

Tennis week 2010 wrap-up

Another tennis week is in the books. Mother Nature continued to favour us with beautiful weather, save for a few drops of dew here and there (including a fine mist during both singles finals!). Honorary Chairman Bob Farnham was hands on, repairing the broken and very necessary line brushes in addition to watching lots of tennis to select this year's recipient of the award for sportsmanship.

139 matches were played by 116 players and teams (ladies singles 17 players; men's singles 31 players; ladies doubles 17 teams; men's doubles 20 teams; mixed doubles 31 teams).

Members were treated to great tennis on Championship Saturday. The finals started at 9:00am, with the crowd arriving in fashionable style at around 9:30. In the opening match, Amanda Jelowicki and Claire Webster won the ladies doubles crown with a close two set win, 7-6 (7-4) and 6-4 over Andi Carter and Fiona Macaulay. It may be Amanda's first ever title, but not her last.

Claire wasn't satisfied with a doubles trophy. She returned to the court 15 minutes later to team with hubby Stuart to defeat Kate and Geoff Molson in what Thomas Pick observed "This is a first...a Massawippi final in mixed doubles. The Judge would be proud!!". Geoff may receive an invoice from the club for the near destruction of a fence in one of his dare devil fence climbs to retrieve an unreturnable Stuart overhead. (He does this at least once a year!) This was another two-set match which could easily have gone three; 7-6 (7-4), 7-5.

The men then took the court for the doubles final. Chris MacDonald paired with Phil Cote to reach the final (Chris' first in tennis). Unfortunately, they ran into the Cameron twins; result: 6-2, 6-1 for Ewen and Phil. There is a certain precision to the way the twins go about their business on the court. Are we witnessing a developing dynasty in men's doubles to rival the Price-Gallagher accomplishments in singles? Hmmm.

Serious tennis fans lunched at Joey's Café, so as not to miss a point. Joey and her many volunteer sandwich and sweet makers add a lot to Tennis Week. Thank you Joey and your helpers!

A light rain refreshed the court as Andi Carter and Kate Molson started the ladies singles final at 1:45 p.m. Both were making a second appearance of the day. In the

only three-set match of the day, Kate took the title after a hard fought 5-7, 6-4, 6-2 decision. Kate reached the final by defeating perennial ladies winner Sylvie Schelling in the semi-final; in her semi-final, Andi had to get by last year's finalist Simmy Pink to get to the championship court.

The drizzle intensified as Phil Cameron and Matt Price-Gallagher warmed up in the men's final. This match was a classic, featuring hard hitting baseline rallies mixed with great touch dropshots, with neither player giving an inch. Matt retained his title with a 6-2, 6-3 score which in no way reflected the very high quality of shotmaking by both players. Seen in the loges was Matt's dad Steve Price, visiting from Victoria. Was he impressed with his son's performance? You bet he was! (Ditto for Maggie - and for Jane and Jamie Cameron watching Phil's performance.)

It was 5:30p.m. before fans could leave to dress for the SRO Soiree, Hawaiian style. That's 8 ½ hours of tennis, folks!

There were consolation tournaments in all three doubles events. In ladies doubles, Marie-Josée Castonguay and Mary Pollock bested Maggie Abernathy and Karen Moffatt in a 10-4 pro set tiebreak after splitting the first two sets 6-2 and 4-6. Maggie replaced Maggie Webster (injured in a motorcycle accident but recovering beautifully. Maggie W. was well enough to attend and enjoy Matt's singles victory).

In the men's consolation doubles, Chris Oldland and Will Tretiak earned a tough two set victory, each set going to 7-5, over Jonathan Elkas and Rob Allatt, who stepped in to sub for Dave Tunnell, recovering from a groin pulled while chasing just-out-of-reach shots.

The consolation mixed went to Hilary and dad Peter Dunn, who defeated Fiona Macaulay and hubby Jared Fishman 6-4, 6-0.

At the Soiree, trophies were presented to finalists and winners in the main draw. Gifts were awarded to consolation winners. The elegant Len Barrett and Elizabeth Dohan plaque was presented by Len and Elizabeth to Emily Satterthwaite for her leadership in establishing women's tennis, more specifically the Monday morning round robin, at the club. Emily then invited Fiona Macaulay to receive a cup won by Fiona's mother Ann, as finalist in ladies doubles in 1989. It was re-engraved by Ann and presented to "my favorite coach", the late Franklin Satterthwaite, on his 75th birthday. Franklin encouraged Ann and others in their pursuit of excellence in

tennis. In giving it to Fiona, the cup has gone full circle and matches closely the cup Fiona won this year as finalist in ladies doubles.

The sportsmanship award went to Simmy Pink, who participated with good humour, grace and style in all three events for which she was eligible. Kudos to Simmy!

All the main draw tournament results are shown in the Tennis section of the website.