

Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association
"To promote and develop tennis in Northwest Louisiana"
Minutes – August 1, 2012

1. The meeting was called to order by President Jay Boyd. Those in attendance include Bill Oliver, Bonnie Cox, Shelly Naisbitt, Grady Wilson, Joe Thomas, James Hunt, Karen Jantz, Sue Allender, Gordy Ward, John Liles, Eddie Copete, Sue Watts, Richard Verzaal, Terri Bianca and Elana Engleman.
2. A motion to waive the reading of the July minutes was made by Richard Verzaal, James Hunt seconds the motion. All were in favor, the minutes stand as written.
3. Treasurer John Liles gave his report. As of July 31, 2012 the NWLaCTA has in the Red River Bank account for the 10 and Under program \$26,616.20. The Capital One Bank account has a balance of \$76,868.79; this includes the accounts of Play Tennis Bossier (\$1,964.89) and Friends of Southern Hills (\$1,291.). Elana Engleman asked if another sub-account could be created for the 10 and Under programs for the schools in Bossier City. John said this would not be a problem and will give Elana the information she needs.
4. We do have a candidate for the 10 and Under coordinator. He would like to work as an independent contractor and we are waiting for Southern for an okay to hire. In the meantime Bonnie Cox, our temporary 10 and Under coordinator, reported on a conference call she participated in concerning 10 and Under programs in Alabama, New Orleans, and South Carolina. Alabama has 13 schools involved with about 800 children. Everyone agreed that some things need to be free, but a charge for the class does need to be applied. Junior Team Tennis has grown, but there is always the problem of getting the children back on the courts after they have been introduced to tennis. New Orleans has been going to the 2nd and 3rd grade P.E. classes and showing the P.E. teachers how to run a 10 and Under program. They will start fee-based Play Days in September and parents need to understand the pathway of our program (tennis in schools, Play Days, Junior Team Tennis, tournament play), South Carolina hired interns to check on the 10 and Under memberships. A 10 and Under tournament circuit was held (once a month; Saturdays 9 – 1; no winners, participation points were given instead; a big

event in October is planned for all who participated in the circuit). Big problem was at Play Days the levels vary so much and they advise splitting the children into two groups. We might consider bringing top 10 year olds who are playing tournaments in to demonstrate to the parents where their child fits in.

5. Our CTA is looking to host Butch Staples for a clinic on 10 and Under. Bonnie Cox will check with Indoors to see what is available. To date we are looking at Friday, September 28 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Please check our website for additional information.
6. The children's television network Nickelodeon is working with the USTA on a World Wide Day of Play campaign. This will be held between September 1 and October 6. We need to schedule one day of free tennis play open to the public.
7. Sunday, November 11 (Veterans Day) we will sponsor a Military Veterans Day Initiative. More information will appear soon.
8. Community Coordinator Shelly Naisbitt announced that she has received \$250 from Whataburger as a sponsorship for the NWLaCTA.
 - a. Todd Eppler was kind enough to donate, disassemble, load, drive an hour, and re-assemble a 3' x 8' shelf for our storage unit. Many, many thanks to Todd from everyone at the NWLaCTA. Also, many thanks to David Naisbitt, Shelly Naisbitt and Jay Boyd who assisted in the efforts.
 - b. Shelly was able to deliver 50 free membership flyers for military children for the 10 and Under program. This was a big hit.
 - c. At the North Bossier Tennis Complex, Shelly also handed out another 50 free 10 and Under membership flyers.
 - d. A new Fall Junior Team Tennis league is being formed. As of this meeting Cockrell, Querbes and Southern Hills will be fielding teams. If your tennis facility would like to compete, please contact Shelly.
9. Mixed Coordinator Karen Jantz reported that we have 730 adult players competing this year (36 more than last year). Play is under way with Adult State slated for August 31 to

September 3 in Mandeville. Senior Mixed Sate will be held in Slidell on September 21 – 23.

10. Karen, who also coordinates the Combo leagues, wanted all the Captains to remember that the Captains meeting will be held at East Ridge Country Club on Tuesday, August 14 at 6 p.m. Team registration is open with a minimum of 6 players to be registered by August 28 for your team to be placed on the schedule. Play will begin September 4 for Adult Combo and September 9 for Senior Combo. The dates of play will be as follows: Monday (5.5 and 8.5), Tuesday (6.5 and 9.5) and Thursday (5.0 and 7.5). Senior Combo will play Sunday afternoon (6.5. and 8.5) and Monday nights (7.5). If you have any questions, please contact Karen at 218-2395.
11. The Fall Flex League registration will be open from September 9th to 23rd, with play to begin September 30. If interested or if you have a question about the Flex League, please contact Karen Jantz.
12. Marketing Committee chairmen Richard Verzaal asked if we should run a commercial during the U.S. Open like we did last year. We still need more support from our area T.V. stations. Sue Allender suggested contacting Channel 7 about their 5 minutes segments during the morning shows featuring area businesses. Karen Jantz also suggested about recognizing the players and the volunteers in our area. In past years we have held a banquet recognizing the junior and adults players. Richard will get with his committee about hosting something in January maybe in time with the 2013 Adult League Captains Meeting. Also, Richard will contact his committee about fund raising and obtaining sponsors for our CTA and our programs.
13. Gordy Ward (representing our webmaster Ken Jantz) recommended that we switch from our current web page provider (Tennis Connect) to the USTA web page service which will save the CTA money or another provider. Bill Oliver made a motion to change providers and look into Constant Contact, Jay Boyd second the motion, all were in favor. With Constant Contact our e mails will look like web pages.
14. Jay Boyd would like the Marketing, Volunteer, Adult and Junior Tennis Committees to get together and write down

their long and short term goals for the upcoming year. He would like these to be presented at the next CTA meeting (September 5). Marketing may need to form sub committees for sponsoring and fundraising.

15. Again a reminder that the LTA awards are just around the corner. Nominations are due Thursday, September 13. Nomination categories and entry blanks are available on the LTA website. Please send in your nominations to Sue Allender before the September 5 CTA meeting (allendersusan@att.net).

**NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5
NOON – EAST RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB**