

Tennis Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes May 7, 2009

- **Bring Meeting To Order:**

Attending: Bob Ostrom, Jan Bloomhall, Marcia DeVries, Amy Ciarrocchi, Pam Lemon, Janet Craycraft, Judy Schafft, Lori Frantz, Teressa Crocker, Norma Schuyler, Monnie Kane, Sue McNear, Rich Fox, Mike Curran, T.A. Niles, Joel Hampton, Laurie Martin

- **Event Review:**

- **Memorial Day** – Todd & Jamie Lewis
- **July 4th** – Alan Canfield & Amy Ciarrocchi
- **Labor Day** – Loretta Poppinga
- **Halloween** – Tim Baldwin

All of the 2009-2010 tennis events are now available on the Club's Master Calendar which is on the Club's web site www.gulpharbour.com

Tennis Directors Report

- **Court Irrigation Report:**

- Several meetings were conducted with Welch Tennis Company in April concerning the court irrigation system.

What we know:

- Low water pressure has definitely played a major role in the condition of our courts.
- We have set our timers to water only one court at a time so that water pressure is maximized.
- Courts look better but still may need tweaking to keep them from being overly moist in the mornings.
- Volney and Fred Geist (Estero Sprinkler) are working on getting more water pressure by replacing filters and backwash tank.'

- -Welch has been here all week replacing the valve boxes and valve solenoids
- Ficus trees are gone... new palms installed 12ft back from fence

- **In the works:**

- Gulf Harbour is hosting the SWFL Clay Court Seminar on May 7th. TA, Joel, Jerry and I will be in attendance.
- We will meet with Bob McGuire on May 8th to get quote info on fence and light post repairs and possible water fountain installation.
- Our new tennis maintenance golf cart should be ready this week.

- **On-Line Court Reservations System Update** – T.A., Mike, and Bob have been working with Club Essentials to customize our new on-line sign-up system. T.A. expects the system to begin testing with a small group of members within the next 2-3 weeks, with full implementation sometime this summer.

- **Round Robins:**

- Status for Round Robins – Members, Bill Crouch and Jim Rollero assisted with the pairings in March. Since then we have cut back to one session which is well attended and the staff is doing the pairings.

New Business

- **Clarify Off Season Guest Policy... Current Rule:** *During season when our courts are heavily used guests are not allowed to play on our courts until 11:00am except when approved by the tennis staff and/or tennis Committee.*

There was at least 45 minutes of discussion by the attendees on this subject. The controversy is how to insure that the members always have priority over guests during the summer. Several of the attendees were here to advocate changing the guest time from 11:00 to 9:30 during the summer so they could play when it is not so hot. The majority of the committee attendees and advisory committee members felt this could be a problem as the courts are very busy from 8:00-11:00. However, several others felt there was no problem getting courts in the morning during the summer. Apparently, there are currently 3 round robin teams vying for courts on Thursdays and this scheduling conflict needs to be cleared up before play begins. After listening to the discussion the committee voted to modify the tennis rules to state that all year long guest play will begin at 11:00am. However, beginning immediately, members can call 24 hours in advance of a court time to sign-up, with guests, for any open court. This sign-up rule will be added to the new court sign-up software expected to be running in the next month or so. The committee has asked the staff to monitor the available court situation during the summer to see if there are actually are open courts available in the mornings and make suggestions for modifying the policy if possible.

There is still an outstanding issue with the round robin teams that have signed up for more than 3 courts. The tennis rules only allow a member to sign-up for 3 courts. If they want more, they must request permission from the staff or advisory committee. The staff will address this problem.

- **Lady's Team Captain's Council** – This was the hot topic of discussion at today's meeting. Bob asked all of the attendees if anyone believed that the way the Gulf Harbour lady's teams were organized this spring was broken or not. All attendees agreed that the current system is not fair and is indeed broken and needs to be fixed. There was a lot of discussion that centered on whether the pros should make the player assignments and organize the teams, or take a more passive roll and let the captains run the teams. Bob proposed his idea of creating a Lady's Team Captain's Council next fall. Working with Mike and T.A., they believe that the primary criteria for the selection of each team should be the player's rating and ranking within our groups. That said the discussion focused on the inequities in the rating system and the objective of having a team for any member that wants to play on a team. The new captain's council will be made up of all of next season's team captains. Mike and his staff will work with the council to establish written standards and guidelines for the management of the teams, to include: an election process for each team's captain, policy's for team communications, and timelines for the selection of team rosters after the ratings are published each spring. A meeting of all the captains will be convened sometime in October to begin this process.

- **Summer Projects & Planning**
 - New drainage between courts 6&7
 - Replace canvas for court 6 & 7 canopy
 - Design and estimates for court 1-2 equipment storage
 - Analysis of water drainage issues and solutions between courts 6&7
 - 2010 Operational & Capital Projects Budget.

The Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 3rd, 2:00pm – Johnny Brown's Terrace