

**CTUA Annual Meeting
October 29, 2017, 10:00am
Meadow Creek Tennis Club**

The meeting was called to order at 10:06pm. There were 16 members present, constituting a quorum for the meeting.

Attendee List:

Board Members (5)

Jackie Jones
Chuck Jones
Tom Conter
Pat Zuraski
Karla Simons

General Members (11)

Deb Weinstein
Stacy Groves
Jim Bernuth
Brett Haberstick
Nancy Swenson
Brian Underwood

Jon Messick
Leatha LeBlanc
Joel Larner
Kelly Calabrese
Kerwin Swenson

2016 annual meeting minutes:

Approved by consensus

Treasurer's Report: Pat Zuraski

- Income was similar to last year, \$111,000 has been paid out to officials. Income was down 4%.
- We had fewer umpires required at USTA Colorado events (-\$2000)
- Membership was down compared to previous years. 40 paid members plus 7 board members.
- Four sources of income: College 43%, High School 18%, USTA-Colorado 19%, and Local tournaments 20%
- Direct deposit costs are \$30 per month plus .20 per transaction. This fee was supposed to increase to \$40 per month, but Pat negotiated it to remain the same for one more year.
- Income for CTUA comes from \$40 membership dues, and late fees that are paid by slow paying customers.
- Loss on P&L was primarily due to \$1200 paid to develop a new website. There will be a yearly maintenance fee of approximately \$120 for the website.
- An approved \$600 payment was made to the treasurer for his accounting services.
- Joel thanked Pat for his countless hours in keeping the CTUA invoices and payments up to date and accurate.

- Treasurers report, P&L and Balance Sheet attached
- Treasurers report – Approved as presented

Kerwin had a question about HS payments being late. Pat explained that we have a late fee on the invoice, Pat calls when the invoice is late and then we wait. We have no real power to do anything to get the schools to pay quicker. The spring is always difficult because the end of the school year falls when the payments are due.

HIGHLIGHT WHAT CTUA HAS DONE THIS YEAR

- Mentored 3 new officials, Kelly Calabrese, Nancy Swenson, and John Boose. We need more new officials. Recruiting flyer available. Tom Conter is the CTUA contact for getting new officials started.
- 5 New ITA officials trained this year: Jon Messick, Chuck Jones, Brian Underwood, Tim Beckman and Brett Haberstick. All are doing roving ITA and some have completed the chair training for ITA.
- Informal ITA Chair training with Becky Grace with Randy Brame supervising.
- Preliminary Line training of new ITA officials by Joel Lerner.
- Mentoring grant received from USTA Colorado \$212.
- USTA training modules had challenges because of the way it was produced by USTA. Brett sent out information to clarify what was necessary.
- CTUA website on line and a great resource. Tom is very quick to react to necessary changes. Question and Answer Forum on the website that needs to be used by our membership. There is a user guide for the forum on the website which is very helpful in learning to use the Forum.
- New and expanded Code of Conduct is an attachment given out. I will add it to the minutes on the website. Use your feet to move on when someone wants to have a prolonged conversation. Sitting is ok, but do not get on cell phone, continue to focus on your assigned courts. This is different from the breaks you take during the day and you actually get away from the courts for a few minutes. You should not make reference to players by physical characteristics, ethnicity, or disparaging statement. Tom had a statement about the fact that someone around may be videotaping or listening. We are professionals and need to act that way.
- Match Feedback form an attachment given out. Used by tournaments to give feedback by both players, and officials. Replaces the incident report. Feel free to reproduce.
- New fee schedule \$120 USTA daily rate. ITA fee schedule rate for chairs is based on the courts officiated. These fee schedules were handed out and can be found on the website. We have not had a fee increase in at least 7 years. 20% fee increase in daily rate for Roving USTA and ITA. New fee schedule will be sent out to USTA Colorado as well as CHSAA after the 1st of January. ITA coaches have already received the new fee schedule which was in effect during Fall ITA tournaments.
- CTUA dues increase for 2018 \$45. This will help with ACH transfers. We will have more income in bank account to buffer deposits that might be held for a few days. Membership is
- Would like to recognize Life Time Achievement for long time officials. Brett is working on an award from USTA. Lifetime membership for Don Willsie.
- Pat noted that Jackie received the Nicholas E. Powell award for lifetime achievement at the Grassroot officiating level. Jackie thanked the membership for their contribution to my getting the award.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Brett Haberstick (Boulder area): Everyone very flexible. Karla and Brett worked together in utilizing officials in the best way possible.

- Barry Riddle (CU) not at the meeting.
- Tom Conter (Southern Colorado and USAFA): Took over from Don Willsie in September. In process of scheduling College matches.
- Joel Lerner (Northern Colorado, Wyoming and CSU): Wyoming going to 4 officials for all matches. Challenging to staff all needs, so please try to help out whenever you can. Fewer officials in the organization.
- Deb Weinstein (Jr Events): JTT and JR summer sectionals had problem providing the number of officials at requested sites. Many had to work 10-12 courts because of lack of officials. Summer sectionals needed 14 officials each day and we had 9 officials available each day. Please take a brochure and recruit! Talk to more people. Rates have gone up so it might be a good time to get more officials involved.
- Karla Simons (Adult USTA Colorado): Karla able to fill all slots mostly because she was not able to hire her usual court coverage per USTA Colorado request for fewer officials at each event. Kerwin worked many events. This cut back is a direct request from USTA Colorado due to the off-court approach. They feel they do not need 1 official for every 8 courts. They have been unwavering in this even with Karla requesting more officials be hired. Some officials will not work more than 8-10 courts, so they do not apply to work sites with more than 8-10 courts.
- Patti Bowman (Adult & Jr & 5A HS State): Patti had difficulty filling slots for State open, but she will now put out the requests to all the membership and maybe more applicants will make it easier. Stacey worked 7 days of the tournament.
- Sandy Zimmerman (CHSAA regionals): Sandy had a problem this fall with sites we were not able to cover all the days requested. Leatha went to Fairview one day. She gets extra credit as that if a geographically difficult site to cover with one official. Possible problem is the tournaments were only Wednesday-Thursday with Friday and Saturday as a backup day for most. This puts more pressure on officiating needs with all officials needed on the same days. Please set aside the 1st week of May for Girls' HS regionals as there are even more girls' regionals than boys.

USTA COLORADO LIAISON REPORT: BARRY RIDDLE

Not at meeting. Parker tennis association indoor facility getting off the ground this year. This might be a good thing for us as Paige Hiatt has indicated there might be the opportunity to have training events at the new facility,

SECTIONAL CHAIR'S REPORT: BRETT HABERSTICK

- Brett asked who has completed minimum certification requirement. Nov 10 is the deadline for completing the minimum requirement. Just do the rover 2 as the minimum. Last year was lengthy requirement. Officials more trained than most teaching pros. At a meeting Brett attended, those in attendance were surprised at the number of hours required for the certification last year. Thanks to everyone for persisting with the challenges from software glitches to not being able to sign in. Thanks for making USTA aware of the problems, this will help get things right in the future. Firefox and Mozilla are not platforms supported by the testing module. Use Chrome, Safari and Explorer for the testing modules. Everyone received an email on October 16 from USTA. On the first line there was a Link to Safeplay. Please open this link and read the material presented. This is one of the most significant items put out by USTA officiating this year. The document is called Respect Serve It Up and is all about officiating and safeplay. This document talks about official to official interaction and how we are involved in the tournament atmosphere. Safeplay is very important to USTA. Everything going forward in USTA is going to involve Safeplay. Reporting guidelines included in the document. Grievances filed against an official are big deals at USTA. Intermountain has had 3 grievances filed this year. Legal issues involving officials have resulted in some of the largest payouts against USTA. Professionalism in Colorado is by

far one of the best in the country. We do not want to let our guard down just because we are doing what is right. Code violation forms need to be given to tournament director. The impact to JR's is suspension points. At TD meeting this year, it is the responsibility of the TD to enter this in TDM which tracks to USTA national. New rule being considered "Do you believe that having a code violation after 2 overrules in a JR event would promote better sportsmanship?" Pretty much everyone agreed. How to operate this if we have 1 official to 10 courts and how will you be there enough to see that someone is hooking another player. Brett will be soliciting more comments in the future. We hold fairness and consistency as important standards when officiating. Brett trying to bring officials and officiating into the fold of USTA tournaments. Want officials as more of the process. No district chairs, have a committee composed of TD's, college coaches and officials. Want a team approach. Recognized Pat's achievements at the US Open and his years of service. NUCULA is being replaced next year. Officials First is the name of the new platform. Certification will go to a rolling certification. When you complete your certification, that will be the date of your next certification. Hopefully a one click operation where you can branch out into the learning center, tennis link and whatever you need. Thank you to everyone. As the section chair and president of the section, I am here for you. Please contact me if you have needs. Hope to get back to the numbers of officials we have had in the past. Tom asked questions about recruiting by USTA nationals. Push is to involve college and HS kids, officials in other sports, TD's, teaching pros, full time officials. Social media, electronic, print. Tom, asked question about how CTUA will find out about contacts produced through USTA. Section chair will connect recruits with CTUA. USTA wants a consistent message to everyone being recruits. Statement about reading FAC more often brought to the attention of membership. Will have more Webinars that are topic specific, these will be optional, but necessary.

ADE BUTLER AWARD

Joel Larner is the 2018 Recipient. This is recognition for outstanding service to the organization. Comment by Pat about Joel's rapid rise in the umpiring world.

GRASSROOTS UMPIRE FOR INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION

Idaho's Curtis Egge

OPEN DISCUSSION

- How are we officiating using the off-court approach?

Brett said at the section level trying to have consistency. There is going to be an outreach to everyone. There will be a tournament packet to all TD's about what this approach will look like.

Karla does not like it because it is different from how she was trained. Foot-faults, how and when we will call. Hopes there will be some consistency from USTA and section as to how this will be accomplished.

Tom, while working he could get to court when needed more quickly when using the off-court approach. That said, off-court we are missing overrules of line calls.

Joel, no matter what, we need to generate consistency within our organization. Need to move about enough to see where an umpire is needed and when it is appropriate to go on court. Be there when a situation arises.

Pat, product of being on court. His opinion is leaning toward liking off-court better because he can start matches, time warm-ups, and inform desk when courts are open. Written into job description that you

should start every match you possibly and time warmups. Our presence throughout the entire site is felt.

Brian said 2 different functions, either starting matches, or being on court to overrule line calls and such.

Kelly when one court learned she went on a court, all wanted her on a court. She sees you can both be on court when necessary as well as starting matches.

Jon stated that some inconsistency comes from the inconsistency of the facility, and tournament directors.

Deb attended small college workshop. Preferred method if you have 4 courts stand between 1&2 looking toward 2.3.4 and listening for problems on 1 and turn around occasionally. If you have 6 courts, stand to see 4 and listen for the 2 behind and turn occasionally.

Paige through previous phone conversation said we have levels of officiating: Young people – HS as well as JR events at different levels, Adults – league play and tournament players and College. Each level requires a different way of officiating. By getting on the court and doing a coin toss and having a face to face, you establish your presence and the players will come and get you if they need you.

Jackie said tennis is a “gentlemen’s” game and really should be up to the players to be fair in their play. They may not know all the rules, and will need help with things on occasion. Coaches and teaching pros should be teaching sportsmanship from the very beginning.

Jim includes in pre-match verbiage the idea that it is the players match and they should be making their calls loud, visible and timely. We make our presence known when we go on the court for the coin toss.

- Therapy support dogs on the court: If there is disruption to the match how should it be handled? We cannot ask the person about their disability. We can ask what service the dog performs. USTA national needs to rule on what this hinderance would be and how it is handled. Could be warning for hinderance, and just keep taking away points for each occurrence. Could be warning, point, game, default.
- Paige brought up idea of Conference call/webinar with CTUA members to discuss specific topics. Have multiple touches with other officials within our organization.
- Brian offer to go to HS practices to go through what an official will be doing and rules questions.

Jackie will bring up to Bethany this idea and find a way to pass on to the coaches. Group indicated willingness to do this on a voluntary basis.

BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS: 3 POSITIONS

Current board positions expiring: Barry Riddle, Karla Simons and Jackie Jones

Jon Messick and Joel Lerner and Jackie Jones elected by consensus

Thank you for the turnout this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15pm.