



**GCTA Quarterly Meeting
July 18, 2023**

Convened at 7:02 pm by Aaron Ockerman

Board Members Attending:

Aaron Ockerman	Fred Duy	Linda Guyton	Lori Brown
Mark Anderson	Kevin Choo	Jane McMeekin	Lois Dosky
Heath Elliott	Scott Gerber	Jim Hendrix	Kris Susa
Cindy Ferrara	Brenda Toney	Laurel Elmore	
Brittany Smolewski	Emily Saalman - Guest		

April Meeting Minutes Approval–Aaron Ockerman

- The April minutes were reviewed. Fred Duy motioned to approve and Jane McMeekin seconded. The minutes were approved as written.

Junior Team Tennis Report–Brittany Smolewski

- We had 8 clubs total, and 20 teams. We had an 18s and a 14s division. Unfortunately we did not have enough interest to do a 12s division this year. We had 183 registered players. That is down from the 213 players we had last year, but that was to be anticipated with no 12s division this year.
- We are still waiting on team commitment payments from 2 clubs. A few rule was added this year to attempt to minimize the number of teams defaulting courts. Overall the rule seemed to be a success, however one club did end up with a \$250 fine as they exceeded the number of court defaults allotted for the season.

Grant Committee Report–Jane McMeekin

- Kris Susa stepped up to be the chair of the Grant Committee.
- Other committee are Mark Anderson, Lois Dosky, Marty Pfeiffer, Fred Duy, and Kevin Choo.
- Champions Tennis Camp 2023 directed by Steve Hoffman was awarded \$4100. Champions Tennis Camp had 81 students participating from 25 different schools this year. The camp charges no fees, instructors are volunteers, lunch is provided for all. Photos are available at <https://championstennisclub.com/champ-camp-2023> Champions has decided to continue to hold only one week of camp per year.
- \$1500 was awarded to Junior Jag Tennis at the Wellington School directed by Arti Taylor. The Junior Jag program is for kids from grades 1-4. Clinics are taught by the Wellington Coaching staff and assisted by school volunteers.
- Columbus Classic Tennis Tournament under the direction of Mark Buckingham received \$500.
- The committee has reached out to organizations that we have supported in the past. One has received enough funding for this year, and another will not be having the program.

Treasurer's Report–Fred Duy

- Fred reported a current balance of \$87,699 which is the low point before fees start coming in. The full treasurer's report can be found attached to this email.

Women's League-Lori Brown

- There were a couple of protests which have been handled expeditiously. One of those protests resulted in a week-long suspension of a player; first time in memory. Thank you to the protest committee for its cooperation and hard work. The other protest was dismissed as not having been timely filed.
- We've had some discussion and concern over air quality issues. Those issues were resolved without board intervention.
- For the first time, we restricted access to the website immediately after preliminary rosters were approved. From that point forward, Cindy and I were the only people with the ability to add or remove players from rosters. The purpose for that change was to eliminate the ability of clubs to add players without valid USTA ratings. Patience and diligence were in high demand from us.
- GCTA women will host 14 championship matches during the week of August 7 across six levels. The remaining levels will have determined a champion by regular season results.

2023 WOMEN'S MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Total Number of Clubs =	31
Total Number of Teams =	179
Total Number of Players =	3220
SCC – Penalty for dropping team	250
Grand Total Membership Fees =	\$48,550

TOP CLUBS BY NUMBER OF TEAMS AND NUMBER OF PLAYERS

Northam Park = 18	264
Swim & Racquet = 14	274
Scioto Country Club = 13	299
New Albany Country Club = 11	246
Racquet Club = 10	181
Elysium = 9	172
Worthington Hills Country Club = 9	187
Scarborough = 9	147
The Players Club = 8	131
Country Club of Muirfield = 7	179

Men's League-Bill Curry

- There were 410 matches scheduled for the 2023 season across 85 teams at 33 locations.
- \$13,755 has been collected so far with about \$1000 still coming in.

Columbus Recreation and Parks

- Linda reported that Eby Day is no longer our representative from CRPD. When there had been no contact from CRPD regarding the Board Meeting Linda contacted Eby, who has been shifted to a Recreation Center and is no longer working with tennis.
- Linda has sent a letter to Jack Castle to check on who will now be our point of contact for CRPD, also inquiring about the MOU between GCTA and CRPD that we have not received a response regarding, and the Nomination for the Recreation and Parks Award at the Annual Awards Ceremony.

Website–Scott Gerber

- Scott reports that many GCTA players are still going through Tenniscores to find out information. Aaron asked if there was any role that the website could fill that Tenniscores is not. A suggestion from Jane was a weekly or monthly report linking to USTA teams. There was some discussion on this, and it was considered that listing what USTA has to offer on the GCTA website may be a possible solution. For example, many tennis players are not aware of taking advantage of the opportunity to play Mixed Doubles on a USTA team. It was noted that Swim & Racquet has put together 2 teams of Mixed Doubles this season.
- The full Website Usage report is attached to this email

Executive Director’s Report–Linda Guyton

- Attended the Spring OVTA luncheon
- Attended the UA City Council Northam Park Discussion —Emily reported on the UpperArlington City Council meeting to discuss the future changes proposed to Northam Park. Currently, the City reports the plan is to close Northam at the end of July 2024. GCTA home matches would need to be scheduled before the closure. Northam may remain closed for the 2025 season. The City report the current plan is there will be a reduction in tennis courts to 8. Emily reports there is a level of uncertainty as this has been in the works for many years. Lori expects that additional teams may pop up in sites such as Grandview , Fancyburg Park or Jones MS.
- Met with Rebecca Hancart of OVTA/USTA to discuss introducing ITT in Central Ohio. ITT is similar to World Team Tennis put played in 6 hours blocks.
- Met with USTA and Jim Amick to discuss USTA Tennis Assessment for the City of Columbus. This is an assessment to see where Columbus is compared to other cities and where they should be. This includes Columbus, and not suburbs.
- Assisted with CRPD’s National Tennis Month event for kids at Wolfe Park
- Assisted with CRPD’s National Tennis Month event for Adults at Whetstone Park
- Attended Women’s Captain’s Meeting
- Met with USTA and Dublin Top Tennis Group
- Secured Everal Barn for awards ceremony with final payment
- 2023 Awards Nominations sent out-the deadline is August 15.

Old Business

- There was no old business

New Business

- There was no new business

Jane McMeekin made a motion and Lori Brown seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm by Aaron Ockerman

**NOTE: Next Board meeting is Tuesday, September 19th at 7:00 pm
Annual Awards Ceremony is Thursday, September 28, at 6:00 at Everal Barn**