

## Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association

### Board Minutes September 2, 2020

#### Call to Order – Rhonda Rubben, President

Rhonda announced the unexpected death of Errol Sims. CTA will do something to recognize Errol and his contributions to tennis in the area.

**Attendance** - Board members- Rhonda Rubben, Joey Lawler, John Liles (by phone), Pam Haley, Jay Boyd, Bob Patterson, Chris Dudley, Erik Graves, Tyler Semmes, Grady Wilson, Philip Campbell, Willie Paz, Albert Hardison. Others- Gayle Lowrey, Sue Allendar, Lance Dryer, Kaye Cochran, Katharine Knicely, Stevie Schmidt.

August minutes were approved, with motion by Bob Patterson, second by Albert Hardison.

#### Executive Board Reports

##### Treasurer report – John Liles ( see attached detailed file)

- Current total assets are \$200,066: \$121,351.53 (checking/savings including PTB and QTC funds), \$75,579.09 (investments), \$2,385.80 (public facilities loan).
- Current total liabilities are \$18,342.88 (credit card, Sports Commission, Team Tennis, Querbes).
- Primary expenses in August – Polk family fundraiser (\$1400), YMCA summer camp (\$280), staff computer (\$1300).
- 2020 net income to date is \$18,648.85, <\$19,471.75> compared to \$30,170.60 in 2019.

##### President report – Rhonda Rubben

- A committee has been formed to select local league player gifts for adult leagues. Attending Board members were asked to choose from among several options available from vendors.
- 2020 annual calendar is on the website. Pros/others should notify Rhonda of changes or upcoming events. 2021 calendar will be emailed to pros in October to begin work.
- The CTA tournament, hosted by POTC, is scheduled for March 25-28, 2021 and will use the new system for tournaments. XGLO party may be scheduled then to honor Chris Mudd and others.
- Public courts will implement Foundation Tennis/Tennis Connects soon.
- PlayTennisSB.com is the new website title, with plans to contain links to area facility websites.
- LTA award nominations are due Sept., 11.
- A CTA/SPAR partnership will provide programs serving underserved youth. Cockrell currently has Kid's Club. Querbes program will begin next week. SoHills program will begin in 2021.
- Team tennis programs (elem. - middle) begin Sept. 8: Red/Orange/Green Ball 1 at Querbes; Green Ball 2/ Yellow Ball at SoHills. CTA hopes to expand at Cockrell and involve all programs in a spring tournament. A CTA committee is needed to help with this project.

##### USTA/LTA/STA reports -John Liles/Jay Boyd/Grady Wilson/Philip Campbell

##### Jay Boyd –

- LTA committee was formed to develop a test program to increase participation in high school tennis throughout LA, beginning in Lafayette and Northwest LA. A sample informational brochure was distributed for Board member to review.
- Recipients of STA and state program grants, facility grants, and other grants (tournament directors, officials, organizations, etc.) have been selected, and funds will be received soon. Recipients must submit W9s electronically to access funds. NWLACTA will receive \$2000.

- USTA STA membership is down 9.5%.
- USTA membership changes begin on or before Jan. 2021 with free memberships for juniors and organizations (i.e., CTAs). Voting rights will be determined at the state level.
- State championship tournaments were cancelled in 6 of 9 southern states.
- Cutbacks in manpower may be 20%, and a hiring freeze is in place. STA is looking for ways to maintain some positions.
- 2020 STA adult league participation is 95,000 (34.5%) less than in 2019.
- USTA projects a 2020 income reduction of \$ 2 M in 2021, 11.4% for STA, and 6% for states.
- Section funding decreased \$600 K in 2020, with a projected decrease of \$1.3 M in 2021.
- 2020 state championships dates are deferred to 2021.
- STA vision reflects an increased emphasis on service, opportunities for recreational tennis, social/physical/health benefits, inclusion, fun, community tennis, and organizational excellence.
- There has been a noticeable increase in recreational participation.

### **Committee reports –**

#### **Nominating committee – Philip Campbell/Sue Allendar/Jay Boyd/Joey Lawler**

- Two positions will be filled on CTA Board of Directors and voted on at the January meeting.
- Volunteers are needed for CTA committees. Committees will be listed on CTA website and can be listed/promoted on facility websites and Facebook pages.

### **Facilities – Pro Updates**

#### **Bossier –**

- Junior Development program including Red Ball Pre-Rally begins Sept. 8.

#### **Cockrell –**

- Kids Club participants would like to play matches with other clubs on Saturdays .

#### **Natchitoches –**

- Junior Development is in progress. After-school program begins Sept. 14 and will include a Team Challenge.
- A mixed league plays on Monday nights, and a women’s league plays on Thursday nights.

#### **ERCC –**

- Eddie Copete is under quarantine at MD Anderson, so there is not much to report.

#### **POTC –**

- Stevie Schmidt has been added to pro staff.
- After-school program has 65 participants, and Junior Development has 40.

#### **STCC –**

- An Interim tennis director has been hired, and a new general manager arrives next week.
- A permanent tennis director should be hired within 30 days.

#### Querbes –

- A new in-house, step-up-like ladies league (QLT) will begin Sept. 14 with 50+ newer players. Matches will be played Monday – Thursday evenings and 2 times on Saturdays.
- Querbes is outgrowing the structure.
- Team tennis program will begin for Red, Orange, and Green Ball I.

#### SoHills –

- Team tennis is in progress.
- Chris Long, Captain Shreve tennis coach, is heading up a High School Tennis League with LTA. Several pros are on the committee. Programs will be held at SoHills.
- Bossier and SoHills will begin a 9.0+ league (outside of USTA) this fall.

#### **League Coordinator Reports**– Rhonda Rubben (see attached detailed file)

- 2020 adult league participation is 91 less than in 2019.
- 2020 mixed league participation is 206 less than in 2019.
- Combo registration opened Sept. 1. Information was sent to 2019 captains. 2020 combo participation is 1807 less than in 2019.
- Fall flex singles league sign-up deadline is Sept. 4.
- 4.5 social flex USTA mixed doubles league between POTC and Bossier begins Sept. 4.
- All players must sign the USTA Waiver before they play a USTA match.

#### **Community Coordinators Report** – Kaye Cochran, Ann Allred, Kirita Windham (see attached report)

- Volunteers cannot go into schools at this time for adaptive children’s tennis. Adaptive adult programs may be possible at YMCA.
- Team Challenge participation through Aug. 25 was 438, more than the 2020 goal of 425.
- Pros and volunteers must complete NET GENERATION Safe Play Certification.
- Katy Build (Sept. 11-13), St. Judes (Sept 18-20), Lady Demons (Oct. 9-10) Mint Julep Oct 15-18, Calvary (Nov.) are upcoming tournaments.

#### **New Business** –

- SALT includes 26 teams. SALT will provide bins for players to bring used racquets to distribute to children in after-school programs.
- BLT sponsored 2 play days. Fall league has 14 teams and 84 players.
- Invite players to “like” CTA Facebook page.
- POTC will host an exhibition next Friday.
- Querbes will host a Labor Day mixer on Sept. 6 from 5 – 8. Cost is \$15 with food truck and cash/card bar.
- BTC will host a Labor Day mixer on Sept. 7 from 9-11. Cost is \$5.

Meeting was adjourned, with motion by Albert Hardison, and second by Chris Dudley.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Haley

Secretary