

USTA NorCal Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 15, 2018
USTA NorCal Office, Alameda, California

USTA NorCal Board of Directors Present: Rosie Bareis, Margie Campbell (Delegate), Christine Costamagna, Anoosh Davoudzadeh, Nancy Deschane, Dale Evans, Alvin Hom (President), Sue Leo, Kevin Pope, Jim Swansinger, Mark Tappan, Brian Thomas, Sandy Tompkins

USTA NorCal Advisory Directors: Linda Peltz

NorCal Staff Present: Steve Leube, Executive Director

Legal Counsel: Les Hausrath

Guest: Chris Wilson, Chair of Officials Committee

Call to Order: Noting the presence of a quorum, Alvin Hom, President, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Mr. Hom read the USTA NorCal mission statement. He noted that there were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the June 20, 2018 Board meeting were presented for approval. On motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the minutes of the June 20, 2018 meeting were approved – 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention.

Delegate Report: Deferring from the previously distributed agenda, Ms. Campbell referred the Board to the call items that would be presented and discussed at the Semi-Annual Meeting in New York. She began by reviewing the B1 bylaw change which is proposing that the Officials Committee be an appointed committee like the other committees. She noted the concern about the change as it is uncertain whether the Officials Committee supports this. Mr. Wilson reported that this change was raised a few years ago with little notice and the Officials Committee did not support it then. He provided an overview of the committee which has sectional representation. Mr. Leube commented on the philosophical change under the proposal. Mr. Wilson commented on the potential training, certification and level of standards issues. It was noted that National will not allow an official rating system and National decides whether an official is terminated. Ms. Campbell explained the national meeting process and recommended that the Board vote no on B1. The Board conducted a straw vote and confirmed the no vote recommendation.

Ms. Campbell then discussed the R1 rule change regarding a referee's ability to default a player for behavior on and off the court. The Board discussed precedent, liability and the ability to research. The Board conducted a straw vote and confirmed the no vote recommendation.

Ms. Campbell also briefly reviewed the R2 and R3 rule changes. She noted that R2, proposed by the Adult Competition Committee, relates to the addition of certain family divisions and R3, proposed by the Wheelchair Committee, allows women without a national ranking to compete in men's divisions. The Board conducted a straw vote and confirmed the yes vote recommendation.

Ms. Campbell concluded her report by commenting on the national strategic plan which includes the strategic direction and core values.

Investment Committee: Ms. Deschane noted that the Investment Committee was looking at the current mortgage and options with Comerica Bank. She also commented on the investment opportunities with the excess cash. She noted that the Investment Committee would come back to the Board with recommendations.

Bylaws/Constitution: Mr. Hausrath led a detailed and lengthy discussion regarding the creation of a constitution for USTA NorCal. He began by noting that the constitution is a standalone document which is the first step around expanding governance. Mr. Leube noted that Bill Leong from National is working with a number of the sections on governance practices and responsibilities. Mr. Hausrath reviewed the draft constitution noting that it is consistent with the Articles of Incorporation, does not contradict the bylaws and has been reviewed by the Constitution & Rules Committee. He reported that at the suggestion of Mr. Leong and the Constitution & Rules Committee, a governance committee be formed to address all aspects surrounding the Board, including training and recruitment, to improve Board effectiveness. He noted that the governance committee can be formed under the current bylaws. A lengthy discussion ensued around why a constitution was needed. Ms. Bareis made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Evans to table the approval in order to obtain more information. The motion was opposed by a vote of 7 to 6. Ms. Campbell then made a motion which was seconded by Ms. Tompkins to approve the constitution with an amendment to clarify the ninth paragraph to ensure that the Board could not amend the bylaws. It was clarified that the indemnity language included was standard. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 to 6.

Executive Director Report: Mr. Leube provided an overview of his report, a copy of which was provided in the meeting material. He then commented on the following items:

- 1) Net Generation
- 2) Junior Team Tennis
- 3) Hall of Fame success; scheduled for June 21 in 2019
- 4) Silicon Valley Classic
- 5) Golden Gate Park status
- 6) Adult Leagues
- 7) NSF Funding – currently at 84% of plan
- 8) Semi Annual Meeting in New York

Questions arose concerning safe play, updating rankings for juniors, the number of red ball Junior Team Tennis, free 10 & under memberships, and running junior league similar to the Police Athletic League. Mr. Leube noted that staff is studying the data on a number of these items.

President's Report: Mr. Hom noted that he had nothing additional to report.

Treasurer Report: Ms. Leo provided the Treasurer's report to the Board. She commended the staff for all of their work. She noted that the budget is fundamentally sound. She noted that the 2019 budget process is underway and Mr. Leube provided details around the actual process.

Monthly Financials: Mr. Hom noted that the monthly financials were included in the meeting material.

Committee Decisions: Mr. Hom noted that the Committee decisions were provided in the meeting material and reconfirmed how decisions can be challenged.

Tournament Sanctions: It was noted that since the Sanction and Scheduling Committee were exempt from the decisioning process, the Board would need to approve the junior and adult tournaments the Sanction and Schedule Committee approved by email approval on July 20/21, 2018. Thereafter, on motion made by Ms. Costamagna and seconded by Ms. Leo, the Board approved the tournaments with a vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions.

Unfinished Business: Questions arose regarding the engagement of the Coaches Commission on the Adult Tournament Committee proposal to add pre-qualifying events. A status update was requested regarding the Hall of Fame wall at Golden Gate Park. Mr. Leube also noted that there are webinars available for the new transition tour.

New Business: It was noted that an 18-39 singles league would be piloted in the fall.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Costamagna
Secretary