

Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association

Board Minutes – September 1, 2021

Call to Order – Brian Bernard, Vice President

Attendance – Board members: Brian Bernard, Rhonda Rubben, Pam Haley, Chris Dudley, Grady Wilson, Philip Campbell, Willie Paz, Albert Hardison. Others: Kaye Cochran, Bianca Schulz, Darlene Dean, Courtney Matheny, Matther Coerver.

August minutes were approved. Motion by Grady Wilson, second by Rhonda Rubben.

Executive Board Reports

Treasurer Report – Rhonda Rubben

- Income: 0 income for August – Combo Income should be coming soon, total income YTD \$88,443.55.
- Main expenses for August: Sectional Stipends \$300.00; total expenses August \$770.26.
- Total checking/savings \$40659.71, scholarships, \$10000.99, RJ Investments \$71316.54. Total liabilities \$7312.69, credit card \$946, Sports Commission \$4000 (Combo Tourn), Querbes \$2366.39

President Report – Brian Bernard, Rhonda Rubben

- POTC is in the process of creating pickleball courts on 2 existing tennis courts. Court issues have occurred on the recently created courts at Querbes. This is under warranty and is in process between the City and the Contractor to be corrected.
- The City of Shreveport is responsible for replacing bulbs in existing lights at Southern Hills and Cockrell but the City does have plans to replace with LED lights in the near future. Querbes light issue is being corrected by the contractor.
- Tyler Semmes is moving to Baton Rouge and therefore will be resigning from Southern Hills. Josh Alexander will become interim director on Sept. 20th. RFP is being prepared and released by SPAR to begin process of hiring a new pro. Ice machine has been replaced. A bid has been received from the company that resurfaced POTC courts to resurface the front 4 courts at Southern Hills.
- Bids for 2022-2023 State tournaments have been submitted. Results should be known in November. A Facility Responsibility form was distributed to each pro for his signature, identifying facility requirements and Site Director responsibilities for hosting a State Tournament.
- Pros should review activities from 2019 and 2020 to determine events/tournaments to schedule and avoid major conflicts and begin sending information for the 2022 Pro Calendar.

Past President-Rhonda Rubben

- **Special Programs – NWLACTA NJTL Chapter**
 - Querbes Tennis Center, Rec Center, & NWLACTA to offer tennis to Rec Center children beginning week of September 9/23 for 1 hour one or two afternoons a week. Chris

Dudley and staff will head this program, CTA will provide equipment as needed with funds from CTA Diversity Grant.

- Volunteers of America, SALT, & NWLACTA to offer afterschool program to children at Creswell Elementary School this fall. Joshua Jackson will be lead tennis instructor, CTA will provide equipment with funds from CTA Diversity Grant. SALT to provide volunteers and incentives.
- Southern Hills, Rec Center, SPAR, & NWLACTA to offer Adaptive Program for CPSP children beginning in October on Tuesday and Thursday Mornings. Josh Alexander will be lead tennis instructor. Adaptive Grant will pay for this program and CTA will supply equipment.
- Cockrell and NWLACTA looking to partner through CTA NJTL Chapter in assisting children in Kids Club.
- Southern Hills, Rec Center, SPAR & NWLACTA working on fall or spring program for afterschool kids.
- **State Tournament November 5-7**
 - Bossier Tennis Center is Host Facility, and Todd Killen, Tournament Chairman.
 - Approximately 600-650 players.
 - Player Gifts.
 - Site Directors for all facilities have been selected.
 - Facility Responsibility form needs to be signed by all Tennis Directors.
 - Southern Hills front 4 courts need to be power washed before tournament. List of all lighting issues has been given to SPAR by the Tennis Directors.
 - Other maintenance items need to be turned into city now so all will be completed before the tournament.
- **Scholarship Program**
 - Requested and received from STA the JOTFORM that they use for their application.
 - Application sent to Scholarship Committee for approval and to set the “Need Based” four-year grant income limits.
 - High School application in process. Requested contact list of all tennis coaches.

USTA/LTA/STA Reports – Grady Wilson

- Quarterly LTA Board meeting is Sept. 18th.
- Sanctioning and scheduling subcommittee for STA JR has approved 2022 sanction schedule and will submit to LTA Board for a vote.

Facilities/Pro Updates

BTC -

- 40 kids in afterschool program.
- Looking for a different date to host City Tournament, possibly weekend of May 23, 2022.
- Seeking input and interest for pickleball.
- Bossier City Open tournament in October has been cancelled.

Querbes -

- Labor Day Mixer is scheduled, including about 50 donations from local businesses for Hit for prizes. Demo racquets will be available.
- Junior Development begins Sept.13th.
- Hoping to add another assistant pro position soon.

Natchitoches –

- Free lessons for 4 weeks in Oct. for designated participants.
- Offering Tennis Apprentice, afterschool programs, and ongoing Junior Development.

POTC/ERCC -

- 2 hard courts have been converted to 6 pickleball courts.
- LED lights will be added to 4 additional courts, making a total of 10 courts with LED lights.
- Labor Day barbeque pickleball/tennis collaboration is planned.
- New pro at ERCC, Tom Chicoine, has pickleball experience; Grady has been certified as beginning pickleball instructor.
- About 50 students in Off-campus PE.
- Junior Development is offered year-round with about 65 participants.
- Snoopy and NFL tournaments are being discussed.

SALT –

- LTA award nomination has been submitted.
- Two play days preceded the beginning of the season, which started last week.

BLT -

- Season begins Sept. 13th.
- One additional 3.0 team this season.

Cockrell -

- JR players participated in a UTR Tyler TX tournament last weekend.
- 14 players are in the Cockrell Kids Club group.

STCC –

- Junior Development emphasis 2 wks. ago with play days to create interest.
- Will soon have 4 pros.
- Two clay courts have been redone to create one hard court and 4 pickleball courts.
- LED lights will be installed on all courts within 4-6 weeks.

Committee Reports

Marketing – Rhonda Rubben

- Audrey met with new editor of Shreveport Times to try and get more press releases.
- \$1000 matching marketing grant.

- 1 case of yard signs have been updated with new web site to promote tennis and provide an opportunity to win a total of \$700 in giveaways. Adult and junior winners will receive \$100 gift card to local facility of choice.
- Another marketing grant can be used to add advertisements in SB Magazine and 318 Forum.
- Information for newsletter must be submitted by Friday.
- USTA Southern Tennis Champions - Josh Turner, Rhonda Rubben.

Awards – Rhonda Rubben

- Most have been submitted. Deadline is Sept. 11th.

CTA Tournament – April 1 – 3, 2022 – Rhonda Rubben

- Need volunteers for tournament planning and soliciting 2022 Community Partners.

Local League Coordinator Report – Rhonda Rubben & Tad Peters (Adult Spring & Combo), Tammie Harris (Mixed), Rhonda Terracciano (Flex), Kirita Windham (Tri-level)

- Current season total players – 1017, 6 less than 2019.
- YTD totals - 3474, up 46 players from 2019.
- SALT and BLT Leagues – required information will be added to Serve Tennis for CGPG. Courtney Matheny will assist with this project.

Community Coordinators Report – Kaye Cochran, Kirita Windham

- See attached report.

New Business (none)

Meeting was adjourned. Motion by Brian Bernard, second by Rhonda Rubben.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Haley, Secretary