



Minutes of the USTA NorCal  
Adult Tournament Committee Meeting (Alameda Office)  
Monday, May 6, 2019

**Note:** All minutes are final after approval by the committee and all committee decisions are subject to final approval by the board.

**Committee Members Present:** Mark Fairchilde, Chrissie Costamagna, Steve Cornell (chair), Amina Halsey, Betty Cookson, Joanna Broda-Schnuk, Bryan Welsh, John Togaski (joined after 8pm).

**Committee Members Absent:** Scott Howard, Anna Elefant, and Ray Rockwell

**Staff Members Present:** Summer Verhoeven

Steve Cornell, chair of the Adult Tournament Committee (ATC), called the meeting to order at 7:35pm and roll call was conducted.

#### **1. Approval of March 4, 2019 Committee Minutes**

The ATC considered approval of the minutes of the meeting held on March 4, 2019. The following motion was duly made, seconded and approved of a vote of 7-0 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Adult Tournament Committee meeting held on November 28, 2018 approved as presented.

#### **2. Discussion of Tournament Director/Play Concerns**

The committee discussed concerns brought to the staff's attention about tournament issues. One issue was the number of One Day Adult Tournaments approved on the calendar, and the other was the number of ranking points issued when the draws are smaller. The committee felt these issues needed to be investigated and have been tabled for the next meeting.

#### **3. Proposal – California State Championships**

A proposal was submitted to Steve Cornell about hosting a California State Championship. The qualifying events for this event would happen through the sections and the Championship tournament would be hosted by NorCal and SoCal on a rotating schedule. The committee was in favor of the proposal and asked staff to reach out to Southern California to see if they would be interested in collaborating with us.

#### **4. Star Evaluation System**

The committee is in favor of using the Star Evaluation System but has asked staff to check with IT about seeing if players can still indicate the level of tournament they are playing when filling out the evaluation. The reason for this is to ensure we don't have to adjust any criteria for the Tournament of the Year, etc. The committee will discuss whether or not they will switch to the new evaluation system at the next meeting.

#### **5. Mileage Rule for Open Tournaments**

Tabled from the previous meeting, the Committee discussed the 75 mile rule for Open Level Tournaments and the concern of how players are currently being denied entry into events because of limited draw sizes. The committee will investigate this issue further and create guidelines for the Sanction & Scheduling Committee to use when approving Open Level tournaments. Ideas being considered are that Member Organizations must include on their sanction applications the number of players they are accepting in a draw. If the draw is limited, then the committee would be able to sanction an additional event even if it's within 75 miles to ensure that players aren't being turned away. There will be continued discussion about this issue at the next meeting.



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**6. Member Organization Promotion**

Staff will provide at the next meeting a list of Member Organizations that haven't hosted a tournament in the last two years. The committee members will review the list and designate three facilities they will reach out to host a tournament. The committee has also drafted a letter to Member Organizations asking them to apply.

**7. Gold Cup Series Tournaments/Adult League Events**

The committee discussed the concern of how adult league events sometimes coincide with important events such as the Gold Cup Series Tournaments and how participation is effected because of this. In order to resolve this issue Steve Cornell set up a meeting with Larry Olmstead and Lynn Losande to discuss further about avoiding this from happening when possible. The committee will also look at possibly changing the timing of when tournaments are designated (i.e. Gold Cup Series, Tournament of the Year, etc.) so they are more in line with the primary sanction period.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56pm. The next meeting is scheduled for June 3 via conference call at 7:30pm