

**Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association (NWLACTA)
Minutes from Nov 6, 2024, Board Meeting**

Call to Order- Rhonda Rubben: 12:05pm

Attendance: Board members: Rhonda Rubben, Dede Plette, Michael Pereira, Philip Campbell, Steve Craig, Ken Meyers, Willie Paz. Others: Cotter Wilson, Kaye Cochran, Hassan Abbas, Jeff Smith, Eric Zimmer, Marilyn Meyers, Mariia Borodii.

Approval of last month Minutes-Treasurer – Steve Craig 2nd by Phillip Campbell

Executive Board Reports:

President Report Rhonda Rubben

- Reminder of the LTA Awards 2024 (6) & Hall of Fame – (Philip Campbell) December 7 in Baton Rouge, and our **LOCAL Awards ceremony** to be held December 11th @ POTC
 - Regular Board meeting 11:30-12:30
 - Luncheon and Awards to follow 12:30

Treasurer's Report Steve Craig

- November report
- Assets: \$262,408.61, including \$ 183,878.10 cash (\$16,629 restricted), \$ 77,934.22 Merrill Lynch.
- Liabilities: \$1,922.22, credit card
- Total income: \$16,839.64, includes \$3,613.50 league, TA, Querbes, and JTT, \$310 Love Twice, \$3,500 Sports Commission, 7,488.96 Combo State
- Total expenses: \$22,901, including \$2,365 NJTL Conference Fee, \$7,274 Combo Coord Fees, and \$5,128 Combo State
 - Balance Sheet and P & L by MTH YTD available for review.

USTA/LTA/STA Reports: Jay Boyd stated that the 2025-26 Officers are now posted on the LTA website, recognition of area representatives: Steve Craig – Treasurer, Grady Wilson – Past President, Hassan Abbas – Area 4 Representative, Brian Furqueron – At Large. 5 total representatives from north Louisiana including 1 in Monroe.

Jeff with Southern thanked the Pros for their commitment to the Red Ball Program.

NJTL/Outreach Report – Rhonda Rubben

- **USTA Foundation Grant**

NJTL Conference – Katherine & Rodric Arterberry attended to gained insight and information on fundraising, strategic planning and programming (follow up report at next meeting)

Fall Outreach Programs ongoing: CTC, BAFB, VOA-Shreveport, VOA-Bossier.

Bossier Adaptive held October 28th Benton and Bossier High School Students attended 20+ kids

Schools wanting to continue with a 1 day a week program, looking for someone to oversee coordination of program (this would be a paid position)

Public and Private Facilities– PRO UPDATES

POTC – Hassan reported October was very busy, NLA Medical Society tournament with 28 players, Shreveport Energy Tennis Tournament with 160 players (which included pickleball).

The Calvary tournament is scheduled for November 15-17, Junior tournament scheduled for November 23-24.

Junior Team Tennis played November 2nd, 5 players. 2 teams qualifying for state.

Phillip informed board of a tournament planned for February 14th to raise funds for Jen Riders – adopting a baby.

BTC – Kaye reporting for Todd – Providence held their annual fundraising tournament with 108 players, USTA State Combo tournament 250+ players, and Bossier Winter League sign up with 160 players.

Natch – Willie reporting TA ongoing Monday and Tuesday nights, Jr tennis tournament scheduled for December 14th, JD is going great. Mixer scheduled for end of November.

CTC – Ken reported Open Tennis Fest, successful and well attended, L7 scheduled for 1st Saturday in October, Fall Break with 50+ players in attendance. Tennis Apprentice ended in October with 9 players. Breast Cancer Awareness event with 12 players. Interacting between Adult Red Ball and Pickleball kicking off.

SHTC – Eric reporting – Youth tennis going well with three schools participating. Yellow ball and green ball unsanctioned tourney planned for November 16th. Mudbug tennis social with pickleball held October 23rd. Planning a sanction tourney spring.

QTC – Michael two Open Tennis Fest events held in October, winter league registration continuing with 98+ players. He will attend the USTA Premier Summit and hoping to learn more on the red ball initiative.

STTC – Rhonda reporting for Ashley – Jr clinics are going well, this past session we had an all-time high in participates. Gearing up for their Thanksgiving Sports Camp. For adults, more players coming back to the game, tennis 101 is helping.

Committee Reports: Rhonda Rubben

Adult

Community Partner/Fundraising

Marketing

State Tournaments

Awards

Grants

Outreach & Special Programs/Grants

Volunteer/Hospitality Committee

CTA Tournament

Junior Tennis

COMBO state tournament in October 250+ players, successful with no weather issues, 2025 – 40 Combo State MOVED to 11/14-17

Captain gift cards distributed to all facilities. Brief explanation of how to disburse and to get reimbursed for redemption of cards.

Asking to increase state tournament player registration fee from \$25 to \$30, motion approved by Steve Craig, seconded by Dede Plette.

JTT - November 2nd, 1 Day Event hosted by POTC, 50+ players. Thank you to Hassan for coordinating the play. Junior Middle School League 10 Teams TTL – 5 14U Green and 5 14U Yellow – 71 players completed in October; teams awarded 1st place during an assembly at their schools.

Dede will assume responsibility for Junior Tennis in 2025. Planning play for Spring 2025 over 3 weekends at multiple facilities.

Tennis Apprentice – reported a total of approximately 200 participants for the year.

Acknowledgement of Valarie Thiels for her commitment, support, and promotion of TA

Local League Coordinator Reports:

Rhonda Rubben & Selwyn Ellis (Spring)/ Tammie Harris (Mixed)/Rhonda Terracciano (Flex Leagues)
Kirita Windham (Tri-Level) Rhonda Rubben & Selwyn Ellis (Combo)

Spring Captains meeting scheduled for December 3rd.

In 2025 the state is swapping Mixed and Tri-level leagues, preventing league overlap.

A JOT form will be sent for the opinion of partial round robins.

An email was sent to all for the review of the 2025 calendar requesting each facility review for any overlap of programs and report back to Rhonda.

An annual growth of 121 players in 2024.

2000 Facebook followers reached!

Tri level will expand to include a day league, with the possibility of having 18 and 40 levels next year.

Adult League Recap AS OF 11/1/2024

Adult	2024 1728 players to date Up + 133 players 18+ 984 40+ 459 55+ 285	2023 1595 players UP 52 18+ 885 40+ 455 55+ 255 UP 5 teams over 2022	2022 1543 players 18+ 806 40+ 465 55+ 272	2021 1429 players
Tri Level	2024 560 players to date 18+386 40+111 55+63	2023 633 to date UP 206 18+ 348 40+ 171 55+ 114 Up 7 teams over 2022	2022 427 players 18+ 254 40+ 107 55+ 65	2021 378 players
Mixed	2024 841 to date <32> 18+ 441 40+ 267 55+ 133	2023 873 to date UP 87 18+ 482 40+ 293 55+ 98	2022 786 players 18+ 424 40+ 249 55+ 113	2021 657 players
Combo	2024 Women 1143 Men 494 1637 To Date UP 90 118 Teams UP 10	2023 1547 to date UP 182 106 teams UP 10	2022 1365 players 96 teams	2021 1053 players
Total	2024 4766 to date UP 121 players	2023 4645 TO DATE 10% increase	2022 4217 players	2021 3517 players
65+	2024 46 players	2023 75 players down 5	2022 80 players	

DECEMBER MEETING – 2nd Wednesday – December 11th Meeting 11:30-12:30 – Luncheon and Awards 12:30pm

Motion to Adjourn - Rhonda Rubben, seconded by Dede Plette, 12:57pm