

Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association

Board Minutes – November 3, 2021

Call to Order – Joey Lawler, President

Attendance – Board members: Joey Lawler, Rhonda Rubben, Brian Bernard, Pam Haley, Todd Killen, Chris Dudley, Grady Wilson, Philip Campbell, Albert Hardison. Others: Bob Patterson, Josh Alexander, Kaye Cochran, Amy Dudley, Bianca Roge, Karen McCoy, Rodrick and Katheryn Arterberry.

October minutes were approved. Motion by Albert Hardison, second by Rhonda Rubben.

Executive Board Reports

Treasurer – Rhonda Rubben

- Income: \$2198.95 income for October, including combo income \$243, misc. from LTA (for 6.0 team going to nationals) \$2000 less RJ Interest <\$232.65>loss. Total income YTD \$105066.91.
- Main expenses for October: \$8997.60, including Constant Contact (newsletter cost) \$264, Coordinators fees \$4208, Audrey Robinson quarterly payment \$510, contribution to teams going to sectionals and nationals \$3400.
- Total checking/savings \$129860.49, scholarships \$10002.24, Querbes \$2206, RJ Investments \$70652. Total liabilities \$6874.21, including Sports Commission \$4000, Querbes \$2206, and credit card \$657.

President– Joey Lawler

No report.

Vice President – Brian Bernard

- Querbes construction/maintenance update. City contractors will patch areas where paint is separating from court surface per warranty. Parts for lights should arrive in 4 weeks.

Past President – Rhonda Rubben

- Guests are Karen McCoy and Rodrick and Katheryn Arterberry.
- Nominations for NWLACTA Board and committee members should be sent to Rhonda.
- December Board meeting is Dec. 8th @ 11:30 with lunch and recognitions from 12 – 1pm.
- John Liles is stepping down as NWLACTA Treasurer. As an original founding board member, John will be recognized at the Dec. 8th Board meeting for all his dedication to the CTA.

USTA/LTA/STA Reports - Grady Wilson, Philip Campbell

- STA – No report.
- LTA – Meeting is Dec. 3 -4. CTA meeting is Friday and awards luncheon Saturday.

Facilities/Pro Updates

Cockrell –

- Lights on courts 7 and 8 are out.
- Water leakage on some courts.

SHills –

- Completed second junior day tournament with 18 players. Assisted by Kaye Cochran. Good feedback from parents. Another scheduled on Nov. 20th.
- About 25 for yellow ball match play, 10 for green ball.
- Off-campus PE is in progress.
- Social play numbers are increasing.
- Beginning a Thursday 6 pm and Saturday 9 am open clinic for juniors.

BTC –

- Winter mixed league (5.0,6.0,7.0) begins Nov.1st, with matches on Monday and Thursday evenings during November and December. 7.0 league has 16 teams, 5.0 and 6.0 have a total of 26 teams, including some former TA participants.
- 17-18 in Red Ball program. Volunteers Kaye Cochran, Jennifer Killen, and a few juniors are helping Todd and Bianca.
- Mark Robert's 55 & Over 6.0 men's team finished 3rd in the USTA National Tournament in Orlando, FL.

Natchitoches –

- Meeting today with the city for tennis center updates.
- 15 participants have completed TA.
- JD is ongoing.
- Tennis will be offered in elementary PE classes.
- Level 6 tournament is second weekend in November.
- Offering team challenges.
- Involved in 10 and under circuit. (Focus is on red and orange ball.)

Kaye Cochran – City of Ruston Tennis (CORT) is also growing, with 80-85 women (day), 75 men (evening), 15 USTA 18 & Over teams.

QTC –

- In 6th week of TA, playing points/games. Connie Holoman talked about SALT (women's day league) at TA party, and two 2.5 TA ladies volunteered to captain SALT BC level teams.
- Planning a 6 wk. TA step-up program to begin the first week of December.
- 84 kids in new junior sessions. Need volunteers for Red Ball program.
- Querbes 8.0 mixed team (Rhonda Rubben, Captain) will compete at Sectionals in Little Rock on Nov. 5-7.

POTC/ERCC -

- Oct 29-31 SETT tournament included 150 players.
- One site for 18 & 55 & Over State tournament this weekend.
- NFL tournament is Nov. 12-14th.
- National JR level 5 tournament is Nov. 19-21st, with 60 entered to date.
- 30 JD participants.
- 55-60 Off-Campus PE participants, with more interested in playing high school tennis.
- Three successive 5-week sessions of pickleball ends soon. USTA Ex. Board will review/discuss pickleball lines on tennis courts, which is currently prohibited for USTA play (USTA rule).
- USTA leagues have ended, and SALT league will end next week.
- 2 new pros have been hired and will begin next week.
- Eddie Copete is retiring from ERCC. A farewell party is schedule for Nov. 18th.
- Tom Chicoine will replace Eddie and begin working next week.

Committee Reports

Community/Outreach -

- Karen McCoy and Amy Stafford will assist with launch of resale tennis closet (Love Twice) for new tennis players who may need gently used clothes, equipment, or related items at reduced or no cost. Love Twice will be housed at Querbes, with collection sites at Querbes and BTC and donations accepted beginning in the next 2-3 weeks. Guidelines will be available for both donations and purchases. Love Twice will “open” in December or January.
- Rodrick and Katheryn Arterberry will be assisting with the NJTL program at Cockrell. Other veteran families are needed to mentor NJTL group.
- CTA will receive nominations for scholarship program for high school seniors, and possibly middle school students, to provide funds and/or equipment for tennis programs.
- Most CTA equipment (rackets, portable nets) is being used in programs (Creswell, YMCA, Montessori, Adaptive).
- Connie Holomon and others have been collecting donations in memory of KK Birmingham to help students in Bossier participate in tennis programs. CTA may house funds.
- Jimmy Graves, Community Foundation, is setting up potential dates for programs at Friendship Houses in Cedar Grove and Barksdale Annex. Volunteers will be needed.

State –

- State tournament bids have not been announced.
- Combo 18 & 55 & Over State Tournament is November 5-7, 2021, with 574 registered players. BTC (host site), POTC and Querbes will be tournament sites. Todd Killen is host site Director. Site director meeting is @ 6 pm tomorrow (11/4) at BTC. Matches begin Friday morning and end Sunday afternoon. Lunches @ POTC will be available with \$5 discount. Subway sandwiches for lunch Friday and Saturday at BTC and snacks for all 3 days will be provided at all sites. BTC will host final matches on Sunday. Bossier Ladies Tennis volunteers will prepare player team bags at BTC tomorrow @ 3 pm. Players will receive socks (2 pr. for men, 1 pr. for women) and a travel bag (women).

Volunteer/Hospitality –

- Need to reach out to potential volunteers. CTA may provide volunteer mixer/orientation to match volunteer interest with facility needs.
- Each facility should “grow” a Courtside Connections volunteer group.

Local League Coordinator Reports – Rhonda Rubben & Tad Peters (Spring & Combo)/Tammie Harris (Mixed)/Rhonda Terracciano (Flex)/Kirita Windham (Tri-Level)

- Combo league has ended.
- Working on 2022 Spring League Dates.
- In-person Captains’ meeting is needed. Potential dates are Monday, Nov. 29th at BTC and Tuesday, Nov. 30th at POTC.
- Spring registration may begin Dec. 3 but will check with State on Ratings date.
- Seeking input concerning whether or not all leagues should end at the same time.
- Bob Patterson – encourage TA participants to join USTA so they can play on a spring 2.5 team. CTA will solicitate mentor Captains with flyers and on FB.
- Mentors are needed for NJTL participants, so they become familiar with the pathways to tournaments, etc.
- Will prepare/distribute a letter to captains and players with explanations and expectations for USTA matches.
- Captains’ gifts have been sent to facilities and are available for pick up by team Captains (shirts for all Captains, Amazon \$25 gift cards for first-time Captains, \$ 10/per team Amazon gift cards for Captains of 4 or more teams). Mentors of Captains also receive a gift card.

Community Coordinators’ Report – Kaye Cochran, Kirita Windham

- See attached NWLA-CTA Community Coordinator’s Report.
- Kaye will help set up 2.5 intra-facility mixers if pros will send lists of TA participants and other 2.5 players.

New Business

- 3 players will be inducted in the LA Tennis Hall of Fame on Dec. 3rd.
- Newsletter will be emailed this afternoon.

Meeting was adjourned. Motion by Bob Patterson, second by Rhonda Rubben.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Haley, Secretary