# GCTA Quarterly Zoom Meeting April 19, 2022

# Convened @ 7:01pm by Geoff Bibo



**Board Members Attending:** 

Mark Anderson
Lenny Comeras
Heath Elliott
Jim Hendrix
Marti Pfeifer

Char Barnes
Bill Curry
Laurel Elmore
Paul Kobelt
Geri Schlegel

Guest: John Roberts Geoff Bibo Phil Diaz Cindy Ferrara Jane McMeekin Brittany Smolewski Lori Brown Lois Dosky Terry Finneran Mike O'Callaghan Brenda Toney Kyle Burkholder Fred Duy Scott Gerber Aaron Ockerman Les Varnado 2022 GCTA Board Meetings

Tuesdays
July 19
September 20

CCCC Tournament
Brookside Country Club
August 12-14

Awards Ceremony September 29, 2022

## January Meeting Minutes Approval - Geoff Bibo

Lenny Comeras moved and Mike O'Callaghan seconded a motion to approve the January minutes. The motion carried.

## Treasurer's Report – Fred Duy

- Fred reported that the expenses we had in the first quarter were from the Winter Parties.
- We have filed our taxes and have received our first distribution from OVTA.
- Currently we have over \$101,000 in the bank.
- Also, there was discussion/questioning by Terry Finneran in regards to the budget but decided that they take it off line since it appeared that it was an understanding issue by Terry in regards to the format.
- The full Treasurer's report is attached to the end of these minutes.

#### **Grant Committee – Jane McMeekin**

- The committee has only received one request in the first quarter, and has approved this request for the Champions Summer Clinic in the amount of \$3,000. We are awaiting the SafePlay and Background check approvals for the individuals working as volunteers for that clinic.
- One possible explanation for the reduction in applications is the switch to our online application. She encouraged Board members to go to the site (<a href="https://ustamidwest.formstack.com/forms/gcta">https://ustamidwest.formstack.com/forms/gcta</a> grant application) to see the application.
- Jane will be asking Scott and John to repost information about grants on our social media sites and GCTA.net.
- Scott suggested providing a completed application as a sample.
- Jane pointed out that our grants are not designed for individuals or specific teams, but rather for community efforts that would benefit a broad group.
- The committee is expecting applications from Buddy Up and Wolfe Park.

# Columbus Recreation and Parks - Char Barnes

Char reported that they are struggling to find staff to work the Yout summer camps and lessons. Staff must be 18 or over. At this time she has one tennis instructor under contract. This coach will be able to cover two of the camps (Whetstone, June 6-10 & Wolfe Park, July 11-15). Any help that Board members can give to identify potential hires would be appreciated since there is a high interest in the camps. Char will provide us with a job description and a link to information about the tennis program.

Jake Diefenthaler is continuing to schedule courts for GCTA use. Contact him as soon as possible if you are going to need courts from CR & P.

Adult programing is starting soon. Bucky Walters and Chris Althouse will be teaching lessons. The Adult Doubles Leagues will begin next month on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. CR & P added a third week day for the doubles league due to the high interest following last year. Details can be found on the CR & P tennis page. https://www.columbus.gov/recreationandparks/programs/Tennis/

## Women's League - Lori Brown

- Lori expressed gratitude to the efforts of Transition Team in dealing with the loss of our Executive Director.
- Lori reported that the 4,000 Member preseason gifts (grip wraps) have been delivered and look great. Men's & Women's chair will be contacting Club Representatives to facilitate distribution.
- The Women's Board is in the midst of reviewing preliminary rosters.

Currently the Women have 189 teams. Northam Park has 17, Scioto & Swim & Racquet have 14 each. The
largest levels are 3.0 Career (36) and 3.5 Career (32). The 2.5 Daytime level has 15 teams, a record high
number.

Happy to report the return of teams from Jewish Community Center, Wolfe Park, Upper Arlington High School,
and New Albany High School.

- Thanks to Char Barnes and Jake Diefenthaler for help with reserving the city's courts.
- ☐ Scheduling begins the week of May 2. Matches begin week of May 23.
- An updated Team Captain handout has been posted to the Forms/Downloadable Forms on Tenniscores. Also posted in Downloadable Forms are the 2022 Rules. Few changes in the rules from 2021, just a bit of tinkering and refining.

 The Winter Parties were very successful. Thanks to the organizers, Tina Gray, Julie Wiltberger Burton, and Julie Caton for their efforts. Each of the parties were full with wait lists.

# Men's League - Bill Curry

- Bill also expressed gratitude to the efforts of Transition Team in dealing with the loss of our Executive Director.
- Men's League is also in the process of collecting preliminary rosters. Currently they are showing an increase of 9 (12%) teams for 2022, interestingly at the lower skill levels of play.
- After making a couple of changes in the 45+ Level, several teams decided to move to Gold. So there was no loss in the # of teams. We are also seeing some growth in the upper levels which is good to see.
- The Men's Board is entering ratings for every player this year.
- Key dates:

Captains meetings May 18, 10:00 am and 7:00pm
Matches begin May 21
Regular season ends (roughly) week of August 11
Playoffs begin August 15
Champ of Champs – Labor Day Weekend

Captains choose 2 players to represent their team (skill levels only)

# USTA Adult Leagues - Susan Storrer/ Cindy Ferrara reporting

- The Adult Leagues are starting. The deadline to register is May 7<sup>th</sup>, the Captains' zoom meeting will May 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.
- Summer USTA leagues are as follows:

Columbus 2022 SUMMER USTA ADULT LEAGUE TENNIS

COMBO 18 & Over Women or Men 5.5, 6.5, 7.5, 8.5, 9.5

MIXED 18 & Over or 40 & Over 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, 9.0

SINGLES FLEX Women or Men 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5

ADULT 65 & Over Women 7.0, 8.0 MIXED 18 & Over 7.5 level only

NIGHT OF PLAY - All matches will begin at 6:30 PM

Tuesday nights COMBO Men

Wednesday nights MIXED 18 & Over and 40 & Over (6.0, 7.0, 8.0)

COMBO Women 5.5 and 6.5
Thursday nights COMBO Women 7.5 and 8.5
Friday nights MIXED 18 & Over 9.0
TBD ADULT 65 & Over Women

- The Singles Flex registration is open now and closes April 29th. This is a city wide singles tennis ladder where you choose the time and place you want to play. It's the perfect option for busy professionals to find players for the weekend, tennis fanatics looking to tune-up their singles game, newcomers to Columbus who don't know any players yet, student players getting back into match play, or beginning players (3.0) wanting to play matches for the first time.
- Contact Susan Storrer for any additional information susanstorrer@gmail.com

# Junior Team Tennis - Brittany Smolewski

- JTT league will run like last year with the local league being separate from the district tournament.
  - ☐ Teams no longer have to play the local league, teams can register themselves for the tournament. This policy resulted in a loss of teams participating.
  - ☐ We will be adding two more singles to the match line up for JTT, so matches are back how they were pre-Covid with 4 singles and 2 double
  - ☐ May 2 Coachs' Zoom meeting
  - ☐ May 24th team commitments are due
  - □June 3rd is first match, will run for six consecutive Fridays
- Over the last two years between Covid and the change to the district tournament we have lost a handful of programs, hoping to get some of them back this year

# Website - Scott Gerber

- Scott reported that we are still not sure what is causing the drop in our numbers. It could be a result of the Google
  Business Profile and other conditions. The business profile was taken down in October. Regardless, 2021 has the lowest
  numbers we have ever had.
- Recent postings include the tribute to Terri Jones and information for the Executive Director's position. Scott also shared information on the Executive Director's position on his Ohio Tennis Zone site and Ohio tennis coaches.
- Photos from the Winter Parties will be posted soon.
- Geoff thanked Scott for help in getting the word out about the Ohio State Men's tennis matches.
- The full GCTA website report is attached to the end of these minutes.

#### Social Media Update – John Roberts

- John reports that our social media presence has improved dramatically since last guarter. John reinforced Geoff's comments about Ohio State tennis observing that the tweet concerning the OSU-Wake Forest match received as many views online as we received in the entire 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of last year.
- There has been a sharp decline in FaceBook and Instagram engagement views. The best performing post concerned the Winter Parties.
- John indicated that he would welcome more pictures to post throughout the summer.
- The full GCTA Social Media report is attached to the end of these minutes.

# **Executive Directors' Report – Cindy Ferrara**

- Geoff commended Cindy for stepping up as our Interim Executive Director and doing a fantastic job. Geoff also thanked the Transition team for their efforts in this challenging time.
- Cindy thanked everyone for their help in the transition.
- Conflict of Interest forms are required to be signed each year by Board members. Cindy, Bill and Fred are working on distributing and collecting an online form from the members. Cindy advised that this form with instructions should be coming to you soon.
- GCTA is forming a committee on how best to honor Terri. If you are interested in working with us on this committee, please let Jane jane.mcmeekin@gmail.com.
- The Midwest Tennis and Education Foundation supports tennis programs, scholarships, funding for high level players, funding for wheelchair tennis, adaptive tennis and disabled veterans. Each year the Foundation holds a Gala and produces a program. For many years GCTA has sponsored an ad as a means of supporting the foundation. Les also mentioned honoring an individual, group or organizations with "bricks" - both at the Midwest and the USTA. Jane mentioned that this year's honoree is Buddy Up Tennis National. Jane will be discussing the Gala ad(s) with the Midwest representative in May.

#### Old Business - None

#### New Business -

- Geoff mentioned that the Columbus Clay Court Championship tournament is scheduled for August 12-14 at Brookside Country Club. We are awaiting more information from Rob Postma on this. He also referred to the dates of our upcoming meetings and the Awards Ceremony noted at the top of the minutes.
- Phil Diaz reported that after a 2 year hiatus, the PanCan Round Robin Tennis Tournament is returning. This tournament benefits Pancreatic cancer research. This year's honoree will be Terri Jones. The event is Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> . http://diaztennis.org/
- Aaron Ockerman aaron@ockermanconsulting.com is the contact person for persons interested in the Executive Director's position. If you know of any potential candidates, contact Aaron.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm by Geoff Bibo.

# **GCTA Funds Flow**

			YTD March	actual Opening Balance and
		2021	2022	2022
		Actual	Actual	<u>Budget</u>
				•
checking acct		\$14,982	\$7,901	\$7,901
money market		<u>\$68,450</u>	\$88,457	<u>\$88,457</u>
Opening Balanc	e Total	\$83,432	\$96,358	\$96,358
T.1.16		402.754	442.200	402.540
Total Sources of		\$83,751	\$12,300	\$92,640
	Membership dues Womens	¢44.240	ćo	¢44.400
		\$44,340	\$0	\$44,400
	Mens	\$20,596	\$0	\$20,500
	Grants/Contributions - in	¢40.000	ć44 O44	¢40.000
	OVTA distribution	\$10,980	\$11,841	\$10,980
	OVTA Media Specialist	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
	OVTA - YTT	\$0	\$0	\$3,850
	Midwest - YTT	\$1,560	\$0	\$1,600
	Midwest - JrTT	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Other	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Entry fees			
	Girls 16's Districts	\$0	\$0	\$0
	USTA Adult leagues	\$2,098	\$0	\$2,000
	USTA Junior Team Tennis	\$2,670	\$0	\$2,800
	CCCC	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
	Other	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Bank interest	\$7	\$2	\$10
	Other sources*	\$0	\$457	\$0
			4	4

# **GCTA Funds Flow**

	2021	YTD March	actual Opening Balance and 2022
	Actual	Actual	Budget
GCTA League Expenses			
Tenniscores service	\$3,915	\$0	\$3,915
Scheduling	\$1,150	\$0	\$1,650
Chairperson Stipends	\$4,000	\$0	\$6,000
Member Gifts	\$0	\$0	\$6,000
Member parties	\$0	\$1,127	\$5,000
Awards Ceremony	\$4,792	\$0	\$5,000
League Winner Awards	\$6,778	\$0	\$7,500
Other GCTA league expenses	\$2,642	\$48	\$1,500
USTA Adult League Expenses			
Adult Districts	\$1,700	\$0	\$1,200
Adult Coordinator	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000
Other USTA Adult league expen	\$0	\$0	\$0
USTA Junior Team Tennis			
JrTT District Tournament	\$0	\$0	\$0
JrTT Coordinator	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000
JrTT Other Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$250
Tournaments			
USTA National Tournament	\$0	\$0	\$1,500
Girls 16's District Tournament	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ohio Valley Cup	\$0	\$0	\$1,500
CCCC	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
Other Tournaments	\$0	\$0	\$0
Youth Team Tennis	\$0	\$0	\$3,850
Administration			
Exec. Director Stipend	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$15,000
Website Administration	\$1,050	\$0	\$1,050
Social Media Admin	\$1,500	\$125	\$1,500
Insurance	\$1,035	\$553	\$1,100
Tax Returns	\$50	\$202	\$500
Other Administration	\$1,403	\$66	\$350
Other Uses *	\$3,150	\$0	\$0
Total Net Funds Flow	\$12,927	\$5,179	(\$3,500)
Closing Balance Total	<u>\$96,358</u>	\$101,53 <b>7</b>	\$92,858
checking acct	\$7,901	\$18,078	
money market	\$88,457	\$83,459	

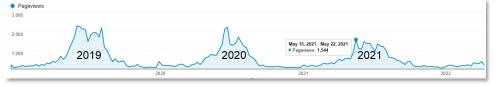
<sup>\*</sup>outstanding credit card balance and prior year checks

# **GCTA Web Site Usage**

April 14, 2022

Hopefully the web site usage returns to the 2019 levels this year. COVID-19 affected 2020 and it is believed that the Google Business Profile negatively affected 2021. We will have a better understanding by our next meeting. Pageview

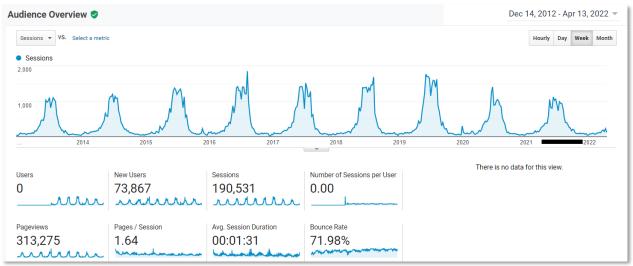
peaks in previous years were: June 2-8, 2019 – 2,264; June 21-27, 2020 – 2,178; and May 16-22, 2021 – 1,544.

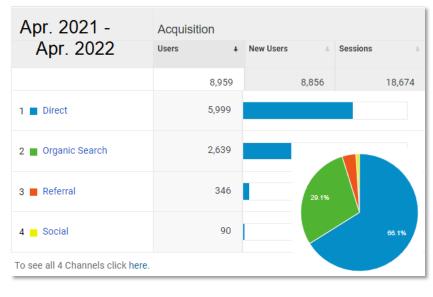


# Recent postings were

made as a tribute to Terri Jones and to fill the Executive Director position. Terri was also recognized on OhioTennisZone.com and the open position was also noted. The open position was also mentioned in an email to OhioTennisZone coaches.

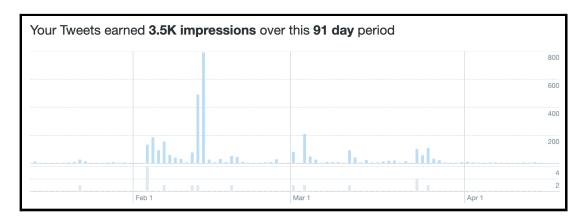
Photos of the Mixed Winter Party taken on March 5 will be posted on the web site soon.





Apr. 2021 - Apr. 2022 Page Title	Pageviews
1. GCTA.net	21,854
2. GCTA - Photos	917
3. GCTA - Links	841
4. GCTA - Awards	756
5. GCTA - About	572
6. GCTA - Board	508
7. GCTA - Contact	286

## Twitter:



Our impressions (views) of our tweets tripled compared to last quarter, which is great! A lot of this traction is coming from the volume of tweets we are retweeting and tweeting out. As OSU men's and women's seasons have kicked off, we have been very active in sharing their content. Our tweet about OSU playing

Wake received as many views as all of our tweets combined last quarter.

## Instagram:

Similar to Twitter, our Instagram has been more active due to OSU matches, as well as other misc posts. Going into the summer, the OSU matches will be nice to continue to post but, highlighting team play will be preferred.

