

Minutes of the USTA NorCal Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, February 17, 2016
USTA NorCal Office - Alameda, California

Directors Present: Rosie Bareis, Margie Campbell, Gordon Collins, Suzy Cossette, Mike Dickey, Dale Evans, Alvin Hom, Tyler Nii, Andrea Norman, Linda Peltz, Sarah Robinson, Pam Sloan, and Jack Walker

Directors Absent: Christine Costamanga, Mark Fairchilds, and Jason Scalese

Delegate Present: Michael Cooke

Legal Counsel Present: Les Hausrath

Staff Present: Steve Leube

Advisory Directors Present: None

Call to Order: President Margie Campbell called the February meeting of the USTA Northern California Board of Directors to order at 6:30 P.M. She reminded everyone of the protocol for meetings and thanked everyone for their attendance.

Introduction of Guests: No guests were present.

Reading of the USTA NorCal Mission Statement: Andrea Norman vivaciously read the mission statement.

Minutes: It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes as written. The motion carried with twelve in favor and two abstentions (those who were not present for the January 6, 2016, meeting).

League Awards Presentation: Dale Russell received the Service to Leagues award at the Adult League Committee's holiday party in December, 2015.

Executive Director's Report: Executive Director, Steve Leube, reported that NorCal, although we are doing fine, is a bit behind this year in membership statistics. He reported that there were 86 play days so far this year with the next play day scheduled for March. NorCal is second in the nation with the number of play days. There were 110 attendees at the ACES event in January, and Mr. Leube thanked all those who attended.

Mr. Leube attended the USPTA NorCal conference. There were 45 high school coaches in attendance at the awards dinner. USTA NorCal has an excellent relationship with USPTA NorCal. On February 21, the Senior Awards Luncheon will be held at the El Rancho Inn in Millbrae. There were 1500 participants for Combo Districts. Presently, Tamara Ramos, Lynn Losande, and Larry Olmsted are in Florida attending an Adult League Committee workshop. Sylvia Duenas-Bielser, the staff liaison to the Diversity Committee, attended the Black College Expo where 15 to 20 universities as well as other organizations were represented. Scholarships were discussed, and it was evident that USTA NorCal is wanted back next year. In response to Mr. Leube's report, Mr. Collins expressed concern about 2.5 and 3.0 league players. He stated that there does not seem to be enough entry level players. He cited one example of a person never having played tennis but was rated a 3.0. The concern is with the entry level ratings which are controlled by National. President Margie Campbell stated that she would add the ratings concerns to the President's agenda for discussion at the Annual Meeting. Ms. Bareis added that NorCal is not keeping entry level players and asked for data on this from National. Ms. Bareis also inquired about the Social Nets program. Mr. Leube responded that last year there were over 360 Social Net players in NorCal and that the program will again occur in April. Although there is no membership requirement for Social Nets, 70% of those participating were USTA members. It is hoped that by word of mouth, the Social Nets program will increase in numbers. Ms. Bareis also inquired about where

NorCal stood relative to tennis court resurfacing and the associated programs. Mr. Leube responded that NorCal has resurfaced 30 or 40 courts but has seen no return. He assured the Board that the TSRs would be working on the programming at these sites.

President's Report: President Margie Campbell congratulated the staff and all recipients at the ACES event for a wonderful day. She attended the High School Coaches workshop at the USPTA NorCal conference at Stanford and indicated that we need to continue working with those coaches. Ms. Campbell felt that the USPTA conference was impressive and was a well planned event. She noted that she was very impressed with the high calibre of tennis professionals in Northern California. The Ad Hoc Committee on Sportsmanship will be chaired by Terry Cossette and will have its first meeting on February 24. The primary focus of the Ad Hoc Committee will be on junior sportsmanship. Les Hausrath will serve as legal advisor to the committee. Recommendations from this Ad Hoc Committee will be presented to the Board in August. The USTA NorCal Foundation has a new President, Gloria Oates, and she is working hard to move the organization in a forward direction. Ms. Campbell reported that the ALC discussed the issue of placing a Cap on the number of at level teams a person could play. The ALC is not taking any action at this time due to continued monitoring of the data. The USTA Annual Meeting will be held from March 11 to March 14, 2016, at the La Costa Resort in Carlsbad, California. All are invited to attend the NorCal dinner on Saturday, March 12, 2016.

Delegate's Report: Delegate Michael Cooke congratulated the NorCal Junior Program and indicated that the players are doing well in competition. The items for the Call were distributed in the Board Packet for February. The items for the Call for the Annual Meeting were discussed individually. R-1, proposed by the Adult Competition Committee deals with the selection of players. A straw vote revealed that there were 11 in favor and 2 against. R-2, proposed by the Adult Competition Committee deals with scheduling and trying innovative formats to maximize the number

of matches a player plays per day. A straw vote revealed that there were 11 in favor, none against, and 2 abstentions. R-3, proposed by the Adult Competition Committee, deals with the introduction of the Red, Orange, and Green Ball (ROG) tennis into family tournaments. A straw vote revealed that there were 12 in favor, none opposed, and 1 abstention. R-4, proposed by the Adult Competition Committee, adds new formats to Category III tournaments which in turn will give more flexibility to experiment with Category III tournaments. A straw vote revealed unanimous (13 in favor) support for this item. R-5, proposed by the Adult Competition Committee, gives up to 10 points for Category III tournaments. A straw vote revealed that there were 11 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention. R-6, proposed by the Adult Competition Committee, involves Ranking Requirements for players and teams. A straw vote revealed that there were 12 in favor, none opposed, and 1 abstention. Mr. Cooke commented that if National takes on various formats for tournaments (as requested in the Call items) maybe Leagues will also.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Jack Walker reported that NorCal ended the year (2015) with a surplus of \$47,630, and that this was better than what was expected. Leagues showed revenue of \$155,000 over that which was budgeted. This was \$175,000 better when compared to the prior year. Tournament revenue was basically even. The Junior Department was \$55,923 under budget. The JTT revenue was down from the previous year even though some expenses were saved. Advertising and Sponsorships were \$13,710 under budget mostly due to the lack of revenue from Tennis Warehouse. Community Tennis was \$89,000 under budget due to Junior events being canceled as well as the Giants event not occurring. Interest income was down \$35,000 due to the negative changes in the Stock Market. Salary and Wages were almost \$100,000 under budget due to outsourcing services and litigation. Over all Mr. Walker indicated that it was a good year for USTA NorCal. Comprehensive information regarding the above can be found in the Green sheets which were included with the February, 2016 Board packet.

Committee Decisions: President Margie Campbell brought the Board's attention to the Yellow sheets included in the Board packet. She noted that the committee decision for the Adult League Committee was dated April 5, 2015. During the transition between Adult League Managers, this committee decision, involving the use of a coin toss in the event of incomplete or unfinished matches, was never presented to the Board for approval. The use of a coin toss was published in the LLR's for both Mixed 55 and Combo leagues and was used in both leagues. Although there were some complaints, most players accepted this method. It was moved and seconded to reconsider the use of a coin toss for local league playoffs for the Combo league, depending on the timing between playoffs and districts as well as stated deadlines. The motion carried unanimously (13 in favor). It was moved and seconded to amend the Local League Area rule 12b to reflect the changes brought about by uneven round robin scheduling for all leagues when determining the advancing team when a playoff match is not completed. (A random method will be used to determine the advancing team in lieu of selecting the team higher in standings). The motion carried with a vote of 8 in favor and 5 opposed. It was to be noted that this was a split vote. Also noted on the Yellow sheet were the proposals from the Junior Team Tennis Committee which involved changes in the incentive programs. Since there was no indication of what the incentive program involved, it was recommended that this proposal be returned to the Junior Team Tennis Committee for clarification and further information. Due to timing issues, it was moved and seconded to let the Executive Committee review the proposal and make decisions regarding the incentive programs. The motion carried unanimously (13 in favor).

Unfinished Business: The family ROG tournament held during the Gen Gap tournament received lots of positive feedback.

New Business: There was no new business.

Adjournment: There being no further business before the USTA NorCal Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Peltz
Secretary