

Northwest Louisiana Community Tennis Association
“To promote and develop tennis in Northwest Louisiana”
Minutes – September 3, 2014

1. The meeting was called to order by President Kaye Cochran. Those in attendance include Bob Patterson, David Kimball, Eddie Copete, Elana Engleman, Bonnie Cox, Sue Allender, Jennifer West, John Liles, Tammie Harris, Phillip Campbell, Becky Berry, Dan Beedle, Jay Boyd, Bianca Schulz, Bill Phillips, Kristen McElroy and Sue Watts.
2. A motion to waive the reading of the August minutes was made by David Kimball, Elana Engleman second the motion. All were in favor. The minutes stand as written.
3. Treasurer John Liles gave his report. As of August 31, 2014, the 10 and under grant money account in the Red River Bank has a balance of \$50,942.60. This does include the account of North Bossier 10 and under (\$73.34) and FDDOC (\$792.33). The Capital One Bank account has a balance of \$73,104.99. This account includes the accounts of Team La (\$50) and Rangal (\$315.00).
4. President Kaye Cochran wanted to introduce our guests at the meeting, Bill Phillips with the USTA and Kristen McElroy, who may become our Community Coordinator in the near future. Kaye has been busy talking with the LTA in regards to our Community Coordinator position and the Tennis Apprentice program. She has been working with Sue Watts in regards to a Volunteer Form draft and attending 10 and under meetings with local pros. In the future she hopes to fill any vacant spots on committee chairs, finalize the Player Appreciation Party, meet with the Shreveport/Bossier Tourism representative and research updated information with SPAR upgrades at Southern Hills and Cockrell.
5. Vice-President Bob Patterson sent a thank you and a plaque to Rhonda Ruben from our CTA thanking her for all the hard work she has done with the FDDOC program and introducing tennis to so many children that would not have had the chance to play.
6. Past President Jay Boyd has been working on the contract for our 10 and Under Coordinator David Kimball. They have been working on a plan with National (USTA). We are all very excited that David will be taking over this position. Jay has also been working with National to see about the dollars available from the 10 and under grant from the previous year. Also we have LOTS of 10 and under equipment thanks to FDDOC.
7. Bill Phillips reported that a 10 and under Junior Team Tennis League (non-gender specific) is in the works. They will play with the orange ball and have three lines of doubles. A division will be held at the Junior State Tournament. Numbers for 10 and under are down, even though our Play Days are strong. Play Days are not sanctioned so we cannot use those attendance numbers. September is Free Tennis Month, if interested in sponsoring a free tennis play day at your facility, check out www.youthtennis.com . Bill wanted to remind the local pros that the \$20 initiative is still in effect for any new USTA member that signs up via the LTA homepage.

8. Tammie Harris put together a player league comparison from last year to this year to date, as of 9/3/2014 we are up 15% in our adult league participation numbers (2,836 in 2013, 3,273 in 2014). John Liles stated that we are still down from our target of 3,817 from the CGPG application form. Tammie wanted to remind everyone that the Fall Flex League deadline is September 10.
9. As mentioned earlier in the meeting, our new 10 and Under Coordinator, David Kimball, will be meeting with all the area Pros in regards to 10 and under. And will have more to report at the next meeting when his job duties have been finalized.
10. Combo Coordinator, Karen Jantz, sent word that our numbers are up from last year. This year we have 86 combo teams to date as opposed to 77 last year.
11. In the Adult Tennis Program front, we will not be having a Fall session of Fun, Friends and Fitness. Instead James Hunt at Cockrell will be hosting a Tennis Apprentice program. Elana Engleman, North Bossier Tennis Center, held the program this summer and has been able to form a 2.5 team out of it. Elana had 16 players participate in the 5 week program. It was held on Monday nights at 7. As soon as James has all the information, we will report. Check out our website for further details.
12. The 70+ State Tournament will be held at North Bossier on October 3 – 5. She has contacted Richard Verzaal at Querbes just in case she needs his clay courts as back up. Also on the calendar is the 18+ Combo State on November 7 – 9. We will need LOTS of courts. Centenary College has a new Tennis Coach and we will see if we can use those courts (it was a great help last year).
13. Volunteer Committee chair, Sue Watts, has a revised draft for a Volunteer form. When finalized, it will be made available at the tennis facilities and on our website.
14. The annual LTA Award nominations are due September 17. To date we have nominated the following:
 - a. The Charles Turner Volunteer Service Award – Jay Boyd
 - b. Media Excellence in Broadcasting – Richard Johnson with Channel 12
 - c. Adult Tournament of the Year – The Tiki Tournament Fundraiser
 - d. Charity Event of the Year – Bill Oliver Memorial Tournament (10 and Under Tennis)
 - e. Junior Tournament of the Year – National 16's Intersectional at POTC
 - f. Member Organization of the Year – East Ridge Country Club
 - g. Program of the Year – Cardio tennis at Querbes
 - h. The Mickey McNulty Family of the Year – Grady Wilson Family
 - i. 2014 Marilyn Sherman Spirit Award – Shelly NiasbittIf anyone wants to nominate anyone else, or place a nomination in another category, go to the LTA website.
15. Becky Berry and Jennifer West have been busy with our website and sent our newsletter to 837 contacts. Becky noticed that quite a few were not opened. If you have anything to announce, report or are interested in, please check out our website for details on contacting Becky or Jennifer.
16. In old business we are still looking at the following :
 - a. A CTA/Player Appreciation Party/Tournament in January

- b. Having a Fall Open meeting round table in the evening
- c. Seeing about being a sponsor for the St. Jude Tournament.

NEXT MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2014
NOON – EAST RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB