

Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association Minutes – May 1, 2013

1. The meeting was called to order by President Jay Boyd. Those in attendance include Elana Engleman, Sue Allender, John Liles, James Hunt, Bob Patterson, Grady Wilson, Shelly Naisbitt, Tammie Harris, Bonnie Cox, Dan Beedle, Sue Watts and David Kimball.
2. A motion to waive the reading of the April minutes was made by David Kimball, Bob Patterson second the motion. All were in favor. The minutes stand as written.
3. Treasurer John Liles gave his report. As of April 30, 2013, the Red River Bank account (grant monies from the 10 and Under) has a balance of \$46,337.35. The Capital One Bank account has a balance of \$79,823.47. This includes the accounts of Play Tennis Bossier (\$1,964.89) and North Bossier 10 and Under (\$1,435.00).
4. Jay Boyd and Richard Verzaal met about hiring the new 10 and under coordinator. Ads have been placed on Craig's List and asks the applicants to supply an outline for the 10 and under program. We have had 11 replies so far. To fill this position the applicant does need some tennis in their background. If you know anyone, please contact Jay.
5. Community Coordinator Shelly Naisbitt gave her April update:
 - a. The Spring session of Fun, Friends and Fitness is in full swing. We had 20 beginner adults sign up. The average class has been around 11 participants. But we do get an average of 5 new players (who became league players) per session.
 - b. Our goal of \$30,000 for fundraising is getting closer. We have two new \$250 sponsors; The Chapparral Foundation Charitable Trust and the Aaron and Peggy Selber Foundation. Our many thanks to them. Shelly will be contacting the Rotary Club, Sam's Club and the May and Stanley Smith Charitable Trust for donations.
 - i. Our big fundraiser going on now is the tickets to the Presidents Box for the opening weekend of the U.S. Open. Tickets are for sale for \$20 each. The second place winner will receive a tennis racket of their choice. Shelly asked players who will be attending the 40 and Up State tournament in Baton Rouge to take some tickets down with them to sell. Shelly will also check with our area Pros about tickets sales.
 - c. The number for the 10 and Under participants in local tournaments is looking good. There were 17 playing in the Junior Novice tournament at Southern Hills in April, and 28 local 10 and under in the Red River Shootout.
 - d. The next Junior Novice Tournament will be held May 11 at Querbes Tennis Center.
 - e. 10 and Under Play Days are scheduled for April 30 (Querbes), May 2 (Querbes), May 4 (North Bossier) and May 18 (Querbes).

6. Bob Patterson reported on the Adult League play. The 55 and Up State in Lake Charles saw Shreveport-Bossier teams bring home three victories and will be heading to Columbia, Georgia in December for sectionals. Our congratulations to the Womens 4.0 (Suzie Sharp - Captain), 3.5 Men (Wayne Johnson - Captain) and the 65 and Up 3.5 Men (Louis Leonard - Captain).
 - a. The 40 and Up State tournament will be held in Baton Rouge on May 3 - 5. Competing for Shreveport-Bossier will be: 3.5 Men (Mark Walker, Captain), 4.0 Men (Harvard Yerger, Captain), and 4.5 Men (Charles Gray, Captain). The women will be represented by: 3.0 Women (Frances Pittman, Captain), 3.5 Women (Mary Bridges, Captain), 4.0 Women (Cindy Riley, Captain) and 4.5 Women (Co-captains Cathy Jacobs and Sue Allender).
7. Tammie Harris our Flex League Coordinator has 72 players sign up for the Spring Flex League. She did have 2 injury substitutes. Tammie is also our Tri-level league coordinator. She had problems with the system, but all is fixed and is ready for teams to sign up. Sign up for Tri-level will be open until May 30. So get your teams together. State will be held in Baton Rouge on August 16 - 18. Shelly will be getting signs posted about Tri-level to all the tennis facilities. Play will be from May 31st to July 31st. The levels will be 18 and Up Women 2.5, 3.0 and 3.5; 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 3.5, 4.0, 4.5. Men will have 18 and Up 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 3.5, 4.0, 4.5. Levels will be the same for the 40 and up and 55 and over. So we have lots of places for you to play!!!!
8. Jay Boyd wanted to bring up an e mail he received in regards to the State of the Tennis Industry. Participation in 2012 increased 4% in 2012. 70% of our players are frequent players, meaning they play three times a week or more.
 - a. The main reason people play more tennis is because they found a new person to play with and have joined a league. To get more people to play league we need more captains to head those teams. So how do we get new players to become captains? We need to both incentivize and educate players (so they feel confident on how to do those functions necessary to be a captain). Jay proposed that any new captain or a player who has not captained a team for three years get their league fees paid by the NWLaCTA. In addition we will hold a training session to teach them how to captain including all the tools available to help them. We will begin this initiative with the Combo League this Fall. James Hunt second the proposal, all were in favor. We will include the incentive portion for the mixed and tri level leagues starting now.
 - b. Elana Engleman suggested making the informational meeting a social also, for all existing and those who want to be a captain prior to the Combo League sign up. Grady will check with Ricky Rogers about using East Ridge on Friday, July 19.
 - c. Bob Patterson suggested having a place on our website for new players in our area who are looking for a team. They could put their levels and if they are interested in singles, mixed, etc.
9. The CTA City Circuit will be held at Querbes Tennis Center on May 3 - 5. We know that this overlaps the State Tournament, but the dates for the 40 and

Up State had not been set when we were making our calendar for 2013. Hopefully this will not happen next year. Elana Engleman is chairing a committee into looking into improving our CTA City Circuit. She will be handing out a small survey to players on how we can improve our tournament, or maybe start from scratch in 2014.

10. The second session of the 18 and Up State Tournament will be held in Shreveport-Bossier on May 24 – 27. 3.0 and 4.0 levels will be competing. David Kimball will be the Tournament Director. We will be using courts at North Bossier, Querbes, East Ridge and Southern Hills. Still not sure about POTC. Stevie Schmidt at Stone Bridge has offered his five courts. Richard Verzaal will be talking at the Spring SALT Luncheon and will mention the need of volunteers for state. Sue Watts will be contacting people to help the site directors. David will get the site directors.
11. Jay mentioned that our CTA Board needs a few adjustments. Terri Bianca did talk with the President and Vice-President of SALT (Shreveport Area Ladies Tennis) and they were not aware about attending our meetings. Eddie Copete did contact Willie Paas about being our Natchitoches representative and he will be glad to do it.
12. Elana mentioned that we have been asked to bid on the High School State tournament for 2014 and 2015. We will need 30 hard courts. North Bossier is okay with this. This bid could help quicken the re surfacing of Southern Hills and Cockrells tennis courts.
13. John Liles said we will be hosting a pilot program, the 70 and up Invitational Tournament on October 4 – 6. We will be needing clay courts. We also will be bidding on the Junior Team Tennis Sectionals for August 15 – 17 in 2014.

**NEXT MEETING JUNE 5, 2013
NOON – EAST RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB**