

USTA NorCal Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2013
USTA NorCal Office, Alameda, California

USTA NorCal Board of Directors Present: Rosie Bareis, Margie Campbell, Chris Caputo, Gordon Collins (Treasurer), Michael Cooke (President), Suzy Cosette, Christine Costamagna (Secretary), Jim Coyne, Mike Dickey (Vice President), Mark Fairchilds, Paul Kepler, Andrea Norman, Sarah Robinson, Jason Scalese, Tony Silveira (Delegate)

Absent: Dana Gill

USTA NorCal Advisory Directors: Frank Haswell, Pam Sloan

NorCal Staff Present: Steve Leube, Executive Director

Legal Counsel: Michael Harrison

Call to Order: Noting the presence of a quorum, Michael Cooke, President, called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. The President introduced the staff and guests. He reiterated the ground rules for the meeting. Mr. Fairchilds read the USTA NorCal mission statement. The President then asked for public comments which there were none. He then noted that Mr. Gill had submitted his resignation as a director from the Board and he thanked him for his service.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the April 17, 2013 Board meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Collins noted a correction to the minutes concerning the monthly budget figures. On motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the minutes of the April 17, 2013 meeting were unanimously approved, as corrected.

Executive Director Report: Mr. Leube provided an overview of his report, a copy of which was provided in the meeting material. He noted that NorCal was #1 in membership growth during April. He commented on junior membership levels and league participation numbers. He commented on the USTA land swap to build out the USTA National Tennis Center. He noted that he was appointed to a task force for the junior pathway. He commented on the "Breaking the Barriers" gala scheduled for November. He commented on the upcoming Generation Gap tournament scheduled for June 22. He commented on the Google family play day and corporate tennis programming. He concluded by responding to questions concerning the work of the NorCal Foundation.

President Report: The President provided his report to the Board. In addition to Mr. Leube's comments, he noted that the Semi-Annual Meeting is scheduled for late August in New York. He noted that Marilyn Morrell Kristal was appointed as the Chair of the Nominating Committee and Mr. Leube noted that an outside service would again be used for elections.

Executive Session: The President convened an Executive Session in which he invited the Advisory Directors, Mr. Leube and Mr. Harrison to stay. He commented on an attorney client privileged matter.

Delegate Report: The Chairman called upon Mr. Silveira to provide the Delegate's report. Referring to the handout in the meeting material, Mr. Silveira further commented on the build out of the USTA National Tennis Center. He also commented on the status of the membership study group.

Junior Council – 2014 Junior Competitive Structure: The President called upon Ms. Norman, Chairman of the Junior Council, to provide an update concerning of the proposed NorCal Junior competitive structure. Ms. Norman began by making a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Fairchild, to approve the resolutions included in the meeting material. The Chairman then asked for discussion on the motion.

Ms. Norman began by reviewing the significant changes and rationale for the structure, specifically national ranking tournaments, segmented calendar, true qualifiers for Sectionals, stand-alone doubles Sectionals and Excellence tournaments, ratings-based tournaments and selection, aging-up, concurrent events, entry-level tournaments, Open tournaments, summer Grand Prix Circuit & Invitational, time for training and rest, concurrent entries, and altered entry fees. She also commented on the plans for the educating of member organizations of the proposed changes. She responded to questions concerning the bidding process and sanctioning period.

Mr. Leube provided an update concerning the Universal Tennis Rating System ("UTR") noting that NorCal would be a pilot program whereby NorCal members would receive the base package so long as they remain members of the members of the USTA. He noted that management is working on technology issues related to uploading tournament results to UTR. The Board discussed some of the provisions in the contract concerning UTR and it was noted that Amy Jensen would be managing the relationship. In response to questions concerning the impact of UTR on the junior rating system, Ms. Norman noted that points per round is still driving the selection and endorsement processes.

The Board briefly discussed the changes to the various tournament levels. With respect to Challenger level tournaments, a concern was raised that under the proposed resolution the 3 match guarantee does not include doubles. After discussion, a straw vote was taken whereby a majority of the Board was in favor of amending the proposed resolution that the 3 match guarantee would include one doubles when doubles is offered. The Board then discussed completing tournaments with match guarantees. Ms. Norman discussed the match alternatives. Mr. Kepler then restated and Ms. Norman clarified the amendment whereby applicants should apply for formats to accommodate and guarantee either 3 singles matches or 2 singles/1 doubles match. The Board approved the amendment - 12 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstention.

The Board then briefly discussed issues concerning Championship level tournaments. Ms. Norman that the Junior Council is working on tournament charts concerning draw sizes and court requirements. She also noted that changes to these types of tournaments have little impact on top players. Finally, it was noted that application deadline date should be September 3rd instead of 2nd.

After additional discussion, Ms. Norman restated her original motion to include the approved amendment and on a vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions, the Board approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Rules, USTA NorCal Sanction Rules, USTA NorCal Junior Ranking Rules, and all such other necessary rules and policies of USTA NorCal, be amended, effective with tournaments sanctioned January 1, 2014 to create the USTA NorCal Junior Competitive Structure as set forth on Exhibit A.

RESOLVED FURTHER: That the 2014 sanction date blocks for the USTA NorCal Junior Tournaments listed below, shall be as set forth on Exhibit B, and that in succeeding years shall fall on corresponding date blocks:

Sectional Championships
Excellence Tournaments
Championship Tournaments
Super Series
Sectional Open Jamboree Tournaments
Summer Grand Prix Invitational
Coed Round Robin Tournaments

RESOLVED FURTHER: That beginning in 2014, a USTA NorCal Summer Junior Grand Prix Circuit and Invitational shall begin as set forth on Exhibit C, and that the USTA NorCal Junior Tournament Rules and USTA NorCal Sanction Rules shall be amended to implement the new Circuit and Invitational.

RESOLVED FURTHER: That USTA NorCal Sanction Rules be amended as follows:

3. Sanction Deadlines and Fees.

A. Sanctioned tournaments.

- i. *Junior tournaments.* Sanctions for junior tournaments must be applied for between June 1 and June 30, except that in 2013 only, the period for applying for 2014 junior tournaments shall be between June 17 and September 3. Applications ~~for tournaments in the 18, 16, 14 and 12 divisions~~ received during this period will be charged per level based on the following table:

| Junior Event Type | Sanction Fee |
|---|---------------|
| Open, <u>Coed Round Robins, Sectional Open Jamborees, Super Series, Championships, Excellence, Sectionals</u> | \$60.00 |
| <u>Novice, Challenger</u> | \$30.00 |
| <u>Orange and Green Ball Tournaments</u> | <u>No Fee</u> |

For example, if an application for a junior tournament with Open, Challenger, and Novice and Challenger events will be charged a total sanction fee of \$120. ~~There shall be no sanction fee for tournaments in the 10 divisions.~~

- ii. *Adult tournaments.* Sanctions for Adult tournaments shall be applied for between June 1 and June 30. Applications received during this period will be charged a \$50.00 sanction fee. In 2013 only, an application for 2014 Adult Family and Junior tournaments one application shall be due no later than September 3.

- iii. *Wheelchair tournaments.* Applications for Wheelchair shall be applied for between June 1 and June 30. Applications received during this period will charged a \$25.00 sanction fee. In 2013 only, an application for 2014 Wheelchair and Junior tournaments one application shall be due no later than September 3.
- iv. *Junior, Adult Family, and/or Wheelchair tournaments on one Online Sanction Form.* Applicants who apply for a Junior, Adult Family, and/or Wheelchair tournament on one Online Sanction Form will be charged the sanction fee per tournament type.
- v. *Late Applications.* Late Applications are all sanction applications submitted on or after July 1 (and in 2013 only, sanction applications for junior tournaments submitted on or after September 3). The table below sets for the time-table for Late Applications to be considered pursuant to Rule 4.B.:

| Late Applicants Received By: | Will Be Considered On or Before: |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| November 1 | December 1 |
| February 1 | March 1 |
| May 1 | June 1 |
| August 1 | September 1 |

Late Applicants for Junior tournaments will be charged a \$50.00 fee in addition to the sanction fees listed above.

4. Sanction Approval.

- A. *Approval dates.* No later than October 10, sanction applications received by June 30 (and in 2013 only, sanction applications for junior tournaments received by September 3) will be considered for approval pursuant to Rule 4.B. Applications also requiring Board approval shall be approved by the Board no later than October 31. Late Applications will be considered for approval as set forth in table in Rule 3.A.v.
- B. *Sanction approval process.*
 - i. ~~Ten and Under~~ Orange and Green Ball Tournaments. Sanction decisions shall be made by the USTA NorCal staff in consultation with the chair of the ~~Ten and Under Tennis ROG Development~~ Committee and the chair of the Sanction and Schedule Committee. These decisions are not subject to the USTA NorCal Board of Directors Committee Decision Approval Process.
 - ii. *Adult One Day and Family Tournaments.* Sanction decisions shall be made by the chair of the Sanction and Schedule Committee and the chair of the Adult Tournament Committee with staff assistance. These decisions are not subject to the USTA NorCal Board of Directors Committee Decision Approval Process.
 - iii. *All other tournaments.* Except for sanctions for ~~Ten and Under~~ Orange and Green Ball Tournaments (see Rule 4.B.i) and Adult One Day and Family Tournaments (see Rule 4.B.ii), all other sanction approvals shall be made by the Sanction and Schedule Committee. These approvals are subject to the Committee Decision process of the USTA NorCal Board and no sanction approval is considered made until it has been subject to this process.
- C. *Notice of sanction approvals to applicants.* [unchanged]
- D. *Acceptance of sanction.* [unchanged]

- E. Additional documentation required before approved sanction is considered final and tournament appears on TennisLink online calendar. [unchanged]

The Board reiterated the need to market the changes and to educate the member organizations and TSRs. It was also noted that there should be outreach to displaced tournaments.

ROG Pathway: The President noted that there was a successful meeting in Sacramento with Craig Jones, National Player Development, to discuss ways to enhance the ROG pathway. He reported that ideas were sent back to the ROG Committee to review and make recommendations. He also noted that the issue of suspension points is being tabled and will be addressed by the ROG Committee.

Treasurer Report: The Chairman called upon Mr. Collins to provide a report covering NorCal's financial status. Mr. Collins noted that NorCal was financially sound and discussed the timing of revenue and expenditures hitting various line items.

Committee Decisions: The President noted that the Committee decisions were provided in the meeting material. There were no questions from the Board.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: Ms. Bareis noted that Dennis Novikov was named the Pac 12 Player of the Year. Ms. Sloan commented on the USTA Advocacy Days and Tennis Caucus held in Washington, DC. Mr. Collins commented on the increased fees now being charged by satellite sites. The Board briefly discussed the process for filling a Board vacancy and the need to have a formalized process.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Costamagna
Secretary