

BARBADOS TENNIS ASSOCIATION



Newsletter January 2015

We are sure you have been keeping up to date with local and regional tennis action through our website and Facebook pages and coverage in the local press. However, for those not following these sources of news, see the following:

DAVIS CUP by BNP Paribas - History Made!

After gaining promotion to Group II in 2012, our Davis Cup team of Darian King, Haydn Lewis, Seanon Williams and Russell Moseley together with Captain Kevin Yarde made Barbados history in September 2014 by beating Mexico in the Group II promotion play-off tie at the National Tennis Centre. Haydn Lewis won the deciding rubber to take the tie 3-2 after Darian King had won both his singles matches.

Victory against Mexico was the cream on the 2014 cake as the team had previously beaten #1 seeds and former World Group nation Chile in the first round in January with a follow-up home victory against El Salvador in April. See recent news at www.daviscup.com for further accolades.



From left – Russell Moseley, Seanon Williams, captain Kevin Yarde, Darian King and Haydn Lewis

Barbados now ranked #40 in the Davis Cup rankings, have thereby gained promotion to Americas Zone Group I for the first time and will host their first round tie against #32 ranked Dominican Republic at the National Tennis Centre from **March 6-8, 2015**. Ticket info to be circulated soon!

DARIAN KING – Pro Circuit Success

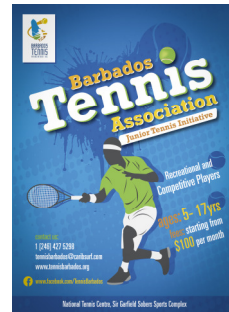
As well as winning eight of his nine Davis Cup singles and doubles matches played during 2014, our current #1 player – Darian King (22) has also continued his good form on the Pro Circuit reaching a very impressive career high ranking in late 2014 of #302. His 2015 goals are to be ranked in the early 200s as well as qualifying for at least one Grand Slam championship draw during the year.

Fed Cup 2014

Barbados also entered a team in the Fed Cup competition for the first time in several years. Despite playing in a very tough group, the young team of Anicia Iffill, Melena Lopez, Kiana Marshall, Cherise Slocombe with captain Richele LeSaldo gained valuable international experience which will better prepare them for the 2015 event.

Junior Tennis Initiative

The ITF supported Junior Tennis Initiative (JTI) programme for youngsters aged 5-17 years resumes at the NTC from January 10, 2015. Hourly sessions are conducted by ITF qualified coaches and take place three times a week.



Call the NTC at 427-5300/5298 for more information on programmes or contact us via email at tennisbarbados@caribsurf.com

Forthcoming Events

Annual Fundraising dinner – Saturday February 14, 2015 - 7.00pm at Divi Southwinds, Christchurch. Tickets at \$125 can be purchased from any Council member or by contacting the Association via email. Funds raised are in aid of 2015 team events.



Come join us for your Valentine's Night of dancing, feasting, live auctions, and fun for all!

Tournament Calendar 2015 – when finalized the full calendar will be posted on our website.

Dates of confirmed team and international events are as follows:

February 2 - 9 - JDC U16s team competition - (venue El Salvador)

W/end of March 6 - 8 - Davis Cup Americas Zone Group I 1st round – Barbados v Dominican Republic – (NTC)

March 16 - 22 - World Junior U14s team event – (venue Dominican Republic)

March 30 – April 5 - Barbados Junior International Championships (U18s and U14s) – (NTC/Barbados Yacht Club)

NB 2015 Inter-club competition is also anticipated to start in mid February.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

At our Annual General Meeting held on November 19, 2014, the new Council for 2014/15 was appointed as follows:

President – Dr. Raymond Forde

Vice Presidents – Ms. Sandra Osborne &

Mrs. Patricia Murray

Secretary – Mrs. Eleanor Brown

Assistant Secretary – Mrs. Caroline Lopez

Treasurer – Ms. Helen Roper

Councillors – Mr. Duncan Evanson, Mrs. Marie-Jeanne Symmonds, Mr. Stephen Slocombe & Mr. Andrew Thornton

There was great enthusiasm exhibited by those present at the AGM to become more involved in the general running of the Association.

To this end, Council at its first meeting for 2014/15, agreed to the formation of the following sub-committees and invite members to volunteer their services for the forthcoming year:

Events Committee - This committee will coordinate non-tournament and special events such as Olympic Day, Open Days, Anniversaries, etc.

Fund Raising Committee - This committee will be responsible for executing plans to generate funds for specific activities through fundraising events and other sponsorship methods.

Junior Tennis Committee - This committee will oversee the running of all junior competitions, local and international held at the National Tennis Centre during the year.

National Tennis Centre Committee - This committee will be responsible for overseeing the maintenance and upgrading of all facilities at the National Tennis Centre.

Public Relations & Marketing Committee - This committee's main objectives are to liaise with the press and media, to communicate with the membership and public through website and social networking and to ensure all sponsors and donors receive appropriate publicity.

Senior Tennis Committee - This committee will oversee the running of Inter-Club competitions, senior tournaments and social senior tennis events held at the National Tennis Centre.

Tournament Committee - This committee will be responsible for drafting the annual Tournament Calendar, overseeing all tournaments held at the National Tennis Centre, attending draws of all tournaments, as well as ensuring tournaments held at all venues comply with the Association's sanctioning rules and regulations. In addition the committee will ensure rankings are updated after each competition in accordance with the National Rankings system.

If anyone wishes to stand on these committees, please leave your name at the NTC with our Administrative Assistant, any Council member or contact us via e-mail at tennisbarbados@caribsurf.com

Officiating

If you love playing, watching or following tennis - why not give officiating a go! If you are interested, contact us at tennisbarbados@caribsurf.com and have a try out at calling the lines during upcoming tournaments.

If we can have enough numbers, we hope to run an official's course within the next year.

2015 Subscriptions

Notices are now being sent out to all members – annual fees are \$25 for persons 18yrs and under and \$50 for all those over 18 years. Application forms for new membership can also be found at our website.

Fees paid by cheque can be mailed to the Association or paid by cheque/cash at the NTC.

Please note that **all juniors** must pay their 2015 subscriptions to play in tournaments run by the Association. **All seniors** must also be current members of the Association **to qualify for Barbados rankings**.

We also welcome the many new members who joined during the last year, but to those still not members and interested in supporting us, please do join up now.

NTC Court Bookings etc.

Please call 427-5300/5298 regarding court bookings, coaching sessions and racquet re-stringing etc.

Thanks!

The Association would also like to take this opportunity to thank its many supporters, partners and sponsors for their past support. 2014 was a very busy year for us and we anticipate the same in 2015 – your continuing support will be much appreciated.

Newsletter produced by Barbados Tennis Association Inc.
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