

Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association

Board Minutes – August 2, 2023

Call to Order – Brian Bernard

Attendance – Board members: Brian Bernard, Pam Haley, Albert Hardison, Chris Dudley, Grady Wilson, Philip Campbell, Willie Paz, Matt Coeuer, Rhonda Rubben, Brian Furqueron, Ken Meyers, Jill Zimmer. Others: Tammy Harris, Rachel Morgan, Eric Zimmer, Marilyn Meyers, Hassan Abbas, Bob Patterson, Kaye Cochran, Angela May, Bianca Rogè.

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

Executive Board Reports

NJTL Report – Rhonda Rubben

- Louisiana State NJTL Essay contest in her age group won by Zaria Curry. Received all expense paid trip to USTA Women's Pro Tournament in Charleston, SC. Request \$ 250 stipend. Motion by Chris Dudley, second by Brian Bernard.
- AB Palmer event is Sept. 26, 4 – 6pm and led by Anthony Jeter. Volunteers needed.
- Fall break camps are scheduled Oct 9,10,11 at Cockrell, SHills, AB Palmer. Volunteers needed.
- Meeting with BAFB soon to begin programs for military.
- Broadmoor VOA/SALT/CTA program begins Sept. 28.
- Adaptive CPSB program begins Oct. 3.
- Request upper-level junior stipends of \$ 2000 for Genesis Allen and \$ 400 for Zaria Curry. Motion by Albert Hardison, second by Brian Bernard.
- Foundation grant balance is \$ 4200.

Captains' gifts and league winner gifts (gift cards to applicable facilities) distributed to pros.

Treasurer Report – Rhonda Rubben

- Assets: \$ 236,840, including \$ 155,012 checking/savings, \$74,450 Merrill Lynch.
- Liabilities: \$ 2,563.
- Total income for Aug: \$ 19,593, including \$ 10,000 restricted, \$ 8,616 combo, \$ 300 TA, \$277 Love Twice.
- Total expenses for Aug: \$ 8,425, including \$ 750 donations (BLT, St. Jude tournament), \$ 700 JR tournament, \$ 4,964 Coordinators' fees.
- Net Income YTD: \$ 23,597.
- Balance Sheet and P & L by MTH YTD available for review.
- Request \$2,000 be moved from Love Twice GL account and balance from Max savings to bring scholarship fund balance back to \$10K. Motion by Grady Wilson, second by Bob Patterson.

USTA/STA/LTA – Grady Wilson

- Attended meeting in NYC during US Open.
- Southern Innovation Fund has become Growth Value Fund. Less restrictive, geared toward retention and repeatability at state level. States and CTAs should ask for funds from this source.
- Additional tennis courts are needed to accommodate growth. Funding available.
- A new committee formed to focus on coaching, teaching, and players. The goal is 35 million players.
- Task force examining options for Network Support Funds in 2025.

Public and Private Facilities – PRO Updates

BTC -

- BLT begins week of Sept 11-15.
- Resurfaced two additional courts.
- JD begins in Oct.
- BTC 9.0 mixed team, captained by Bianca Rogè, won State.

Natchitoches –

- JD begins in Oct.
- Junior events scheduled in Nov. and Dec.: Level 6 and 7, 10 and under, JTT tournament.
- Leagues and TA in progress. TA league has 27 ladies.

SHills –

- Several adult leagues and events in progress.
- Off-campus PE site for Calvary and Ascension.
- Youth tennis lessons are available with 14 participants.
- Labor Day social (tennis and pickleball) had 70 participants.

Cockrell –

- Successful Labor of Love event with a visiting pro from Dallas.
- TA begins in Sept.
- JD begins in Oct.
- Fall Tennis Fest is planned.
- Cardio on court ongoing.
- Neighborhood tennis mixer is planned.
- Fall camps scheduled.
- Players encouraged by role models at US Open: Coco Gauff, Ben Shelton, Frances Tiafoe.
- Participation is growing: 3 2.5 ladies' teams plus other teams.

POTC –

- 76 players at Labor Day mixer.
- Early development event for juniors last Saturday: 2 hrs. clinic, 2 hrs. match play.
- St. Jude's Classic Sept. 15-17.
- 65 and Over State tournament Sept 22-24. QTC is the second site.
- Leagues and JD numbers increasing.
- Hassan Abbas was selected as 1 of 4 LA coaches to coach top kids from each state in Rome GA event.

STCC –

- 101 new player program increased the number of USTA teams. New fall 101 program is beginning.
- Green, orange, and red ball events planned.

QTC –

- QTC 55 and Over 8.0 mixed team, captained by Rhonda Rubben, won State for 3rd consecutive year.
- The after-school program begins Sept. 11.
- TA begins the end of Sept.
- Chris participated in a Centenary podcast to announce the return of tennis at Centenary. May receive State funding to cover the cost of adding one court at QTC. Coaching search has begun.
- Four Fall Fest events are planned for Oct.
- USTA is paying for Chris and Amy to attend a premier facility designation leadership summit in Oct.

Committee Reports – Rhonda Rubben

- LTA award nominations submitted. LTA received more nominations than in previous years.
- State tournament bids for 2024-2025 submitted.
- Possible Sectional bid for 55 and Over and Tri Level in 2024 (1 year bid).
- The remaining State tournaments are 65 and Over and 40 and Over Combo.
- Email sent to pros about rotating facilities for JTT but need host sites. POTC, STCC, and Cockrell volunteered to host.

Local League Coordinator Reports – Rhonda Rubben, Tammie Harris

- League participation increased by 463 players in 2023.
- Mixed and Combo numbers increased.

Other New Business –

- Considering bag tags for State winners.

The meeting was adjourned. Motion Rhonda Rubben, second by Brian Bernard.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Haley, Secretary