

Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association
"To promote and develop tennis in Northwest Louisiana"
Minutes – February 2, 2011

1. The meeting was called to order by President David Kimball. Those in attendance include John Liles, Sue Allender, Richard Verzaal, Bill Oliver, Becky Berry, Jay Boyd, James Hunt, Dianne Mason, Terri Bianca, Suzanne Phillips, Elana Engleman, Bob Patterson, Stevie Schmidt and Rhonda Rubben.
2. Secretary Sue Allender wanted to clarify item #8 from last months minutes. The Quickstart grant of \$100,000 for the next three years will be paid out in increments of \$50,000 (1st year), \$30,000 (2nd year) and \$20,000 (3rd year). Richard Verzaal motion that the reading of the minutes be waived, Jay Boyd second the motion, all were in favor. The minutes stand as written.
3. Treasurer John Liles wanted everyone to know that the 1099 forms are in the mail. The balance from the end of January was \$54,473.13; this includes the accounts of Friends of Southern Hills (\$1,344.) and Play Tennis Bossier (\$1,964.89).
4. Women's Adult League Coordinator, Terri Bianca, reported that all match schedules have been published. This year we will do not have any day league teams and are down 6 teams from last year. Next month, Terri will have the complete numbers of teams and players for comparison. (We had 57 teams register for Women's Adult/Senior League play in 2010.) Men's Coordinator, Bill Oliver reported that his numbers are up (38 teams this year). Bill suggested that next year the league coordinators promote the day league (so we don't lose them).
Since league play is ready to start, Terri and Bill sent out an inclement weather policy to all the captains. Reasons for rescheduling include a wind chill of 39 degrees or lower prior to match time or at match time; sustained wind speeds of 25 miles or greater. The facility director will make the call in regards to playability of the courts. In all cases, the captains must contact one another, and the facility where they were to play. Cancelled matches MUST be rescheduled within one week of cancellation (they may be played anytime up to the season end).
5. John Liles reported that Flex League will be turned over to the National office. Our CTA will be in charge of awards to our local winners.
6. Committee Reports:
 - a. Marketing: Bob Patterson met with his Marketing Committee. Topics included a campaign for Fun, Friends and Fitness (yard signs, pamphlet hand-outs, \$25 for a new player rebate idea, and no obligation for the 1st session); Sponsor Level pamphlet; tell the community about our charity tournaments, etc.
 - b. High School Tennis Committee: David Kimball brought to the table this proposal from the H.S. Committee, "We propose that the NWLaCTA support the area schools that are hosting district and/or state high school tennis events. The support will come in the amount of \$150.00 for the hosting school to use to make the event a positive one for the visiting players to NW Louisiana.". Bill Oliver second the proposal, all were in favor.
 - c. Quickstart 10 and Under Coordinator Rhonda Rubben: Things have been busy the last month in the world of Quickstart.
 - i. Rhonda has Quickstart format in five elementary schools (Southern Hills, Creswell, E.B. Stoner, Sunset and Moorestown); FDDOC Winners' Circle purchased equipment for all the schools. James Hunt, David Kimball, Richard Verzaal, Sue Allender, Jeff Smith and John Liles were present for the 1st week of classes, assisting with the teachers. We need to continue to assist the teachers. The goal is to have tennis teams from each of these schools next fall.

- ii. Met with Becky Berry and have a web page on our site devoted to Quickstart 10 and under. Our database is not sufficient in tracking the children after they have "graduated" out of Quickstart.
 - iii. Attended a PE In-service on January 13 with John, Jay, Richard, David and James. Spoke to elementary PE teachers and had handouts on Quickstart. Have had 6 favorable responses so far. Also, trying to get credit for any teacher that attends Fun, Friends and Fitness. Maybe have a mini workshop after the classes on Quickstart for anyone interested (teachers, parents or volunteers).
 - iv. The LTA has a warehouse full of balls, rackets and nets that schools can checkout. They are welcome to keep the equipment as long as they are using it.
 - v. Looking to form a Blue Line Committee. Bill Oliver mentioned that there is complete funding available for two court facilities that are in need of a makeover (A.C. Steere in Shreveport and one in Bossier). Have met with Kaye Cochran in regards to PEP grant and CPSB assistance on putting down the blue lines (court parameters for Quickstart).
 - vi. Will attend National Conference on February 11 – 14. And had a handout of the grants available to us via the USTA/STA and LTA.
- d. Community Coordinator Suzanne Phillips will meet with the Word of God Academy (along with David Kimball) and discuss incorporating tennis into their curriculum.
- i. As mentioned earlier in the Marketing Report, ways to reach new players (pamphlets, etc.). The spring session of Fun, Friends and Fitness is set to begin March 19 at Querbes Tennis Center. She will have forms available at all the tennis facilities soon. The summer or fall session will have two programs available, one in Shreveport and one in Bossier City.
 - ii. She is working on a program called "Adopt a Unit". The premise is to recruit 12 local USTA League teams and with our CTA help, they will 'adopt' a military unit of approximately 75-100 soldiers deployed from a nearby military installation serving in Iraq or Afghanistan to send care package support and portable tennis equipment. The cost is roughly \$10 per team member. Items needed include socks, foot powder, razors, candy, sunscreen, lip balm, toothpaste, etc. On behalf of our CTA, the USTA and National Recreation Foundation will provide and ship two portable tennis kits (nets, lines, racquets and balls). This is a great idea since we are home to Barksdale Air Force Base.
 - iii. Is working with Jay Boyd in regards to a USTA Team Captain of the month, something to recognize the thankless duties of being a league captain.
 - iv. Suzanne is also working with the LTA office (especially Jody) in regards to having information sent out in an e mail blast. We will still have monthly information sent out via our list, but if a facility wants the info out to a larger group, please contact Suzanne by the 15th of the month, and it will go out the following 15th.
 - v. Suzanne, Rhonda, Jay Boyd and Bill Oliver also represented the NWLaCTA at the yearly Jr. Team Tennis and CTA meeting in January in Lafayette.
7. Richard Verzaal reported on the Junior Team Tennis sign-up. As of today (2/2/11) we have 47 Middle School and 27 Elementary School players signed up. Richard is sure we will be looking at 130 – 140 total players. Suzanne and Rhonda will be taking over this program and will need a follow-up program idea by mid-season. Once we get them we need to keep the children interested!!!
8. Bill Oliver reported that the CTA City Circuit tournament in Natchitoches this weekend has been cancelled (weather a big cause). So the first CTA City Circuit will be held at POTC on March 11 – 13. Sue Allender will give Stevie Schmidt the final standings from last year for his seeding purposes. Entry blanks are available on our site and Becky Berry has posters for each of the tennis facilities with the dates of all the CTA City Circuit tournaments. Bill has had khaki baseball caps designed and these will be given to all the participants instead of a t-shirt. John Liles is asking all the hosting pros to give him the entry blanks so he may get them to Becky Berry for our web contact list.
9. A Junior Novice Tournament will be at Stonebridge this Saturday, the time has been moved to Noon (it should be warmer). Becky also has made posters with all the dates of the Junior

Novice Tournaments and these will be at all the tennis facilities. Again, John Liles asks that the hosting Pros please give him the entry blanks when you need to be reimbursed for the trophies, for our web contact list.

10. In new business, David and Richard both were wearing the NWLaCTA fleece pullover that was given out to all the USTA League Captains a number of years back. John Liles motioned that we order more of the fleece and give them to this years USTA Adult League captains and any teacher assisting in the 10 and Under Quickstart program. Jay Boyd second the motion, all were in agreement. Richard will also order extra for individual purchase.

Upcoming Events:

February 5: Junior Novice (Stonebridge)
February 11 – 13: Adult Tournament (Southern Hills)
February 13: Officials Clinic and School (POTC)
February 15: Elementary School Jamboree
February 16: Middle School Jamboree
February 18 – 20: North Bossier Tennis Center Sanctioned Jr. Tournament
February 26: Junior Novice (ERCC)
February 26: High School Tournament
March 4 – 6: Junior USTA Tournament (Southern Hills)

**NEXT MEETING: MARCH 2, 2011
POTC - NOON**