



COUGAR DOME CHATTER – 10th EDITION

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Facility Director

Chatter Readers – let’s celebrate! I’m sure all of you are asking, “celebrate what!?” Well, I’m being selfish here, but as of September 3rd, I will be celebrating my one year anniversary as the Facility Director here at the Dome; a position which I am truly honored to hold! In addition, we are celebrating the end of our summer season, and the start of the Fall season (our first at The Cougar Dome, but it’s bound to be a good one)!

So...How are we celebrating!? Well, to ensure the summer finishes with a bang, we are hosting our Summer Café Series Finale, this Friday, August 22nd, starting at 7:00pm. After eight weeks of competition, and some incredible talent, it’s time for the five finalists to step it up a notch as they compete for top spot! The line-up includes: ECMA winner Rachael Henderson, pianist Sarah Alexander Williams, youngsters Sierra Sarty and Shannon O’Brien, and our most recent finalist, Joey Blenkhorn. In addition to our Café finalists, we have a number of special guests joining us for the evening: Wayne Delaney and Eric Weaver will be gracing us with their musical talents, along with Café Series runner-ups Emma MacEachern, and Canada’s only professional basketball freestyler, Rick Pidgeon. It’s going to be the show of the summer, with a little bit of something for everyone, and at a mere \$5.00/person, it’s a top pick for your Friday night entertainment.

Following the Summer Café Series, in hopes of giving our hard working staff a bit of a break, and to allow us time to prep the Dome for Fall, we will be shutting our doors starting August 22nd, at 5:00pm, until Tuesday, September 2nd, at 9:00am. That said, the Truro Tennis Club will remain open, as per their normal hours of operation, so for all you die hards (just teasing☺), please don’t fret, there will still be courts available (and, of course, should it be raining, all play will move inside to the Dome) .

Upon re-opening our doors, the Fall fun begins with the help of our newest employees, Rachel Farrell (Assistant to the Director), and Christine Chalmers (Facility & Event Assistant), whom we are very pleased to have joining our Team! Please stop by and say hello to both Rachel and Christine, as they join us in living life, having fun and staying fit here at the Dome!

On that note, as we welcome two new members to our Team, we say a very sad farewell (and thank you) to three individuals who have played an instrumental role in our successes to date.

Olivia Giffen, Richard MacNevin and Leif Power, we wish you the very best as you head-off to university, and embark on this very exciting stage in your lives.

Ok, before I shed anymore tears (and I mean that sincerely), I'm going to switch gears to fill you in on what you can expect to see happening at the Dome as of September. First and foremost, Tennis Tim has been busy confirming the new Fall programming schedule, with lessons getting underway September 8th (registration is already underway). We'll have the normal line-up starting with Cougar Cubs for those aged 3-5, moving all the way up to Adult classes for Beginners to Advanced players. In addition, we'll be continuing with our Cardio Tennis classes, and Tennis Tim will also be introducing two new classes: Tennis Tim's Workshop – a group clinic for up to 24, focusing on a different skill/element of the game each week, and the Ten Thousander 3.0 for Advanced players – think lots of feeds, and high intensity! Also on the courts, Pickleball will be returning to the Dome, with opportunities for recreational or competitive play, at least once a week. There is still space available, so sign-up now to secure your spot.

Moving from the courts to the turf, expect to see bocce return, as well as the start of Ultimate Frisbee. We will have inter-league play in both baseball and softball, soccer, and possibly even flag football. All play is demand based, so if you're interested, now's the time to let us know!

BUT... Before I get too ahead of myself, as I don't wish to rush the summer away, and as our All Sorts of Sports and Champions Start Here (tennis only) Summer Camps come to an end this week, I wish to say thank you to all camp staff, volunteers, parents and kids for ensuring their success! All had a great deal of fun this summer, and our kids were certainly very active; it was a great eight weeks! That said, expect to see our camps return for March Break, and at the start of summer in 2015!

Oh, and one more thing, before I sign-off... For those who are interested, we still have a few Davis Cup tickets available for sale, although they're going fast. Don't miss out on this opportunity to see Canada's stars take to the courts against Colombia's best in the World Cup of tennis! Play begins September 12th at the Metro Centre; what a great way to end the summer! Hope to see you there...

Chat soon...