



THE JESTERS CLUB (ONTARIO)

“FOR WHEN THE ONE GREAT SCORER COMES TO MARK AGAINST YOUR NAME, HE MARKS NOT THAT YOU WON OR LOST BUT HOW YOU PLAYED THE GAME”

Spring 2007

A BI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER OF THE JESTERS CLUB (ONTARIO)

NEW JESTERS

We are pleased to announce that the following six people have been elected to the Jester ranks.

Craig Hall – London

Craig was proposed by Jim Shaw and seconded by Bill Duffield, Lindsay Smith, Jack Fairs and Peter Hall.

Craig is an individual who does many things well. He has excelled on the court winning his share of events including a Canadian mixed doubles championship in 2004.

He has been the driving force in upgrading doubles refereeing in Canada.. Craig is an examiner for the Referee Certification Program and has visited many clubs throughout Ontario to teach and has attended both Provincial and national championships to referee and assess candidates for certification.

Craig is currently serving on a committee that is reviewing the North American hardball doubles rules.

Anne Smith – Kingston

Anne was proposed by Ian Stewart and seconded by Peter Hall, Jim Shaw, Rae Godbold, Rob Brooks and John Boynton.

As a junior, Anne played for Scotland, saw the light and moved to Canada where she joined the London Squash Club. Anne continued to win many Ontario, Canadian

and world titles, many of them in doubles.

As an Administrator, Anne served as President of Squash Ontario, President of Squash Canada, Vice-President of the World Squash Federation and Chairman of its Medical Committee.

When not involved with squash Anne has found time to work a very busy medical career.

Paul Smith – Toronto

Paul was nominated by Brian Murray and seconded by Tim Bovaird, Bert Keene, Michael Hobart and Tony Ross.

Paul has been involved in squash for eons. He started the game as a young man at TCS. He played for years in the Toronto Subway League which became the highly successful B doubles league. Paul has played an important role for his club in winning the league crown.

He has been a keen supporter of most Provincial and National events although he is fed up with losing in the semi-finals.

Paul is a very active member of the TRC and a member of the Board of Directors. His efforts in recruiting new members, organizing inter-club activities and playing with players of all levels has been instrumental in the health of the TRC today.

Peter McCarthy – Toronto

Peter was nominated by David Hetherington and seconded by John Boynton, Michael Manley, Barry Grant and Rae Godbold.

Peter is an accomplished squash player. He began his career at TCS and served as co-captain of the squash team. He also played at the University of Western Ontario and has played for many years at the league and tournament levels for the Granite Club.

Peter has a number of club championships at The Granite Club. He has served as Conveyer of the squash section at the Granite Club and was instrumental in gaining approval for a second doubles court. Once approved, Peter was involved in the construction as a member liaison.

As David Hetherington wrote " Peter is what we are looking for in a Jester, a sense of fair play, good sportsmanship, love for our game and a desire to help. He will continue to contribute to our game in the future".

Susan Swift – Toronto

Susan was nominated by Peter Hall and seconded by Ian Stewart, Jon Leheup, Lindsay Smith and Rae Godbold..

Most of us would like to be remembered for our accomplishments on the court. Susan won more than her fair share of championships, however her most significant achievements have taken place off the court as a volunteer.

Sue was President of the Ontario Ladies Squash Federation for a number of years, chaired the committee to send a Canadian Team to compete in the first Women's World Championships.

Sue, along with Ian Stewart and Mike Johnson brought three squash associations together and squash Ontario was born. Sue is a former President of Canadian Squash Racquets Association (now Squash Canada),

Sue was inducted in the Ontario Squash Hall of Fame in 2005.

Derek Riley – Toronto

Derek was proposed by Ed Bracht and seconded by Pat Richardson, Jon LeHeup, Bert Keene and Molson Robertson.

Derek is an accomplished singles and doubles player. and has played at a competitive level since his youth in Winnipeg. He continues to be an active player at all club events, league play and outside tournaments. He has been a captain of The Cricket B1 doubles team for the past three years.

Derek is one of those individuals who has accomplished much, but does it a quiet and unassuming manner, which tends not to attract attention.

He has been an anonymous sponsor to talented juniors as well as tournaments such as the Caldwell.

As Ed Bracht stated, " In my view he is the epitome of fair play, friendliness and sportsmanship which fit in well with the values embodied by the Jesters".

Welcome all. We look forward to meeting all of you at our Spring Party on June 14th.

Van Wely Doubles

These two world-class events (joke) were held in Burlington this past Christmas and Easter seasons and once again were a success. Only one individual was injured (torn Achilles) and nine, six of whom are Jesters, ended up with terrible day-after-red-wine headaches.

We forget who won, we really don't care. They received some South African wine and the Jesters benefited with a donation of \$2,020 for the junior squash program.

In addition, \$250 of the proceeds were presented to Tyler Hamilton, # 1 junior in Under 19 in Ontario, to help defray his travel expenses to the English and Scottish Junior Opens this coming December.

Well done David.



David van Wely & Tyler Hamilton
(By the way, David is on the left)



It is amazing the reaction we get from our Treasurer when we call to tell him that we have money for him from our various fund-raising events. He laughs and says " come on down". Notice the smile on his face once we gave him the check.



Our Treasurer – Ed Bracht

Jesters Web Site

Many of you probably do not know that the Jesters have an international website. The site is managed by **Gareth Quarry** in England and **Michael Melvill** in South Africa. Ah, the wonder of technology.

The web site is: www.thejestersclub.org
The user name is: **jester**

The password is: **jock**

On the site you will find all types of information from tour summaries to our newsletters to names and addresses to pictures and to information on Jester related activities.

Shortly, we will be adding the names and address of all Canadian Jesters. This will make it easier to find people as long as a computer is nearby.

Once you have an opportunity to see the site, look up your name. If any of the information is incorrect, email the revised data to Ed Bracht at bracht@sympatico.ca

Anything else you want to add, contact Michael Melvill at melvills@mweb.co.za

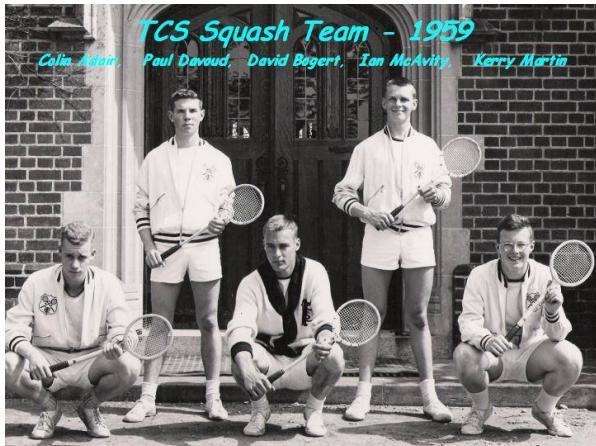
My – How Times Change

The boys team at TCS in 1959. They even remember Jesters coming to TCS for annual matches. (To make picture larger, use zoom icon, I can assure you that they do not get any prettier)

You will note the Tom Poor shorts, private school hair cuts and the old wood racquets used by these fellows some 48 years ago. Four of the five are Jesters.

Front row is **Colin Adair**, **David Bogert** and **Kerry Martin**. Back row on right is **Ian McAvity**. Hard to believe how they all turned out

We really don't know if they won or lost but they sure look young. All of them have only played and supported the game of squash for over 50 years



TCS Squash Team - 1959

Colin Adair, Paul Davoud, David Bogert, Ian McAvity, Kerry Martin

The other fellow is **Paul Davoud**. Since we (your editor) have no idea who he is, we assume that he took up another sport to get away from the other four.

We do a good job in assisting junior squash and the next step will be to once again play a number of matches against schools. We will be asking some of our newer members to assist with this next step in the support of our game.

3rd MacKay Doubles

As you are all aware, the MacKay Doubles has become the major fundraising tool to support our involvement in junior squash.

Over the past two events, the Jesters have benefited to the tune of \$22,500. These events have permitted the Jesters to support the growth of junior squash and hopefully we will continue to do so in the future.

The MacKay Doubles are scheduled for the weekend of October 19-20-21. Along with the doubles tournament, we will hold our annual silent but very active auction.. Our goal is to generate some \$ 20,000 this coming October.

Last year, we had some 40 items donated by Jesters. We would hope that all of you will be as generous this coming year.

We need help with items that we can offer at the silent auction. These can include bottles

of wine, racquets, trips, use of a holiday cottage or condo, take a threesome golfing, host a dinner party, green fees, Leaf, Sabres and Raptor tickets or air miles and the like.

If you want to help, please contact either Bob Mundy at bob@mundysales.ca or Cass Quinn at cquinn31@cogeco.ca.

Lapham / Grant Matches - Toronto



On the weekend of February 2nd, some 96 squash players gathered at The Cricket Club in Toronto to compete for the 85th time in the Lapham / Grant competition.

We do not know of any other racquet competition that has had such a long and wonderful association between two countries. The Lapham (singles) has been won 51 times by the USA, 32 times by Canada and once by England in 1927. The Grant (doubles) competition played since 1945, has been won 29 times by Canada and 25 times by the USA.

With this wonderful history, **Jon LeHeup** as Chairman and **David Bogert** as Canadian Captain had the daunting task of putting together a great weekend of food, drink and yes, singles and doubles squash. They did a great job.



Jon Le Heup & David Bogert

Now unto the weekend.

Did I mention that they had a great time; USA won the singles by a score of 8-7. Canada won the doubles 13-2.

Did we mention that all had a great time.

Enough!.

Jesters / Junior Doubles Event

We have talked about organizing a Jesters / Junior Doubles Event and are looking for a Toronto-based Jester to organize the event next Fall/ Winter. We want our juniors to know more about our other game.

If you want to talk about it as well as the format, contact Cass Quinn at cquinn31@cogeco.ca or Dave van Wely at dvanwely@sympatico.ca and we will provide the formula for success

A Junior Experience

A letter from **Brian Hong** of Toronto who had the opportunity to go to the Scottish and British Junior Opens last December with some financial assistance from the Jesters and The Cricket Club..

Dear Mr. Bracht and The Jesters,

I am writing to you with regards to the Scottish and British Junior Open squash tournaments and would like to share with you some of my experiences.

First, I would like to tell you that it was one of the greatest trips and experiences

in my life and I am very thankful for the support that the Committee, The Jesters, Mr. Bracht and the whole Cricket Club in general, gave me.

I arrived in Edinburgh on the 26th of December and was immediately impressed with the old architecture and rich history that accompanies most of the city.

I was quite tired when we arrived but knew that I would be ready for the tournament. I was unseeded in the Scottish (due to never playing an overseas tournament) and I was playing the 5/8 seed from **Ireland** and won it in 3 games. I'm sure he was surprised at having a very difficult first round match.

In the 2nd round, I played a 17/32 seed from **Kuwait**. He took the first game relatively easily but once I got my head together and got use to the court I took control of the match and took the next 3 games.

In my 3rd round match I played a fellow from **India** who was also a 17/32 seed. He was definitely my toughest match up to that point and although he didn't get a game off me, the games were very close and I had to try my hardest throughout the match. If I had let up just a little bit it might've gone differently.

In the quarter final match I played a very tall fellow from **South Africa**. The match was very similar to my 2nd round match in that although I won fairly handily, he took a game off me.

I had made it to the semi-finals which was my goal from the beginning apart from winning the tournament. I was playing a long time rival

from **Calgary**, Kelly Shannon, whom I have never beaten in over 6 years of playing him.

I won't deny that I have a mental block when playing against him but this time I was really pumped to play him. Sadly, this was not the case and he beat me in 3 games. I tried my best and I know eventually, one of these meetings will go my way.

I now had to play the $\frac{3}{4}$ match against an **English** kid. I was still pretty excited to play in this match but for some reason a few rallies into the match I felt my strength leave me. I am not sure what happened to me in that match but I know that I never want that to happen to me again. I lost in 3 games which was extremely disappointing..

By looking at my opponents, you can see just how culturally diverse the playing field is at these events. In the 6 matches I played, I had only met one of my opponents prior to the tournament. It was great playing new people and getting to make my mark internationally.

Now it was off to the **British Open in Sheffield**. I was a little overwhelmed and intimidated by all the different countries that played there. Canada was a definite minority, and Ontario an even bigger one compared to the Western team. The Egyptians had a huge team and I had heard that they always dominate the tournament.

My first match was against one of the top **British** players. I prepared very well for it

and I was ready to go.. He won the first game 9-7. This was a little discouraging because I had caught up from 7-3 and still lost the game. I took the next game 9-7. He won the 3rd game in another close 9-7 score. This was again quite discouraging because I was so close to taking that very important game. In the 4th game I was down 7-2 and I shifted the momentum in my favor and caught up to 7-7. During this rally, my opponent hit a length shot right back at himself and I was right there to call what should have been a clear stroke.

Unfortunately, the call didn't go my way and I only received a let. This kind of deflated the wind in my sails but I tried my best to ignore it and get on with the game. Despite my best efforts I lost the game 9-7.

I was pretty upset, I gave my best effort and I knew that if I played just a little better that match was mine. I know I could've taken the 5th game,

it was a good learning experience and I had no intention of losing any of my later matches. The way it works in the British is if you don't make it to the round of 16, you get 2 more matches and you're done, win or lose. I played an American in my 2nd match and won relatively easily in 3 games. In my final match I played my good friend Brody from **Calgary**. I won easily in 3 games again, but it was a fun match and I hadn't played him in a very long time.

Thanks to this inspiring experience I learned an incredible amount about the game of squash, but most importantly I learned a lot about myself and about life in general. My loss in the $\frac{3}{4}$ match made me learn that giving up on yourself is probably the worst way to lose and also the most painful. I am still thinking about

the match and I made a promise to myself that I will never give up on any match ever again. That match also taught me to never give up on anything I do period. If I knew the pain that loss caused me beforehand, I would've beaten that kid 3-0. Going to these tournaments has also motivated me in ways I never thought possible. I haven't felt that real eagerness to train and work extremely hard in a while. This kick-started my training at the perfect time, right before the run for my 5th national title this spring. I now have the will to work as hard as I possibly can at squash and in everything else that I do.

I would like to thank all of you for helping make my trip possible. I owe you all a lot and I hope this letter has shown you how much your generosity has meant to me.

Yours Sincerely,

Brian Hong



Comment

Now you all have a better idea why we are supporting the junior game. We intend to assist other juniors so they can experience the events, the different cultures as well as gain a better understanding of the competition.

We would point out that Ontario was successful in bringing home gold medals in both boy's and girl's team championships at the recently held Canada Winter Games. The teams included Chris and Nick Sachvie, sons of **Jester Mark Sachvie** who was also the

coach of the boys team and Samantha Cornett, daughter of **Jester Jack Cornett**. The other players included Brian and Cathy Hong, Rebecca Hazel, Laura Gemmell and Colin West.

As Jesters, we will assist other juniors in Canada to follow their dreams.

New Fee Structure

At our recent Executive meeting, much discussion was centered around the funding of junior squash in the years to come. While the MacKay Doubles is our major source of funds, it might not always be so, especially when you realize that the Burlington based Jesters are getting really old. The only exception is your Chairman, who looks young but thinks and moves old.

With this in mind, your Executive have decided to increase our annual dues from \$75 to \$125. This new fee will go into effect for 2008.

The additional \$50 per member will go into an endowment fund with the goal of accumulating \$25,000 over the next five years. These additional funds will not be spent until we reach our goal and it will permit our future executive groups to sustain long-term funding of junior squash.

What Have We Done

As golf season approaches, about time, we can look back at this past winter as a successful one for the Ontario Jesters.

We now have six new Jesters

We supported junior and university squash via some \$7,000 in donations. These included:

- Four (4) Gold events in Ontario. These events took place in Ottawa, Burlington, Toronto and St. Catharine's.
- Ontario Junior Team Championships held in Burlington.
- Ontario Junior Open Championship.
- Ontario Junior Closed Championship
- OUA - Ontario University Team Championships held at McMaster

University.

- Assisted with the **National Coaches Training Seminar** held this past month at White oaks in St. Catherine's. They had some 40 + coaches from all parts of Canada and the United States partake in various sessions.

Jesters **Mike Way, Mark Sachvie, Rob Brooks and Bert Keene** were all involved in this outstanding event and are to be congratulated for their time and effort..

A further benefit of the event was that prior to the conference, three separate camps were run with some of these top coaches that benefited some sixty (60) of Ontario's top developing juniors.

In addition, we had Jesters donate air miles so we could provide air transportation for two juniors to the British and Scottish Junior Opens.

We have come a long way in the past three years. More to come as your Executive, led by **Murray Christison** and **Bert Keene**, are working at developing a more formalized approach to supporting our game in Ontario.

Your Executive

Murray begged me to have his picture in a newsletter. I guess he missed the one on the bulletin board at the local police station. Mind you, the reward for turning him in is \$ 8.00.

All Murray has done for the past three years (as a Jester) is to champion our involvement in junior and university squash. He pushed us to see where we should invest in the game and as this newsletter describes our involvement, we are getting there...

Thanks my friend



Remember to Attend The Spring Party – June 14th.

Have a Safe and Healthy Summer.