

Opening day on the courts ? Bolton Tennis Club starts the new season



Tennis players Robert Maciag and Natalie Murray wait for the return during a game on the courts at the Bolton Tennis Club. The club had its opening day for the season Saturday. Photo by Brian Lockhart

By Brian Lockhart

The nets are up, the wind breaks are in place and the courts are cleared of winter debris.

The Bolton Tennis club had opening day for the season Saturday, and around 45 members turned out to play their first outdoor games.

‘This club is run by volunteers and it runs better because of that,’ said club president Andre ‘Barney’ Seguin. ‘If it wasn’t for eight or 10 core people, we wouldn’t have a club. We have a stewardship agreement with the Town of Caledon that is renewed every few years and it works very well.’

The club has now been operating for about 30 years, thanks to a lot of hard work and continuous improvement. Many who have been in the area for a long time remember when there was a ski hill and swimming pool in the park. The hill is now covered with trees and the swimming pool has long been filled in and buried under the soccer pitches.

‘The club was refurbished when the park went into disrepair,’ Seguin explained while pointing out the fencing that had fallen down and was upright and repaired. ‘We had fist sized holes on the playing surface.’

Over the years, the club has made improvements, including building the club house, deck and installing a roof over the deck to shelter it from the sun and rain.

All the courts were filled opening day by seasoned players and some new to the sport.

The Club also has visits from several local high schools, who use the courts for practise.

Volunteers make the difference in keeping the club and courts active and social.

‘This is a community club,’ Seguin said, ‘It’s all community driven.’

With nice weather predicted at least for the next few days, the club is expected to be a busy place as enthusiasts shake off the winter and get back into the sunshine for some exercise and competitive play on the courts.