
Don Bearden, chair of the Wheelchair Committee, called the meeting to order at 7:01pm and roll call was conducted. The meeting was held by Google Meet video conference.

Committee Members Present: Chair - Don Bearden, Kylie Hornbeck, RL Scott, Philip Peabody, Marty Anderson

USTA NorCal Staff Present: Staff liaison - Christy Perez

Guests Present: none

1. Approval of Minutes from May 25, 2023

2. Chair Report

- Smash update - Don stated that weekly tennis practices are being conducted. They have 1 new player added to their tennis group. Players are slowly getting back into the routine of practicing. Gulnara Fattakhedtinova (Gorin Academy) came out to help with practice.
- Adaptive Athletic Association - Marty gave the update. He and Phil will connect with David Van Brunt regarding the grant that TIES received and ways that those funds could be utilized to support the wheelchair players in the Sacramento area. Marty stated that they had a great first turnout of 8 players for the first Adaptive Athletic Assoc. practice. 2 new players joined the group. There have been weekly practices for the past 4 weeks. It was discussed that there is a need for 2 tennis chairs for players. Christy will follow up with her connection and then connect Marty with the name and contact information so they can begin to move forward with locating 2 sport chairs for Marty's tennis players.

2. Staff Report

- National Parks Tournament Wheelchair Division is July 16th at Oak Park Tennis Center in Stockton.
- With the Level 3 Wheelchair Tournament at Gold River Sport Club, the committee discussed the need for a subcommittee to be formed. Kylie, Phil, and Marty volunteered to be on the committee. Christy will circle back with Kylie in 2 weeks and formulate a plan and committee tasks that each person could be in charge of.
- Silicon Valley Wheelchair Tournament Aug 5-6th at Mission College registration is open. Question of liability insurance came up.
- Up/Down Tournament Sept 10th at Independence High School in San Jose
- Wheelchair exhibition Sept 24 at Berkeley Tennis Club
- North/South Wheelchair Challenge Oct 21-22nd. Location TBD. Contact has been made with Sierra Tennis Club as a location possibility along with Fresno State University.

3. Open Forum

- Discussion centered around implementing a nomination process for a coach at the North vs South Wheelchair Challenge
- Possible "Town Hall Meeting" for a meet the coach and for players interested in playing in the North vs South Wheelchair Challenge.
- Further discussion included the possibility of making a 2 tournament minimum requirement for wheelchair players, requiring them to compete in at least 2 NorCal wheelchair tournaments prior to the North vs South Challenge in order to be selected for the North Team.

- Marty brought up a discussion about a possible Wheelchair Tennis Circuit or a buy 3 tournaments to get the 4th tournament free. Need to give incentives for players to participate.
- Kylie inquired about what NorCal is doing to help grow wheelchair tennis at the junior level. Discussion centered around the continued partnership with Valley Children's Hospital in Fresno and adding a Kids clinic the night before the North vs South Wheelchair Challenge. This is an area the committee needs to continue focusing on for growth.

There being no further issues or discussion to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:01pm

Next meeting - July 20th at 7pm