



San Diego District Tennis Association
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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
December 12, 2023 at Barnes Tennis Center
Next General Meeting Tuesday, January 16, 2024

- I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:04 PM. Called to order by John Broderick. Attendees were Eric Alm, Mike Bauer, Cara Beltran, John Broderick, Janene Christopher, Andrew Cretella, Carole Farr, Juan Garcia, Jeff Greenwald, Dave Jaehnig, Josh Jorgensen, Steve Kappes, Jim Lackritz, Jeffrey Lee, Steve Leffler, Sabi Leon, Randie Lettington, Eric Mann, Hillary Park, Matt Previdi, Aaron Sheinbein, Simon Shen, Todd Sprague. Guests: Angel Lopez, Jami Jones, Linda Milan (USTA SoCal/SCTA Foundation), and scholarship recipients.
- II. MINUTES: October 10, 2023, General Meeting. MSP. November 13, 2023, Executive Meeting. MSP.
- III. Collegiate Scholarship Awards: Presented by Sabi Leon for the District and Angel Lopez, of San Diego Tennis and Racquet Club, who sponsored a separate award for Latino students. Angel commented on the influence of tennis on his life, noting Pancho Gonzales, Pancho Segura, Bob Bacon, and Ben Press and educational institutions such as UCSD and City College. Angel and the District committee asked the applicants to answer the following questions: What does tennis mean to you? What have you contributed to the community and how would the scholarship help you? The collegiate committee discussed and chose the following winners based on the strength of the following: volunteer experience, academic transcript, tennis resume, and their essay answering the requested questions. Summer Roybal received the Angel Lopez scholarship. She is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Kinesiology and a minor in Psychology at Cal State, Los Angeles. The SDDTA Scholarship awardees are Dylan Jones, who is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Biology at UC Santa Cruz, Matthew Sah, who is pursuing a Master's degree in Software Engineering at UC Irvine, and Kaj Salzano, who is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics at Ashland University in Ohio.
- IV. Nominations Committee: Steve Kappes reported for Sandie Kindred who was out of the country. Steve stated that the Committee report would cover five issues including two action items: (1) Directors who have resigned; (2) Directors whose terms are ending, are in good standing, and want to continue to serve (action item); (3) Directors who did not meet the minimum 3 meeting attendance requirement in 2023 but wished to continue (action item); (4) Committee nominations for four new Directors; and (5) The Committee is announcing a slate of officer nominees for 2024.
 - a. Resigning Directors: Four Directors have indicated they are resigning from the board for various reasons: Jeffrey Lee, Carol Jory, Jerome Jayapal, and Shatoo Mohamed. That creates 7 open board positions starting in January 2024.
 - b. Continuing Directors: Eric Alm, Steve Leffler, Sandie Kindred, John Broderick, Cara Beltran, Eric Mann, and Hillary Park. The nominating committee moved that those Directors be approved for 3-year terms starting in January 2024. MSP.

- c. Attendance issue in 2023 but wish to continue: Simon Shen and Sabi Leon did not meet the 3-meeting requirement, but committed to meet the requirement in the future, have continued to serve actively on committees, and would like to continue the board. Renomination to the board was done by paper ballot at the recommendation of the nominating committee. Both board members were voted to remain on the board.
- d. New Director Nominations (3-year term starting in January 2024):
 - i. Casey Moore has over 30 years of experience as a commercial lender with strong knowledge of finance, accounting, and treasury management. He has already made himself available to help on the Finance Committee. His tennis background includes playing Division 1 college tennis, teaching tennis, and playing in leagues and local, national, and international tournaments. MSP
 - ii. Jesse Steinberg has previous experience serving on the SDDTA Board and is familiar with our mission and goals. He has a background in business and tennis, and currently works as General Manager at the Barnes Tennis Center. Jesse will facilitate communication, cooperation, and collaboration between our two organizations. MSP
 - iii. Geoff Griffin served on the SDDTA Board for over 20 years before taking a break a few years ago. Geoff was the Tennis Director at Balboa Tennis Club for over 30 years and is well-connected in the tennis community. He also served on the local board of the USPTA for many years and serves on the Greater San Diego City Tennis Council and the USTA national Advocacy committee. During Geoff's time on the SDDTA Board, he co-founded and ran the District TennisFest event for 20 years, and co-founded and has been a principal member of the Wounded Warrior Tennis Program for 14 years. Geoff was inducted into the San Diego Tennis Hall of Fame in 2020. He brings a wealth of knowledge, experience, and contacts at the local, regional, and national level. MSP.
 - iv. Vicki Tueros is being nominated to fill the need for a wheelchair tennis representative on the Board. Our current representative, Jeff Lee, has a new time-consuming job and will not be able to continue on the Board. He recommended Vicki as a representative of the wheelchair community. She has participated in the wheelchair tennis program at Barnes for over 18 years and has competed in several West Coast tournaments. MSP
- e. 2024 Officer Slate: Steve Leffler (Secretary) and John Broderick (President) will not continue as officers in 2024 due to competing time demands. The Nomination Committee proposes the following 2024 officer slate (information only):
 - i. Jeff Greenwald (President)
 - ii. Carole Farr (Vice President)
 - iii. Hillary Park (Secretary)
 - iv. Jim Lackritz (Treasurer)
- f. John Broderick proposed that paper ballots be used for the officer elections at the January meeting. The motion passed 22-0-2. During discussion, it was agreed to research the question of whether officers could be nominated from the floor. However, Article VIII Section 2 of the SDDTA Bylaws states that "A person wishing to serve as an Association Officer must be nominated by the Nominating Committee ...".

- V. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** John Broderick reported that he and Jeff Greenwald had a virtual meeting with Trevor Kronemann (SCTA President), Linda Milan (SCTA Chief Administrative Officer), and Maria Goldberg (SCTA Senior Director of Competition). SCTA announced that the District would not receive its annual grant and membership fees in 2024 and possibly longer due to the SCTA’s exigent financial requirement to fund its new \$15M Cal State Dominguez Hills Tennis Campus Facility including new SCTA offices. John noted that the District would need to accelerate plans to convert to a 501(c)(3) organization in order to efficiently raise funds to cover the loss of the SCTA contribution. John pointed out that in the long term, this would likely be a positive for the District as it would provide more funding sources, the ability to grow the District budget, and therefore the ability to provide more assistance to our tennis community. In the near term, we will schedule additional discussions with our Executive Committee and the SCTA to identify our path forward. The group discussion focused on defining how the relationship between SDDTA and SCTA would be affected in the future and if membership fees should have been included in the cuts as SDDTA represents 25% of the USTA SoCal membership and is still tasked with many of the same responsibilities to USTA members.
- VI. **TREASURER’S REPORT:** Jim Lackritz noted that the District is approximately \$27k over budget per the November P&L statement with more expenses accruing in December due to around \$7k in grants and personnel expenses or an approximately \$40k budget deficit. However, the return on investments is roughly \$42k to date so we should be close to breakeven for the year. He suggested that going forward, we may want to be more aggressive with our investment strategy. Josh Jorgenson noted that we need to factor in inflation in our projections. MSP.
- VII. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
- a. **Grants** – Janene Christopher reported that University City Racquet Club requested \$2700 for wind screens. The Grant Committee looked at the request and recommended approval of the funding. The motion passed 21-1-1. Peninsula Tennis Club requested \$5k for improvements at the club including resurfacing their courts and new LED lighting. The committee recommended approval. The motion passed 21-0-2.
 - b. **Awards** – Carole Farr noted that invitations for the January 12, 2024 District Awards Banquet at La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club have gone out. Board members and other guests desiring to attend need to respond and pay by January 6th.
 - c. **TennisFest** – Jeff Greenwald/Matt Previdi had no report at this time.
 - d. **Yearbook** – Jeff Greenwald reported that he is targeting December 15th for printing. Contributors are deep into the process. Most interviews are done.
 - e. **Marketing and Advertising** – Cara Beltran reported that the committee is holding monthly Zoom calls. It would be good to have the other SDDTA committees report back to the Marketing committee on how to promote their areas. The committee is looking for photos and feedback from tournaments that can be posted. Content can be submitted by Board members participating in tournaments. We want to spotlight winners so ask for head shots. Carole Farr proposed having our teaching pros send in short videos on a training or playing tip or favorite drill. The Committee anticipates posting videos from the locally-based touring pros and commentary from the Awards

Banquet winners in January. The goal is to continue to grow engagement in the District social media channels.

- f. **SDTHOF** – Dave Jaehnig announced that nominations are due by late February. Let Dave know if you would like to make a nomination or use the form on the SDDTA website.
- g. **Tournaments**– Carole Farr reported that the Martin Luther King Jr. tournament registration closes January 9th. The tournament will be held at Mountain View Sports and Racquet Club from January 12th – 22nd.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **501(c)(3) Proposal** – Steve Leffler briefly updated the status of the proposal. The Executive Committee has discussed, and the consensus is to move forward especially considering the SCTA funding decision. The SCTA Foundation may be able to act as a financial partner for SDDTA in the interim.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Committee Chairs Meeting** – John Broderick advised that the Committee Chairs meeting would be held sometime after the January General Board meeting.
- b. **SCTA Foundation** – Linda Milan reported that the SCTA Foundation funded junior grants in San Diego, helped with the Hendrickson Wheelchair Tournament and ran family tennis days at local clubs in 2023. However, the TennisFest grant will likely need to be reduced by 30-50% next year.

- X. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Leffler, Secretary

John Broderick, President

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