



COUGAR DOME CHATTER – 3rd EDITION

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Facility Director

First and foremost, Happy Holidays! It's a wonderful time of year, and in addition to the normal Christmas celebrations, we, at The Cougar Dome, are celebrating the fact that we are very near completion, and will soon be opening our doors to all of you.

Speaking of opening our doors, as of this past Monday, we received our Occupancy Permit for the Dome itself, permitting committed user groups like the CC Riders, to begin their winter season(s). That said, I would like to thank CC Riders for their patience and understanding, as we were a week delayed in granting them access for use. I would also like to thank the Town of Truro, Nova Scotia Power, Fowler Construction and Sorensen Electric for all of their hard work and dedication to ensuring we obtained our Occupancy Permit; it was not an easy task for anyone involved!

Now, as I say all of this, I feel it important to clarify, The Cougar Dome is not yet open for general public use. The anticipated date is January 2nd, 2014. However, prior to, over the holidays, we do hope to offer open house sessions, in which we will invite all members of the community to visit the Dome, play a little tennis, check out the track, knock some rust off your swing, or whatever may interest you. We will be posting information related to these events on our new website at www.cougardome.ca, so please, stay tuned.

Also on our site, details pertaining to our hours of operation, as well as our introductory offers – just in time for Christmas! For those that are interested, Preferred Player Card and/or Track Pass purchases, as well as bookings, can be made by calling 956-8086, and/or via email at director@cougardome.ca.

Let's see, what else can I share with you today!? There's really too much to choose from! Oh, hires, of course. That's a big one! We are currently advertising for two positions, a full-time Head Tennis Professional, as well as part-time Facility & Event Assistants. The deadline for application is this Friday, December 13th, and we would ask all who may be interested to please forward a cover letter, resume and three references. Details related to both positions are posted on our website.

Ok, that's enough of the so called "housekeeping items," let's move on to the fun stuff! In addition to the preferred player card options, drop-ins and basic offerings, we are excited to share with you that we will be hosting the following:

- Tennis Classes & Clinics ranging from Le Petit Tennis (for the youngsters) to Adult Beginner to Elite Level. We're even going to have Cardio Blast tennis classes – get ready to sweat! The best part, most of these tennis programs will be offered by the Technical Director for Tennis NS, as they have agreed to her joining us, three days a week, over the next several months. It's going to be great!

- Golf. In addition to the golf range, which will have scheduled openings a minimum of three days a week, local golf pros will also be joining us to offer private and group lessons. For those who may be looking to improve your game over the winter months, and/or give it a shot for the first time, The Cougar Dome will have all you need to do just that!
- Including tennis and golf, we are in the process of solidifying details surrounding recreational nights, events, tournaments and leagues for everything from bocce to flag football, lacrosse to rebound (indoor paintball). As you've heard me say too many times already I'm sure, information pertaining to these activities will be posted on our website.

So, that's just a bit of what's coming in the weeks ahead, but there's much, much more, which I will share with you when word counts allow (☺) as I would like to conclude this month's "Chatter" by dispelling a couple of those points of confusion that are still out there.

#1 – The general public is welcome and encouraged to use the Dome any time we're open. Yes, schools within the CCRSB, as well as l'École acadienne de Truro, do have free access between the hours of 9:00am-3:00pm, but that does not mean the general public is not permitted to use the facility during that time. It merely means that schools will have priority bookings, if/when able to visit The Cougar Dome. All bookings will be visible online, as of January 2nd, so please feel free to check the master schedule to see what is available, and when.

#2 – We are a not-for-profit organization, and we are still struggling to raise the last \$400,000+ needed to cover the cost of the \$2.1M build, debt free. We have been so fortunate to have garnered the \$1.7M in support thus far, but we have just a little left to go. That said, any support that may be available, via donation or sponsorship, would be very much appreciated.

On that note, on behalf of the Cobequid Society for Athletic Excellence, and The Cougar Dome, I would like to thank all those who have supported our project thus far, in more ways than one, and I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! See you in 2014 (if not before☺)!