICNIC AND ROUND ROBIN

This annual event has not been sceduled yet. We shall announce the date in our next Newsletter.

FALL AND WINTER INDOOR TENNIS

Our Fall and Winter Indoor Tennis sessions (October to April) at North Vancouver Tennis Centre have gone well.

Three courts were booked again for Monday, Wednesday and Friday and will end in April. Tuesday and Thursday group booked three courts for Tuesdays and four courts for Thursdays. All days had a full roster of players, with subs filling in when regular players are unable to play.

All-Court Sports has joined our group of corporate sponsors. This racquet sports store is located at 1217 Nanaimo Street, Vancouver, BC V5L 4T5. Telephone: 778 835 0672/ Cell: 778 855 9171.

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL AND TENNIS EVENT

Last December's social event was held in North Vancouver Tennis Centre and was quite successful with an impressive increase in numbers, both players and guests. Please see below for photos and John Kennedy's note.

STANS Christmas Party ...2016

It was, as usual, held in the weeks leading up to Christmas. It was, as usual, well attended...indeed very well attended. It was, as usual, brilliantly organised on the tennis front by the very capable Ron Ranquist, STANS' Program Director, in what turns out to have been his public swan song as he has now retired from the position after four years of dedicated (if occasionally frustrating) service to our tennis community. And it was, as usual, a wonderful opportunity to enjoy playing tennis and chatting with people who you might not have seen for a time, or who you might have just met, or with whom you'd just played tennis earlier in the week.

Vigour and skill were much in evidence on the six courts we had at our disposal. Everyone who wanted to play was able to do so and several keeners were able to be out there much of the time. And the fact that STANS had once again (as usual) come up with new tennis balls added bounce and spin to good shots and bad. I personally consider both to fall into the category of "all's fair in love and war....and tennis".

Music stylings were, as usual, under the brilliant and energetic supervision of Gwen Gouchee for whom the term "stalwart" was surely invented. She hauls about a short ton of equipment around in her

classy station wagon and drags it efficiently up the stairs and into our venue and then elicits from it the sounds of Christmas and the tunes to support carollers willing to join in the fun...and this year, as usual, lots of players and friends did exactly that. Syd Nash was there with his trusty guitar (the one that makes beautiful sounds and that like his tennis racquet, appears not to have seen new strings in a while) and introduced a note or two from his Jamaican roots to spice up our delightful gathering. And there was dancing in the aisles...can you believe it? Dancing! Who knew that such luminaries (first names only to protect the innocent) as Rolson, Maria, Wendy, Bella, Kutty, David and Pari could star on the courts and cut a pretty good rug on the same evening. Later, as people were drifting off to return to their ordinary lives, yours truly came upon Syd and the ever-surprising Don MacKinlay playing scintillating duets on their guitars with verve and charming musicality. Bravo to you both and here's a vote for a more visible outing at our Christmas party next year.

And, as usual, there were lots of good eats to feed the ever-grateful souls that frequent parties such as ours. Pari Koch came up with an eclectic range of goodies guaranteed to provide something for pretty much everyone. Thank you Pari. You go about your work quietly and deliver the goods every time and we who benefit from your efforts appreciate them.

There is more to tell you but I will be in trouble with my editors if I go on any longer. Please join us at the next STANS outing in April so you can see for yourself how much fun there is to be had.



Remembering Allison Smith

Elmer Helm

Allison Smith was the main driving force in getting the Grant Connell Tennis Center, now The North Vancouver Tennis Center. When Allison was a member of the North Vancouver Recreation Sports

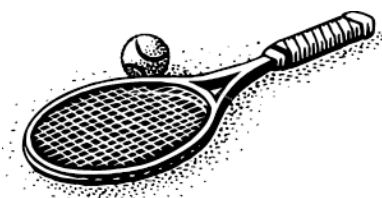
Council representing all the different sports, she was concerned that there was no representative for the sport of tennis. She contacted all the tennis groups in North Vancouver and arranged for a meeting at the Harry Jerome Recreation Centre. As President of STANS I attended the meeting as a representative.

This became the North Vancouver Tennis Society and I was elected as President and our goal was to get an indoor tennis facility. We knew we had to get community support and Allison arranged to get booths in the Malls to support our endeavours. When Larco was closing the Capilano Recreation Centre, at the foot of Capilano Road, the Society managed with the help of the Commission to get the tennis bubble.

Many of the STANS members helped. It was highly successful and \$60,000 plus equipment was given for a new indoor centre.

It took us nearly ten years to get the North Vancouver Tennis Centre. Although Frank Gartner (deceased) and myself received life time memberships for our volunteer work, and as President of the Society I had the privilege of cutting the ribbon with Mayor Don Bell and Grant Connell in opening the Centre in 2002, it was only possible because of the original idea and commitment of Allison. It is a tribute to Allison to see that her endeavours and work have resulted in us having the North Shore Tennis Centre. Thanks Allison.

Epilogue: It should be noted that STANS members were and have been a tremendous force in getting our Centre. When we made submissions to Council we packed the Council Chamber with tennis players, in tennis outfits. The Mayor commented that there were a lot of old ladies in tennis shoes!



Christmas Party 2016

