

O. D. B. A. 1938 - 1939

During the 1938-39 season, Chrysler offered us a beautiful new Plymouth Road King four door sedan for the bargain price of \$884.00. Canada, The United States and Great Britain signed a reciprocal trade agreement and Pope Pius the XI died. At the start of the season Britain and Germany were signing a peace accord; by the end, Germany had expanded her borders again and again. In Spain the tide was turning to the side of Franco.

THE DISTRICT

The District was probably at its peak during this season. The tournament format was well co-ordinated to the best advantage of the players. Prior to Christmas the only tournament play consisted of friendly challenge matches. In January we saw both BCO and RBC hold their "A" tournaments the same week followed by the District "A". February saw the same format followed for the "B" level players, while the "A"s were away at the OBA championships, followed by the nationals. The results of the provincial and national championships might indicate that we were a might too organized. The District was also able to resurrect the junior championships which had been cancelled last year.

League action was furious with eight teams in the District League, including three teams who also held membership in the Church League, which itself had ten teams. The competitive level of players throughout the District can best be seen by the fact that, for the second year in a row, two of the so called recreational club teams made it to the semi finals of the District League play. This time Rideau BC Gold team winning over a combined Church League team.

The Journal Trophy was again contested with the Rideau BC re capturing the Cup from BCO with a 9 to 6 match victory.

THE PROVINCIAL SCENE:

The provincial championships and AGM moved to the Kitchener Granite Club. The meet saw the affiliation of the Nickel Belt District which was the fore runner of the Northern Ontario Badminton Association. Approval was given for an assistance grant to Mrs. W.R. Walton to aid her in attending the All England Championship. The District was represented by E.C. Forrest and W.F. Loathian.

Ottawa results at the Provincial Championship:

Event	Winner	Runner Up	Scores
LS	Mrs. W.R. Walton (Tor.)	Ruth Robertson (Ott.)	11- 3, 11- 1
LD	Ruth Robertson	Mrs. W.R. Walton	12- 15, 17- 15, 15- 3
	Marg Robertson (Ott.)	Mrs. Gilmore	

THE NATIONAL SCENE:

The National Championships were not very kind to the Ottawa District after such a stellar record over the previous decade. In the Championship matches, Ruth and Marg Robertson went down in the third round of Ladies Doubles. It was their first match. They were defeated by Barb Jarmen and Doreen Clapperton, a Toronto team recently transplanted from Calgary, by a score of 14-18, 17-15, 15-8. The Robertsons suffered further degradation when they lost the deciding match, which allowed Quebec to win the Manitoba Cup, an interprovincial doubles competition held in conjunction with the nationals. The only good news was the re-election of Mr. W.N. Keenan as CBA president for 1939-40.

An interesting note from the national scene was a debate in Edmonton, where Alderman D.K. Knot argued against a request for tax and utility concession for the local badminton club. His points were that badminton would soon die a natural death because it is far too expensive to play (as much as \$1 per night) and that it was far too strenuous, with people dying on court. The councillor was rebuked by CBA Ladies Singles Champion, the "comely" Mrs. W.R. Walton who retorted that there were no more people dying on court than in any other sport and that to spend \$1 per night you would have to be playing all night in a championship series. A more realistic figure would be in the range of 35 cents per night. The end result went unreported.

The long awaited competition, between professional and amateur, would take to the courts of the Carlton Club in Toronto during the last week of March. The semi finals and finals were conducted on the stage of the prestigious Massey Hall on April 2nd but the results were not what the odds makers had anticipated. Number one seed, World Professional Champion Jack Purcell, went down to defeat in the quarter finals to Bill Markham, a relatively new American from New York losing 10-15, 15-7, 18-14. Second seed Doug Grant, a Canadian

professional playing out of Detroit, was defeated by pro Noel Radford, another transplant and Markham's coach, by scores of 17-16, 7-15, 15-7. George Goodwin Jr., the former Ottawa amateur, who challenged and lost to Purcell last year, defeated Radford in the semi's and went on to face Markham in the main event. In the best of three competition, Goodwin took the crown by scores of 17-16, 12-15, 15-11. In the Men's Doubles competition Purcell and Jack Sibbald of Toronto were defeated 17-7, 15-6 by the amateur pair of Jim and Paul Snyder from Waterloo. Men's Singles and Doubles were the only two events contested.

It would be many decades before amateurs and professionals would again take to the courts, in sanctioned matches. George Goodwin Jr. could possibly be the only amateur able to claim the title of world champion. Until the onset of the I.B.F. World Championships, the All England Open was generally acknowledge as the unofficial event for world supremacy..

The professional players mentioned above were for the most part made up of a dozen or so, mostly Canadians, playing out of clubs in both Canada and the US who toured North American playing exhibitions to packed houses, often in large stage venues such as Massey Hall and Radio City Music Hall in New York where the stage and audience seating complimented the show. The week before the above competition, Purcell had confirmed his World Title with a victory over Radford in Los Angeles.

DISTRICT DATA 1938 - 39

District Executive:

President - W.F. Loathian (RBC) **Vice-President - Wendall Williams (RBC)**
Secretary Treasurer - W.J. Roe (appointed)

Executive Committee:

A.J. Gibbard (RBC) (Playing Committee Chairman)
G.C. Medcalf (BCO) **G.R. McGregor (BCO)**
G.A. Harris (BCO) **W.H. Raikes (Garrison)**
H.M. Epstein (Naval Ordnance) **G.C. Cherry (St. George's)**

Auditor: T.N. Kirby

Member Clubs:

Badminton Club of Ottawa	Rideau B.C.
Garrison B.C.	Naval Ordnance B.C.
St. George's B.C.	All Saints B.C.
Church League	
Renfrew Militia B.C.	Arnprior B.C.

Number of Clubs - 9

Number of Members - 980

Other clubs mentioned in operation this season included Treasury BC playing out of a facility up stairs at 306 Sparks St., St. Joseph's BC, Kent BC, YMCA BC, Aylmer BC, Pembroke, Almonte and Carleton Place.

District Championship:

Were conducted at BCO and RBC facilities between Jan. 23 and 25, 1939.
 Entries included MS- 21; LS- 15; MD- 26pr; LD- 17pr; XD- 24pr.

Event	Winner	Runner Up	Score
MS	Bev. Mitchell (BCO)	Larry Purvis (RBC)	15-10, 11- 15, 15- 4
LS	Mrs. Guy Perodeau *(BCO)	Ruth Robertson (BCO)	11- 8, 11- 9
MD	William Bruce (RBC)	Bev. Mitchell	15- 17, 15- 9, 15- 10
	Allan Hammond (RBC)	Earl O'Halloran (RBC)	
LD	Ruth Robertson	Mrs. Guy Perodeau *	15- 1, 15- 5
	Marg Robertson (BCO)	Jean McLean (BCO)	
XD	Beverly Bonney (RBC)	Ruth Robertson	15- 1, 8- 15, 15- 12
	Wendall Williams (RBC)	Bev. Mitchell	
CONS			
XD	Clare Parsons (RBC)	Dorothy Markell (RBC)	12- 15, 15- 10, 15- 12
	William Bruce	Crombie McNeil (RBC)	

*Mrs. Guy Perodeau is former Isobel Bryson

District "B" Championship:

Held February 15 to 21, 1939 on the courts of BCO and RBC. 25 cents admission to finals.
 Entries included - MS- 30; LS- 15; MD- 29pr; LD- 19pr; XD- 39pr.

Event	Winner	Runner Up	Score
MS	Reg. Bourne (RBC)	Tom Sewell (St.G.)	12- 15,15- 4, 15- 2
LS	Edythe Templeton (St.G.)	Norah Quinn (BCO)	12- 10, 11- 2
MD	Jack Ashley (St.G.)	George Grant (BCO)	18- 17, 15- 12
	Ted Bradley (St.G.)	Colin McLachlin (BCO)	
LD	Jean Murphy (BCO)	Olga Higman (RBC)	15-18, 15- 12, 15- 8
	Norah Quinn	Elizabeth Lloyd (RBC)	
XD	Elizabeth Lloyd	Margaret Rolt (All Sts.)	15-12, 11- 15, 15- 10
	Reg Bourne	Tom Sewell	

Cons

XD	Olga Higman Hillary Martin	n/a
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District Junior Championship:

Conducted as a single age group event Dec. 27 - 29, 1938 at the R.B.C.

Event	Winner	Runner Up	Score
MS	Harold Jost (RBC)	Jim Roe (RBC)	15- 12, 15- 12
LS	Dorothy Benwick (RBC)	Freda Huntlee (RBC)	11- 2, 11- 2
MD	Harold Jost (RBC)	Dave McMillan (RBC)	15- 7, 15-7
	Jim Roe (RBC)	Weldon Tuttle (RBC)	
LD	Alice Burpee (RBC)	Mary Parkes (Ch. L.)	8- 15, 15- 9, 15- 10
	Joan Cracknell (RBC)	Alice Wingate (Ch.L.)	
XD	Betty Sharpe (RBC)	Joan Cracknell (RBC)	15- 3, 15- 3
	Harold Jost	Perry Jennings	

District "B" League:

Tournament competition format for the Graham-Bryson Trophy was conducted the week of Mar. 9 to 11, 1939.

1st Place - Rideau BC (Gold)
2nd Place - Church League

Semi Finalists - St. George's

Semi Finalists - Badminton Club of Ottawa (Blue)

Other participants:

BC of O (Red)

All Saints BC

Rideau BC (Purple)

Garrison BC

Renfrew Militia BC

Church League:

Conducted as league format throughout the season>

1st Place - Commerce BC (Purple)

2nd Place - St. George's BC (Blue)

3rd place - Commerce BC (White)

4th Place - St. George's BC (Red)

Other Participants:

YMCA BC

All Saints BC (Red)

Blessed Sacrament BC

Unitarian BC

All Saints BC (Blue)

Kent BC