



Windridge Times

THE WINDRIDGE TENNIS & SPORTS CAMP NEWSLETTER



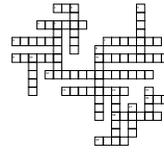
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News From Camp

Vermont has had a mild winter by Vermont standards. Mud season, typically a tolerated annual event, has graced us numerous times, and our snow fell late in the season. Now we're operating on daylight savings time, the days are growing longer, and soon Spring will be upon us. We are vigorously working on preparing Windridge for our 56th summer.

We are excited to announce that Windridge has recently partnered with Universal Tennis. Universal Tennis created the UTR Rating, a rating system that promotes fair and competitive play. All players, regardless of age, gender, geography, or skill level, are rated on the same scale between 1.00 and 16.50 based on actual match results. Having a UTR Rating enables players to track progress, find level-based play, and expand their tennis network. This summer, Windridge will be implementing more match play, and many other of the Universal Tennis services that will help our campers learn, develop and grow as tennis players. If you are interested in reading more about the UTR system, [click here](#).

Opening day is June 21, and we could not be more excited. Enrollment continues to thrive, and we are assembling an exceptional team to make the Windridge Experience one that your children and our staff will always remember.

Our owner, Ted Hoehn, recently shared some letters from staff, included [on page six of this newsletter](#). It is always wonderful to hear from staff and campers, whether they are coming back for the summer or not, about what they are up to, their reflections on camp, or how, in some cases, Windridge was a life-changing experience. We feel, very intensely at times, the close connections that Ted and the Windridge family have created and maintained over the years and are continually amazed and heartened at how we are surrounded by those connections.

We were saddened to lose one of those connections this winter. Our Facilities Director for many years and friend to all, Tom O'Brien, passed away. [We have included pictures and a link to his obituary on page six.](#)

We have a long list of returning staff on the next page. We are grateful and thrilled to have Norbert and Elizabeth Bremner back as camp directors with us. We are going to be posting staff updates on our Instagram account, so please continue to check there for additional returning staff.

We are excited for this summer, and are so thankful that we get to spend our summers at camp with your children.

Warmly,

Ramsey and Nifer



“Our son came home with a great attitude and seems to have matured/grown more than the three weeks he was away.”



2023 Dates & Rates

Session	Dates	Days	Cost	Riding
Session 1	Wednesday, June 21 - Thursday, July 6	16	\$4720	\$880
Session 2	Saturday, July 8 - Friday, July 28	21	\$6195	\$1155
Session 3	Sunday, July 30 - Monday, August 14	16	\$4720	\$880
Rookie Session 1	Wednesday, June 21 - Friday, June 30	10	\$2950	n/a
Rookie Session 2	Saturday, July 8 - Monday, July 17	10	\$2950	n/a
Rookie Session 3	Sunday, July 30 - Tuesday, August 8	10	\$2950	n/a
CIT Session 1	Wednesday, June 21 - Thursday, July 6	16	\$2360	
CIT Session 2	Saturday, July 8 - Friday, July 28	21	\$3098	
CIT Session 3	Sunday, July 30 - Monday, August 14	16	\$2360	



- Rookie Sessions are for first time campers, ages 7-10
- CIT Sessions are for 16 year old, or rising juniors
- Stay two sessions, receive a \$500 discount

Staff Updates

We are incredibly excited about all the staff members that are returning to Windridge this summer.



Clint O'Neil

🏆 **Ramsey, Roscoe Moonieyan, Clint O'Neil**, and former Windridge tennis legend, **Krasi Atanasov**, will be leading the charge on the courts this summer. Counselor and coach, **James Callard**, will also be back.

🐾 **Sue McNeil** and **Sofie Quinzanos** will be coming back to camp to run our equine program. **Clara Camacho Rodriguez, Lucy McCarthy, Laura Amaral**, and **Diana Oñate** will also be riding in Roxbury again.

⚽ **Drew Francisco** is returning as the Director of our soccer program. He is excited to have **Abigail Wilson** and **Emiliano Zepeda** back on the fields with him.

🎯 In electives, we have **Cal Dixon** returning as the Director. **Daniel Suastegui, Olivia Smart, Ximena Reyes Ronquillo, Ana Itzel González**, and **Anna Frida Gonzalez Pena** are returning to ride mountain bikes, play lacrosse, dance, swim, shoot arrows, and dunk basketballs with our campers.

🚑 Nurses **Dave Caterino** and **Cate Beattie** will once again be running our health center. They hope to see everyone for both medical and social visits.

👨‍🍳 In the kitchen, we have **Abbott Gould** back as our Head Chef. **Maria Jose Delgado Martinez, Enrique Orea Alvarez, Gerardo Munoz Gomez**, and **Jaime Novoa** will be joining him.

👧 **Grace Long** will be back for her third summer and is stepping into our Head Girl's Counselor role. We are thankful for her positivity, attention to detail, and genuine care for all.



Roscoe Moonieyan



Ramsey & Drew Francisco



Sue McNeil



Grace Long



Dave Caterino
with Leo Daub

CIT Program



Our CIT (Counselors-In-Training) program is focused on developing essential leadership skills for life for our oldest campers. Some skills we work on improving are communication, teamwork, setting and achieving goals, developing strong relationships, respect, organization, creativity, handling conflicts, and solving problems. The CITs all have a mentor both in their specific program area and in their cabin. They have one period per day in their program where they help to teach. They will also have 2 periods per day where they meet as a group to work on the specific skills we are teaching. We are highly selective in choosing applicants for the program that we believe will be a good fit. This is important because these mature teens will be working (alongside their mentors) with the younger campers. [For more information about our CIT program, please click here](#) or [email Elizabeth by clicking here](#).

We are excited to have these campers returning as CIT's this summer: Chloe Acquavella, Staci Benedict, Martin Chatenier, Karlyn Fox, Forrest Holloway, Alexa Lisher, Gabriel Minc, Piper Shepherd, Margaret Smith, and Antoine Baudry.



Ramsey's Tennis Tip



BRING THE HEAT, GET TO THE NET

Booming groundstrokes are a staple of today's game. Players are swinging more freely than ever before. Forehand and backhand winners are being struck from every part of the court, and this makes the game as exciting as ever. Here's a suggestion for even more success with those booming groundstrokes: try and anticipate a weak reply, and move forward to the net with either an approach shot, or volley. This allows you to open up the court for an easy finish at the net.

Anticipation and awareness are key to your success. So what are you looking for? A shot that feels like you got it just right, a reaction from your opponent that causes a little chaos, or identifying that your opponent is stretched out, preparing to hit a defensive shot, and you're going to get a floater. These are all signs it's time to apply pressure, and attack.

When that weak reply is struck, be ready to pounce. Don't let that paceless floater return bounce beyond the service line and keep you on the baseline. Instead, take it out of the air with a volley or a swinging volley, and continue following your shot forward to the net. If the ball is bouncing further up the court, and you want to let it bounce, go ahead and rip an approach shot.

Moving forward allows you to apply pressure to your opponent, keeping them unsettled. It will likely win you some free points throughout the course of the match. Looking to move in a north/south direction when you're in the driver's seat during the point is a great way to make your opponents feel the heat!

****One reason this is the case is because of string technology. What type of swing speed do you play with? If you're able to swing the racket quickly, consider a polyester string, or a hybrid mix of a poly and synthetic for your racket. The poly tensions should be dropped lower than what you are used to. Tensions range from 55-35 lbs. Poly is not recommended if you have elbow pain.****



JC Program

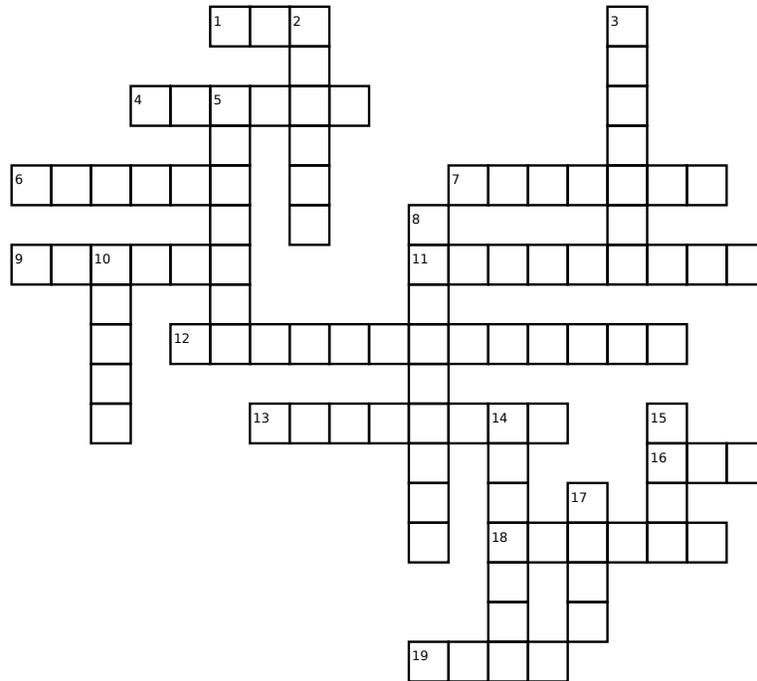


Our JC program is by invitation only for those who successfully completed the Counselor-In-Training program and also show great promise as potential full staff members. JC's work alongside full counselors as their mentors gaining responsibility all around camp. This position gives our 17 year olds lifelong skills that easily transfer to the working world beyond camp days. Leadership, team work, time management, program development, communication skills to name just a few of these.

WINDRIDGE CROSSWORD



Hey Mac!
What's another name
for a sleeping bag?



A nap sack!



Down:

2. One of the four majors that takes place on a court
3. The person who performs Flee Fly during Opening Campfire
5. Where MTV Night takes place
8. Where one might find Driscoll, Snowy River, and Primrose Manor
10. The cabin in Girl's Camp for rookie campers
14. The main soccer building
15. Our Head Nurse
17. One of the four majors that requires clubs and a tee

Across:

1. A 16 year-old counselor/camper
4. One of the four majors where you might spend time with Abe or Major
6. The main tennis building
7. an elective that requires a bow and target
9. One of the four majors in which you can nutmeg someone
11. The Evening Activity that involves zombies, survivors, and alpha zombies
12. An evening activity during Teela Games that involves tennis balls and soccer balls
13. Where one could sleep in Bunker Hill, Tolcheff, or Stillwater
16. A serve that your opponent cannot touch
18. A campfire dessert made with graham crackers, marshmallows, and chocolate
19. The month our first session begins

Letters to Camp

"I still remember turning onto Roxbury Road, losing cell phone service, and hoping that my MapQuest directions were right as I drove to Teela Wooket for the first time and wondering where am I? And what did I sign up for? I arrived at camp on a chilly day in early June ready for management team training; I had taken on the role of Girl's Head Counselor for the summer and was ready for this adventure at a new camp. I remember getting a warm smile and hellos from Michelle, Norbs, Errol and Leanne which was soon changed to a "Watch the stairs of Snowy River" from a man in a truck who I later learned was Tom the maintenance man and all I was thinking was what is Snowy River?"

"As I am remembering all my Teela Wooket days it is hard to put in words what exactly Windridge means, I think it means so much for so many people. For me it brought friendship both new and old, a sense of belonging (in a world where I didn't know anything about horse riding or soccer), memories, gaining leadership skills, confidence in myself and stepping outside of my comfort zone. (My third summer I finally got on a horse with an audience of the maintenance team, thanks again Tom) As a leader, I saw campers trying new activities, being responsible for their own sports equipment (sometimes making them late for their next activity), making new friends, and go from being nervous and homesick to not wanting to leave at the end of the session with happy tears as they drove down the road and away from camp for the summer. The transformation that camp gives a camper is something that is hard to describe in words but being able to see it is truly amazing and that is what Windridge means to me."

Amanda Cassidy, *Girl's Head Counselor summers 2011, 2012, 2013*

[For Amanda's full letter, please click here.](#)

"Eloise is just beaming from her experience at Windridge. Thank you so much for providing her with such a great opportunity to focus on having fun!!"



"We lived in the same cabin, we shared everything with each other: our experiences, our thoughts and even our clothes. Once we played tennis before dinner and the next day we went to running together and after that we watched the sun goes down behind the mountains. It was incredible. With good friends work was easier than I thought. Even though I worked a lot, I didn't mind because it was a lot of fun. Sue was a fantastic boss, maybe the best I have ever had. She always listen and she take a good care of the horses."

"Windridge showed me a new "world". The camp was full of joy and happiness and when I saw the kids saying goodbye to their counsellors, it was heart-warming. They almost became a little family. Counsellors made me open-mouthed because they had the hardest but the most grateful job."

Jumeirah Vittaveli, *Riding staff*

Tom O'Brien



We are sad to share the news that Windridge's former Facilities Director, Tom O'Brien, died on February 24 at his home in Vermont. A memorial celebration will be held in May. Our condolences go out to his family and loved ones. Tom was a dear friend to so many of us that came through Windridge during his time with us from 2005-2015 and he will be missed.

For his obituary, [please click here.](#)



From left: Norbert Auger, Leanne Crewdson, Errol Natrass, Ted Hoehn, Brian Buczek, Tom O'Brien, and Krasi Atanasov

