

9/21/2005

USTA Northern California Board of Directors
Minutes of Meeting of September 21, 2005

Held at Club Sport Fremont

Attendees: Don Jacobus, Jack Drimmer, John Frank, Dwight Johnson, Bill Schoen, Phillip Stromer, Gary Lee, Deb Petersen, Jean Hassoun, Bill Hansen, Mark Manning, Patrick King, Andrea Norman, Terry Cossette, Paul Kepler, Fred Tierney, Sandi Kaney, Liz Blum, (board members), Pam Sloan, Bruce Hunt, executive director, Dale Evans, parliamentarian, and Valena Williams, Jr., and Linda Peltz, (guests).

President Dwight Johnson called the regular meeting of the Board to order at 6:36 pm.

Those who attended the US Open each gave a short report on their activities in New York.

Fred Tierney moved, Mark Manning seconded a motion to approve the minutes unanimously after the change in name of one of the guests, Dan Reyes.

Bill Hansen nominated and Fred Tierney seconded the nomination of Pam Sloan to join the board to replace Randy Becker. Mr. Becker was deemed to have resigned as he missed 4 meetings. Mark Manning nominated and Jean Hassoun seconded the nomination of Margie Peterman to the board. There next was a discussion of whether Margie was eligible to be nominated since she is already on the board.

Nominations were closed by motion by Jack Drimmer and seconded by Fred Tierney. Since there were no further nominations, the nominations were closed.

Patrick moved that we allow those present to speak and those not present be represented by their actions in the past. Liz Blum seconded the motion. 12 – 3.

Pam Sloan spoke about her qualifications. She is director of Stockton Parks and Recreation currently and formally was president of the Missouri Valley section.

Mark Manning stated that we have to interpret whether or not it was proper to nominate Margie Peterman. The board has to make a determination of the bylaws to decide.

Resolved: that the bylaws be interpreted to allow that a standing board member currently serving a term be elected to fill an unexpired term while they are still serving on the board. Andrea Norman moved and Fred Tierney seconded. Motion and second was withdrawn.

Mark challenged the President's decision to have an election. Vote of 13-3 to accept the President's decision.

Vote was 13-5 by secret ballot in favor of Pam Sloan joining the board.
Treasurer's report: At this point it appears we will have a surplus of \$65,451.

Committee Decisions. No comments from the Board.

Action Items:

A. Bylaw amendments. Andrea Norman moved for and spoke on behalf of this motion. Sandy Kaney moved that we accept the rewritten bylaws as a package as opposed to discussing and voting on each bylaw individually except for the Bylaw change for 21 and 22. Votes taken on all other amendments in April will be reflected in the materials sent to the membership.

Question called by Don Jacobus. Vote was 17 – 1 to call the question.

Passed 17 –1.

Andrea Norman moved that we recommend the approval of Bylaw 22 as revised. Seconded by Mark Manning.

Passed 17 – 0.

Motion and Discussion of Bylaw 21 that is the Hall of Fame Selection Committee.

Don Jacobus called the question. 14 – 0 passed to close discussion.

The Board voted to recommend that the membership pass Bylaw change 21. Vote was 12 – 5

Action Item B was withdrawn.

Action Item C

Spokesperson was Jean Hassoun. Moved by Jean Hassoun and seconded by Dave Sperry.

The motion reads "The USTA NorCal section decides to interpret the current sportsmanship and league rules as giving the section the rights to impose sanctions across all of its programs. USTA NorCal empowers the Sportsmanship Committee or the Leagues Grievance or Grievance Appeals committees to impose sanctions across all sanctioned events for violations in their corresponding areas."

Don Jacobus called the question. 15 – 0.

Motion passed 17 – 0.

Action item D is withdrawn.

President's report: Please give feedback to the Ad Hoc committee.

Delegate's report by John Frank.

Should national increase staff or send money to the sections? NorCal is receiving money for new TSR's. Should we increase staff or give money to community programs?

Executive Director's report.

Big Bold Bash 2005 - \$5,000 was budget, \$21,000 was spent and next year the budget is \$15,000. We have traditionally not allocated staff time to this type of event.

Moved by Jean Hassoun to go into Executive Session and seconded by Fred Tierney.

Resumed regular meeting at 9:57pm

Discussion on whether or not Board was interested in donating some money to tennis victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 pm

Submitted by Bill Schoen, Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

ClubSport Fremont

46650 Landing Parkway

Fremont, CA 94538

Directions: Driving South on 880, take the Mission Blvd/Warren Ave Exit.

Continue on W. Warren and turn right on Landing Pkwy.

Driving North on 880, take the Gateway Blvd Exit. Continue on Gateway Blvd and turn right on Bayside Pkwy. Bayside turns into Landing Pkwy

I. Food and Beverage—6 PM

II. Call to Order—6:30 PM

III. Introduction of Guests

IV. Public Comments-10 minutes, 2 minutes per speaker

V. Approval of Minutes

VI. Election of New Director

VII. Treasurer's Report

A. Monthly Financial Statements (Green)

B. Monthly Grants (Red)

C. 2006 Budget Preview and Requests (Purple)

VIII. Committee Decisions/Reports (Yellow)

IX. Executive Committee Activities

X. Action Items (Blue)

A. Bylaw Amendment Decisions for the 2005 USTA NorCal Annual Meeting

B. Strategic Partnership Committee Funding Proposal

C. Empowering Our Sanction Committees (Full Solution)

D. Empowering Our Sanction Committees (Partial Solution)

XI. President's Report

XII. Delegate's Report

XIII. Executive Director's Report

XIV. Old Business

XV. New Business

XVI. Adjournment of Meeting

Next Regular Meeting: Wed., Oct. 19 at ClubSport Fremont, 6:30 PM

Mission: To Promote and Develop the Growth of Tennis

Vision: 30 Million Tennis Players by 2010

Bylaw Amendments

September 2005 A

Presenters: Andrea Norman, Don Jacobus, Mark Manning, Mike Mee

Statement of Action Item:

Consider, by resolution, whether the Board is in support of or in opposition to each of the Bylaw amendments proposed by the Constitution and Rules Committee.

To aid in the process, it is recommended that the proposed resolutions take one of the following forms:

RESOLVED, that the Board recommend support of Bylaw amendment #___.

A vote resulting in defeat of this resolution would result in the Board recommending opposition to the Bylaw amendment.

or

RESOLVED, that the Board recommend opposition to Bylaw amendment #___.

A vote resulting in defeat of this resolution would result in the Board recommending support of the Bylaw amendment.

Pursuant to Bylaw XII, Section B, all proxies made out in blank or to the Association, the secretary of the Association, or a staff member of the Association, either by name or title, shall be voted in accordance with the recommendations approved by resolution.

Rational for Action:

To ensure that the proxies made out in blank or to the Association, the secretary of the Association, or a staff member of the Association are voted on the Bylaw Amendment proposals at the November 5, 2005 Annual Meeting of the Organization Members.

The Constitution and Rules Committee discussed whether it was necessary for the Board to revote on the items because they are in the form previously approved by the Board, except for non-material changes made to the Summaries or C&R Notes to correct typographical errors or add clarity (all highlighted in grey). Although the committee felt that it is not necessary that the Board vote again, the Committee determined that this should be decided by the Board.

Fiscal Impact: None.

Staff Comments: None

September 2005 B

Presenter(s): Betty Cookson, John Frank, Gary Lee, Patrick King, Dave Sperry, and Fred Tierney

Statement of Action Item: Allocate \$3000 for the Strategic Partnership Committee for the balance of 2005.

Rationale for Action:

The mission of the Strategic Partnership Committee is to explore opportunities for strategic partnerships. During the last 12 months, we have met with many individuals throughout Northern California. The purpose of these meetings is to explore opportunities to create partnerships and alliances that lead to increased participation and membership in USTA Norcal.

During the past year, the Strategic Partnership Committee has:

*Assisted in getting a new court for the Gilroy Tennis Club at Gilroy High School

*Assisted in getting new courts for Las Animas Veterans Park in Gilroy

*Introduced the concept of portable nets for K - 8 grades throughout

the entire Gilroy School District. The concept was well received.

*Assisted the Gilroy Tennis Club with their dialogue with the city to obtain a location for a new tennis center

*Worked with Gordon Collins (Courtside), Mark Roberts (Courtside), and Bill Jacobson (San Jose Smash) in publicizing Sharon Clark (a member of the US Para-Olympics tennis team) in order to raise awareness of wheelchair tennis

*Facilitated the Boys and Girls Club of Seaside in obtaining a donation for equipment (portable nets) to help them increase participation in tennis programs

*Received an invitation to the Boys and Girls Club Western Regional Meeting because of our work with leaders at the Boys and Girls Club of Seaside. Our mission will be to increase the awareness of tennis and increase tennis participation at Boys and Girls Clubs.

*Connected Chris Horne, General Manager of the Tiburon Peninsula Tennis Club, with the committee working to resurface courts at Petaluma High School

*Worked with Bob Kaliski, owner of Harbor Point Racquet Club, to publicize their upcoming charitable event with Rosie Casals and Martina Navratilova

*Broadened the number of new schools/programs participating in the SAP Open Kids Day (We arranged for 170 youth: 105 Hispanic, 40 African American, and 25 Vietnamese to attend the day.)

*Facilitated the introduction of an in-service and after-school program at McKinley school in San Jose (600 youth attended, of which 98% were Hispanic)

*Developed relationships with key San Jose city officials to facilitate the introduction of tennis via the San Jose Parks and

Recreation department and various school programs

*Developed working relationships with Vietnamese Police Officers Association

*Developed working relationships with Hispanic Police Officers Association for State of California (PAL)

*Hosted the Vietnamese Police Officers Association to the SAP Open and Bank of the West tournaments

*Hosted the Hispanic Police Officers Association for California to the SAP Open

*Gained greater recognition of tennis in San Jose by getting a San Jose city councilman to participate in the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

*Developed a relationship with African American church leaders in an effort to promote greater African American participation in tennis in the section (Status is ongoing and we hope to make an announcement of church leadership endorsement very soon)

*Facilitated discussions to be advocates for tennis in city planning for the cities of Gilroy and San Jose

*Introduced to key San Jose city officials the concept of locating USTA Norcal headquarters in San Jose

*Discussed with key San Jose State officials the feasibility of having the USTA Norcal headquarters at San Jose State University

In conclusion, the Strategic Partnership Committee has accomplished the above with limited or no financial support. With a modest budget, we believe more results will occur. We are asking for \$3000 for the remainder of 2005 and will be applying for \$6000 for 2006 to continue these efforts.

Fiscal Impact: \$3000 for 2005

Staff Comments: None

September 2005 C

Empowering Our Sanction Committees for Suspensions
across all USTA Sponsored Programs.
(Full Solution)

Presenters: Jean Hassoun, Debbie Peterson, Terry Cossette, Mike Mee,

John Frank, Andrea Norman, Liz Blum and Margie Peterman.

Statement of Action Item:

The USTA NorCal section decides to interpret the current sportsmanship and leagues rules as giving the section the rights to impose sanctions across all its programs.
USTA NorCal empowers the Sportsmanship Committee and the Leagues Grievance and Grievance Appeals committees to impose sanctions across all sanctioned events for violations in their corresponding areas.

Rational for Action:

Extract from the NorCal Bylaws:

Section B. Eligibility for a Tournament. The Board, in its discretion, and after a fairly conducted hearing if a hearing is requested, shall have the power to deny entry, in any sanctioned tournament or league event, of any player who has, in the opinion of the Board, violated any rule or regulation duly promulgated by the Board of Directors or by the USTA.

This enforcement task is delegated to the sportsmanship committee for tournaments and to the leagues grievances and appeals committees for league events.

Actually, these committees interpreted the rules as not allowing them to impose sanctions across all USTA NorCal sanctioned programs, as the national leagues regulations won't allow it.

USTA National is currently looking at changing its bylaws and regulations so sanctions could be imposed across all USTA sanctioned programs.

We understand (from discussions at the USTA semi-annual meeting) that changes will be made to the National Bylaws and to the National Leagues Regulations to support this change.

What is being proposed here is just an early implementation of what will become supported by the National Rules and Regulations.

Important element in the decision making process: at a National Grievance Committee, Mike Mee (chair) stated that several sections already decided to interpret the rules as having that right.

NorCal would not be isolated in making that decision.

We consulted the NorCal committees impacted by this proposal:

[1] In full support: Alvin Hom (chair of the Adult Leagues Committee), Rick Kepler (chair of the Adult Tournaments Committee), Bill Johnston (chair of the Sportsmanship Committee) and Jean Hassoun (chair of the Leagues Grievance Appeals Committee, with a supporting vote from the committee).

[2] Supports the principle but concerned about implementation details: Peter Rugh (chair of the Leagues Grievances Committee)

We want to list here two recent situations, both during tournaments, but which should have been sanctioned by suspensions across all USTA sponsored programs:

[1] During a 65 singles tournament, a player crossed the net and attacked his opponent with his racquet. He was suspended for two years from tournaments. He can still play leagues.

[2] A player refused to obey an umpire because she was a female umpire and "could not understand men tennis" (his words). A refusal to obey an umpire can be dealt with during the tournament, but his discrimination against a female umpire gets a zero tolerance from USTA. He was suspended for 3 months.

Fiscal Impact: None projected

Staff Comments: None

September 2005 D

Empowering Our Sanction Committees for Suspensions
across all USTA Sponsored Programs.
(Partial Solution)

Presenters: Jean Hassoun (Chair) & the NorCal Leagues Grievance Appeals

Committee

Statement of Action Item:

Motion Part 1: Request that the NorCal Leagues Grievances and/or Appeals Committees file a grievance with the Sportsmanship Committee against any person(s) who receive(s) a suspension from the league programs, when the violation was not leagues specific.

Motion Part 2: Empower the Sportsmanship Committee to process grievances submitted by the NorCal Grievances or Appeals Committees on violations during league events with the purpose to extend suspensions from leagues so they would also apply to tournaments.

Rational for Action:

Extract from the NorCal Bylaws:

Section B. Eligibility for a Tournament. The Board, in its discretion, and after a fairly conducted hearing if a hearing is requested, shall have the power to deny entry, in any sanctioned tournament or league event, of any player who has, in the opinion of the Board, violated any rule or regulation duly promulgated by the Board of Directors or by the USTA.

This enforcement task is delegated to the Sportsmanship committee for tournaments and to the leagues grievances and appeals committees for league events.

Actually, these committees are not in a position to impose sanctions across all USTA NorCal sanctioned programs, as the national leagues regulations won't allow it.

USTA National is currently looking at changing its bylaws and regulations so sanctions could be imposed across all USTA sanctioned programs.

This proposal would be a small step in the right direction, but this is all that we can do within the bounds of the national leagues regulations, as recently confirmed with the National Office.

We want to list here two recent situations, both during tournaments, but which should have been sanctioned by suspensions across all USTA sponsored programs:

[1] During a 65 singles tournament, a player crossed the net and attacked his opponent with his racquet. He was suspended for two years from tournaments. He can still play leagues.

[2] A player refused to obey an umpire because she was a female umpire and "could not understand men tennis" (his words). A refusal to obey an umpire can be dealt with during the tournament, but his discrimination against a female umpire gets a zero tolerance from USTA. He was suspended for 3 months.

The National league regulations don't allow to extend these suspensions to the leagues, so this proposal would at least allow NorCal to consider extending such suspensions from the leagues to the tournaments.

Fiscal Impact: None projected

Staff Comments: None projected