

Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association (NWLACTA)
Agenda for March 6th, 2024, Board Meeting

Call to Order- President Brian Bernard

Attendance – Board members: Brian Bernard, Rhonda Rubben, Grady Wilson, Philip Campbell, Matt Coerver, Ken Meyers, Katheryn Arterberry, Willie Paz, Bryan Furqueron, Todd Killen, and Steve Craig. Others: Roderic Arterberry, Marilyn Meyers, Roland Deville, Eric Zimmer, Tammie Harris, Kaye Cochran.

March minutes were approved. Motion by Grady Wilson, Second Matt Coerver

Executive Board Reports:

President Report Brian Bernard

- USTA Local League Facility Court Fee Agreement
 - 104C(2)Local League Facility Court Fees –
As agreed, by facilities listed under 1.04E Facilities permitted for local league play and adopted by the NWLACTA Board:
 - IF the home team is a Public Court Team and the visiting team is a Private Club Team the Public Court Home Team pays
 - the court fee for 1 (one) Private Club Team player.
 - IF the home team is a Public Court Team and the visiting team is a Public Court Team each team pays their own court fees
 - If the home team is a Private Club Team NO court fees are paid.
 - Will add that “Should any player refuse to pay the appropriate fees stated above the player will not be allowed to play the scheduled USTA match.
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- Community Partners
 - Raised \$6500 to date, \$500 in AR from Canes.

Treasurer’s Report Steve Craig

- Assets: \$ 245541, including \$ 158194 cash (\$22108 restricted), \$ 76597 Merrill Lynch.
- Liabilities: \$ 4250, including \$ 2708 credit card and \$1542QTC(restricted).
- Total income for March 2024: \$ 44351, includes \$2400 for spring league, \$19000 CTA Tourn, \$6825 70 Tourn, and \$5395 Tennis Apprentice
- Total expenses for March 2024: \$ 25468, including \$ 1197 QTC (to be reimb SPAR), \$10130 BOLD exp, \$5887 70 tourn, and \$1745 TA expense to date.
- Balance Sheet and P & L by MTH YTD available for review.

USTA League fee concern: Roland Deville submitted a petition for discussion regarding league court fees (please see attached handout), was given the floor and he explained a group wanted the fee removed stating it was unfair. Discussion was open, no other opposition was made. It was brought up that private clubs currently charge a \$20 guest fee that is waived with the current USTA court fee structure in place. However, if the current USTA Local Fee structure were removed then the \$20 guest fee would be implemented. Discussion was additionally made that this would cost the public court players more in USTA league fees. This agreement has been “In Standing” since the late 90’s made by the facility directors and adopted by the Local League and CTA Board. It was signed by the Directors again in 2022.

All the Facility Directors/Board Members in attendance were in favor of keeping the Standing Agreement. A motion was made by Grady Wilson, second by Philip Campbell, the board voted unanimously to keep the agreement in place. President Brian Bernard verbalized that no change would be made to the current structuring of league fees and suggested the current agreement be adopted into the Local Rules & Regulations for further clarification of this policy. Any player refusing to pay the appropriate court fees would not be allowed to play the USTA match for that day/night. Roland asked what if a player refuses and is a member of Bossier Tennis Center. Todd Killen stated he would refund membership fees for persons who are upset about this fee. This agreement has been in effect since the 90’s.

USTA/LTA/STA Reports: Jay Boyd/**Grady Wilson**/Phillip Campbell

- The LTA board met nominated and selected Kenneth Meyers for leadership development fellowship.
- Grady will be attending the annual meeting in Orlando.

NJTL/Outreach Report – Rhonda Rubben

- **USTA Foundation Grant**
 - 2024 application is open; closes on the 16th - Awaiting information from the Meyers on school programming to finalize the grant.
- Reminded the group that scholarship applications close on 4/30. Four applications have been received so far.
- BOLD tournament made \$600 more than last year.
- 70 tournament had a net profit of \$400.
- Thank you to all who participated in making these events successful.
- **Broadmoor VOA/SALT/CTA After School Program – Thursdays, 4-5pm**
 - Final month: 4/4,4/11,4/18 - 4/25 @ Querbes Party - please try to come
- **Adaptive CPSB School Year Program – Tuesday and Thursday Mornings 9-10:30 at So Hills**
 - Spring Tuesdays - April 2, 9, 16, 23; **Eric Zimmer reporting**
 - Fall planning to begin Special Olympics gumbo tennis team out of Caddo - Eric Zimmer is working with Community Coordinator Kirita Windham.
- **VOA Bossier Lighthouse** - is going great.
 - program began in March @ Bossier Tennis Center 1X per week, 4-6 weeks.
- **Spring Break Camps – March 11-15th week** - Cockrell 80+ kids
- **BAFB** – Approved for Adult/Children programs.
 - **April 5th – Month of Military Child** – Set up table 3-5:30pm.
 - **1 Day Red Ball Camp** – on site May 27th
 - **Adult/Child Family TA Program @ Bossier Tennis Center**
 - A few families signed up. BAFB is having a 2-week drill during this timeframe which may be impacting participation.
 - **BAFB Summer Camp – On site – BLT Volunteers – Kaye Instructor**
 - Tuesdays June 6,11,18,6/25 – 9-11am
 - 12-24 kids max, 3rd & Up
- **Outreach/NJTL Committee -Ongoing**
 - **2024 USTA Southern NJTL Leadership Camp**
 - If accepted Genesis and mom will attend
 - No boys identified to go. Eric Zimmer suggested Wayone Hector. Katheryn to reach out to parents.
 - Katheryn will complete registration within the next day or so.
 - Cost - \$300 to attend plus would like to offer a travel stipend \$200.
 - Rhonda made motion, Willie seconded that the CTA would supply these funds.

Public and Private Facilities– PRO UPDATES

Bossier - Todd Killen reporting

- 70's Tournament had 188 players; 11 teams from AR, MS, OK, TX and LA. Congratulations to Kaye's 3.0 team on their win!
- Tennis apprentice is starting; 74 signed up

- Katy Build tournament scheduled for 4/12; 265 participants so far
- City tournament is scheduled for May; 60 signed up so far

Cockrell - Ken Meyers reporting

- League play is going well - currently Cockrell has 2 2.5 teams participating who playing well; won last night - proud of them. Men's 3.0 55 and over team has qualified and is going to state
- Spring break camp (March 11-13, 2024) was a success; 80 campers on one day; over 200 participants during the camp. Several board members and volunteers assisted. Thanks to SPAR, NWLA CTA and everyone who volunteered and supported this camp.
- Junior tennis play is picking up; gearing up for USTA play
- Tennis apprentice is in session - 11 excited participants - going well.
- Four high schools (2 public and 2 private) and 1 middle school (24 players on Wednesdays) are practicing and competing with Cockrell as their home site- this is going well
- Held the "No Man's Land" event in honor of Women's History Month (although men were invited as well). 30 participants turned out wearing shades of pink, with a good mix of public, private and multiple ages in attendance. Pink refreshments, lemonade and mocktails were included in the celebration. Fun was had by all.
- Looking forward: Cockrell will act as satellite site for the Independence Bowl tournament: hosting the Boys and Girls 12U as well as the boys 18s in the upcoming tournament. Cockrell has 3 junior players participating in the tournament. Genesis Allen and Zaria Curry in girls 14U and Aspen Sinville in the girls 12U

Natchitoches - Willie Paz reporting

- Social League play is in progress
- Tennis apprentice starts the first week in May
- One team has qualified for state
- High School tournament was very successful - 86 players participated. Consisted of 2 singles and 2 doubles matches in each division as well as JV. 6 high schools participated from across North and Central Louisiana.
- Working on another high school tournament for 5/11 having USTA involved on a trial basis. More information will be coming.

POTC- Grady Wilson reporting

- Very busy, short on courts; some matches finishing as late as 9:30 pm - Good problem to have.
- Junior development program is thriving.
- Big tournament this weekend Level 5- players from 25 states will be in attendance. From as far as NY, MO, NV and Maryland to name a few.
 - Initially planned to offer our local players more opportunity but only 2 of our kids got in. Junior tennis is back!

Querbes - Rhonda Rubben reporting

- Rhonda is standing in until a new pro is identified. The goal is to keep programming going so new pro has a good foundation to start from. Hopes to have a pro by June or July.
- Tennis apprentice beginning this month, 24 registered.
- Needs new tennis balls; CTA to pay with the city reimbursing within 30 days to expedite the process. Grady offered to order them.
- 1st Baptist Program started with 2 days of tennis and 3 days of pickleball.
- Adaptive tennis starts May 1 (Bossier?) Retired PE teacher Cindy coming on board. Retired PE teachers are always an excellent resource.
- Steven Floyd working with me to develop a summer program
- RFP out - looking for a director – end of June or first of July, anticipated date

So Hills - Eric Zimmer reporting

- Challenging time for Southern Hills Tennis Center
- Lost many league matches due to no lights
 - Lights just came back on
- Junior program rebounding well with over 100 participants
- Several middle schools are coming in
- Adaptive PE - special olympics in the works

Southern Trace - Matt Coeuer reporting

- Continues to have UTR match play with good participation
- Spring break camp-going well-converting new kids to program participation
- Tennis 101 has ten new players
 - New session starts this month
- Courts are booked up mornings and evenings.
- Pro Adam is leaving temporarily in mid-May and will be back in September

Committee Reports:

Adult

Community Partner/Fundraising

Marketing

State Tournaments

- Bold Tournament

- 166 Players

- Detailed Financial – Profit \$4136, \$600 more 2023

- Special thank you to all that financially supported, volunteered, solicited donations, baked desserts, etc. to make the tournament a great success.

- **State Tournaments**

- 1st Tournament – 70 Invitational – March 23-25

RECORD 188 TOTAL (Men 8 teams, 62 players -Women 15 teams, 130 players)

Awards

Grants

Outreach & Special Programs/Grants

Volunteer/Hospitality Committee

CTA Tournament

Junior Tennis

NEED 2 JUNIOR COORDINATORS –

Junior Tennis

- JTT Spring Tournament Weekend – Saturday April 20th @ POTC

- Pros please help promote to all your JD Programs

Junior Middle School League – Beginning FALL 2024

Met with BPSB Athletic Director 2/6-Following up in March

Lana Wray assisting w/ JotForm and information out to parents and children Dwayne Slack assisting with AD and Schools

Will have 2 leagues, Shreveport Middle Schools, and Bossier Middle Schools

Working on local rules/regs with State Jr Director

Tennis Apprentice –

o 74-Bossier Tennis Center BAFB – Start 3/21 – 1 and BTC REG Spring – Start 4/4 - 28

o 21-Querbes Tennis Center – REG Spring – Start 4/6 – 3

o 11-Cockrell Tennis Center – REG Spring – Start 3/18 - 0

Local League Coordinator Reports:

Rhonda Rubben & Selwyn Ellis (Spring)/ Tammie Harris (Mixed)/Rhonda Terracciano (Flex Leagues)
Kirita Windham (Tri-Level) Rhonda Rubben & Selwyn Ellis (Combo)

Adult League Recap AS OF 4/2/2024

Adult	Adult 2024 1730 players to date Up + 135 players 18+ 985 40+ 459 55+ 286	2023 1595 players UP 52 18+ 885 40+ 455 55+ 255 UP 5 teams over 2022	2022 1543 players 18+ 806 40+ 465 55+ 272	2021 1429 players
Tri Level	2024-OPENED 3/1 448 players to date 18+312 40+83 55+53	2023 633 to date UP 206 18+ 348 40+ 171 55+ 114 Up 7 teams over 2022	2022 427 players 18+ 254 40+ 107 55+ 65	2021 378 players

Importance of Accurate Self-Rating presented by Rhonda Rubben (handout attached)

Unfortunately, disqualifications happen every year. Impacts the player and the player’s team.
 Follow and answer questions accurately and disclose all information from your athletic history.
 Players can be suspended if found not to have reported accurately
 Pay close attention to questions regarding high school and college experience.
 There is no limit to how long-ago college sports was played...report it
 A player can appeal a ranking during the self-ranking process
 Incorrect reporting will forfeit appeal rights.

Blake Bunnett’s team won 12-0 and won 7 tiebreakers in route to winning the 6.5 combo sectionals

Tammie reported that registration is open for straight level teams although there are a couple of upper level combo-level teams. 55 and older are playing some early starts due to heat. State tournaments at the end of August.

Rhonda encouraged all members to vote for the upcoming bond issue to be held April 27.

Coordinators’ Reports-Community Coordinators Kaye Cochran, Kirita Windham, Valarie Thiels (Tennis Apprentice)

- o **Other New Business: Newsletter** – Pros please send all upcoming information for Newsletter
- o Facebook – **have 1903 Followers** in Facebook, 2434Instagram-

Before Rhonda could say it Brian interjected that we need 2000!
 Go to NWLACTA Page-Scroll Down-See Community-INVITE FRIENDS
 On Facebook when you see NWLACTA Post please **COMMENT, like, and share**

The meeting was adjourned. Motion Rhonda Rubben, second Brian Bernard

Respectfully submitted,
Katheryn Arterberry, Recorder