

USTA NorCal Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2012
USTA NorCal Office, Alameda, California

USTA NorCal Board of Directors Present: Rosie Bareis, Gordon Collins (Treasurer), Michael Cooke (President), Terry Cossette (Delegate), Christine Costamagna (Secretary), Jim Coyne, Deline Davis, Jack Drimmer, Jean Hassoun, Paul Kepler, Tony Silveria (Vice President)

USTA NorCal Immediate Past President Present: Marjorie Peterman

USTA NorCal Board of Directors Absent: Paul Allam, Hunter Gallaway, Dana Gill (approved excused), Rick Kepler, Pam Sloan

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: Darren Wenger, Director of Junior Team Tennis; Mark Fairchilds; Ken Schuller

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. Mr. Coyne read the USTA NorCal mission statement. The President then asked for public comments which there were none.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the May 12, 2012 Board meeting were presented for approval. On motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the minutes of the May 12, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved.

Mr. Collins made for a motion to grant Mr. Gill an excused absence for the meeting due to a family medical emergency. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the Board. Mr. Hassoun made an additional motion to give the Board of Directors the authority to determine whether a director absence can be designated an excused absence. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the Board.

National Governance: Referring to documents reviewed at the meeting, the President provided an overview of the B2 call item entitled "Standards of Good Governance." He noted that an Ad Hoc Committee reviewed the bylaws of USTA and all of the suggestions. He reported that the B2 call item strengthens the national bylaws. The directors asked about the process to review ongoing sectional bylaw changes as well as who will be responsible for monitoring. They further discussed the meaning of the B2 call item document which appears to be an opinion.

After discussion, on motion duly made by Mr. Silveria and seconded by Mr. Drimmer, it was proposed that USTA NorCal become a signatory to the proposed amendments to the USTA bylaws (B2 call item). Further discussion ensued particularly concerning the meaning of “management.” Thereafter, upon a vote, the motion was defeated - 5 opposed, 5 abstentions.

2012 Election – New Direction: Mr. Leube noted that management was looking at the possibility of engaging an outside firm to handle the election process. He noted that extensive staff time is spent on the process and the staff is often put in awkward situations. In response to questions from the directors, he commented on staffing costs versus an outside firm.

Junior Team Tennis: The President called upon Mr. Wenger to report on Junior Team Tennis. Using a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Wegner began by providing a detailed overview of the team tennis program which included a discussion on the model, participation numbers, barriers of entry and next levels. Mr. Leube commented on the changes needed to support and improve the program, including a new software system similar to adult leagues and another staff person. He noted that he would submit a proposal to the Board regarding the software at the next meeting. It was suggested that a Committee be formed to support this program.

Executive Director Report: Mr. Leube provided an overview of his report, a copy of which was provided in the Board material. He commented on increased membership growth figures relative to other sections, as well as the various section activities, including the success of the college panels and the Maze Cup, leagues, junior events, and outreach expos.

President’s Report: The President provided his report to the Board. In addition to Mr. Leube’s comments, he commended NorCal on its membership growth.

Delegate Report: Mr. Cossette provided a Delegate’s report covering current activities at USTA National. Referring to a press release that was distributed at the meeting, he commented on the future developments at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center.

Treasurer Report: Mr. Collins provided a report covering NorCal’s financial status and reviewed financial reports in the Board material. He noted that NorCal was financially sound. He noted that there was an improvement on deficit forecast by \$21,000.

Committee Decisions: Committee decisions were provided in the Board material. The President specifically reviewed the Sanction & Schedule Committee’s decision to sanction the Dominican Open (women’s tournament) and the request of the Board to waive the 7 day rule to object to the decision. He provided a brief background about the approval and noted that the Dominican Open ran concurrent with the Modesto Open. The directors discussed the possibility of compensation to the Modesto Open. Thereafter, on motion duly made by Mr. Hassoun and seconded by Ms. Bareis, it was proposed that the Board overturn the decision of the Sanction & Schedule Committee to

approve the sanction given to the Dominican Open. Further discussion ensued related to the sanctioning of the tournament. Mr. Fairchilds discussed his tournament and noted that he was upset at some of the issues but that he feels that the tournaments can work concurrently in 2012. After further discussion, upon a vote, the motion to overturn the decision to sanction the Dominican Open was approved – 6 in favor, 5 opposed.

Old Business: None.

New Business: The President called upon Mr. Hassoun who commented on the promoting doubles play in juniors. He asked if for his upcoming novice tournament that the players could be automatically registered in doubles. Mr. Drimmer asked if there was a rule that would have prevented Mr. Hassoun from the automatic registry. Mr. Hassoun noted that someone cannot be registered with approval, however, Ms. Norman, Chair of the Junior Tennis Council, noted that a banner could be place on each tournament website about opting out. The directors were supportive with this promotion.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Costamagna
Secretary