



COUGAR DOME CHATTER

François Giguère

The Learning Curve

The first thing I noticed after a few weeks of directing the Cougar Dome, is how I was so warmly welcomed here in Truro. As an introduction to my entry into the Truro Community, I was invited to participate at the Truro Sport Heritage Society Annual Sport Awards Dinner where one of our volunteers and staff, Shelley Flemming, received and a Merritt Award for her contributions to the tennis community. Wow! It was amazing to see the energy and passion of each person in the room and when I'm thinking of our Mission: Living Life, Having Fun and Staying Fit, I immediately seen the connection of what it is that Truro is living for. So our centre will focus to serve our community in that regard.

My First day at the Cougar Dome...

I will remember this for a long time...I had the chance to be trained by passionate Tanya Colburne, the former director at the CD. There was so much information and processes to digest in very little time. I was very appreciative of my learning experience that day and then I looked outside: Snow Storm! A severe one that would take place over night! Early in the morning, I was here at 7:30am to see what was happening and I understood the capacity of engagement of Truro's community. An entire army of students were here to shovel and help to dig the bubble out of all this accumulated snow fallen the night before; so we could start our activities as soon as possible. It was amazing!

My First activity at the Cougar Dome...

I'm a true advocate of keeping kids and adults active. The programs designed at The Cougar Dome are aligned to achieve this ultimate goal: sports and activities for all family members of any age. It started on the Heritage Family Fun Day on February 15th. The Dome was buzzing all day with kids, parents, grandparents and everyone in between. All were trying free, fun activities: Bubble Bump soccer, regular soccer, Le Petit Tennis and Tennis for all levels. Family is very important to the dedicated family of staff here at the Dome. Yes! For this special day our staff were involved to maximize the experience of our guests.

And it goes on...

We have just completed our March Break Camp week and I could feel the same spirit. Kids all over the Dome enjoying all kind of activities on the turf and on the tennis courts. The All Sorts of Sports camp showcases all offerings available at the Cougar Dome: golf, soccer, tennis and

challenges on the turf. As a bonus I had the chance to see the Amazing Race on Friday, a series of challenges and team tasks carefully prepared by Rachel, our Assistant Manager. There were lots of happy faces at the Cougar Dome this week.

Speaking of happy faces, Meghna Anand, one of our Atlantic Canada Tennis Academy players is the top U10 player in Atlantic Canada after a 4-3, 4-2 win against Halifax player, Zarah David, during the Junior Atlantic Championships in Fredericton! We are very lucky to have the opportunity to watch Meghna continue to grow and succeed!

Our current session of activities ends April 11th, so it's the perfect time to prepare ourselves for the summer season. I hope to see you at the Cougar Dome sometime and am looking forward to the next Edition...

François Giguère is the Facility Manager and Tennis Director at the Cougar Dome