

NORTHWEST LOUISIANA COMMUNITY TENNIS ASSOCIATION
"To promote and develop tennis in Northwest Louisiana"
Minutes – November 1, 2017

1. The meeting was called to order by President Bob Patterson. Those in attendance include Phillip Campbell, Grady Wilson, Willie Paz, Kaye Cochran, Bonnie Cox, Sue Allender, John Liles, Jay Boyd, Todd Killen, Robert Verzaal, David Kimball, Eddie Copete, Kathy Raegan (SALT) and Todd Eppler (President of Play Tennis Bossier).
2. A motion to waive the reading of the October minutes was made by Todd Killen, David Kimball second the motion. All were in favor. The minutes stand as written.
3. Treasurer John Liles gave the balances as of 10/31/17. He also passed a copy of the statement showing what we received and what we paid out. The general fund at Capital One Bank has a balance of \$95,547.77. This includes the accounts of Friends of Querbes (\$405.) and Play Tennis Bossier (\$1,039.60). The 10 and Under Grant at Red River Bank has a balance of \$35,037.22 and includes the account from FDDOC (\$2,335.57).
4. President Bob Patterson gave his run down from the past month's tennis activities:
 - a. The Red River Shootout Tournament held at POTC (Junior L3) had 147 entrants. Tournament Director, Grady Wilson, said the numbers have been dropping and he is considering moving the tournament back to May, 2 weeks before qualifying.
 - b. The 40 and Over State Combo Tournament will be held in Shreveport-Bossier on November 3 – 5. Todd Killen said that besides host site North Bossier, courts will be used at Southern Hills and Cockrell. To date 348 players are planning on attending. Site Directors will meet at North Bossier Tennis Complex on Thursday at 6. Most of the hotel rooms that were blocked for the tournament have been reserved. Discussion was made on how to keep state tournaments in Shreveport-Bossier. Todd mentioned that a player had been to a state tournament where each team was assigned an ambassador to help them with dinner reservations, directions, etc. Maybe have an ambassador at each tennis facility being used.
 - c. Head Pro at North Bossier Tennis Complex, Todd Killen, also mentioned that the Bossier Open will be held November 10 – 12. It will feature Men's, Women's and Mixed Doubles, as well as Open Men's and Women's Singles. As of this meeting, he already has 40 players signed up.
 - d. Bob has been working with the Sports Commission regarding financial assistance to help offset our expenses for the 2018 State Tournaments.
 - e. The 70+ State Invitational Tournament that we normally hold in October will be moved to a date in March 2018.
 - f. Next Wednesday, November 8, a meeting will be held at the Querbes Golf Course Grill at 11:45 to discuss the situation with the Querbes Tennis Facility. All are encouraged to attend. The City of Shreveport and SPAR are invited, and something must be done to save the courts from further disrepair.
 - g. Jay Boyd and Rhonda Rubben have been working on the by-laws for our CTA. The articles are fine, but Rhonda has a lawyer friend who will look over the by-laws for us.

- h. Next Month's meeting is the same date as the SALT Luncheon. So, we will be meeting on Wednesday December 13 at POTC at Noon. Please make sure to change your calendars.
5. As mentioned earlier, Jay Boyd has been working with revising and updating our CTA by-laws. Jay said the budget will be ready for a vote at the December meeting as well as presenting the nominations for the 2018 Board of Directors. Nominations will then be voted on at the January 2018 meeting. If you have someone you would like to nominate to the board, please contact Jay.
6. Bob mentioned that this is the last CTA meeting for Head Pro Robert Verzaal of Querbes Tennis Center. Robert has secured a position as Director of Women's Tennis at Royal Oaks Tennis Club in Dallas. Bob presented Robert a going away present and thanks him for everything he did with Tennis Apprentice, Junior Team tennis, Etc. We all wish him the best in his future endeavors. Assistant Pro at Querbes, Jorge Jimenez will be filling in for Robert for the rest of the year.
7. Community Coordinator, Kaye Cochran, gave her report from the past month:
 - a. The Middle School League at Southern Hills is going strong.
 - b. Southern Hills also hosted a Level 6, Non-sanctioned Junior Tournament on October 28.
 - c. Fit For Life was held at Freedom Field in Bossier. Every 5th grader in Bossier City attended (close to 1,400 children) and tennis along with golf were introduced as a sport of a lifetime.
 - d. On November 11, Natchitoches will host a Junior Novice Tournament and Play Day.
 - e. There will be a Regional JTT Workshop in Jackson, MS on November 13. Net Generation will be discussed.
 - f. Michaela Meredith in Haughton has applied for a \$1,000 High School Grant for beginner and advance tennis in the high school.
8. The Louisiana Tennis Association Awards have been announced. Again, our thanks to Bonnie Cox for reminding us about the deadline for nominations! Our local paper should be notified about our local winners. The winners from our CTA are as follows:
 - a. Charles Turner Volunteer Service Award – Rona Faciane
 - b. Community Tennis Association – Northwest Louisiana CTA
 - c. Educational Merit Award – FDDOC Winners' Circle Inc. (Rhonda Rubben)
 - d. Facility of the Year – Pierremont Oaks Tennis Club (Craig Prothro)
 - e. Program of the Year – Tennis Apprentice (Robert Verzaal)
 - f. Team Tennis Event of the Year – Querbes Junior Team Tennis (Robert Verzaal)
9. The Bill Oliver Memorial Tournament was cancelled due to low entries. POTC Head Pro, Grady Wilson, offered to host the tournament next year. The Pros will be meeting after the SALT Luncheon (December 6) to go over our tennis calendar for 2018.
10. Discussion was made about court availability at Querbes for USTA Spring League play. Five clay courts could be available, since the hard courts are not able to be used for league play. Centenary College has offered their hard courts, but will charge \$10 per person. There is also talk about doing away with the Centenary College tennis courts

for additional parking. Last year Querbes was the home court for 7 – 9 Adult League teams.

11. John Liles is getting everything together for the CGPG grant. The 990 has been filed and everything needs to be at the LTA by November 14 and then to Southern by December 1st. We could receive at the most \$4,000. If anyone is interested in applying for this grant with John, please contact him.
12. The Annual LTA Meeting will be held December 2 – 4 in Lafayette.

**MEETING WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13
NOON - POTC**