

**NORTHWEST LOUISIANA COMMUNITY TENNIS ASSOCIATION**  
**“To promote and develop tennis in Northwest Louisiana”**  
**Minutes – July 11, 2018**

1. The meeting was called to order by President Rhonda Rubben.
2. Secretary Sue Allender proceeded with the roll call. Those in attendance include Grady Wilson, Mike Correal, Bob Patterson, David Kimball, Todd Killen, Joey Lawler, Bill Phillips, Rick Holland, Nancy Harper and Michaela Meredith. According to our by-laws we need 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of our board of directors (15) in attendance to have a quorum (5), thus we have a quorum.
3. David Kimball made a motion to waive the reading of the June minutes, Grady Wilson second the motion. All were in favor. The minutes stand as written.
4. Our Treasurer, John Liles, was unable to attend the meeting but did send the bank balances as of June 30, 2018. The Capital One Bank general fund has a balance of \$101,972.99. The junior tennis account at Red River Bank has a balance of \$44,547.54.
5. Vice President Grady Wilson reported on the National Intersectional 16's that was held at POTC and North Bossier last week. Due to the Safe Sports initiative players were no longer allowed to stay with local families and had to stay in area hotels. Two players almost missed their matches but were able to Uber to the courts just in time, one player missed a curfew. We had more parents attending and more point penalties were handed out by the officials then in previous tournaments. The new deck at POTC was a great hit as were the CTA umbrellas. In fact, POTC is looking to purchase some for their clay courts. Grady thanked Todd and everyone at North Bossier for their courts, without them he would not have been able to conduct this tournament. Another note is that Rusty Tarwater had a tent this year that designed t-shirts on the premises, a big hit with the players. Grady met with the Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission and they will be giving additional funding to the 16's tournament.
6. Speaking of the Shreveport-Bossier Sport Commission, Past President Bob Patterson submitted a report to them after our hosting of the 18+ Adult State in June. Bob noted the purchase of the umbrellas, tent and food vouchers for the Food Trucks for each player. Of the \$5,000 they gave to us, \$2,500 was spent on the 18+ Adult State Tournament with the additional \$2,500 to be spent at the Combo State Tournament in November. The commission is mostly interested in the overnight hotel stays.
7. Co-Chairman of the Querbes Initiative, Rick Holland, gave a report on the meeting that was held prior to our meeting. Rick met with a lighting distributor and went over the site survey for Querbes for pole locations hoping for a donation and have a local contractor complete the work. The group will meet with SPAR on June 24. Phase I will consist of making the clubhouse ADA complaint as well as repairing the clay courts and lighting. Phase II will be for the hard courts and this is where we all must help. Rhonda sent out a jot form to everyone to assist in a Querbes Fundraiser on November 8 – 11 at POTC. Please sign up. Bob Patterson invited John Nicholson, who is running for City Council for the Querbes area, to our next CTA meeting. We want to show him how much our tennis community needs Querbes Tennis Center. Sue Allender and Michaela Meredith have collected all the old pictures from Querbes (Sue will get the racquets) and we are hunting down the names of the players (some from 1955). Grady suggested Jerry Montgomery.
8. Bill Phillips from the LTA reported on a few topics:

- a. He really would like all Tennis Pros and Assistants to sign up on Net Generation. Right now, only a third of the Pros are registered.
  - b. One July 28-29, Mike Barrel (sp) will be holding a Youth Tennis program and is open to all tennis pros and it is FREE. It will be held at Bocage Racquet Club in Baton Rouge. More information will be sent out soon.
  - c. A new program is underway, it is called "Shot Trainer" and will change the way lines are called. The surface of the tennis court has a thin layer painted over it and when a tennis ball with the same material on it hits the court a mark will appear for a few seconds. Hoping to end the bad calls seen in junior and adult league tennis. This program has been in the works for the past 15 years and the cost per court is \$500 - \$1,000, with the cost of the balls undetermined.
9. On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, Michaela Meredith with the grant money she received for High School Tennis conducted a clinic 'High School Elements of Tennis' for High School new and novice tennis players at North Bossier. There were 23 participants with 6 no-shows (it was hot). Participants came from all over North Louisiana (one from Ruston) and from many different schools. After breakfast, Head Pro Todd Killen warmed up the players to get them ready for drills. Michaela conducted volley drills, Sue Allender forehand drills, Bianca Shultz worked on their backhands and Todd drilled the serve. Each drill lasted 30 minutes, so they were active for 2 hours. Lunch was served, and Todd and Bianca talked about nutrition, doubles strategy, etc. The players then Hit for Prizes and thanks to the NWLaCTA every participant received a prize. Afterwards the kids received their t-shirts. A Fall High School league is being planned. Michaela did note that online registration with Jot Form was really the best way to register players instead of hard copy forms sent to the schools and pro shops.
10. Our Community Coordinator Kaye Cochran and Junior Coordinator, Angela Pfanner were unable to attend the meeting but did send their June report:
  - a. Cockrell Community Center will be hosting a tennis program for their community on July 9 – 25.
  - b. Red Ball Challenges were held at North Bossier (June 2) and Cockrell (June 6).
  - c. Level 6 Junior Tournaments will be held at Southern Hills (July 7) and Natchitoches (July 28).
  - d. Step Up Leagues are in progress at Querbes and Southern Hills
  - e. Tennis Apprentice Sessions are being held at Querbes (July 11 – August 1) and North Bossier (beginning August 2)
  - f. Upcoming Junior Events include the Level 2 Walk Ons Independence Bowl Junior Tennis Tournament at POTC on August 3 – 6
  - g. Caddo Teacher Tennis In-service August 9 – 10
  - h. Level 6 Junior Tournament at Querbes August 11
11. Todd Killen also wanted everyone to know that he and Jeffrey Goodman will be hosting a Northern Louisiana Open Tennis Tournament on August 17 – 19 at North Bossier. This tournament will be open for players from North Louisiana (Alexandria and up) only. Singles and Doubles and are looking to have prize money for the Open division winners. More information will be coming ASAP.
12. The 2018 LTA Awards are around the corner. Sonia Killen will be heading the nomination committee and will be meeting on July 31<sup>st</sup>. The awards are due September 21<sup>st</sup> by the LTA, so we need to begin working on them sooner than later. A new award will be given, it will be called the ACE Award and can be in any category.
13. Rhonda did want to remind everyone the following:
  - a. The Net Generation grant for Meadowview School is in the works.
  - b. We will work on the Veterans Programs Grant for 2019.
  - c. For Combo State, we again will be having food trucks, but need to find lighter fare, Counter Culture, Good Eats, Ki Mexico, etc.
  - d. Please have any information to Angela by Friday, July 23 for an e mail blast this month.
  - e. Again, please post any tennis related subjects on Facebook and join the NWLaCTA page.

**NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2018**  
**POTC - NOON**