

USTA NorCal Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2012
USTA NorCal office, Alameda, California

USTA NorCal Board of Directors Present: Paul Allam, Rosie Bareis, Christine Costamagna (Secretary), Gordon Collins (Treasurer), Michael Cooke (President), Terry Cossette (Delegate), Jim Coyne, Deline Davis, Jack Drimmer, Hunter Gallaway, Jean Hassoun, Paul Kepler, Tony Silveria (Vice President), Pam Sloan

USTA NorCal Immediate Past President Present: Marjorie Peterman

USTA NorCal Board of Directors Absent: Dana Gill, Rick Kepler

USTA NorCal Advisory Director: Frank Haswell

NorCal Staff Present: Steve Leube, Executive Director; Jennifer Pitzen, Director of Competitive Play; Anna Elephant, Manager of Adult Leagues

Legal Counsel: Michael Harrison

Parliamentarian: David Shapiro

Guests: Dale Russell, Chair of the Adult League Committee; William Schoen, President, Northern California Tennis Foundation

Noting the presence of a quorum, Michael Cooke, President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The President introduced the staff, guests and new Parliamentarian, David Shapiro. He commented on the ground rules for the meeting. He then asked for public comments which there were none. Mr. Collins read the USTA NorCal mission statement.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the December 14, 2011 Board meeting were presented for approval. On motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the minutes of the December 14, 2011 meeting were approved.

Mid Peninsula Tennis Patrons Middle School Tennis League: Referring to a document entitled "Proposed Agreement between the Mid Peninsula Tennis and the USTA NorCal Section" ("Agreement") and supporting fact sheet included in the Board material, Mr. Collins provided an overview of the league and discussed the ways USTA NorCal and the Mid Peninsula Tennis Patrons can support each other. The directors discussed the possibility of working on similar programs in other areas. After discussion, on motion made by Mr. Silveira and seconded by Mr. Hassoun, the Board approved the Agreement as presented – 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention.

Executive Director Report: Mr. Leube provided an overview of his report, a copy of which was provided in the Board material. He focused on membership growth figures as well as the various section activities, including the ACES awards banquet and the SAP opportunities.

President's Report: The President provided an overview of his report, a copy of which was provided in the Board material. He noted that the highlights were covered in Mr. Leube's report.

Delegate Report: Referring to material distributed at the meeting, Mr. Cossette provided a Delegate's report covering current activities at USTA National. He focused on issues highlighted at the 2012 USTA Leadership meetings and specifically the call items, including the heat rule index and the overhaul of the national level for juniors. He also commented on the 10 & Under Tennis ("TAUT") partnership with Nickelodeon.

EDC (Early Development Centers) Request/Junior Update: Deferring from the previously distributed agenda, the President called upon Ms. Pitzen to provide the junior presentation. Referring to a number of handouts distributed at the meeting, Ms. Pitzen began by reviewing TAUT membership figures, line grants (including the approval process) and Future Tennis Champions. The directors requested that registration for TAUT tournaments not be limited.

Ms. Pitzen reviewed the proposal regarding the rollover of unused 2011 funds to local community markets and EDCs. She provided an overview of the program and responded to questions from the directors concerning allocations and tracking. Thereafter, on motion made by Mr. Hassoun and seconded by Mr. Kepler, the Board approved this proposal as presented – 11 in favor, 2 opposed, 1 abstention.

Ms. Pitzen then reviewed the proposal to add a second local community market in San Francisco and receive a national matching grant for a total of \$50,000 over a period of 3 years (\$25,000 in 2012, \$15,000 in 2013 and \$10,000 in 2014). She noted that the plan is similar to Stockton and will be run through the San Francisco Parks & Recreation Department. The directors requested that future similar requests be first reviewed by the Budget Committee. They also asked whether other partnerships and national matching were available. Thereafter, on motion made by Mr. Allam and seconded by Mr. Kepler, the Board approved this proposal as presented – 14 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Update on NCTF for 2011/Plans for 2012: The President called upon Mr. Schoen for an update on the Northern California Tennis Foundation. Mr. Schoen reviewed the grants for 2011 and related criteria. The directors suggested the need for a marketing strategy, outreach to players and working with TSRs.

New League Structure: The President called upon Mr. Russell who reviewed the proposed 2013 league structure and responded to questions and comments from the directors. He noted that a subcommittee had been established which includes directors to vet out issues with the changes.

2012 Travel Policy: Referring to a handout provided at the meeting, Mr. Collins noted that the same travel policy has been in effect for 3 years and that a task force will be formed to review the policy to determine if expenditure caps/parameters are needed.

Treasurer Report: Mr. Collins provided a brief report covering USTA NorCal's financial status and reviewed financial reports in the Board material. He noted that USTA NorCal was financially sound. It was asked that monthly major variances be included in the material going forward.

Committee Decisions: The President referred the directors to Committee decisions that had been made since the last report was issued as of February 2, 2012. The directors discussed rules and regulations surrounding the TAUT tournaments. Mr. Gallaway then addressed the Board and made a motion which was seconded by Ms. Bareis and was then clarified after Board discussion – The Board is to instruct the Sanction & Scheduling Committee to not change existing rules until the following tournament sanction cycle. Thereafter, the Board denied the motion – 4 in favor, 7 opposed, 3 abstentions.

The Board continued its discussion on TAUT tournaments, including the application process, communication with NorCal staff, the evaluation process and areas not yet hosting tournaments. The Board requested Nigel Pugh make a presentation at the next meeting. The Board further discussed the current approval process of TAUT sanctions and Mr. Hassoun made a motion which was seconded and then clarified after Board discussion - The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors shall approve TAUT sanctions until the next Board meeting in April 2012. Thereafter, the Board approved the motion – 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstentions.

Old Business: None.

New Business: A discussion ensued about the policy on noting the arrival and departure of directors in the Board minutes. The December 14, 2011 minutes were corrected to remove the references. In addition, it was noted that going forward the Board will be provided a calendar of upcoming events which will include committee meetings dates.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Costamagna
Secretary, USTA NorCal Board of Directors