

Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association

Board Minutes – March 2, 2022

Call to Order – Brian Bernard

Attendance – Board members: Brian Bernard, Stephanie Bass, Steve Craig, Pam Haley, Albert Hardison, Grady Wilson, Chris Dudley (Amy proxy). Others: Rhonda Rubben, Jay Boyd, Hassan Abbas, Judit Castillo, Kaye Cochran, Bob Patterson, Michael Schaff, Tammy Harris, and Rachel Morgan.

February minutes were approved. Motion by Albert Hardison, second by Steve Craig.

Executive Board Reports

Treasurer – Steve Craig

- Assets: \$ 219,730, including \$ 137,460 cash, \$ 11,000 Sports Commission, \$ 71,270 RJ Investments.
- Liabilities: \$ 17,641, including \$ 1,109 credit card, \$ 16,531 other liabilities.
- Income for February: \$ 1,008 adult spring leagues, \$ 5,250 community partners, \$ 281 Love Twice, \$ 357 misc income/interest.
- Expenses for February: \$2,463, including \$ 987 project expenses, \$ 1,476 general expenses.
- YTD Net Income: \$ 8,851.
- Balance Sheet and P & L by MTH YTD are available for review.

USTA/STA/LTA – Jay Boyd, Grady Wilson

- Louisiana Tennis Association (LTA)
 - Bill Phillips is Executive Director
 - Consultant is reviewing LTA policies and procedures.
 - LTA Executive Committee has been working to make necessary adjustments and staffing decisions.
 - Budget is being prepared.
 - Jay and Grady will attend USTA national meeting in 2 weeks in Orlando.
- LTA wants to hear from CTAs with any information or ideas for improvement.
- Southern Tennis USTA meeting was rescheduled for April 21 – 24.
 - New programming is coming.
- USTA Tennis Venue Services Program funds are available for facility renovation. Form is available at www.usta.com/facilities.

Public and Private Facilities – PRO Updates

Bossier Tennis Center –

- Junior Development (JD) programs in progress.
- BLT, SALT, USTA leagues in progress.
- Date to begin Tennis Apprentice (TA) is TBD.
- Will work to create teams for Junior Team Tennis (JTT).

Natchitoches –

- 19 junior players in level 6 tournament last weekend.
- Next level 6 tournament May 28-29.
- TA begins at the end of March.

Querbes Tennis Center –

- Light situation has improved but not completed.
- 60+ in JD.
- Michael Schaff joined staff in January.
- TA begins in March with one session Tuesday mornings and two sessions Wednesday nights.
- Will host a level 7 tournament on April 9 if there is enough interest.

Brian Bernard – Update on resurfacing of Querbes, Southern Hills, and Cockrell

- Communicating with city, and plans are to examine surfaces this week.
 - Will follow up if needed.
- Centenary will partner with QTC to provide courts for junior programs, leagues, etc.

Pierremont Oaks Tennis Club –

- Preparing for Bill Oliver tournament in 2 weeks. About 60 are currently registered.
- Pickleball tournament this weekend.
- Love for Lance tournament is scheduled in April. Promotion beginning next week.
- Good JD participation. Some played in level 6 tournament in Natchitoches.
- Thanks to Jay for his leadership at LTA.
- JTT program is planned for juniors who just started playing tennis, leading up to State (June 11) and Sectional participation. Will coordinate with other facilities.
 - Flyers are being distributed to other facilities to advertise the program.
 - JTT coaches and sponsors must be Safe Play Approved.
 - In interim, Rhonda, Hassan Abbas, and Michael Schaff will assume those responsibilities until others are Safe Play Approved.

A request was made for approval to pay Michael Schaff to assist Hassan with JTT program at QTC, Cockrell, and SHills. The request amount is \$15/hr. to assist. Funding sources are CTA budget and grant. Motion by Grady Wilson, second by Albert Hardison.

Albert Hardison, and Rhonda will help Katherine Arterberry at Cockrell and Todd Killen will handle BTC.

Jay Boyd – Louisiana is historically lowest in STA in official JTT participation that is recorded through Serve Tennis or Tennis Link. STA funding to LTAs may be influenced by performance in different areas over time, including JTT.

Southern Hills –

- Team tennis begins this week.
- Leagues and pickleballs are in progress.
- Host facility for Calvary Highschool Tennis Team.
- Off-campus PE.

Rhonda Rubben -

- SHills and Cockrell are scheduled this year for resurfacing of courts and new lights.
- RFPs for Pro Applications are closed but a second RFP will reopen in March. Interviews are scheduled for April, with a goal of having new pros in place in May.
- Currently Jill Zimmer is interim pro at SHills, and Dewayne Allen are interim pro at Cockrell.

Southern Trace County Club

- Grand Opening for 4 pickleball courts was held on Feb. 11.
- Assistant Tennis Pro, Adam Brownlow, has returned.
- STCC Racquet Sports Committee launched a capital campaign to build a new pavilion containing a new pro shop and multi-level viewing of tennis and pickleball courts.
- Mint Julep Member/Guest Tournament is scheduled for April 21-24.
- Second 7-wk spring Junior session began Feb. 22.
- Jr. UTR tournaments are scheduled on Mar. 12 and Mar. 18 and are open to all players.
- Spring Break Camp, scheduled on Mar. 21-25, is open to members and non-members.

Cockrell –

- Good number in junior program.
- Rhonda Rubben – Ken Myers has offered to help with summer programs at Cockrell.

SALT –

- In progress.
- Much rescheduling because of weather.

BLT –

- In progress.
- Four 3.5 teams, seven 3.0 teams, round robin for 2.5s with about 15 players.
- Can play BLT, SALT, and USTA day league without conflict.

Rhonda Rubben - There has been confusion over the payment of court fees for USTA matches at public and private facilities, particularly since teams have come from other areas for league play. CTA policy on payment of court fees for USTA leagues has been in place since 1990. It has been included in the new player handbook, but it has also been reprinted and will be signed by all facility pros and posted on the CTA website under USTA. The procedure is as follows:

- If a public HOME team plays a private VISITOR team, then the HOME team pays court fees for BOTH teams.
- If a private HOME team plays a public VISITOR team, then NEITHER team pays court fees.
- If a public HOME team plays public VISITOR team, then BOTH teams pay court fees.

Community Partners/Fundraising

- February was a good month for securing Community Partners.
- To meet goal of \$10k in cash donations, roughly \$5000 more is needed.

CTA/Bill Oliver Tournament March 11-13

- Entries and pre-tournament work is going well.
- Volunteers and donations (Hit for Prizes, drawings) are needed.
- Seeking volunteers to make homemade desserts in addition to cookies.
- Food is secured.
- Seeking a band for music on Friday night.

Outreach & Special Programs/Grants

- Adaptive program is Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 9:30-10:30, and began this week with 22 participants.
 - Karita Windham, Stacy Haren, and Bill Samuels assisted.
 - Incentives and snacks are provided by the CTA.
- Creswell program begins tomorrow.
- LSUMed/Caddo Magnet/Stoner program is going well, with 90 participants.
- \$ 1,500 grant written for NJTL, and \$ 1,000 grant written for JTT.

State Tournaments

- Referees have been secured for all tournaments except one.
- Bob Patterson has secured hotels for all tournaments.

Local League Coordinator Reports – Rhonda Rubben

- Leagues have 198 more than 2021 with a total of 1498.
- Tri-level registration opened yesterday. Flyers were distributed, and information is posted on website.

Community Coordinators' Report – Kaye Cochran

- Team challenges help with CGPG points.
- Report is attached.

New Business

- CTA will donate \$500 for sponsorship of Katy Build tournament, which is June 24 – 26. Motion by Steve Craig, second by Bob Patterson.
- Grady Wilson– USTA does not allow a 2-person draw for Jr. levels 5-7. Grady will help with this situation if needed.

Meeting was adjourned. Motion by Brian Bernard, second by Grady Wilson.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Haley, Secretary