

TABLE TENNIS FALL START-UP

Hello everyone,

Well, as the start of the school year draws near and the lovely-great-weather summer with “Covidness” attached to it draws to an end, that means the start of the 2020-2021 table tennis season is upon us. First-off, due to Covid, the Province announced that there will be no school permits issued to outside user groups like the Manitoba Table Tennis Association...this means no Daniel MacIntyre Collegiate, no Darwin, no John Pritchard, no Dufferin etc. Secondly, The City of Winnipeg announced that they would not be partnering with the M.T.T.A. and Crescentwood Community Centre in the delivery of our Saturday Junior Developmental program...again, I assume due to Covid, but no official explanation was received. However, despite these setbacks, we plan on partnering with the Winnipeg Table Tennis Training Centre and the Prairie Badminton Centre and some others to offer a range of programming. The following programs are set up:

1. Elite Invitational Training Program: This program commences Wednesday September 2nd at the Winnipeg Table Tennis Training Centre. The program will run from 6 to 8 pm every Monday and Wednesday night. The program is a collaboration between the W.T.T.T.C. and the M.T.T.A. and will feature M.T.T.A. Head Coach Arvin Tronco and Elite Private Coach Terry “Tian” Zhang. The program is coupled with our Provincial Squads Training Program and the objective is to train targeted athletes for the 2023 Canada Winter Games as well as for the 2021 Canadian Junior and Senior Championships. Contact either Terry Zhang or Arvin Tronco for more information on this program; terryzhang8905139@hotmail.com / voyz_tru_myx@yahoo.com.ph
 2. Cornerstone Alliance Church Tuesday & Thursday Nights: 6-8 tables will be available every Tuesday and Thursday night from 6:30-9:30 pm and will commence on Tuesday September 22nd. Head Coach Arvin Tronco will be overseeing this club. Programs run will be our Junior Developmental Lessons, Hopefuls & Squads Training Programs as well as Active 4 Life (A4L) play. Due to Covid, numbers of players each night will be capped, and all players must register to reserve their spots.
 3. Sport Manitoba Main Gym: M.T.T.A. Executive Director Ron Edwards will over see Active 4 Life (A4L) play every Wednesday night commencing on September 23rd. Play will happen on 3 tables from 7-10 pm. Again, due to Covid, numbers of players each night will be capped, and all players must register to reserve their spots.
 4. Prairie Badminton Centre: Commencing Friday November 6th, 7-10 pm, Winnipeg & District Super League. The M.T.T.A. will again run our league program for individuals every Friday night running through to June. Players will again compete in various divisions and move up and down divisions weekly based upon the previous week’s results. Results count towards Manitoba Ratings and Rankings and selection of our Provincial Teams. So, if you want to test your competitive skills, this league is for you-all ages, all abilities! \$500 IN CASH PRIZES! Table Tennis Canada is hoping to start a new Canada-wide league program, so the M.T.T.A. hope to connect the two.
- Prairie Badminton Centre: Ongoing daily table tennis court rental available, contact Prairie Badminton at: <https://prairiebadminton.ca/home> / info@prairiebadminton.ca
5. Winnipeg Table Tennis Training Centre: Ongoing daily table tennis court rental and private and group lessons available. Contact the W.T.T.T.C. at: <https://www.winnipegtabletennis.com/> / winnipegtabletennis@gmail.com
 6. Winnipeg Filipino Ping Pong Group: Group plays out of Philippine Community Centre of Manitoba, days and hours vary, contact Eric Hernandez at lorderic63@gmail.com

MORE CLUB INFORMATION WILL FOLLOW AS FINALIZED.

PROGRAM FEES:

1. “Active Membership” required for all programs, \$25 adult, \$15 junior, August 1-July 31st;
2. Elite Invitational Program: \$240 per month payable to the W.T.T.T.C. Registered players receive discount on M.T.T.A. training fees.
3. Active 4 Life Fees: a. “Ten-Pac” \$50. Ten visits total to the Cornerstone and Sport Manitoba clubs, b. “Quarter-Pac” \$100. Twenty-five visits total to the Cornerstone and Sport Manitoba clubs, c. “Max-Pac” \$200. Play all year till June 2021 at the Cornerstone and Sport Manitoba clubs. D. “Total-Max-Pac” \$250. Covers play all year at Cornerstone, Sport Manitoba plus covers your Friday night League fee at Prairie Badminton Centre.
4. Junior Developmental Training Program: a. \$90 covers one night per week (a set night) at Cornerstone from Sept. to Christmas break, b. \$150 covers Tuesday and Thursday at Cornerstone from Sept. to Christmas break.
5. Provincial Hopefuls & Squads Training Programs: Attendance is by invitation only, \$200 for Tuesday & Thursday Practices at Cornerstone.
6. Winnipeg Super-League Fee: \$100 adult, \$75 Junior.

PROVINCIAL COMPETITIONS:

The M.T.T.A. hope to again run our \$2,000 Manitoba Table Tennis Circuit consisting of the following 5 events: a. Manitoba Closed, Saturday November 14th; b. Red River Open, Sat. Dec. 12th; Golden Boy Open Sat. Feb. 13th; Manitoba Open Sat. March 20th; Tournament of Champions Sat. April 17th. All events are tentatively scheduled for Cornerstone United Church with Prairie Badminton Centre being our back-up venue. Because of both the number of tables at Cornerstone (6) and Covid uncertainty, our tournaments will consist of only four events each and each event will be completed before the next one begins. The number of players in each event will be capped at 18. “Junior Singles” will be contested from 9-11 am, “B” (<700) Sgls. from 11:15 am to 1:15 pm, “A4L/ >40 Yrs. Sgls” from 1:30 to 3:30 pm and “A” (>600) Sgls. from 4:00-6:00 pm. So, for example, the Junior Singles that will start at 9 am. It will be capped at the first 18 boys and girls who pay their entry fees. The 18 players will be placed into 6 groups of three players each. Each tie is the best of five games to 11 points. After the groups are complete, the six group winners advance to A Division, 6 seconds to the B, and the 6 thirds to the C. Here the format is knockout. Only the 18 players in an event plus the tournament organizers will be allowed into the playing hall during an event etc.

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW:

So this is where the 2020-2021 table tennis season is now at. Obviously, with the start of school and potential changes in the Covid situation, things might change. However, we are hopeful that the above programming can be safely and successfully implemented.

See you back on the table!

PLEASE CALL ME IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS!

Ron Edwards
Executive Director M.T.T.A.
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