

## Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association

### Board Minutes – April 5, 2023

#### Call to Order – Brian Bernard

**Attendance** – Board members: Brian Bernard, Pam Haley, Albert Hardison, Stephanie Bass, Chris Dudley, Grady Wilson, Philip Campbell, Rhonda Rubben, Ken Meyers. Others: Tammie Harris, Katherine Arterberry, Rodric Arterberry, Rachel Morgan, Marilyn Meyers, Hassan Abbas, Cotter Wilson, Kirita Windham, Jay Boyd, Lester Jackson.

March minutes were approved. Motion by Albert Hardison, second by Brian Bernard.

#### Executive Board Reports

##### President Report – Brian Bernard

- \$5700 to date from Community Partners. Continue to solicit.
- The deadline is April 30<sup>th</sup> for High School Senior Scholarship applications.

##### Treasurer Report – Rhonda Rubben

- February 1 and March 1 financial reports were drafts because investment interest and a few other things were not current. April 5 financial report is final.
- Received \$1500 from Community Partners.
- Assets: \$222,527, including \$146,231 checking/savings, \$72,647 Merrill Lynch.
- Liabilities: \$4,198, including \$ 492 credit card.
- Income for Mar.: \$44,662, including \$ 8,900 Tennis Apprentice, \$3,204 adult leagues, \$16,313 CTA tournament/sales, 70+ tournament \$4,940.
- Expenses for Mar.: \$33,213, including \$5,844 70+ tournament, \$11,198 CTA tournament, \$3,000 donations to City, Katy Build, and NFL tournaments and to Natchitoches for courts resurfacing.
- Net Income for Mar.: \$11,449.
- Balance Sheet and P & L by MTH YTD are available for review.
- Required 2023 documents have been submitted to LA Sec. of State.
- Information for 2022 990 Tax Report has been submitted to CPA.

##### USTA/STA/LTA – Grady, Wilson, Jay Boyd

- The annual meeting in Phoenix was well attended, with more shorter sessions on specific topics and award recognitions at applicable sessions. Focus was taking advantage of what tennis has to offer as a preeminent health sports activity.
- Establishing/strengthening relationships with decision-makers is essential to advocate for additional courts.
- 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 LTA Board meeting was well attended. The Executive Board approved use of additional funding from STA for National Jr. level 6, including \$300 for each Tournament Director for up to 20 tournaments.
- Emphasis is advocacy. Be intentional in promoting tennis.
- The LTA Innovation Committee was formed to generate ideas and seek funding.

Rhonda – 30% of all LTA programming is generated by NWLACTA.

## Public and Private Facilities – PRO Updates

### Natchitoches –

- Thank you NWLACTA for contributing funds to resurface courts. The opening ceremony is Thursday.
- St. Mary's high school invitational tournament on Mar. 18 had 76 players.
- JD is ongoing.
- Level 6 tournament May 20-21 and Level 7 June 3.

### POTC –

- Hosted CTA (BOLD) and NFF tournaments.
- Several local winners in recent Level 6 tournament.
- Loser's Buy renovations will begin soon.
- Strong JD program.
- Hosting JTT tournament.
- Off-campus PE is at ERCC.
- Thanks to CTA and LTA for helping with junior tournaments.

### QTC –

- ADA-compliant lift almost operational. Some issues with lights.
- BTC, QTC, and POTC have 55+ Tri-level teams. Chris is Captain for QTC team.
- Centenary is interested in using QTC courts. A six-court minimum is required for college matches. Centenary is seeking grant funds from LA and donated some tennis equipment which will be refurbished and sent to SPAR.
- Centenary may add 1 court. Estimated cost is \$287,000.
- At least 2 programs are planned in May for National Tennis Month.
- Tennis Apprentice produces first-time and long-term players.
- Need advocacy for tennis through posters, banners, etc.

Jay – STA committee is promoting advocacy and seeking input for meeting next week.

### Cockrell –

- Intentional advocacy has been a personal lifetime goal.
- Cardio tennis program planned as part of National Tennis Month.
- 8 players plan to participate in JTT.
- The Tennis Apprentice party is April 10.
- Volunteers have supported programs, including summer and spring break camps. In partnership with a local non-profit, participants in spring camp received books to promote reading and strengthen ties between Cockrell and community.
- Level 7 tournament is July 1.
- Hosting matches for several local high schools.

Grady – Congratulations to Ken and Marilyn Meyers for the great job growing tennis at Cockrell.

### STCC –

- UTR this weekend.
- Member-guest tournament April 20 – 23.
- Member-member Pickleball tournament is planned.
- A new pro has begun; expanding programs.

## BTC –

- Hosted 70+ invitational tournament Mar 24-26 with over 140 players from LA, TX, MS, AL. Thursday night bingo, karaoke, corn hole party well attended.
- Tennis Apprentice began last week with 80 participants.
- Regional high school tournament on April 24<sup>th</sup> for 7 schools. Providence Christian Academy is host school.
- Level 7 tournament April 29. Information sent by email yesterday.
- 3 weeks remain until early-bird registration ends for the City tournament.
- BTC will have JTT team, 12 and under, and may create another team or connect players with other teams.

## SHills –

- 40 students on the first day of spring break camp.
- A summer camp is planned.

## Committee Reports – Rhonda Rubben

### Marketing –

- May is National Tennis Month. CTA has promotional materials and JotForm facilities can complete to receive \$250 stipend. Received proclamations from Shreveport and Bossier mayors and from LA Governor.

### Outreach & Special Programs/Grants –

- Final report for 2022 USTA Foundation Grant for NJTL (\$10,000) has been submitted. This Grant provided funds for camps, other programs, and some player support. Private funds and fundraisers may be needed for sustainability. NJTL committee has been created. Cane's partnership of \$5000 (\$1k cash, balance in-kind) will provide prizes, drinks, gift cards, etc. CTA Board commitment is needed to continue programs.
- SPAR will hire 4 youth for part-time positions to assist with tennis programs/facilities this summer. Two have been hired to date.
- Additional community coordinators are needed.

Jay – LTA has allocated funds for some programs, but most have been small. NJTL is big enough to make a difference.

Motion to approve NJTL mission and seek funding by Albert Hardison, second by Grady Wilson.

### State Tournaments –

- 40 + Even tournament is May 5-8. BTC host, with POTC and QTC as satellite facilities.
- 143 players in 70+ Invitational tournament. Many compliments from players/guests.

### Adult –

- Board members and other volunteers are encouraged to attend Tennis Apprentice parties: 4/10 @Cockrell; 4/18 @ BTC; 4/21 @ QTC.

### Junior Tennis –

- JTT registration is in progress.

**Local League Coordinator Reports** – Rhonda Rubben, Tammy Harris, Kirita Windham

- 5 additional adult league teams in 2023 compared to 2022.
- 7 additional tri level teams in 2023 compared to 2022.
- POTC has a draft for tri level (men) that increases the number of teams.
- Some nights of play have changed to accommodate growth.
- 2023 local Rules/Regulations have been updated.
- Friend at Court addresses the issue of spectators on courts.
- Tri level and Mixed Captains meeting tonight – 6 pm @ BTC.

No other new business.

The meeting was adjourned. Motion by Rhonda Rubben, second by Grady Wilson.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Haley, Secretary