

SECOND ANNUAL THE ROB LENOURY MEMORIAL SQUASH PROGRAM



MEMORIAL SQUASH PROGRAM GIVES KIDS A CHANCE TO PLAY



After a successful run last year, The Rob LeNoury Memorial Squash Program, has once again partnered with North Okanagan Youth & Family Services Society (NOYFSS) to introduce eight kids, ages 8 to 14, to the game of squash.

Rob LeNoury, a gentle giant with a big smile, was a regular at the club since moving to Vernon in 2003. His passing in April 2020 left a hole in the hearts of his family, friends and the squash community. But his love for the game of squash and youth development lives on through his legacy – the memorial program that honours his passion.

A former competitive squash player, Rob was passionate about all sports — as a player, fan and father. Rob loved nothing more than to watch his son Michael compete and would drive anywhere to cheer him on. He also worked for NOYFSS in the family services division for 14 years, coaching and mentoring children and their parents.

"Rob felt that sports were important in the development of kids, both physically and mentally," said his wife Katrina LeNoury. "We had a very successful program last year thanks to The Roster and are thrilled to once again have an opportunity for local youth to enjoy a sports activity that they may not have otherwise been able to. My hope is that this experience positively impacts the development of these youth and their outlook on life, something Rob was dedicated to doing as part of the NOYFSS team."

NOYFSS has been serving children, youth and families in the North Okanagan since 1974, delivering a broad range of social programs that strengthen, nurture and

protect the healthy development of children, youth and families. Programs are delivered through community-based outreach, skill-building and educational groups, and residential services. NOYFSS serves over 1200 families per year.

"I worked alongside Rob for almost 13 years. He was outstanding in all his roles with NOYFSS, was very popular amongst the staff team and was always available to lend a hand," said Dean Francks, Executive Director, NOYFSS. "Like Rob, I'm a firm believer that sports play a big role in supporting the healthy development of youth. The Rob LeNoury Memorial Squash Program will benefit youth by not only promoting physical health and exercise but also in areas such as working in groups, self-confidence and just being involved with such a great pro-social activity."

The eight-week program, which started on January 10, 2022, will run in conjunction with The Roster's three Juniors' Squash Programs for kids ages 4 to 17, continuing to run this year in a COVID friendly manner.

"I'm thrilled to be working with NOYFSS and the LeNoury family on this initiative that honours Rob," said The Roster Squash Pro, Pete Trafford. "This program will help youth who otherwise may not have opportunity to participate, experience the great game of squash. I'm proud to be part of Rob's legacy."

To date, funds for the memorial program have been provided by family and subsidized by The Roster. If anyone is interested in contributing to this program in Rob's memory, they may do so by contacting **Katrina LeNoury at 250.260.5946.**



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