

Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association Minutes – February 6, 2013

1. The meeting was called to order by President Jay Boyd. Those in attendance include: John Liles, Elana Engleman, Sue Allender, Phillip Campbell, Todd Killen, David Kimball, Shelly Naisbitt, Bonnie Cox, Sue Watts, Jeff Smith, Eddie Copete, Dan Beedle, Ken Jantz, Bill Phillips, Bob Patterson and Terri Bianca.
2. A motion to waive the reading of the January minutes was made by David Kimball, Todd Killen second the motion. All were in favor. The minutes stand as written.
3. Treasurer John Liles reported total balance of \$112,593.44. This includes the account from Red River Bank (10 and Under Grant) of \$39,874.90. The Capital One account has a balance of \$72,718.54. This account also includes the Play Tennis Bossier account (\$1,964.89) and the North Bossier Ten and Under (\$1,435.). The previous account of Friends of Southern Hills was absorbed by the City of Shreveport, even though the monies were donated for a ball machine and future scholarships by Southern Hills tennis players. Everyone agreed that this did not seem reasonable, and we hope someone from "Friends of Southern Hills" will follow up with the city to challenge this act.
 - a. John reported that our CDLM grant was approved for 2013. The guidelines for the 2014 application will change. We will not receive funds unless the numbers for 10 and Under and Junior Team Tennis increase. Membership growth is not a part of the numbers needed.
4. Bonnie Cox reported for 10 and Under Coordinator Robby Lockwood:
 - a. Planning is underway for the first CTA City Circuit tournament and fundraiser for 10 and Under. This is to be held at East Ridge Country Club on March 1 – 3. Robby is asking all the Pros if they could donate an hour lesson for the private auction (if your club allows). Also, rackets and other tennis equipment and apparel are needed for the silent auction.
 - b. A Play Day Jamboree will be held at the North Bossier Tennis Complex on Saturday, February 9 from 1 – 3.
 - c. Play Days are scheduled for the FDDOC program schools (Mooretown and Sunset) on Saturdays in March at Cockrell Tennis Center. The dates are March 2, 9, 16 and 23.
 - d. Robby again asks all the Pros to please turn in your metrics by the 25th of each month. He will be emailing out the form at the end of the month. If you have any questions about what he needs, please let him know.
 - e. Robby has been talking with Van Almond regarding Minden becoming a USTA Facility Member and lines being painted.
 - f. Sponsors are needed for the CTA tournaments. If you have any ideas or know someone, please contact Robby.
5. Community Coordinator, Shelly Naisbitt, gave her report for the month:

- a. Everyone should have Junior Novice Tournament forms, Polar Bear Tournament entry forms, CTA City Circuit Fundraiser flyers and CTA City Circuit schedules at their facilities.
 - b. Junior Novice and Polar Bears flyers were mailed to Texarkana, Natchitoches and Monroe. Shelly hand delivered the flyers to Minden. The other information will follow.
 - c. Helping with Robby Lockwood in obtaining rackets, etc. for the fundraiser tournament.
 - d. Shelly developed a slide show presentation to be presented by Elana Engleman and her at the LTA CTA meeting in Lafayette on February 15 – 16. Shelly then gave us a sneak peek at the presentation. All enjoyed it and we know it will be a hit at the meeting.
6. Jay announced that Tammy Harris will be our new Flex League Coordinator. Jay will ask to see if she would be interested in taking over the Tri Level league also.
7. We discussed about the need to attract younger people to our board and also a need to increase league play. A way to increase league play is to increase the number of players willing to become a captain of a team. We will discuss more on this at the March meeting.
8. League Coordinators Terri Bianca and Bob Patterson reported that the number of teams increase by 2 from last year (87 compared to 85 in 2012). The player numbers are down at this time, but rosters are still open for registration.
 - a. Terri did report that she has had more people calling about looking for a team. This could be due to the age separation levels we have now. She said that when she gets a call from someone looking for a team she finds out where they play and then directs them to the host Pro. If they do not have a home facility, with the players okay, she will send their name to the other captains.
 - b. All divisions made this year except the 4.5 Men 18 and Up.
 - c. David Kimball has had players asking him about hosting fees. If the visiting team is from a private club, the hosting team pays for them. If the private club hosts a match they cover the court fees for the visiting team. Terri tries to make sure the each team hosts the same amount of time. More will be discussed next month.
 - d. Terri and Bob ask that if you have any questions or suggestions, please contact them.
9. Bill Phillips from Southern reported that the 10 and Under program is in its third year as a funded market. Findings have included:
 - a. How many children have been exposed from the 10 and under pathway;
 - b. What is the level of retention, how many children have we kept in the program from last year. We should find the answer this Spring with the Junior Team Tennis sign up. We can also see how the numbers in our local tournaments respond;
 - c. Do our local facilities have a junior program pathway in place. Beginning with the 10 and under class (progressing from orange, to red, to yellow balls) all the way through high school;

- d. The main on court experience for children in the 10 and under should be are they having fun.
10. With the upcoming Spring Session of Fun, Friends and Fitness just around the corner, Bill suggested that with our numbers dropping, we may want to change our marketing plan. Another thing to look at is the adult program being used in Canada, whose retention percentage was 85. Again, this is a pathway for players to go into the USTA Adult League programs. We are getting more information on this.
 11. Bill Smith reported on the Tennis on Campus program that is relatively new to the Shreveport-Bossier area. As of now, LSU-S, BPCC and Centenary College have programs. This is for players who may have been competitive junior players, but not on a Varsity College team and still want to play. The social aspect is a big draw and is open for all levels. Bill will contact La. Tech to see if they have a program. Also, if anyone knows a college aged player who is interested, please contact Bill Smith.
 12. It was announced that Byrd High School, Loyola Prep and Evangel will be hosting High School State tournaments this Spring. Jay asked that each school send a request for balls to him and our CTA will pay for them.

Upcoming Events in February

- ³⁵₁₇ 23 – Junior Novice Tournament - ERCC
³⁵₁₇ 23 – USTA Referee Training – POTC

Upcoming Events in March

- ³⁵₁₇ 1 – 3 CTA City Circuit/Fundraiser – ERCC
³⁵₁₇ 2 – FDDOC Play Day – CTC
³⁵₁₇ 6 – CTA Meeting Noon – ERCC
³⁵₁₇ 7 – 10 ATLAS Tournament – POTC
³⁵₁₇ 9 – Kids Clinic – POTC
³⁵₁₇ 9 – FDDOC Play Day – CTC
³⁵₁₇ 15 – LSUHSC Adult Tournament – ERCC

**NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2013
 NOON - ERCC**