

Grimsby Youngster Joins Niagara Academy of Tennis!



Everyone, please meet JESSICA!

Grimsby resident Jessica Fitzsimmons-Dick is a grade 7 student, whom we are thrilled to be welcoming as a full time Niagara Academy of Tennis (NAT) student in our Elementary Division this upcoming September.

Jessica was born in Glasgow Scotland and moved to Canada in 2011. Naturally, Jessica found her first interest in tennis after watching fellow Glasgow native, Andy Murray in action at a past Wimbledon event. Immediately after her interest was sparked, her parents Martin and Joanne, enrolled her in The Grimsby Tennis Club's Jr. Program.

It wasn't long before both her love for the game and her 'game' itself began to flourish, and within the last 4 years Jessica has developed into a high performance tennis player. She began competing in tournaments regularly, and each time has become closer and closer on the scoreboard against her higher ranked and more experienced competition.

Professional players Sloan Stevens and Nick Kyrgios are among the top of Jessica's favourite players, who continuously inspire her to work hard and become an even better player herself.

It was over this most recent year when Jessica transitioned into the competitive stream of our own NAT Jr. Program, where our coaches have been able to work on various aspects of her game, and realized the true talent and potential Jessica holds. Jessica also continued private lessons a couple times a week, since being on court 4-5 days weekly is a necessity for Jessica to train as often and as intense as her competition.

One day, Jessica mentioned to her parents in passing how 'cool' it would be to be a NAT student, however little did she know, her dream would become a reality so soon!

Over this past year, Jessica attended one of our NAT days, which gives prospective students the chance to spend a day in the life of a NAT student, both on and off the court. Jessica was all smiles, all day long, and it was during this day when Jessica really started to envision being a NAT student herself.

Jessica's father has mentioned how much of a role Jessica has played in their decision to enroll her at NAT, as she has consistently proven her keenness and drive to get better and better.



As Martin also stated, “We felt that with the small class sizes and high intensity training at NAT, Jessica would have a great opportunity to improve her tennis while also receiving a quality education at the same time.” As many NAT parents agree, the convenience of having training and classes on the same campus is a huge advantage to both parents and students, and this alone, makes NAT the only institution of its kind in Canada.

When asked what Martin and Joanne's goals are for Jessica at NAT, they responded by saying “... for her to improve her tennis and maintain her academic grades, but most importantly for her to enjoy the experience” ... Three solid goals, which are very much in reach!

On behalf of the entire NAT team, WELCOME JESSICA to Niagara Academy of Tennis!

