

Tennis Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – March 3, 2009

- **Bring Meeting To Order:**

Attending: Carol Rollero, Jan Bloomhall, Bob Ostrom, Tim Baldwin, Lili Canfield, Alan Canfield, Mike Curran, T.A. Niles, Joel Hampton, Laurie Martin, John Hess, Terry Brady, Amy Ciarrocch, Marianne Crouch, Marcia DeVries, Rich Fox, Norma Schuyler, Pam Lemon, Loretta Poppinga

Upcoming Events

- **Pro League @ Bonita Bay – March 13th 4:00pm**
- **Club Championship Doubles Tournament – March 13-15**
- **Tennis Fiesta Night Dinner – March 15th 5:30pm**
- **Davis Cup Tennis Event – April 3 & 4**
- **Annual Tennis Celebration – April 4th** Marcia & Amy will coordinate decorations, Bob will arrange menu

Tennis Directors Report:

Court Maintenance Issues:

- Water intake line switched not much better using golf course pump. Still clogging court water filters with particulate.
- May need to reinstitute the chlorine filter located in the shed.
- Bad canisters have been replaced and the timers have been set (by Welch)
- We dropped close to 3,000lbs of clay on courts 5 and 6.
- Looking for time to block off Courts 1 and 2 for same treatment.

Pro Shop:

- Getting more good reviews about the pro shop.
- Laurie is outperforming the projected budget over the last several weeks. Laurie going to Naples Tennis Merchandise Show in Naples next week.

Round Robins:

- Getting more responses from the surveys. Tennis surveys can be picked up in the Tennis Shop
- Feb 21st 3.5 session very low participation (5 members that showed on time, 6 in all).
- Feb 21st second session (open play) 18 members participated, Alan Canfield and Bill Wright stayed for the second session to even out the courts.
- Feb 28th 8:00 morning session (paired by pros/George Kane) we had 12 members participate.
- Feb 28th 10:00 morning session (paired by pros/George Kane) we had 24 members participate.
- Next week's round robin we pick numbers for court assignment.

Tree Trimming:

- Tree trimming is scheduled for Wednesday March 4th to take care of removing the coconuts. This process could take some time to complete so we ask for everyone to be patient with the workers as they have a job to do and cannot perform this job during the night, (which has been suggested to me☺).

Men's and Women's Club Championships:

- As of Saturday Feb 28th 2:30 we have 38 teams entered. Looks like we are in for some more big draws!
- As the Club rules prohibit bringing or consuming food and beverages brought from outside the Club on to the Club's premises... we discussed our options since these rules have never been enforced. Bob, Rick, and Mike have arranged for the Club to provide non-alcoholic beverage for official Club functions (Championships, Pro-leagues, exhibitions, etc.). Beer (\$1.50 drafts), wine, and food will be available from the Tiki Hut. Bob will suggest to the BOG that we grandfather or exempt the leagues regarding outside coolers, and allow them to continue providing coolers for matches, as this is "standard" practice for all local tennis programs, and would be difficult for our Club to offer them given the odd times for some matches. Bob will report back on his progress on this issue with the BOG.

Old Business

- Lili reported that the Memorial Tennis Event collected over \$4,000. this year almost doubling last year's contributions. The Committee thanked Lili for all the work she did this year, and encourage the Tennis group to volunteer to help next year.
- Jan reported that Mike, Amy, and Jan will be sending out a letter to all ladies suggesting that in these economic times the teams should stick with the current black, white, and gold uniforms and Laurie will try to find complementary additions and accessories for next season. John Hess asked if Laurie would also work on getting the same style team shirts as they ordered last year.
- Mike announced that a new Club Attendant is being hired part-time to check to see that all of the people at the Pool are Members or that guests have valid guest passes. This will probably begin next week, and it is aimed at preventing non-members, or Members who are not in good standing, from using Club facilities.
- Mandatory Tennis Court Sign-in – All members must sign-in before taking a court and identify all players and guests.
- New Club Web Site – Tennis Pages & Pictures www.gulfharbour.com
- Pro Shop Sales & Promotions

New Business

- John Hess presented the men's Intramural plans for this spring. Sign-ups will begin this week and play will start March 24th for 6 weeks, with matches being scheduled at 1:00pm. The competition will use the same format as last year.
- Tim suggested to Mike that they look into power washing the pavers between courts 6 & 7.
- The Committee noted what a great job Jerry is doing with our court maintenance. Mike and Laurie asked that Members be courteous and patient during the morning court grooming before matches.
- Tennis Etiquette and Attire rules. Specifically, inappropriate tennis etiquette, the wearing of non-tennis attire, and the use vulgar language used during the finals of the Men's singles and the Mixed Double's tournaments. Mike and the staff will address the issue with the players involved.
- Welsh Tennis Court's Regional Meeting will be held here May 8th. Over 50 Tennis professionals from all over Florida will be here to learn about court maintenance. Because we are hosting the event, Welsh will help us with our courts and allow our staff members to attend the seminars for free.
- Terry submitted 3 pages of suggestions and ideas to the Committee members for consideration. The documents include Terry's ideas for restructuring several aspects of the Staff and Tennis Committee procedures. Terry provided the attendees with a brief overview of his personal background with the Gulf Harbour tennis program, and his philosophy and rationale for the changes he suggested in his documents.

- Bob provided background on the chain of command for the attendees, pointing out the fact that under the Club's by-laws the advisory committees have no direct authority whatsoever. The committees are here to provide guidance and advice to the Board of Director chairman of the committees, and ultimately to the Board of Governors. The staff only reports to Rick Newman, and Rick reports to the Board of Governors as a whole. The Board sets operational and managerial guidelines and objectives for Rick to carry out, and he implements and manages the Club accordingly.

All of the committees are selected from the Members who annually volunteer to help on the advisory committees. The BOG chairmen of the committees are responsible for selecting the members of the committees every year. Terry is also concerned that the Tennis Advisory Committee is not balanced enough with "low level" players and has too many "upper level" players. Several attendees noted that all of us start out as "lower level" players and volunteer to share our experience with the tennis community. Bob said he would continue to promote as much diversity on the committee as possible, but that it was difficult to get Tennis members to volunteer their time to work on the program. However, once again next fall we will ask for Members to volunteer their time to the Tennis Advisory Committee. After a through discussion on these subjects, the Committee and Terry agreed that we all have the best interests for our Tennis program at heart and the Tennis Advisory Committee will keep all of Terry's ideas in mind as we move forward to make our Tennis Program continue to be one of the best in Southwest Florida.

- Terry also led a discussion about the state of the Saturday Round Robins. All attendees agreed that we need to do whatever we can to revitalize the Round Robins. The consensus of opinion was that after next week's number draw format, we should go with the balance pairings format for the Round Robins beginning the weekend after the Club Doubles Championships. Mike will work with George to equalize the weekly pairings and we hope this will get more members enthusiastic about signing up for the Saturday Round Robins again.

The Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 7, 12:30pm - Lunch Meeting at Johnny Browns