

## **Minutes of April 14, 2008 Brunswick County Tennis Association Board Of Directors Meeting**

President Michaela Richardson called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Present were Karen Holbrook, Dag Egede-Nissen, Sarah Benjamin, Jan Denney, Tony Regnier, Karen MacKinnon, Diane Wells, Kathy Burnham, and Linda Fluegel.

**Secretary** – In the absence of Secretary Randy Wrigley, Michaela Richardson stated that the minutes for the March 2008 meeting had previously been distributed via email. She asked for additional corrections, and there were none. By unanimous vote, the March 15, 2008 meeting minutes were approved.

**Treasurer** – In the absence of Treasurer Kay Brannon, it was reported that our checking account balance is \$6724.58.

**Membership** – Sarah Benjamin reported that as of the meeting date, BCTA has 302 members.

She brought the new BCTA membership directories to the meeting where they given to those Area Representatives (or their substitutes) who attended the meeting. Sarah reported that 500 directories were printed, 100 more than last year in an effort to avoid having to reprint the directory at a later date to accommodate members who sign up later in the year. Also, an April distribution means that more people can get into the directory now. A list of individuals who join after the compilation of the directory will be emailed to all members next fall.

Sarah stated that the directory cost \$1050 to print. This cost was more than offset by the sale of advertisements in the directory. Some \$1300 was collected for ad sales. She reported that additional help is needed in soliciting ads; only two or three people collected ads this year. The directory is heavy on advertising from businesses in the Shallotte, Southport, and Ocean Isle Beach areas. To reflect the growth of population and tennis activities in the Leland area, more advertising is needed from that part of the county. It was suggested that next year, representatives from the Leland area be recruited to solicit ads.

**Publicity**--Kathy Burnham reported that the *Brunswick Beacon* ran an article about the BCTA annual meeting and start of the new season and that the *Southport Pilot* is reporting BCTA team tennis scores.

**Team Tennis** –Karen MacKinnon, the women's Team Tennis coordinators, reported that some scheduling issues have arisen; a particular concern is rescheduling matches on county courts in case of rain. Dag Egede-Nissen said that he will prepare a schedule for Karen and Ron Madden, the men's Team Tennis coordinator, to review.

There also was some discussion about some matches running extraordinarily long and what could be done to alleviate this. In some cases, long matches have run into time scheduled by others or have resulted in matches ending late at night. It was suggested

that a time limit be imposed: if the first two sets last for two hours or more, then the option of playing a third set is forfeited and a 10 point tie-break is played. However, it was decided that the rules can't be changed mid-season and this proposal was tabled for discussion until the next Team Tennis captains' luncheon in August.

**Youth Tennis.** Karen Holbrook reported that plans are on track for the Summer Youth Tennis Program to be held at five Brunswick County parks on Tuesdays during June and July. A flyer with information about and registration forms for the program will be distributed to students at each of the Brunswick County elementary schools. Children can also sign-up on line.

Karen reported that this past summer, the Department of Parks and Recreation paid a professional instructor to give lessons to about 40 older children. This year, it is planned to hold advanced clinics, to be taught by professionals, for older youths. The clinics will be held at West Brunswick High School and a location yet to be determined in the Leland area. The county is willing to pay the professional tennis instructors \$20 an hour; however, they have indicated that they feel that \$40 (\$60 for an hour and a half) an hour is more in line with their usual fees. Therefore, Karen made a motion that BCTA supplement the county funds by \$30 per lesson for each professional so that they can be paid the \$60 they want for an hour and a half lesson. This motion was seconded and passed by a unanimous vote. This will cost BCTA a total of \$360 (6 weeks at \$30 per instructor).

It was also proposed that BCTA purchase a banner for the each of the five youth tennis sites and that tee-shirts be purchased for all of the children and adult volunteers. Karen is looking into the price of these items and will report back at the next meeting.

Karen reminded the board that training for the youth tennis volunteers will be held the last Saturday in May. This year it is particularly important to attend because Brunswick County is now requiring a criminal background check for all coaches and volunteers.

**Facilities** – Nothing new to report. .

**Newsletter** – Jan Denney reported that a newsletter will be issued next month.

**Special Activities** – Linda Fluegel reported that the season-end Round Robin for team tennis players will be held on Saturday, May 17. Drinks and light refreshments will be provided. It was suggested that BCTA needs a cooler or two to hold drinks at Round Robins and other events. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to authorize Linda to spend up to \$150 to buy a BCTA cooler(s).

**Other Business** – There was some discussion about methods to encourage BCTA members to renew their memberships in a timelier manner. There are several ideas but since the individuals with the information pertaining to these ideas were not present, it was decided to table this discussion until the next board meeting.

Dag suggested that the *Tennis Anyone?* brochure needs to be updated. He volunteered for this task and said that he would have a draft before the next board meeting.

There was some discussion about the BCTA scholarship program for a boy and girl tennis player from each of the two county high schools with tennis programs. This discussion was deferred until the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM. The next meeting is at 7 PM on Monday May 12 at the BEMC building on Rt 17.

Respectfully submitted, Michaela Richardson for Randy Wrigley

**Action Items:**

Linda Fluegel - "Back to Tennis" night; status -> ON HOLD  
Purchase of BCTA cooler(s)

Karen Holbrook – Price BCTA banners and tee-shirts for children and volunteers participating in the summer Youth Tennis Program.

Determine how the monies that were voted to supplement instructors' fees for the advanced youth clinics will be paid: should the money be given to the county for it to give to the instructors or should BCTA have its own contracts with the two instructors (this option would require BCTA to provide the instructors tax forms)?

Dag Egede-Nissen—Update *Tennis Anyone?* flyer.