

2025 Fall Newsletter

October 2025

President's Report – 2025 Season

2025 got off to a fantastic and exciting start! With numerous outdoor improvements, the club looked transformed on your first visit back. One of the biggest upgrades was the long-awaited installation of the new sprinkler system. Although delayed, it was worth the wait—Robert and Andrew were dancing with joy! The difference to the courts was immediate and remarkable. Not only did the clay last longer, but daily maintenance was also reduced to just one hour, allowing for more available court time.

Throughout the winter and spring, Forge worked diligently behind the scenes to design and launch a brand-new, professional website. He has continued to update it throughout the season, transferring documents and streamlining access to club information. Please appreciate the incredible amount of time this takes, especially considering Forge also works full-time. On top of that, he volunteered countless hours at the club, day after day, assisting with the many property upgrades.

A sincere thank-you to **everyone** who came out to help with our opening preparations, especially those who moved soil and mulch for the new garden areas. The saying “many hands make light work” couldn't be truer at Quaker Park Tennis.

Although May wasn't kind to us weather-wise, September and October more than made up for those lost court days, allowing us to enjoy some of the best playing conditions of the season.

A huge thank you to Robert and Andrew for their ongoing dedication to the club and the incredible experiences they had for all of us. And to Ben, Finn, and Jared—your help has been invaluable. Please accept our applause and appreciation.

It came as quite a surprise to learn that ONCA introduced new bylaw requirements in 2021, which are to take effect in October 2024. As the fourth President since this legislation was enacted, it was a steep learning curve for me. However, Forge, Stuart, and I have worked diligently to ensure that **all QPTC Bylaws** are compliant with ONCA.

Fortunately, only **three bylaws** required amendments. That said, we used this opportunity to **review all of our bylaws** and made revisions where appropriate. I'm pleased to report that our Code of Conduct and Policies were compliant.

Unfortunately, during this process, two members circulated **alarming and inaccurate information**—one claimed they would report the club to KCU for non-compliance and potentially have us shut down, while the other threatened to go to the media to “expose”



2025 Fall Newsletter

the situation. As you can imagine, such reactions were concerning to hear anyone at QPTC would act this way, especially as there was absolutely no merit in their misinformation.

Interestingly, two legal experts who reviewed our bylaws **raised no such alarm**, but did confirm that the three bylaws in question would need revision to meet ONCA requirements.

As a side note, when I reached out to two other tennis clubs in Eastern Ontario, I found they were also not yet aware of the recent ONCA (Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act) changes. Like our own executive, they have now begun reviewing and updating their bylaws to ensure compliance.

ONCA Compliance and Executive Transparency

To be clear:

- **Should our bylaws have been updated by October 2024 to comply with ONCA?** Absolutely.
- **Was anyone on our executive aware of these specific changes in the past four years?** Unfortunately, no.
- **Did the current executive take prompt action upon learning about ONCA compliance requirements?** Yes.
- **Was this information shared with members?** Yes — an email was sent to all members advising of the situation, reassuring everyone that there was no cause for panic, and explaining that three bylaw amendments were necessary.

This has been an unprecedented year for your Executive, one that involved navigating unexpected and at times disruptive challenges. It is deeply unfortunate that such unpleasantness has touched our "Little Gem by the River."

What is most troubling, however, is the degree to which two individuals have spread misinformation and, over the course of four months, actively worked to create division within our club. It's hard to understand why anyone would choose to damage the very community they are part of — to "mess in their own sandbox," so to speak.

We remain committed to transparency, to working through differences constructively, and to preserving the inclusive and supportive environment that makes QPTC so special.

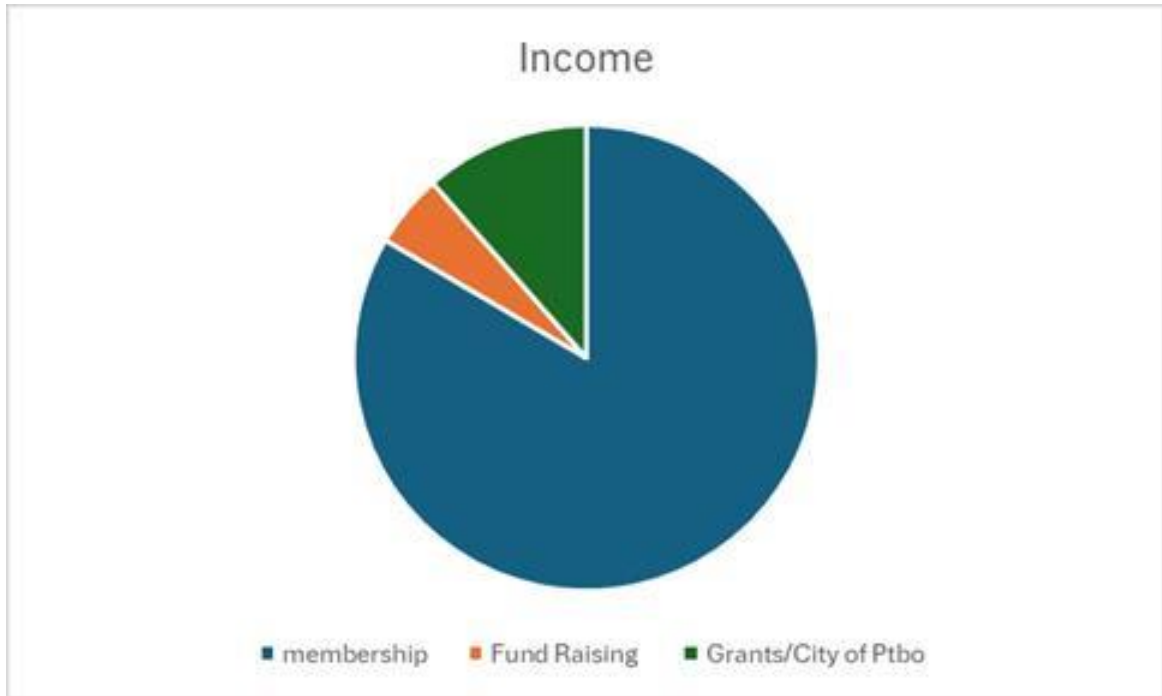
Thank you to all members who continue to support each other and the club through both the highs and the challenges.

My sincere gratitude to Forge, Stuart, Heather C, Heather S, Bill, and Tracy—thank you all for your time, energy, and commitment to work together in a cooperative manner for the betterment of Quaker Park Tennis.

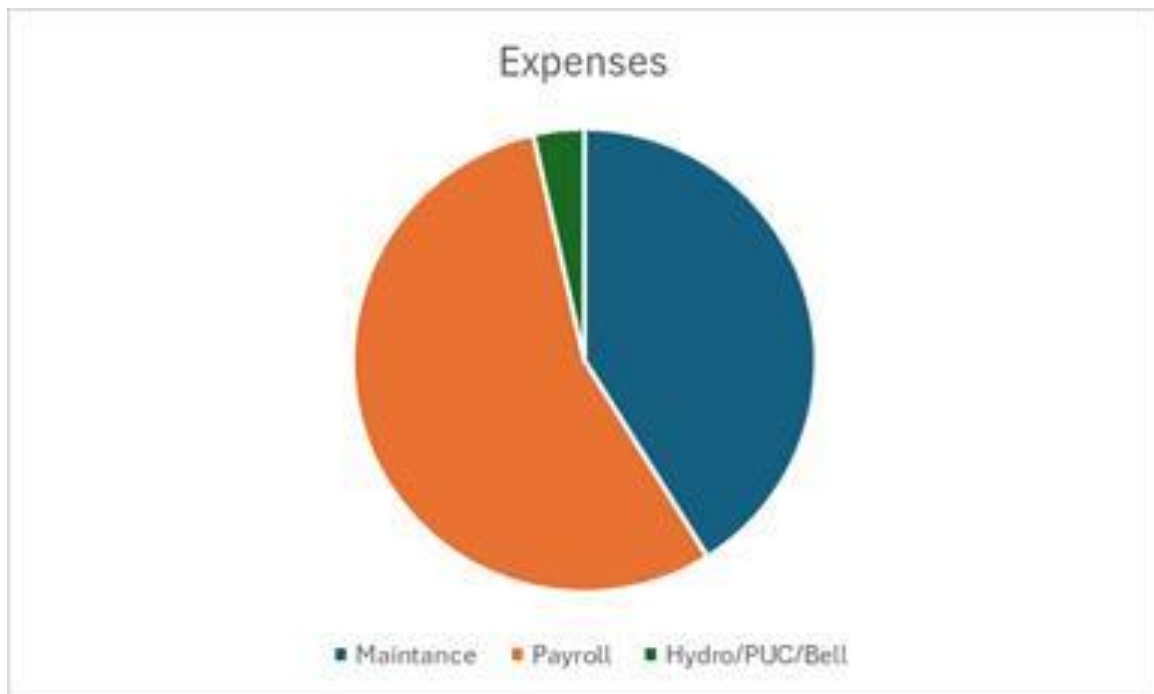
With appreciation,
Carolyn

2025 Fall Newsletter

Treasurer – Heather Casey



Details to be discussed at the FGM



2025 Fall Newsletter

Membership Report – Heather Shute

It was a good year with our membership numbers up by 30 over last year. This included 38 Introductory members and it is so good to see new faces on our courts. There were 115 Adult Volunteer members (*up by 10 over last year*) and 45 Non-volunteer members (*up by 4*). Our family junior members were down slightly to 11 from 15 the previous year, but this could be due in part to the increase in the fee. The Spring Special membership was 17 of which 11 upgraded to Full Adult in July, and we had 10 – half-year members.

It was nice to see our courts almost fully booked every day and so many members out enjoying the game and each other.

Property Report – Forge Hamu

Well, not short of jobs or challenges. This year we have had a number of significant improvements, with some still in the works and planned for next year. A recap of the work done this year:

Major Improvements

- Extension of the separation barrier on court 2 to allow for proper scarifying
- Updated water control box
- Installation of a secondary backflow to take advantage of lower water costs
- Removal of grass on courts 1, 2 and 3
- Installation of a new walkway to court 4 & 5
- New gardens between courts 2 & 3
- Installation of proper steps between courts 2 & 3
- Installation of a ramp between courts 2 & 3 – allows for roller to access



2025 Fall Newsletter

Minor Improvements

- Electrical upgrades and repairs to clubhouse
- Installation of a retractable fence between courts 1 & 3
- Tarp cover of clay shed

Equipment

- Repair of original ball machine
- Purchase of a second ball machine
- Replacement of security equipment

Other

- Testing of clay to ensure member safety

Planning for next year

- Removal of grass between clubhouse and court 2
- Removal of grass growth on all courts
- Fencing repairs and upgrades
- Updating of lighting on clubhouse deck
- Tree trimming
- Enclosure doors for clay shed
- Clubhouse cleaning service

This could not have been completed without the assistance of so many members, in particular Gene Moher and Richard Morrison.

Tournaments – *Tracy McCabe and Linda Copland*

Wow, what a season! Thanks to everyone who came out, played, cheered, & made our tournaments such a success. We had some amazing matches, lots of laughs & plenty of good memories on the courts. Congrats to all the winners, but really, the biggest win was all the fun we had together! Can't wait to do it again next year!

2025 Fall Newsletter

Winners this year: Zoomers: Linda Copland & Mike Fitzsimmons **Ladies singles:** Lucy Troisi **Runner-up:** Macy Milsom **Men's Singles:** Abhi Udawat **Runner-up:** Jared Thomas **Ladies doubles:** Linda Copland & Tracy McCabe **Runners-up:** Ania Gabrychowicz & Rachel Bronson **Men's doubles:** Will Seeley & David O'Neill **Runners-up:** Ken Alton & Mike Fitzsimmons **Mixed doubles:** Ania Gabrychowicz & Javier Fonrue **Runners-up:** Rachel Bronson & Mike Pezoulas

Juniors – *Bill Devitt*

All junior spring summer fall programs were successfully run by Robert, Andrew, Jared and Finn with help from Macy, Stella and Elias. Feedback from kids and parents was excellent.

The free Try Tennis program was run in May/June by Robert and Andrew with help from Finn. Thanks go to the City/Participation and Jump start for funding. Kids who would not normally get a chance to play tennis enjoyed and really benefited from this program.

The Junior Tennis club on Sunday night was enjoyed by over 30 kids throughout the season. Thanks to Chris and Finn Dummitt and Macy Milsom. These kids are the future stars of Quaker!

Door's Open was very successful with excellent feedback from 37 visitors to our club. Chris Dummitt did his usual stellar job describing Quaker and tennis in Peterborough through the years. Pic above is from Doors Open. Thanks to the volunteers: Julie Stark, Karen Bethune for all your cleaning to present the club at its best. Coming down on the day, Nancy Shoemaker, Craig Elliot, Katie Johnson, Stella, Holden, Elias and Christine Champagne, Angela Turner, Marshall Eckler, and of course, Carolyn for her encouragement and helpful planning suggestions!

A big Quaker thank you to all the volunteers who made the 2025 season so special!

General Managers and Tennis Pros:

The tennis twins would like to thank everyone for another great season! We were spoiled with amazing weather this summer. Our new sprinkler system came in handy!



2025 Fall Newsletter

Our city junior programs were very well attended in all of the spring/summer/fall sessions. And our adult clinics were also very well attended, and we appreciate everybody's ongoing support!

Another thanks to all of the league representatives for working with us so smoothly.

As we transition more into the later stages of the season, we hope everyone enjoys the good weather upcoming in early October. There is still much more tennis to be played at QPTC!

Looking forward to seeing everyone out here on the courts and come check out our end of season deals at the pro-shop!

All the best, *Andrew and Robert*

Ladies' League

The Ladies' League has completed another very successful 2025 tennis season. This year we had 44 playing members and 6 social members. We welcomed 10 new ladies that were beginning or resuming their tennis play. The league very successfully used WhatsApp to find Substitutes when someone was unable to play their scheduled game.



We made a monetary contribution to Ben Moher, Andrew and Robert for their help with the Ladies' League and also to a charity of our choice this Fall.

We'd like to give a special thank you to Andrew for helping us manage the court System so that courts were open to all Quaker members in a timely manner when the Ladies' League was not using them.

The Ladies' League has appreciated all the dedicated work and strong support we have received from Carolyn and the Executive this season.

Men's League

This was another busy year for the Men's League. Our group of 40 players utilized about 470 hours of court time on Tuesdays and Thursdays, May through October, in five sessions. All games were scheduled among doubles teams arranged according to skill levels and experience.

2025 Fall Newsletter

A Men's League BBQ/ Luncheon is in the planning in October so watch out for an email. We encourage our guys to come out for the club closing to help with nets and windscreens again. Lastly, as we head our separate ways over the winter we hope you all keep active and healthy!

Dan, Andy and Phil.

2025 Singles Ladder – Rachel Bronson

Singles games have had an increase in play this season as we have had 52 male and female members sign up for the singles ladder. The ladder was organized by Sam Coxwell and Rachel Bronson. Thank you to all players that have made this season successful. We look forward to seeing everyone back on the courts in 2026. Feedback and ideas are always welcomed

Wednesday Night Advanced Doubles Play – Patrick Henry

Another great season for the Wednesday Night Advanced Doubles League. We had 33 members including several new members who joined this season. We needed 6 court times most Wednesday nights to accommodate the group. The purpose of this league is to provide a venue for Advanced players to enjoy some higher-level tennis. We always welcome new members but please note that the bar is considerably high for the Wednesday night group and if further definition is required, please feel free to contact one of our club managers, Andrew or Robert.

Friday Night Advanced intermediate Play – Re-introduction planned for 2026

Unfortunately, the launch of this initiative got off to a rocky start. On each of the three evenings it ran, it was confirmed how and why the program had been approved by the executive. However, despite our intentions and clear communication at the 2024 SGM, FGM, in the newsletter, and on the club flyer, the actual level of play did not align with what had been outlined. Each evening saw a mix of participants—ranging from advanced and intermediate to introductory and new-to-tennis players, which made it difficult to deliver the consistent level of play expected for this program. Understandably, these mismatches led to some growing pains.

As a result, we paused the program in hopes of relaunching it successfully in July. Although we explored ways to restructure and continue, unfortunately, due to other disruptions at the club, we ran out of time to properly reorganize.

2025 Fall Newsletter

Looking ahead, the program will be reintroduced in 2026, with Robert and Andrew overseeing its execution and ensuring alignment with the intended level of play.

While I'm disappointed by this outcome, I understand that new initiatives often face early challenges. Years ago, the Edwards League experienced similar issues and required time to find its footing.

Thank you for your understanding and please reach out if you would like to help run this next year.

Carolyn

Congratulations to **Finn Dummitt and Macy Milsom** who received the coaches award for 2025 for their tennis performance and most importantly their volunteering and coaching at the club.

A special day at the Club – Long time members



***Elaine Telfer & Kathleen March* See EVERYONE at YOUR FGM on Oct. 28th at 6:30 pm at Activity Haven on Barnardo Avenue.**