

Abilene Tennis Association Board Meeting – January 25, 2016

Members present: Rich Bryan, Rick Meyers, Beverly Guthrie, Sheila Kidd, Christy Adkins, Kevin Crousens, and Mary Noel Corn,

Julie Beckham, Jimmy Schaeffer and Allen Prachyl were not present

Guests were: Karen Wilkins, Susan Clark, Melinda Roberson, Chris Redman & Adam Ewing

Business

The board approved the minutes of the November 4, 2015. Motion by Sheila, Rich seconded and all Approved

President – Rick Meyers

Meetings need to be shorter. Sub-Committee chairs will do the communicating. The discussion was over the conflict of JTT Fall Sectionals and 55 & Over Sectionals. Committees need to have Board approval before submitting bids for various tournaments.

Treasurer's Report - Sheila

Sheila gave Treasurer's report, and Beverly Guthrie made a motion to approve, Kevin Crousens seconded it and all Approved Sent money for the Sports Expo that will be held Feb 6. EDC Training Center has \$3300 received. Rick said to leave in ATA. We voted for a line budget of \$1000 for future training in 2016. People must submit a request, and the board approved the amount of reimbursement.

Vice-President – Rich Bryan/Adult League Committee Chair

Rich Bryan mentioned that he would like ATA to purchase gas blowers for Abilene High & Cooper. Rich will do some research on blowers.

Tournament Committee Report:

- Nominated & secured Susan Clark as new women's adult league coordinator (submitted request to USTA & approved by Tosha--Susan attended coordinator training in December)
- Met with Adam Ewing & recommendation to board at upcoming meeting will be to have him take over as men's adult league coordinator. Beverly Guthrie made a motion to approve Adam taking over the men's adult league as coordinator, Sheila Kidd approved.
- USPTA (Houston) - Both Abilene teams fared well. Women got to semi's & lost by 2 games (mainly due to injuries) & men won all team matches but lost their flight based on total games
- Built master schedule for year of all USTA league events with deadlines & sent out to all previous captains and players on Abilene distro tennis list
- Upcoming adult league events (Mixed over 40 & 40 and over) Rosters due soon & leagues starting up in Feb & Mar respectfully. Two 8.0 teams & working on 7.0 & hopeful on 6.0 teams
- Adult leagues starting up on Tuesday & Thursday's at Rose Park
- Lone Star will be at Wylie (mainly on Sunday's)
- Planning on updating ATA web site for adult tab
- Would like to get flyers & signs similar to JTT for adult league interest
- Will be getting with H.S. Coaches on senior contact info to pursue for future adult events
- Goal is to start building adult tennis interest back up (ideas INW - tapping into Dyess AFB via sports reps, possibly Wed night men's adult doubles, Friday night mixed, adult group lessons)
- Other ideas to get people on court (Big Country Tennis Championships and \$ tournaments)

Tennis Events Committee – Mary Noel Corn & Christy Adkins

The Tennis banquet will be May 4th at the Teague Center at 6:30. They want to have a Raffle for 2 US open tickets & Presidential Suite. The banquet committee would like ATA to commit to Airline tickets up to \$1000 and \$500 for hotel. Kevin Crousens made a motion to approve and Rich Bryan seconded. All approved.

Junior Tennis Development– Julie Beckham:

Presented by Beverly Guthrie:

- Abilene USTA Tournaments - Challengers/CMZ/SCMZ
Hosted first player/ family kickoff event with snacks and gift card drawing at Fairway on Friday in Dec before CMZ tournament play on Saturday. About 30 players and families or coaches attended. Tournament Committee plans to meet several times in the coming months before first Challenger in March to discuss kick-off events and all tournament staffing and budgets for 2016. Ten T-shirt sponsors have agreed to giving \$500 each to be placed on the back of all 5 of these tournament shirts for 2016. Request that ATA also give \$500 for this and logo be placed on shirts.
- 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. Abilene Classics are in February, July, and Nov/Dec for 2016.
- JTT leagues Abilene: Spring league 2016 registration is currently in progress. Deadline is February 17th. Kickoff Meeting is Thurs, Feb 25th at 6:30 at RP Sr. Center. Play begins Sunday, Feb 28th. Melinda Roberson is new JTT Coordinator.
- USTA Texas: The 2016 Annual Meeting will be held near Austin on Feb 19-21. Much new information is being mandated from National JTT for the 10 & under players. This will be discussed at these meetings.
- Award - ATA Banquet: Nominations for the Rick Meyers "Passion for Tennis" Award are being accepted anytime this Spring. This is for a person who has given a great deal to Junior Tennis over the years. Please send emails to AbileneJTT@gmail.com with any deserving candidate and information.
- USPTA Junior Team Abilene 2016: Austin USPTA Pros have taken over this tournament at Newks. Deadline for deposit to secure 2016 Team spot is June 10, 2016.

Officials/Referees – Kevin Crousens:

Kevin would like to recruit more officials. Trying to find out who was ever an official and see if they want to come back.

USTA Tournament Director for Abilene - Chris Redman

Wanted to discuss giving money to a student at Rose Park who is having a hard time financially paying for lessons and groups. Alana Thompson has asked that we underwrite up to \$150.00 a month for lessons and local tournaments. We will review this in a couple of months. Chris will bill ATA for her through Rose Park. Beverly Guthrie made a motion to approve & Rich Bryan seconded.

We adjourned at 8:23