



## **GCTA Quarterly Meeting Convened at 7:01 pm by Aaron Ockerman January 16, 2024**

### ***Board Members Attending:***

Aaron Ockerman	Fred Duy	Linda Guyton	Lori Brown
Lenny Comeras	Kevin Choo	Kimmy Confar	Lois Dosky
Heath Elliott	Scott Gerber	Jim Hendrix	Kris Susa
Cindy Ferrara	Brenda Toney	Lanny Rubin	Phil Diaz
Bill Curry	Tara Hayes-Guest		

### **September Meeting Minutes Approval—Aaron Ockerman**

- The September Minutes were reviewed. Lori Brown motioned to approve and Jim Hendrix seconded. The minutes were approved as written.

### **Grant Committee Report—Kris Susa**

- The website is being rebranded to make grants more front and center
- GCTA plans to increase presence at events to promote grants.
- Kris is contacting former recipients who we have supported in the past.
- The final evaluation was received from Buddy Up Tennis
- We have not received the Final Evaluation from Jag Tennis yet. We are expecting this soon.

### **Treasurer's Report—Fred Duy**

- Fred reported a current balance of \$124,400. The full Treasurer's Report can be found attached to this email. A motion was made by Brenda Toney to approve the Treasurer's Report as written and seconded by Lenny Comeras. The motion carried.

### **Women's League-Lori Brown**

- We have received a few inquiries about moving team locations away from Northam Park in anticipation of all the changes and a reduction in the length of the season at Northam. Those inquiries have come from Career teams so far but we anticipate some interest from Daytime teams. Some teams may be consolidated and some may move to alternate locations.
- Every year, Tenniscores archives both the Men's and Women's sites after the conclusion of the season. On both sides, we keep it open and functioning until the winter parties are off the ground. Lori anticipates turning the sites over for archiving within the next two weeks. It can take 1-2 weeks to complete the archive process.
- Winter parties—All the spots are filled at all three parties and we have waiting lists. The first party is January 20. This will be 80 women playing for 3 hours at Racquet Club. Our volunteers who make this happen are so generous with their time and efforts. Joy Ruhe and Paul Froeschle track the RSVP's, create the court lists, organize raffles and secure prizes, and organize the tennis playing part of the events. The Food Crew sets up refreshments at the parties, and Linda Guyton and Lois Dosky are also there to help out with making every party a success. The other parties are Men's Doubles February 3 at The Player's Club and Mixed Doubles February 21 at Racquet Club.
- There will be minor edits to rules this year, such as adjusted deadline dates. We plan to have rules up on the website after archiving occurs—by mid to late February.

### **Men's League-Bill Curry**

- The Men's Board has also reviewed the rules for 2024. Bill was not expecting any major changes this year

### **Columbus Recreation and Parks**

- Kimmy Confar reported that this year CRPD is revamping Summer programming to utilize outside agencies to get high quality instruction in the Multi-sport camps.
- CRPD is also developing youth clinics, and will need instructors. Linda noted she and Tara had some resources to help Kimmy with the search.
- Kimmy noted that Woodward Park is having the lights redone this year, and is trying to determine what groups or clubs play at Woodward Park. There are no Women's GCTA teams that play at Woodward Park.
- Scott asked about increased pay for higher quality instructors. Kimmy replied CRPD was looking for someone to do instruction only, not work the camp, so it would be a shorter period of time. The pay rate has not been determined yet.

### **Website—Scott Gerber**

- Scott noted that we've added a Grant Page and 25 photos from the awards banquets. These photos were enlarged to make it easier for those pictured to share with others.
- The full Website Usage report is attached to this email

### **Social Media Report**

- There was no report given.

### **Executive Director's Report—Linda Guyton**

- Linda started on preparations for the 2024 Awards banquet, researching central Ohio venues. The Amelita Mirolo Barn was secured for the dinner. This is a larger venue all on one level.
- The Upper Arlington Municipal Services Building conference room was secured for 2024 board meetings.
- Annual liability insurance through USTA was secured
- There was a discussion on Safeplay Certification. Linda and others explained the process for certification and renewal. It has been suggested that every board member go through this on-line training. Any staff or volunteer working with children or teens in any of the programs supported by our grants is required to have this training. We need to clarify the process that we use to verify certification of volunteers.
- Partnered with Leveling the Playing Field to assist with equipment collection. Linda explained the goals of Leveling the Playing Field. Clubs and individuals can donate equipment and shoes. Coaches of Programs that serve primarily economically disadvantaged youth can shop for free for needed equipment.
- Linda also met with OVTA Jim Amick and Tara Hayes

### **Old Business**

- Mike O'Callaghan was on the agenda to discuss scholarships. We will move this to April.

### **New Business**

- Tara introduced herself as the new Community Development Coordinator for OVTA. Among other things, she plans to put together the Midwest Youth Team tennis.
- In 2023, Susan Storrer resigned her position as USTA Summer Local League Coordinator. Rather than replacing this position, we are looking at how the current coordinators of CAATL (Columbus Area Adult Tennis League) who run our USTA indoor leagues can take over Susan's responsibilities. Jim Hendrix explained the history of this position and how it could work with the current coordinators Julie Nini and Kris Susa taking on the USTA summer leagues. GCTA would no longer be responsible for managing the USTA Adult summer league or paying for winners to go to districts.
- GCTA is recommending to not hire a USTA Summer League LLC but rather to move the management of the league to existing Fall/Winter League LLC's. This will remove GCTA from any responsibilities of running the league or expenses associated with the league while making the league more uniformed and aligned with the other USTA leagues in the Columbus area. This motion was made by Phil Diaz and seconded by Lanny Rubin. The motion carried.

- The website will be going through some rebranding this year. Aaron and the Board thanked Scott for the many improvements and additions Scott has made to the site for free. The Executive Committee would like to recommend doing a website refresh. After discussing plans with Bill Curry, we are recommending using his IT Services Company—*Improving*. The intent is to refresh the website and to try to attract traffic to GCTA, not to leave Tenniscores behind. We are hoping to get the GCTA mission to the forefront.

A motion was made by Lori Brown to adjourn the meeting, and seconded by Phil Diaz. The motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm by Aaron Ockerman

NOTE: Next Board meeting is Tuesday April 16th at 7:00 pm  
Annual Awards Ceremony is Thursday, September 26, at 6:00 at Amelita Mirolo Barn