

Abilene Tennis Association Board Meeting – August 22, 2016

Members present: Rich Bryan, Rick Meyers, Beverly Guthrie, Christy Adkins, Mary Noel Corn, Julie Beckham and Kevin Crousen

Jimmy Schaeffer and Sheila Kidd were not present

Guest – Susan Bowles

Business

Minutes were presented, and Kevin Crousen made a motion to approve, Mary Noel Corn seconded, all approved, with the exception of changing the amount of US Open tickets sold from 343 to 440, and raising \$4400.00 instead of \$3430.

President – Rick Meyers

Grand Slam bid form will be out in 10-12 days. Discussion of how many courts needed. USTA moving offices to Orlando. Home of Texas Tennis hopefully in Austin.

Discussed that Preliminary Ranking in Champs worthless and USTA is going to change it.

Wants to put on September's Agenda a discussion for a Maximum Spending amount that would need to be voted on by the board.

Treasurer's Report - Sheila

Beverly gave treasurer's report, as given by Sheila who was out. Discussion of expenses maybe not in correct categories. Kevin Crousen made a motion to approve, Julie Beckham seconded it, all approved.

Vice-President – Rich Bryan/Adult League Committee Chair

Awaiting email from USTA to bid for 2017 league sectionals (end Aug) - rumor regionals?

- 1) Men & Women's 55 & Over 2) Mixed 55 & Over 3) Mixed 18 & Over
 - End Sept / 30 courts / 3 sites Nov / 1 site & location Oct / 1 site & location
 - 55 & over 8.0 ladies team qualified to go Sectionals Sep 23/25 in Beaumont
 - Combo league starts 8/23 - 6 teams (2 in each level for 6.5, 7.5, & 8.5)
 - Women's 18 & Over - 3 teams (2.5, 3.0 & 3.5) played in Sectionals Aug 12/14 in Richardson
 - Ladies 18 & over 3.0 2nd place team participated at Little State Aug 5/7 in Corpus
 - Ladies 18 & over Lone Star women WON at Sectionals in Richardson
 - Men's 4.5 plus 40 & over going to Sectionals Sep 16/18 in SanAntonio
 - Adult Men's Wednesday Doubles League started 4th series
 - Looking into adult Friday night mixer event in near future
 - Other ideas include Big Country Doubles Championships (\$ Tournament)
 - Kyle's tournament at ACC 9/10 - continuing to recruit adult participants
 - Working on bid for 2017 tournament - June 10/11 or June 24/25 is preference.
- Sanction form due by 31 Aug. Need help & TD?

Tennis Events Committee – Mary Noel Corn & Christy Adkins

Nothing really to report other than will start on banquet end of December

Junior Tennis Development– Julie Beckham:

- Abilene USTA Tournaments - ATA August CMZ went well. Player party was Friday night, August 12th at 6:30 at Rose Park, and we had best player turnout this year. The pre-party event for the officials went well. Sanction requests were completed and Abilene will have 2 challengers, 2 cmzs, and 1 Scmz 12/14 and 1 Scmz 16/18 in 2017.
- West Texas Junior Tournament Swing for 2016: collaborating with CTAs across West Texas to coordinate upcoming USTA Open-level sanctioned events to better support our West Texas Junior Tennis players. Our Abilene Classics for 2017 are in January, June, July, and Dec for 2017. So far in 2016, our Abilene players are attending most of our West Texas neighbor tournaments each month.
- JTT leagues Abilene: Fall League registration is open now. Melinda will be sending out reminder emails. JTT leagues in Texas will use ntrp ratings for juniors starting in the spring 2017. This Fall JTT will have an Adv playoff weekend for players, so they aren't having to commit to every week of league.
- USTA Texas: USTA JTT Fall Sectionals will be in Abilene Nov 11-13. Starting next year JTT sectionals will be at Newks for Fall again every year. And USTA Texas will bid out Spring and Summer sectionals only.
- USPTA Junior Team Abilene 2016: Kevin Crousen will be team captain for 2016 Team. Abilene team full payment has been sent and confirmed received. Our area Challenger players that are highest on the USTA early August, 2016 ranking lists have been invited to play on team last week, decision deadline is weds, August 24th this week. Championships are at Newks Sept 16-18 weekend.

Officials/Referees – Kevin Crousen:

We have not had a committee meeting, but hope to have a short meeting the first week of September. We plan to discuss wages, hours officiated and tournament scheduling for the 2017 Junior tournament season. Kevin has spoken to several referees, as has Coach Prachyl, about the items mentioned above. We would like to raise our pay scale for all referees and officials by our next tournament if at all possible, but for sure beginning with our 2017 schedule. Kevin feels this will help to recruit some new officials as well as persuade some who used to officiate to come back. This in turn would help alleviate some of the very long days required of our local officials because of our current number situation. If you know of anyone interested, please have them contact me or Coach Prachyl.

Marketing & Communications Committee – Beverly Guthrie

One of the marketing strategies that has been discussed within our committee is to have the tennis balls that are purchased for the tournaments and schools be stamped with our ATA logo. This gets the ATA logo out among the community and throughout the state. This will be cheaper than billboards, newspapers, etc. Kevin will tell us about the costs of the balls.

Kevin presented Wilson Bid, Beverly Guthrie made a motion to approve ordering the balls for 2017 tournaments from Wilson with our ATA Logo on them, Rich seconded and all approved. We would change verbiage in the Exclusive Tennis Ball Adoption Contract to read "for all ATA Programs, Jr. & Adult tournaments and events."

I have Contacted Erik Johnson with Paul Johnson Realtors to discuss the opportunity to be an in-kind sponsor for a storage unit.

10x10 @ \$960 per year, ATA pays \$30 per month for a total of \$360 per year with \$600 in kind. They will use this as a write off, so does not want to have their name on our t-shirts or banners. We will begin this January 1, 2017.

I have also prepared two scholarship/grant forms, One to be used for the kids based on need that we voted on last April for the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017, Adam will be contacting the Coaches at the 6 middle schools to get this application out. He will then send us copies of the applications. Let us know which kids will be selected, at the end of each month, he will send ATA an invoice with the name of the kids who were selected and the number of times they attended the session.

The other grant application can be used by individuals, schools or organizations for various requests. This is a rough draft.

Scholarship/Nominating Committee – Jimmy Schaeffer:

No Report

Guests:

Susan Bowles turned in her receipts for the Capacity Grant for the Lone Star Ladies to be approved by the Board and funded.

Next meeting will be September 26, 2016

Adjourned at 8:35