

Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association

Board Minutes – January 10, 2024

Call to Order – Rhonda Rubben (for President Brian Benard)

Attendance – Board members: Pam Haley, Steve Craig, Ashley Price, Rhonda Rubben, Grady Wilson, Philip Campbell, Willie Paz, Matt Coerver, Ken Meyers. Others: Katherine Arterberry, Eric Zimmer, Marilyn Meyers, Hassan Abbas, Cotter Wilson, Bob Patterson, Kaye Cochran.

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

Executive Board Reports - Rhonda Rubben (for President Brian Benard)

- Nominating committee Rhonda Rubben, Philip Campbell and Sue Allender
 - Albert Hardison, Stephanie Bass, Toni Gooden and Pam Haley rotating off CTA Board, thank you for your service.
 - Two new board members presented - Ashley Price, Secretary and Brian Furqueron moved from board member to Executive Vice President
- Motion to approve new 2024 board - Motion Grady Wilson, Second Willie Paz
- Two more board members will be presented for vote soon.
- Review BOD responsibilities, Committees, and Goals for 2024

Treasurer Report – Steve Craig

- Assets: \$ 208,946, including \$ 132,739 cash (\$23,264 restricted), \$ 75,612 Merrill Lynch.
- Liabilities: \$ 4,189, including \$ 1,457.89 credit card.
- Total income for Dec. 2023: \$ 2141, including \$ 1100 Operation Santa Mixer.
- Total expenses for Dec. 2023: \$ 13,397, including \$ 2487 TA expenses, \$ 2078 Operation Santa Mixer/Jr Tennis, \$3690 General Exp., donations, dec board luncheon, insurance.
- Net Unrestricted Income YTD: \$ 12,652.33.
- Balance Sheet and P & L by MTH YTD available for review.
- 2024 Budget was presented and reviewed. Motion to approve Grady Wilson, Second Eric Zimmer, unanimous board approval

USTA/LTA/STA Reports: Grady Wilson

- Shout out to LTA staff - last year was best year ever
- Annual member meeting was in December
- Marty Engle promoted doing a great job with League grew about 20% State wide
- Marketing Director doing a great job
- Junior coordinator - Juniors doubled registration last year. Anticipate to keep growing this year with Kaitlyn and Madison helping junior tennis
- Southern Annual meeting in Atlanta next weekend

NJTL/Outreach Report – Rhonda Rubben

- **USTA Foundation Grant** 2023 completed
 - **Project Santa Claus - mixer dec. 9th – POTC** - 60 Entries - 20 PB, 40 TNS
 - CTA donated \$400 giving Operation Santa \$2000 check and collected several large bags of toys, Special thanks to Philip Campbell and Scott Friestad and all POTC staff and volunteers
 - They want another one June 22 called Summer Santa with a 1-day tournament at BTC and POTC, QTC satellite

- **NJTL Winter Break Camps CTC, SHTC**
 - **Jan 4th and 5th w/ 80+ campers**
 - **Broadmoor VOA/SALT/SCA After School Program**
 - 12/7 end of year party went great
- **2024 Outreach Goals**
 - **VOA Bossier Lighthouse**
 - Beginning Program with onsite play day for 13 children on January 18th
 - Program Beginning in March at BTC
 - **Winter Break Camp – February 16 - AB Palmer 1-3:30 pm**
 - **Broadmoor VOA/SALT/CTA After School Program - Thursdays 4-5pm**
 - Spring program begins in March
 - **Adaptive CPSB School Year Program - Tuesday and Thursday Mornings 9-10:30**
 - Spring Begins in March
 - **Spring Break Camps - March - Cockrell and Southern Hills**
 - **BAFB** - Meeting later this month to discuss outreach with adult/children/family programs
 - **2024 Foundation Grant Application** - Looking for in Feb/March
 - **Outreach/NJTL Committee** to meet soon to discuss all programs for 2024

Public and Private Facilities – PRO Updates

Bossier

- BLT starts week of Feb 5th and will run 8-10 weeks
 - 80 ladies registered to play
- BLT held meeting this past Monday
 - Rhonda presented slide presentation showing what tennis community and CTA has done with outreach programs
- Goal is to grow volunteer base
- Programs are gearing up for February
- Katy Build and tennis apprentice April
- Winter league had 132 players

Cockrell

- NWLACTA NJTL/SPAR Winter Break Camp
 - 30+ kids enjoyed it. Rainy
 - Channel 6 News came out
- Junior development - meeting with parents getting it up and running
- Adult leagues spring went from 0 to 3 for 2024. 2- 2.5 women, and 1 3.0 Men's teams
- Great volunteer support
- The city had some long overdue infrastructure and projects that have been completed and Cockrell center looks great

Natchitoches

- Monday tennis league for beginner/tennis apprentice
- 2.5 and 3.0 mixed leagues for adults Tuesday nights
- 1/27 Adult Mixer and 1/27 playday for juniors
 - JD programs start first week Feb.
 - Flyers being sent out soon

POTC

- JD prog started this week
- Level 7 & Juniors Circuit January 20th
 - 10 and under orange, 12 and under green ball, 12/14/16/18 yellow ball
 - High schools now using UTR universal tennis rating for seeding
 - Lots of high schoolers signing up to get their UTR rating up
- Super Bowl tournament Feb 9 and 10th

LTA is offering \$5k grant secured for high school - 10 tournaments to get \$500 ... you can apply. Juniors circuit you can apply for. This is an incentive. JotForm should be going out any day. This information has been sent out to all of the pros

Querbes

- Junior programs begin in February
- Winter apprentice starts this Sat and following Thursday, 20 signed up to date

So Hills

- NWLACTA NJTL/SPAR Winter Break Camp
 - 52+ Kids had a lot of fun
- Winter Break Camp also held with St Joseph's
 - 11 girls and 1 boy w/ Friday standing clinic with them
- Yellowball and green ball starting in Feb
- Polar bear Feb 14/15/16 - flyers coming

STCC

- Sports camp went great and is feeding into our JD Programs
- Southfield coming over for team tennis
- UTR January 27 - Friday orange and green ball, Saturday yellow regular ball

Committee Reports: Rhonda Rubben

- **Community Partnership Packet** – all information on website
 - Raised almost 8K from last year, budgeted \$7.5K
 - One and only fundraiser followed by the BOLD tournament
 - Biggest fundraiser for junior program
 - Please get at least one community partner
- Main committees: Community partner, Marketing, Awards, Outreach programs and CTA Tournament
- Need help with the BOLD tournament
- Did not receive Tri sectional bid, Mobile got tri level sectional because they couldn't have the other tournament
- **Junior Tennis**
 - Each facility please fill out the spreadsheet for the level 7 junior circuit - Courtney keeps the live doc up to date
 - Goal is to have at least one a month
 - Spring Tournament Weekend Saturday April 20th at POTC
 - Junior middle school league – 14 & Under beginning FALL 2024
 - Can send two teams to state – Shreveport/Natchitoches and Bossier/Minden
 - Goal: meet with all middle schools, do teacher Inservice this summer, fall league, state in the spring

- **NEED 2 JUNIOR COORDINATORS**

- One in Shreveport and one in Bossier- will work together
- Flexible work, going to the JD off campus and talking to parents making sure they have the info
- Make sure the league is there and playing
- Like tennis apprentice for juniors,- helping with USTA, runs through serve tennis
- Another way to grow tennis in surrounding area
- Sponsors can be a teacher or parent and work with the junior league coordinator
- There will be a fee to sign up for the teams (like USTA)
- Can raise money for fees and uniforms
- Junior league coordinator gets a base and then a stipend per player

Local League Coordinator Reports: Rhonda Rubben

- Up 10 teams from last year
- Selwyn Ellis - Men's coordinator and Valerie Thiels - Tennis apprentice coordinator
- Men's and Women's teams up by 5 total, and 12 2.5 Women's Night Teams and 6 WD
- One 55+ 4.5 women's team hopefully to play local at state
- Finishing up 40+ and 18+ schedules
 - Some of the teams' captains voted on 12 instead of 6 matches so they have to play twice in one week so there will be Saturday matches
- Weather windchill is now below 35 degrees

Coordinator's Reports - Community Coordinators: Kaye Cochran

- 70 Multi State Invitational Tournament - March 22-24 tournament

Other New Business: Newsletter :

- **Facebook** - we have 1840 followers in Facebook, 240 Instagram
 - Would like another 160 Facebook followers
 - It helps to like and share or comment on posts
- Received several "Thank You's" for the stipend and for all CTA does
- Sanders Graf picking up a scholarship from LTA today \$500
- Highschool assistance - it's anonymous if a player can't pay there is a scholarship

The meeting was adjourned. Motion Rhonda Rubben, second Steve Craig

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Price, Secretary