

NORTHWEST LOUISIANA COMMUNITY TENNIS ASSOCIATION
"To develop and promote tennis in Northwest Louisiana"
Minutes – March 4, 2015

1. The meeting was called to order by President Kaye Cochran. Those in attendance include John Liles, Bob Patterson, Jay Boyd, Sue Allender, Bonnie Cox, Phillip Campbell, Mike Correal, Elana Engleman, Willie Paz, Tammie Harris, Bianca Schulz, Grady Wilson, and special guest, Matt Vines with the Shreveport Times.
2. A motion to waive the reading of the February minutes was made by Bob Patterson, John Liles second the motion. All were in favor. The minutes stand as written.
3. Treasurer John Liles presented the balances as of February 28, 2015. The Red River Bank account for the 10 and Under grant monies has a balance of \$50,599.34. This does include the accounts of FDDOC (\$792.33) and NBTC10U (\$73.34). The Capital One Bank account has a balance of \$85,061.42. This does include the Play Tennis Bossier account (\$1,964.89) and our CGPG (Community Growth and Participation Grant monies for this year - \$6,558). We also received two large deposits for the adult league fees.
4. President Kaye Cochran gave her report, but first she wanted to introduce our guest Matt Vines, who writes for the Shreveport Times Sports section and was one of her students. We welcome Matt and he will try to get as much information about our tennis community into the Shreveport Times as possible.
 - a. Since the last meeting, Kaye has been busy contacting the LTA, and STA; discussing Junior Team Tennis with Elana Engleman, David Kimball, Grady Wilson, Richard Verzaal and Willie Paz; working on our website with Becky Berry, Jennifer West and Liz Azcona (with the LTA); revising the CTA calendar for 2015; submitting bids to Freddy Bailey for the 2015 State Championships; and working with Liz Azcona on the Tennis Apprentice program.
 - b. This month she hopes to review/update and continue to put in place committee chairpersons; work with Marketing Chair, Mike Correal on JTT and 10 and Under gifts/school posters; work with local Pros in forming a NWLaCTA Junior Team Tennis Tournament; meet with the Shreveport/Bossier tourist representative; check on Tennis Apprentice and Sets in the City programs.
5. Vice President Bob Patterson continues to send out his reports to the LTA. This coming weekend the LTA will be having their quarterly meeting in New Orleans, Bob will be attending along with John Liles and Jay Boyd.
6. Past President Jay Boyd wanted everyone to know that the league committee has approved of us hosting the following State tournaments: Adult 55 and Up (April 10 – 12), Adult State 18 and Up – odd ratings (June 12 – 14), Adult 70 and Up Invitational (October 2 – 4) and the Combo State 18 and Up (November 6 – 8). The LTA Executive Board now has to vote on it. Jay asked the attendees if we have an interest in hosting a Sectional Tournament. John Liles said we would be looking at 2,000 players. We may have to see about the court conditions at Cockrell and Querbes.

7. John Liles did mention that the annual CTA Meeting will be held in conjunction with the annual LTA Meeting on December 5.
8. In Community Coordinator news, Baton Rouge did hire a Community Coordinator. Lake Charles does have a Community Coordinator, but they pay for their own. We hopefully are getting closer to a job description approved by the LTA so we may once again try to get our own Community Coordinator.
9. League Coordinators Tammie Wilson and Bob Patterson we happy to report that we are up by 65 players from last year and that registration is still open. We have 1,167 adult players signed up for the 2015 Adult League. The season ends for the 55 and up on March 27; 40 and Up on April 17 and 18 and Up on May 29. If it would just stop raining and warm up a little so we can play our matches!!!
10. Grady Wilson will be hosting Tennis Apprentice at POTC this coming week. He will have a Play Day on Sunday (March 8). This program is for beginner adults (18 and up). Classes will begin Wednesday March 11 at POTC (7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.) and at Querbes Tennis Center on Saturday mornings (10 – 11:30 a.m.) beginning March 14. The cost is \$60 and includes 4 nights/days of lessons with a certified tennis professional, USTA membership, 1 night of tournament play, a player party and a gift/shirt. If you know anyone who is interested, please sign up on our website or contact Liz Azcona at ltamarketingdirector@louisianatennis.com . Grady wanted to thank Matt for the great article he did on Tennis Apprentice in the Shreveport Times.
11. Junior Team Tennis is in full swing at Querbes and North Bossier Tennis Center. Grady Wilson talked with Richard Verzaal and David Kimball, and all are on board on getting teams together for a non-sanctioned Junior Team Tennis Tournament in mid-May.
12. The CTA Tennis Circuit has been plagued by weather. POTC was able to hold their tournament on February 27 and 28. They had 82 matches (66 players) compete. North Bossier is going to see if they can re schedule their tournament to May 9. After this season, we may want to take another look at the schedule. Now it seems that the Summer months are all open for play.
13. Marketing Chair, Mike Correal, handed out flyers to everyone for the upcoming Tennis Apprentice and asked that we place these at non-tennis facilities (churches, hair dressers, workout rooms).
14. In old business, we are pleased to announce that Grady Wilson will be the Pro representative on the NWLaCTA Executive Board.
15. In new business, we are looking for ideas for a gift for the 10 and Under and Junior Team Tennis players. Jay Boyd said that we could pay for the 10 and Under players with the 10 and Under grant monies. It was suggested a t shirt would be nice. Grady

Wilson commented on how junior tournaments have a site where the child could enter his/her size and he knows someone who can design and print the shirts for a very reasonable cost. Kaye will contact Don Patterson, 10 and Under Coordinator, and have him get the size numbers.

16. Phillip Campbell said that the Shootout that was to be held at Southern Trace this weekend will be rescheduled. His courts are a mess due to the weather and the activity was not posted on line. He will look for a summer date to reschedule. Phillip did want to tell everyone that Helene Carter passed away last Wednesday. She was a true legend in the Shreveport tennis community.

17. It was recommended that the board review a stipend request from Willie Paz to cover his gas cost. Willie travels every month from Natchitoches to attend our meetings. Kaye said that this will be presented to the Executive Board.

**NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2015
EAST RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB – NOON**