

Abilene Tennis Association Board Meeting – July 25, 2016

Members present: Rich Bryan, Sheila Kidd, Beverly Guthrie, Christy Adkins, Jimmy Schaeffer, Julie Beckham and Kevin Crousen

Rick Meyers and Mary Noel Corn were not present

Guest – Todd Carlson

Business

Minutes were presented, and Sheila Kidd made a motion to approve, Julie Beckham seconded, all approved

President – Rick Meyers

Not available

Treasurer's Report - Sheila

Sheila gave treasurer's report, Christy made a motion to approve, Jimmy Schaeffer seconded it, all approved.

Vice-President – Rich Bryan/Adult League Committee Chair

- Completed league coordinator fees for first half of year with checks dispersed already
- Still awaiting email from USTA to bid for next years league sectionals
- Discussed with committee & coordinators about potential bidding options for 2017
- These are the three that we feel is best suited for Abilene in priority order
 - 1) Men & Women's 55 & Over 2) Mixed 55 & Over 3) Mixed 18 & Over
- Debi Schultz is in the loop on these potential bids & potential dates
 - 1) End Sept / 30 courts / 3 sites 2) Nov / 1 site & location 3) Oct / 1 site & location
- 55 & over 8.0 ladies competing now for right to go Sectionals Sep 23/25 in Beaumont
- 18 & over mixed did not make - not enough interest
- Combo league starting soon - rosters due 8/7 - league play to begin 8/23
- Women's 18 & Over - 2 teams (3.0 & 3.5) playing in Sectionals Aug 12/14 in Richardson
- Ladies 18 & over 3.0 2nd place team going to Little State Aug 5/7 in Corpus
- Ladies 18 & over 4.0 team had enough for QT but not Sectionals so the people that could go to Sectionals voted not to play QT:(
- Men's 4.5 plus 40 & over going to Sectionals Sep 16/18 in San Antonio
- Adult Men's Wednesday League finishing 3rd series
- Kyle's tournament at ACC 9/10 - working to get a lot of adult participation as \$ raised in this event helps with ATA Banquet school scholarships for the kids
- Working on bid for 2017 tournaments - coordinators/committee would like to make a request to the board for discussion to potentially move the date of the Adult tourney to another month

Rich made a motion to move adult tournament in Oct to June instead. Beverly 2nd and all approved.

Tennis Events Committee – Mary Noel Corn & Christy Adkins

We sold 440 raffle tickets making \$4400.00!!

Didn't make the \$5000.00 goal but Amanda thought we should be able to get tickets again next year. Most towns had their tickets in Feb. but we didn't get ours until May.

Camela Balcom was the winner and she is going to pay for her airfare so she can get mileage points on her card and ATA will give her a check for \$1500.00 for airfare and hotel.

We have \$1930.00 to use for our jr tennis program that will partly go for scholarships for group lessons for 20 kids in the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017. We have scholarship money for up to 100 kids to pay for a USTA membership card and entry fees for all local classics and gran prix tournaments. We will have the pros at Rose Park and the Jr. High coaches give us names for kids that need help.

Junior Tennis Development– Julie Beckham:

- Abilene USTA Tournaments - ATA SCMZ tourney last weekend went well. Received survey results from USTA for Challenger in May, good info for us. Next tourney is August CMZ. Player party will be Friday night, August 12th at 6:30 at Rose Park, please come help welcome families to Abilene. We Would like to invite all officials and site directors regularly to these events also.
- The Tournament Committee met to review Chris' proposal for compensation for 2017 tournaments as Tournament Director. ATA will be filling out the Sanction Requests for 2017 Junior Tournaments that are due August 10th.
- 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 are in February, July, and Nov/Dec for 2016. So far in 2016, our Abilene players are attending most of our West Texas neighbor tournaments each month.
- JTT leagues Abilene: Fall League registration starts in August. Melinda will be sending out reminder emails. Summer JTT Sectionals for Texas was last weekend in Kerrville. Teams from just two areas in Texas attended - Austin & Dallas.
- 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.
- Awards - ATA Banquet: US Open tickets selling complete for 2016 drawing. Cam Balcomb from Tuscola wins drawing.
- 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 will be invited to play on team in early August. Championships are at Newks Sept 16-18 weekend.

Julie Requested an ATA Login with tennis link team, and received.

Tournament Committee Report – Julie Beckham/Beverly Guthrie

After meeting with Chris regarding tournament director compensation and not being able to come to a compromise, the tournament committee recommended to send out proposals for TD – (RFP – request for proposal). Rich made a motion, seconded by Beverly, all approved.

Julie reminded everyone that JTT Sectionals will be in Abilene in November, and that in the future, all Fall JTT Sectionals will be at Newks.

Officials/Referees – Kevin Crousen:

Kevin has been gathering information of cost of pay for officials, to get an idea of a raise increase. Trying to get information so that we can give an increase across the board for officials, referees and site directors.

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 Crousens has been talking to Penn. We can get Marathon Extra Heavy duty Penn for 2.69 a can. If we buy 100 cases of balls, we get an 8% discount. This averages out to \$500 a year for marketing. He will be contacting the Wilson Rep who has been out of town and have information for next meeting.

I have Contacted Erik Johnson with Paul Johnson Realtors to discuss the opportunity to be an in-kind sponsor for a storage unit. With the growth of the ATA Tournaments, JTT, and the start-up of Player's party, the need for a storage unit for ATA property has been discussed.

Frenchman Creek Storage will donate either a 5x10 or 10x10 climate controlled storage with partial in kind.

5x10 @ \$636 per year, ATA pays \$20 per month for a total of \$240 per year with \$396 in kind

Or

10x10 @ \$960 per year, ATA pays \$30 per month for a total of \$360 per year with \$600 in kind.

The monthly payments basically cover the utility expense.

Julie made a motion that we do the 10x10 Storage unit, Rich seconded and all approved.

Scholarship Committee – Jimmy Schaeffer:

Will be getting his committee together in the next couple of months to work on nominations for board.

Guests:

Todd Carlson – Went over the various grants available through USTA, Facility funding, Capacity Grant, Grow the Game Grant. CDW has been moved to every other year. Talked about the USTA National Photo Contest.

Racket/Bracket – like March Madness but for tennis.

Next meeting will be August 22, 2016

Adjourned at 8:30