

**USTA NorCal Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**May 16, 2012**  
**USTA NorCal Office, Alameda, California**

**USTA NorCal Board of Directors Present:** Paul Allam, Rosie Bareis, Gordon Collins (Treasurer), Michael Cooke (President), Terry Cossette (Delegate), Deline Davis, Jack Drimmer, Hunter Gallaway, Dana Gill, Jean Hassoun, Paul Kepler, Tony Silveria (Vice President)

**USTA NorCal Immediate Past President Present:** Marjorie Peterman

**USTA NorCal Board of Directors Absent:** Jim Coyne, Christine Costamagna (Secretary), Rick Kepler, Pam Sloan (excused absence)

**USTA NorCal Advisory Director:** Frank Haswell

**NorCal Staff Present:** Steve Leube, Executive Director; Jennifer Pitzen, Director of Competitive Play

**Legal Counsel:** Michael Harrison

**Parliamentarian:** David Shapiro

**Guests:** Andrea Norman, Chair of Junior Council; Mike Dickey, Chair of the Budget & Finance Committee

**Call to Order:** Noting the presence of a quorum, Michael Cooke, President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The President introduced the staff and guests. He reiterated the ground rules for the meeting. He then asked for public comments which there were none. Mr. Gill read the USTA NorCal mission statement.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the April 18, 2012 Board meeting were presented for approval. On motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the minutes of the April 18, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved.

**Executive Director Report:** Mr. Leube provided an overview of his report, a copy of which was provided in the Board material. He commented on membership growth figures relative to other Sections, as well as the various section activities, including leagues, league championship events, play days, and outreach expos. A discussion ensued which focused on membership numbers.

**President's Report:** The President provided his report to the Board.

**Delegate Report:** Mr. Cossette provided a Delegate's report covering current activities at USTA National.

**Junior Tournament Schedule and Data:** The President referred the Board to information and data concerning the junior tournament schedule and a discussion ensued. The Board was then directed to a document entitled “2014 Junior Competition Philosophy” which was included in the meeting material. Ms. Norman was called upon to respond questions from the Board concerning this topic, which lead to further discussions which included comments and questions regarding year-to-date participation numbers.

After discussion, on motion duly made by Mr. Drimmer and seconded by Mr. Cossette, the Board approved the following resolution -. 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions:

WHEREAS: The changes to the national junior competitive structure that will take effect in January 2014 and which were supported by USTA NorCal will have a direct impact on the USTA NorCal junior competitive system and will require changes to be made; and

WHEREAS: The national changes provide an opportunity for NorCal to review and improve its competitive structure with the goal of fostering better competition and facilitating the development of more and better players.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the USTA NorCal Board hereby endorses the project of the Junior Council to review the NorCal junior competitive system and propose changes that are based on the following set of philosophical principles:

#### **Philosophical Principles for 2014 USTA NorCal Junior Competitive System**

- The competitive system should:
  1. allow players identify their level and play in level-appropriate competitions;
  2. maximize the number of competitive matches (matches where losing player wins ½ of the total games won by the winner);
  3. create a structure by which players earn advancement from one level to the next;
  4. provide time for players to train (periodization);
  5. help players understand their potential prospects for playing college tennis; and
  6. be simple to understand.
- The ranking/rating system should identify groups of players at a similar level, maximize the correct ordering over players, and facilitate movement between competitive levels.
- Endorsement policies must facilitate top players to qualify for National tournaments.
- The new system should incorporate team-based competitive play because it is fun, it promotes college tennis, doubles play, good sportsmanship, and teamwork, and it can give more value to the competitive system.
- The competitive philosophy should emphasize good sportsmanship, respect for the game, and camaraderie among NorCal players.

**Action Item (Limits on Junior Tournament Entry Fees):** The President noted that this Action Item was in response to a challenged Committee decision from the prior Board meeting. Mr. P. Kepler explained the rationale of the Action Item on behalf of the challengers of the Committee decision. He explained that following a dialogue, which covered the points of contention the sponsors of the Action Item had with the original Committee decision, with Ms. Norman a compromise was reached and revised proposal was drafted and was being presented to the Board for consideration. Ms. Norman pointed out that in the table of tournament fees, the difference between the second and third columns reflected remaining differences of opinion between the challengers and herself on the topic. She advised the Board that any motion to adopt the compromise proposal would need to indicate which of the columns was included in the motion. A discussion ensued.

Prior to voting, the President announced that any directors with a financial interest in junior tournaments would not be voting due to a conflict of interest.

Thereafter, on motion duly made by Mr. Hassoun and seconded by Mr. Collins, it was proposed to divide the compromise proposal into two parts, with the first part being a consideration of new entry fees and the second part being consideration of a new per player fee schedule to NorCal. Discussion ensued. Upon a vote, the motion passed - 8 in favor, 2 opposed, 0 abstentions.

After additional discussion, on motion duly made by Mr. Hassoun and seconded by Mr. Cosette, the Board was being asked to adopt the fee schedule below. Upon a vote, the motion was defeated – 1 in favor, 6 opposed, 4 abstentions.

**TABLE OF JUNIOR ENTRY FEES - 12, 14, 16 & 18 DIVISION TOURNAMENTS**

*(This is a summary of the rules related to entry fees in the Junior Tournament Rules)*

<b>Tournament Type</b>	<b>Base Fee for Singles and/or Doubles</b>	<b>Per Event Fees Junior Council Proposal</b>
Novice	<u>\$40 maximum fee</u>	<u>SG: \$30 maximum</u> <u>DB: \$15 maximum</u>
Challenger and Open	<u>\$50 maximum</u>	<u>SG: \$40 maximum</u> <u>DB: \$15 maximum</u>
Championship	\$40 set fee	SG: \$30 set fee DB: \$15 set fee
Excellence	\$50 set fee	<u>SG: \$40 set fee*</u> <u>DB: \$30 set fee*</u>
Sectionals	\$70.00 set fee	n/a

\* These are the fees for the Excellence singles and doubles stand-alone tournaments only.  
May not be used in lieu of base fee at Excellence Tournaments that offer both events.

Thereafter, on a motion duly made by Mr. Hassoun and seconded by Ms. Davis, the Board approved that for Excellence Tournaments, the entry fees shall be as follows: Singles per event fee of \$40 at the singles-only Excellence Tournament. Doubles per event fee per player of \$30 doubles at the doubles-only Excellence Tournament. The base fee shall remain \$50 for the Excellence tournaments that hold both singles and doubles. Motion approved 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention.

**Treasurer Report:** Mr. Collins provided a report covering USTA NorCal’s financial status and reviewed financial reports in the Board material. He noted that USTA NorCal was financially sound. He also reviewed the monthly major variances report which was distributed at the meeting. Questions were asked and a discussion ensued.

**Committee Decisions:** Committee decisions were provided in the Board material. Several items were brought up for discussion, and a discussion ensued.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** The Board discussed the loss of the SAP-San Jose tournament as well as ‘head-to-head’ competition in tournaments.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Dickey  
Acting Secretary of the Board Meeting