

**Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association (NWLACTA)
Minutes from January 8, 2025, Board Meeting**

Call to Order- Brian Bernard

Attendance – Board members: Brian Bernard, Rhonda Rubben, Ashley Price, Dede Plette, Grady Wilson, Brian Furqueron, Philip Campbell, Steve Craig, Willie Paz, Ken Meyers, Katheryn Arterberry. Others: Jeff Smith, Bob Patterson, Hassan Abba, Rodric Arterberry.

December minutes were approved. Motion by Grady Wilson seconded Rhonda Rubben

Brian Bernard – Recap of Presidency and reflection on the CTA

- Welcome board members - Brian Bernard's last board meeting as President
 - Will still be here and be involved.
 - I appreciate everyone's time and support.
 - Hopes to continue to be more involved as his life changes and as we move forward.
 - Has loved getting to know everyone.

Rhonda Rubben/Phillip Campbell/Sue Allender – Nominating Committee Nominations

- There are no changes to the board but just a passing of the baton from Brian Bernard to Brian Furqueron.
- Still working on a vice president nomination. Please let Rhonda, Phillip or Brian Furqueron know if there is anyone that would be good for that position.
- Motion to accept this new board. Motion by Grady Wilson, second Brian Bernard

Executive Board Reports:

President Report Brian Furqueron

- Welcome board members. Thanked Brian Bernard for inviting him to come and sit in on the CTA. He's new to tennis and didn't know it was such a huge community. It's wonderful how big an effect it has on our region, state and beyond. He looks forward to getting to know everyone more. Everyone has specific strengths and looks forward to getting to know the individual strengths to grow and cultivate the CTA even more.
- Review BOD responsibilities, Committees, and Goals for 2025
 - If you look at our mission statement and check the boxes in 2025 we'll be able to meet our goals for the year.
 - Will be hard to top 2024 as far as awards go. But the awards aren't the end goal although they do speak volumes for the behind the scenes that go into everything.
 - Looks forward to working alongside everyone. Feel free to reach out to him if they need anything
 - If anyone wants to be on any specific committee, let us know and we can make that happen
- Community Partners
 - Brian Furqueron will head that up. Asking that everyone tries to bring one person to the table. Please bring it to Brian's attention and he will do the asking, if you don't feel comfortable asking.

Treasurer's Report Steve Craig

- December 2024 & Year to Date Recap/Review
- 2025 Budget
- Assets: \$232,512, including \$153,146 cash (\$21,073 restricted), \$ 79,365 Merrill Lynch.
- Liabilities: \$1,449, credit card
- Total income: \$54,
- Total expenses: \$7,636 including \$512 Junior Tennis, \$5,354 General Expenses
 - Balance Sheet and P & L by MTH YTD available for review.
 - Motion by Katheryn Aterberry, seconded Grady Wilson

USTA/LTA/STA Reports: Jay Boyd/Grady Wilson/Phillip Campbell/Bill Phillips

- STA/USTA/Louisiana Tennis Association Updates
 - Thank you to everyone for everything everyone does.

NJTL/Outreach Report – Rhonda Rubben

- **USTA Foundation Grant 2024 completed**
 - **Winter Break Camps CTC**
 - Winter Break Camp - Jan 2nd and 3rd
 - 80+ campers total, everyone had a great time
 - **Broadmoor VOA/SALT/CTA & Bossier After school Programs - Thursdays, 4-5pm**
 - End of Semester parties went great. This spring they will be rallying and playing some. Hopefully I will get some JTT teams out of that.
- **2025**
 - **Broadmoor VOA/SALT/CTA & Bossier After School Program - Thursdays, 4-5pm**
 - Spring Program begins in March
 - **Adaptive CPSB School Year Program - Tue/Thur mornings 9-10:30**
 - Spring begins in March. Going for special olympics. Meeting with Bossier and Benton HighSchools - want to start an after-school program at BTC. If Natchitoches is interested in an adaptive program, Rhonda will go down there and help get that going. Would like to have a NWLA large special olympics program to meet their goal for 2025.
 - **Spring Break Camps – March - Cockrell**
 - **BAFB** - Meeting later this month to discuss outreach with Adult/ Children programs
 - **2025 Foundation Grant Application** - Look for it in Feb/March
 - **Outreach/NJTL Committee** to meet soon to discuss all programs for 2025. Katherine, Rodric, Dede and Rhonda discussed how to make NJTL go to the next level. Making a strategic plan. They went to the conference so they will help lead us. Then we will have an outreach committee meeting in February to plan for 2025
 - For USTA, we have helped Genesis Allen and Zaria Curry for the last two years. It is a couple hundred dollars. Is anyone opposed? No one. The girls did the essay and art project. They come to help with camps. They will formalize that more. They will need to give back. We don't have a true program for them because they are a little older.

Public and Private Facilities– PRO UPDATES

Bossier:

- Tennis apprentice beginning Feb 18, upon completion of 8 weeks will roll into Katy Build
- Off campus PE started in January
- Bursting at the seams with league players. Already ahead of last year.
- Dede will head up the tennis apprentice with Rhonda helping. Send dates so they can get the flyer out.

Querbes:

- Winter league social with 25 members at the party
- JD starts end of Jan early Feb
- Caddo Magnet High begins with clinics on Wednesdays
- Using winter league and apprentice to form teams, they tried their best to divide the flights be equal level playing
- Received a sound minds speaker system at the facility
- Courts that have problems with peeling. Brian Bernard reached out Michael Stuart at Quality.
 - Issues with courts peeling and bubbling that were resurfaced 5 years ago. Michael stated they did nothing wrong; the issue is with the paint companies. All of the subcontractors buy their paint from different distributors. Every distributor has the same issues. It's a nationwide problem.
 - We received a quote to repatch which was astronomical. Someone will come look at it and see what it will do, if the peeling is local or spreading.
 - The paint supplier retired and said we might want to file a claim
 - The problem increases when you have kids on the court and they poking at the holes creating an even bigger problem

Cockrell:

- Held winter camp January 2-3rd, it was cold but the turnout was good. Parents were asking when the next one would be
- Tennis apprentice scheduled for late Feb/early March
- Looking forward to the adult league
- 2.5 men that's the hardest teams to establish but it is growing. We have places on other teams for the men at Cockrell that couldn't form a team.
- One of the captains will reach out to Selwyn to help with players

Natchitoches:

- All programs on hold because of cold weather
- High school practicing for spring season
- Ladies teams will start soon
- Tennis Apprentice to begin in February

- Northwestern tennis coach needs an assistant if we know anyone interested. They can pay a stipend if someone is getting their master's degree. Let Bill Phillips know.

POTC:

- Started JD this week. I canceled Monday, went inside yesterday will try to brave the cold today
- Feb 1st and 2nd. Level 6 all yellow ball. Junior circuit for green and orange ball. If you want to sign up reach out to Hassan.
- Feb 8 Super Bowl tournament will be a one day team event. Possible short sets or one set to 6
- Feb 14-16 Serving for love to help Jennifer Miller raise money for adoption
- End of the month have CTA BOLD tournament on the 27th/28th. Maybe a couple of rounds Thursday evening and finish on Sunday

Southern Trace:

- Resurfacing courts
- Doubles bootcamp divided by level for this week and next.

SALT:

- Starting week of Jan 21st

BLT:

- Starting week of Feb 1

Committee Reports:

Adult	Awards	CTA Tournament
Community Partner/Fundraising	Grants	Junior Tennis
Marketing	Outreach & Special Programs/Grants	
State Tournaments	Volunteer/Hospitality Committee	

If you need anything in the flyers or newsletter, please let Rhonda know.
 Need Community Partners finalized by mid Feb in order to have them on the banner in time.

Junior Tennis

- **NEED 2 JUNIOR COORDINATORS** - Dede will head up the Junior Tennis Programs.
 - Please let Dede or Rhonda know if there is a good person for the job.
 - Junior Team Tennis
 - Spring Tournaments Weekend - Saturday April 20th @ POTC
 - Junior Team Tennis - Beginning Spring (March/April)
 - Would like to have 3 –4 weekend matches with various host facilities
 - More information coming soon

Tennis apprentice -

- Totals for 2024 show approximately 200 people go through the programs at Bossier, Querbes, Nachitoches and Cockrell.
- Valarie did a great job working with the Pros and the new players to get them involved.

Adult League -

- Biggest league yet
- May need to separate separated the same level of men and women to different nights going forward, limited courts an issue
- Met with the Executive Board last week. Baby boomers used to be the largest but now it's all pretty equal to all 4 generations. Market to all generations Paper, video, social, word of mouth - need all variations to get information out

USTA - Jeff Smith

- Spoke with Bill Phillips earlier this morning. He says Happy New Year and looks forward to coming up soon. Some of the initiatives stay the same for 2025
- As far as Tennis Apprentice goes. There will be more expectations. The use of ROGY (red, orange, green, and yellow), play based coaching and use of Serve, Volley and Score.
- Spending more money on equipment so the expectations will go up
- They are going to do a 2.0 women's league. Men can do 2.5, strictly for tennis apprentice graduates. Date TBD
- Personal note: Phillip speech for the hall of fame induction knocked it out of the park. The speech was awesome. Congratulations Phillip on that.
- Phillip - Shreveport lost one of the best players this week, Kay McDaniel. As a player and person. She played in the top 30 in the world. Grady had the privilege of practicing with her. She was Jerry's student. For the longest time he thought everyone would be like Kay but she was special and changed the way he looked at everyone. She was only 67-year-old when she passed. She had a free kids clinic every summer for 30 years. It was a faith-based camp with volunteers. She was inducted into the hall of fame. Her bio is online.

Bob Paterson: Just about to wrap up state tournament hotels. Haven't finalized the 65+ tournament yet. It might be Mandeville/Slidell. They don't want 70 and 65 to be both up here.

Play tennis is about to start. Mary Ward is going to head that up. Looking to build 6 additional courts. If anyone wants to help let Jay Boyd know

Other New Business: Newsletter -

On Facebook when you see NWLACTA Post please **COMMENT, like, and share**

We got to 2,014 followers on Facebook and 263 on Instagram. Not tweeting. Need someone else to tweet.

Gift card reimbursements please let Rhonda know.

The meeting was adjourned. Motion Rhonda Rubben, seconded Dede Plette

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Price, Secretary