

NORTHWEST LOUISIANA COMMUNITY TENNIS ASSOCIATION
"To promote and develop tennis in Northwest Louisiana"
Minutes – December 7, 2016

1. The meeting was called to order by President Bob Patterson. Those in attendance include John Liles, Sue Allender, Robert Verzaal, Grady Wilson, Kaye Cochran, Todd Killen, Lucas Richardson, Tammie Harris, Jay Boyd, Mike Correal and David Kimball.
2. A motion to waive the reading of the November minutes was made by Bob Patterson, John Liles second the motion. All were in favor. The minutes stand as written.
3. Treasurer John Liles gave the bank accounts as of November 30, 2016. The Capital One Bank general account has a balance of \$92,879.20. This balance includes the accounts of Play Tennis Bossier (\$1,039.60) and Love Serves (\$90.00). The 10 and under grant account at the Red River Bank has a balance of \$40,838.07.
4. Jay Boyd reported that the LTA had a board meeting this past weekend and the new slate of officers were voted in. As mentioned last month we are well represented by Jay our new Vice President, Bob Patterson (Region IV Representative) and Grady Wilson (Tennis Professional Representative). Other news was that individual members will have voting rights in the future and there will be a big push for Junior Team Tennis in 2017, and that New Orleans will begin to bid on LTA State Tournaments.
5. Bob reported that the Shreveport-Bossier/NWLaCTA were big winners at the annual LTA awards the past weekend. Our thanks to Awards Chairperson, Bonnie Cox who lit a fire under all of us. Also we wish Bonnie a speedy recovery on her ankle from her vehicle mishap. The winners were: Adult 40 and Over League Coordinators – Tammie Harris and Bob Patterson; Mixed 40 and Over Coordinator – Karen Jantz; Facility of the Year – Pierremont Oaks Tennis Club (Craig Prothro, General manager); Junior Tournament of the Year – USTA Boy's and Girl's intersectional Team Championships (Todd Killen); Member Organization of the Year – Play Tennis Bossier (Todd Eppler, President); CTA of the Year – Northwest Louisiana CTA (Bob Patterson, President); Gus Rivera Junior Achievement Award – Cotter Wilson; 2016 Volunteer Recognition – 20 years' service, John Liles.
6. The annual CTA Workshop was also held the weekend of the LTA Awards Banquet. Bob Patterson was one of the speakers, as was Andrew Friedman from Southern whose subject was customer service for all tennis players. We all must make a good first impression on and off the tennis courts. Especially for a program such as Tennis Apprentice, which we are doing!!!
7. Jay did mention that our numbers are down for league play from last year. This coming Monday, December 12, the Captains Meeting for the 2017 Adult League will be held at North Bossier Tennis Center at 6 P.M. Adult League Coordinators, Tammie Harris and Bob Patterson will be heading up the meeting. Jay would like to announce at the meeting a couple of programs to help recruit new captains. Instead of the Appreciation Dinner, hold a Pro-Am tournament just for the captains and our area pros. And start a mentoring program for future captains; Tammie and Jay have already volunteered their services. We do need one point person from each tennis facility to help assist and/or recruit players for teams that are in need of additional players or just need to find a team. This does need to be done so everyone who wants to play league tennis has the opportunity to do so. Robert Verzaal said he will have a

strong number of first time players (2.5) that have graduated from his Tennis Apprentice and Step Up Leagues.

8. John Liles completed the CGPG Grant application form, and after many hours of work, he was able to secure us \$4,494.00 in grant monies (down from \$6,645.00 in 2016). The major difference is that we did not have any JTT players sign up. Something that will hopefully be rectified this year. Speaking of grants, Rhonda Rubben with the FDDOC has also applied from a \$20,000 grant through USTA National for her program.
9. Our congratulations to the Men's 7.5 team who were winners at the 40 and Up Combo State Tournament and will be heading to sectionals. Also our congratulations to the Women's 5.0 Team who will also make the trip via a wild card.
10. The 2017 Tennis Calendar meeting was held after the SALT luncheon last month. Dates are being finalized, so please check our website for dates of all the tennis activities in our area for 2017.
11. Marketing Chairman, Mike Correal has been busy handing out our flyers to the people walking on Arthur Teague Highway in Bossier. Many people have been parking at Centurylink and using the footpath along the river.
12. Community Coordinator, Kaye Cochran, is very exciting about the new format for Junior Team Tennis. The junior players do not have to be an USTA member to play or sign up. If a Pro is hosting a JTT event, parents may sign their children up by tennislink and any additional information will be entered by Kaye or Angela. Grady Wilson mentioned about having a Play Day/JTT during the week for the CTC programs at each of the clubs. Robert Verzaal stated that they already have an Elementary and Middle School Team Tennis league at Querbes set for the spring. A motion was made by John Liles to obtain and set up Jot Form (Liz can do this from the LTA) for the cost of about \$9.95 a month. Bob Patterson seconds the motion and all were in favor. Kaye will get with Liz about setting this up. It was also agreed to continue with Constant Contact.
13. The subject of volunteers was raised during the meeting. In the past we get volunteers and do not utilize them and lose them. Jay Boyd suggested everyone at the meeting think of five things we can do to use our volunteers i.e.: Red River Revel booth, Junior Team Tennis court helpers. Kaye, Mike and Luke Richardson will get together and brainstorm some ideas.
14. The final subject of 2016 was the Executive Board for 2017 for the NWLaCTA. Jay Boyd made a motion to keep the board as it is for 2017, Tammie Harris seconds the motion, and all were in favor. The Board for 2017 will be as follows: Bob Patterson/ President; Mike Correal/ Vice-President; Grady Wilson/ Vice President (Pro); John Liles/ Treasurer; Sue Allender/ Secretary; and Past President/ Jay Boyd.

WISHING EVERYONE A HAPPY HOLIDAY AND WONDERFULY NEW YEAR

**NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2017
NOON – EAST RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB**