

Don Bearden, chair of the Wheelchair Committee, called the meeting to order at 7:05pm and roll call was conducted. The meeting was held by Google Meet video conference.

Committee Members Present: Chair - Don Bearden, Anil Pakina, Dez Del Barba, Ashley Sisti, Marci Matinucci, Kamni Del Barba

USTA NorCal Staff Present: Staff liaison - Christy Perez

Guests Present: Cherryl Silva

1. Chair Report

- Guest Cherryl Silva was welcomed by the committee to discuss the Red Ball For All event, scheduled for Saturday, May 23, from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM at Sparks Social in San Francisco. Silva highlighted a need for volunteers and invited any interested committee members to contact her directly.
- Approval was granted for the Wheelchair Committee meeting minutes from April.
- **Bay Area Wheelchair Tennis (BAWT) News:** A report was provided by Anil Pakina and Ashley Sisti regarding current BAWT operations. They noted that weekly practice sessions are proceeding effectively, with a consistent turnout of 8 to 10 regular players. Several announcements including the following:
 - Vegas Tournament — May 29–30
 - Dee Henry Tournament — SoCal, Jun 20–21
 - Ashley will be competing in Virginia over the next few weeks
 - Ashley — possible update on a 2027 SF tournament
 - Shared Adventures clinics in Santa Cruz — Jun 14, 21, 28 & Jul 12, 19, 26
 - BORP clinics in Berkeley (Marty coaching) — Jul 11 & Aug 22
 - All-Comers Camp — scheduling pending, there has been back and forth communication with Lowell High School
 - ITF Wheelchair Tournament Application deadline for 2027 — Jun 15
 - Dez connected us with a possible new player who splits time between Danville and San Diego

2. Staff Report

- Staff Liaison Christy Perez briefed the committee on three player grant applications submitted to NorCal. Upon the suggestion of Don Bearden, the committee opted to postpone the review of these grants until the June meeting to ensure a higher level of member participation.
- The committee reviewed the All-Comers Camp, noting that the event received positive feedback. Attendees particularly appreciated the drills, training sessions, and the contributions of the new coaching staff. Consequently, NorCal has already initiated conversations with Fresno State University regarding potential dates for the 2027 camp.
- During the review of the Public Parks Tournament, Christy expressed her gratitude to all the participants. It was noted that the wheelchair division utilized a single short-set format per round due to the high volume of total tournament entries. In the subsequent discussion regarding divisions and formatting, Ashley Sisti highlighted that many competitors would favor a schedule with fewer matches if it allowed for longer sets. Consequently, the committee advised that tournament organizers should consult with the heads of various organizations during the planning phase to explore more effective formatting alternatives.
- The She Rallies Event was reviewed, with Christy advising interested parties to register and attend at their earliest convenience.
- The BORP Adaptive Sports Fair, scheduled for Saturday, May 30th, was introduced to the committee.

3. Open Discussion

- Representing Kylie Hornbeck, Christy introduced two topics for the committee's consideration:
 - A proposal for the Committee to have a role in the planning process for all NorCal events.
 - The establishment of meeting decorum guidelines centered on mutual respect and the shared objective of advancing wheelchair tennis in NorCal.
- Furthermore, Christy requested that all attendees enable their cameras during the meeting, with an exception for those participating via a call-in option while driving.
- These requests received unanimous approval from the committee.

There being no further issues or discussion to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm.

