

**Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association**  
***“To promote and develop tennis in Northwest Louisiana”***  
**Minutes – April 6, 2011**

1. The meeting was called to order by President David Kimball. Those in attendance include John Liles, Bill Oliver, Becky Berry, Jeff Smith, Richard Verzaal, Terri Bianca, Robin Lucius, Bob Patterson, Elana Engleman, Eddie Copete, Grady Wilson, Sue Watts, Suzanne Phillips, Raul Saad, Stevie Schmidt, and Jon McLaughlin.
2. A motion by Richard Verzaal was made to waive the reading of the March minutes, Bill Oliver second the motion. All were in favor. The minutes stand as written.
3. Treasurer John Liles presented the financial report. As of March 31, the NWLaCTA had a balance of \$66,277.29.
4. Our CTA Community Coordinator, Suzanne Phillips, reported on the following:
  - a. The preseason Junior Team Tennis tournament at Cockrell was a success.
  - b. The spring session of Fun, Friends and Fitness is halfway complete. To date, 62 people have enrolled. Each week new participants join. James Hunt offered a Wednesday night clinic for the Fun, Friends and Fitness participants.
  - c. Suzanne is working on compiling a “best Practices” for events and programs. John Liles suggested contacting Deannie Owens at Southern.
  - d. The Junior Team Tennis/Junior Novice Tournament forms have been updated with the schedule and waiver on one form.
  - e. Claire Maisel has been a great help. She suggested talking with retirement/nursing homes concerning Quickstart for seniors.
  - f. Many thanks to Bob Patterson for all his efforts on marketing Fun, Friends and Fitness and our CTA programs.
  - g. Jeff Smith asked why we would want to get teachers involved in Fun, Friends and Fitness. The response was to get tennis included in the school curriculum. Jeff suggested that a way to get more participation is to offer training during school in-service days and teach in the teachers’ environment (gym).
5. Bill Phillips gave our CTA updates on the 10 and under program and other USTA news:
  - a. 10 and Under membership initiative extended through end of April. From April 15 through December 31, 10 and Under membership is free. The USTA will send out information on how the process works, and not to promote this until you receive the information from the USTA.
  - b. Quickstart Training: If the CTA does a USTA Quickstart training, cost and expenses come out of the 10 and Under budget. Northwest

Louisiana CTA would like to host training on May 21. Must apply for training 30 days prior to the event. Bill Phillips will check on the charges for a trainer, Jeff Smith is an option. If anyone is interested in certification as a Quickstart Training Instructor, contact Jeff.

- c. Professional High Performance workshops have been reintroduced.
  - d. The USTA is offering banners for facilities offering 10 and Under, Junior Team Tennis and Junior Competition. To be eligible to receive a banner, the Pro must have completed training, using all six elements and leading children to junior tennis.
6. Committee Reports
- a. Marketing :
    - i. Bob Patterson reported that the City of Shreveport bond election passed. An e mail was sent to our tennis players requesting support of the bond (for our Shreveport tennis facilities).
  - b. Junior Tennis :
    - i. We have 237 registered for Junior Team Tennis and 105 for Quickstart.
  - c. Adult Tennis :
    - i. Women's Coordinator Terri Bianca reported that the Senior Ladies have finished their league and will head to Lake Charles for their State tournament.
    - ii. Bill Oliver reported that the Adult Tennis Committee did meet in regards to clarifying severe weather during adult league play. The Adult League Committee agreed to the following statement to be used for the future :
      - 1. "In case of inclement weather prior to match, the home team captain or representative must contact the hosting facilities pro in regards to court playability. The home team captain or representative must notify the visiting captain or representative no later than 1 hour prior to match time if match is to be cancelled. Cancelled matches cannot be rescinded. If play is held, a minimum of three courts must be made available (2 courts for seniors, 2.5 men and women, mixed and combo). All players must be present at match time."
7. Richard Verzaal reported for Karen Jantz on the status of Flex League play. Flex is moving from under the Southern umbrella to the National USTA. We have been granted permission to hold the Spring Flex league.
8. Mixed Coordinator Karen Jantz also wanted to remind everyone about the upcoming Captains Meeting. It will be held Thursday, May 5 at 6 PM at East Ridge Country Club. The deadline for the 2011 Mixed Doubles League team registration is May 24 (a minimum of 6 players must be registered by this date). Match play will begin in June. For additional information, please contact Karen at [kkjantz50@aol.com](mailto:kkjantz50@aol.com).
9. Hosting Pro Stevie Schmidt reported on the CTA City Circuit tournament held at POTC. There were 237 participants, up from last year (131 teams this year as opposed to 125 teams in 2010). There were some negative comments about the lack of beer, but most of the players did not mind.

The NWLaCTA is giving the hosting Pros \$.50 more per entry to be used to purchase additional soft drinks or Gatorade, in addition to the water. All players were asked to complete and sign a waiver prior to play. Again we ask the hosting Pros to make sure that players are only playing in ladies and mixed or men's and mixed if they are playing in two divisions. And that USTA membership numbers are filled out as well as an e mail address. John Liles asked that players canceling receive their checks back instead of canceling the check through their bank. The next CTA City Circuit will be held at the North Bossier Tennis Complex on June 3 – 5 (entries will be due May 29, during Adult State).

10. Becky Berry did not have any updates in regards to the website. Again our thanks for all the work she does.
11. The Junior Novice tournaments are in full swing. North Bossier had 23 participants and played a round robin tournament. East Ridge had 26 participants. Southern Hills will host their Junior Novice on April 16.
12. Our CTA will be hosting a session of the Louisiana Adult State Tournament (Men's and Women's 2.5, 3.5, 4.5 and 5.0 divisions) on May 26-30, The tournament director, Richard Verzaal, reported that this will be the same weekend at Mudbug Madness. Our host hotel is the downtown Hilton, with rooms available at the Courtyard Boardwalk, Towneplace Suites and the Hampton Inn. Carrie Kimball will be the Referee, John Liles suggested another referee since we are spread out. Players may check in at North Bossier. If you are interested in helping as a food runner, site director, etc. Sue Watts is looking for volunteers, please contact her at [suewatts@juno.com](mailto:suewatts@juno.com).
13. We are still waiting to hear back from the team captains in regards to their fleece tops they will be receiving. To date we have responses from 35 of the 100 captains. Another e mail will be sent out. Please respond so Richard can get the order in.
14. The NWLaCTA will be offering a 10 and Under Camp. We will have additional information at next months meeting.
15. Another note of thanks to all who supported the 2011 City of Shreveport Bond Election. Thanks to you, all three bond issues passed. We look forward to the improvements at our Shreveport tennis facilities!

**NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2011  
NOON – POTC**