



MANOTICK TENNIS CLUB

Future Options Sub Committee AGM
Discussion, October 2024

Subcommittee purpose and objectives

Purpose

Identify, develop and analyze a range of strategic options for the future of the Manotick Tennis Club. The subcommittee will present a report on options to the full Board who will then determine what, if any, further actions should be taken.

Club objectives (from Constitution)

- 1) To promote participation among juniors, adults and seniors in the games of tennis and pickleball.
- 2) To provide recreational, competitive, and instructional programs.
- 3) To foster good sportsmanship, friendship and community spirit.
- 4) To liaise and co-operate with other tennis and pickleball organizations and the City of Ottawa, as required, for the enhancement of the Club's objectives.
- 5) To develop and implement a feasible and affordable capital expenditure program for the upkeep and improvement of the existing facilities and the inclusion of new projects in response to the needs of the membership.

Current scope of subcommittee work

- Explore potential future directions; give status report
- NOT a decision on direction
- NOT making requests for funding

MTC history and context

- 50+ year history at four different sites (current location for 35 years)
- Incorporated in 2022 as a not-for-profit
- Centennial Park tennis courts approaching end of life, spending ~\$25K per year for resurfacing
 - Replacement is a City responsibility - no money in sight
- 2018 pickleball pilot victim of its own success: play banned in Centennial Park in 2023, moved to North Gower
- Village and surrounding area population continues to grow
- Interest in tennis and pickleball continues to grow
- Result: Another record year in 2024
 - 750 tennis = 125/court (OTA av. 67) plus waiting list of 90+
 - 183 pickleball (despite location, surface) plus waiting list of 40+
 - 24% increase in summer camps

Who chooses the future of MTC

- The members of the MTC decide the vision, guided by the board of directors and objectives in our current constitution
- Vision requires a long-term perspective
- But members are transitory, about 40% of the members each year are new
- What will current and future members want with a 25-year horizon (lifecycle of tennis courts)
- It is our choice, but we need to engage a broad range of stakeholders and partners (City of Ottawa is current key partner; future may include others and also the local community)

Key factors considered by subcommittee

1. Summer only or year-round?
2. Tennis and pickleball combined or separate? Sites, organization(s) or both?
3. Leverage existing infrastructure or start somewhere new?
4. Current organizational status or open to change

Three broad directions

1. Leverage existing infrastructure - no build
2. Leverage existing infrastructure + additional build
3. Greenfield site - start afresh

Illustration 1: Use existing infrastructure

Proposed outdoor Facilities	6 tennis courts (Centennial Park) + 4-6 pickleball courts (North Gower); potential to rent public tennis courts for certain busy times or programs
Partners	City of Ottawa, North Gower Recreation Association
Location(s)	Centennial Park (tennis) and North Gower (pickleball)
Outline cost to club (2024 dollars)	<p>Potential to sign long-term lease with NGRA; Potential to add improved court surface to NGRA pickleball courts ~\$25K; Annualized cost of \$25K* to maintain tennis courts; rental costs for public tennis courts (currently \$18/hr)</p> <p>Potential to find new project for Capital improvement fund i.e. new deal for lifecycle replacement of existing tennis courts</p>
Potential member/community impacts	Growing wait lists for memberships; possible future cap for summer camps

Potential timeline: Now

*Assumes 2 courts resurfaced a year, so all courts resurfaced every three years

Illustration 2: Add to existing infrastructure

Proposed outdoor facilities	6 tennis courts at existing location + 2-3 tennis +/- 6-8 pickleball courts at second location; Possibility for new deal for lifecycle replacement of existing tennis courts
Potential partners	City of Ottawa (Major Capital Grant, lifecycle renewal)
Potential location(s)	Centennial Park + satellite location (perhaps Harold Barnhart Park)
Outline cost to club (2024 dollars)	50% of cost for new courts (\$225K- 350K pickleball, \$250K for tennis, \$100k parking / access); Current court rebuild - \$300k (1/3 rd of total)
Potential member/community impacts	Pickleball available closer to players; Expand tennis member/community programs; tennis play disruption for Centennial Park court rebuild

Potential timeline: 2-5 years

Illustration 3: Move to new infrastructure

Proposed facilities	8 tennis courts + 10 pickleball courts. Fully functioning clubhouse. Winter bubble over the 8 tennis courts with pickleball lines added to give 8 pickleball courts on 4 tennis courts). Possibility of multiple other activities / partners sharing a new site.
Potential partners	City of Ottawa (land, access road, hydro), NCTA/OTA (grants), 3rd party (e.g. Tennis Clubs Canada - fund, build and operate the bubble)
Potential location(s)	Off Bankfield (behind City Works Garage) or other 5-acre site in area
Outline cost to club (2024 dollars)	\$1.5m - \$2m (half cost of tennis courts, pickleball courts, site prep and parking + cost of clubhouse)
Potential member/community impacts	Increased member capacity for tennis and pickleball and for community use; year-round operations. Summer operation run by MTC largely as today; winter operation is separate.

Potential timeline: 5-10 years

Next Steps

- 1) Invite input from all members – start by understanding what the members would like
- 2) Engage with key stakeholders (City of Ottawa, Councilor,, MCPRA and NGRA) – let them know, find out what other plans they may have, see if there are any roadblocks
- 3) Form expanded committee of interested members to review feedback and recommend preferred direction to the Board

Note: No decisions, expenditure or commitments will be made before coming back to the members for approval.