

Minutes
SCTA Meeting, January 22, 2020
Bayside Room, Lakehouse

Attendees: Bruce McConnell, Past President
Chris L. Scott, President
Tom Bastian, Treasurer
Sheryl Tschetter, Secretary
Don Green, Chair, Nominating Committee
Dudley Kay, Director
Mitzi Hawley, Director
John Black, Director
Debra Murray, Ambassador

Absent: Cindy Good, Vice-President

Guests: Steve Sandike
Sign-in sheet on file

Meeting was called to order by Bruce McConnell at 6:01 pm, who moved forward the sitting Vice President into the Presidency, thereby introducing newly elected President, Chris L. Scott. Then, additional board members were approved; these included Cindy Good, Vice-President (in abstention), and Tom Bastian, Treasurer. Chris Scott led the remainder of the meeting

Treasurer's Report: Tom Bastian

Tom went over the CC90 report – an annual report required for all chartered clubs by Lifestyle Services – and discussed the beginning 2019 balance of \$50,315 and the ending balance of \$41,233. The CC90 was approved by Chris Scott and the board.

New Business: Steve Sandike

Overflow: Steve shared information regarding how we get Overflow when we are trying to schedule courts through Chelsea. Elements contributing to Overflow include:

1. Players attempting to be part of a court schedule who are already listed as a default player on a team or group via lottery for that day, will get overflow. Steve emphasized the importance of group leaders staying on top of who the default players will be each week to avoid this type of situation.
2. The priority for scheduling courts is
 - a. Four people
 - b. Two people
 - c. Guests—listing “Guest” instead of a specific name, affects overflow negatively;
3. The court “score” (based on the number of times a player plays each week) is taken into consideration rewarding those who play less. However, when there are courts available and many requests have the same court “score,” then, it is the luck of the draw; and
4. The window of time requested is too narrow.

Steve reminded everyone that there is a document entitled “Enhancing Your Chances” on the SCTA website under Documents, then, Board Documents.

<https://sctatennis.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Enhancing-Your-Chances-for-a-Booking.pdf>

Steve has agreed to make his presentation available, so when we have that information, we will forward it.

Losing courts 5 & 6: Steve explained that while we lose courts 5 & 6 to clinics and lessons, we have gained

- use of 12, 13, and 14 for “preplacement.” Preplacement allows SCTA to place USTA matches, Intraclub, Lottery Groups, etc., in Chelsea prior to the courts being open for general scheduling, and this is the first time these courts have been available for “preplacement”; and
- use of all 12 lower courts from noon – 2:00 pm, including 5 and 6, to schedule the above-mentioned groups.

However, Steve recognizes that we lose 3 hours of tennis in courts 5 and 6, but we gain clinics and lessons as well as a tennis professional and a scheduler. Overall, Steve sees it as a win for SCTA.

At present, Gavin keeps courts 5 and 6 for clinics/lessons until approximately one hour before they are scheduled. Then, if not needed, he releases them. This is an issue for continuing discussion. Also, Bruce McConnell reminded everyone that with the opening of courts 15 and 16 in or around May, 20,000 more people can play tennis annually from 7:30 – 3:30. Also, we do not control the courts in the mornings.

Court availability: Steve reminded everyone that the only way to see if courts are available or even open, is to check with Chelsea, especially since we can no longer access the status recording by phone. Also, there is a tennis pro checking courts early on Sunday mornings to determine court status and this will be posted to Chelsea. Remember, when needing to know if courts are open, it always comes down to our own good judgment.

Policies and Procedures Manual (P n P): Steve provided a brief summary of the history of the P n P and there are plans to update the current version starting in February. Sheryl Tschetter has agreed to work with Steve on this project.

Communications:

Suggestion Box: Steve mentioned that he had been told a member had left a suggestion in the suggestion box, but when Steve went to retrieve it, the suggestion was not in the box. Steve will follow up, so future suggestions will be read.

Radio: On the Friday following each SCTA monthly meeting, Chris Scott will be on Talk One Radio with Al Kwiatkowski to discuss the details of the meeting. To listen to the interview, please access <http://www.talkoneradio.com> and click the “Listen here” button.

Sun City News: Chris Scott announced that Norma Taylor will interview Gavin Cox on January 20, Geo Villegas on January 23, and will support our dinner dance on February 15.

SCTA Tennis Events:

Dudley Kay announced that the **2020 Mix n Match Tournament** will be held April 30 – May 3, with the get to know your team dinner scheduled for April 27 at 6:00 pm.

Chris announced that our **Club Championship** is tentatively scheduled for November 2020 and Gavin and his staff will help. These are the only two events scheduled until we know what events Gavin will provide.

Dinner Dance on February 15: Diane Dowling announced there are only 17 tickets left to our annual dinner dance, **Moonlight Over Athens**. Well done!

Pro League: Chris announced that we are very close to hosting this tennis exhibition and charity event. If we do host, it will be scheduled after the Mix n Match. Watch for more information.

Pulte and SCHHCA Board: Chris Scott

Pulte has agreed to pay for lights on courts 15 and 16. However, moving forward, Anna Marie Tabernik, representing the SCHHCA Board, wants SCTA to commit to investing in further enhancements for tennis. Chris pointed out that he is trying to get more specific information from the board because it is difficult to determine what enhancements they might be discussing and what the costs would be. For example, the shaded areas on courts 13 and 14 were \$10,000 and if we wanted water on courts 13 and 14, that might be \$16,000.

The SCHHCA Board pointed out that they have invested \$750,000 in tennis to date, so if we want extra seating, lights, etc., they want us to invest. This has resulted in needing to address the email from SCHHCA Board email line by line and surveying SCTA members as to how monies should be used. Tom Bastian will draft an email to Anna Marie Tabernik addressing this issue. We will update as soon as there is more information.

Form CC50 Signing and Directors' Responsibilities: Chris Scott

Due to the large number of guests, these issues were tabled.

Old Business:

Court Conditions: Chris Scott

Chris Scott, Tom Bastian, and Steve Sandike walked all the courts along with Geo Villegas and Gavin Cox. During this, they documented every problem. As a result,

- Geo informed the SCTA team that all landscaping is being replaced at the courts and surrounding area in preparation for 25th celebration;
- SCTA leadership is meeting with Har Tru Friday, January 24, at 10 am to point out the problems and get them resolved;
- SCTA leadership is determined to find out the best way to maintain the courts and see that the processes are implemented;
- Chris Scott is meeting with Geo to address the watering problems and when concluded, he will report to the board and membership via an Eblast. Tom Bastian pointed out that we need a maintenance program to maintain our courts;

- Chris explained that the fencing company has been contacted to come and solve problem areas in our fencing; and
- Chris reported that Gavin cannot tell us what to do for maintenance on our courts. After Friday's meeting with HarTru, Chris wants to make a presentation to SCHHCA Board to show the board what maintenance it will take to sustain our courts and their \$750,000 investment.

Rosetta Mats: Chris Scott

We agreed to purchase new mats for the courts.

Guest Fees: Chris Scott

Guest fees have been reduced to \$10 per person with a maximum of \$20. The SCTA will continue to argue that family members should be free, but this is an issue determined by the SCHHCA Board of Directors.

Dogs: Chris Scott

Signs are being made about picking up after dogs at the tennis courts and NOT tossing their canine leavings into our trash containers or ball donation bin. Dog owners are encouraged to remove the dogs' business from the tennis property.

Also, Bruce McConnell has seen tennis players tether their dogs to the fences while they play tennis. This is not allowed, so please discontinue this practice.

Membership Update: John Black

John reported we have 657 current paid members and 62 of these are new. Unfortunately, as the \$50 charge has hit Cam card accounts, some people are withdrawing, and overall, we lost approximately 300 members. John suggests we need to establish a policy for refunds, particularly with members who relocate, get injured, etc. Steve Sandike pointed out we do have evidence of people approving the charge to their account.

The electronic directory can be opened by going to suncityhiltonhead.com and signing in. Then, select "Clubs and Groups," then, "Sports," and finally, "Tennis Association." The electronic membership is at the bottom of the page. Click on it to open it. It is up to date.

Chris pointed out that if non-SCTA members attempt to participate in social events, USTA, etc., their Cam cards will not be accepted as they must be paid members to participate. John pointed out that our Eblasts are going to the 2019 membership list and that needs to be purged.

Women's' Tennis Organization (WTO): Mitzi Hawley (for Anne Clemmitt)

Mitzi Hawley read the WTO report to the attendees. The major points include:

- ❖ WTO has been in existence 13 years;
- ❖ Kelly Walsh has joined the WTO Steering Committee;
- ❖ **Program of Events 2020:**
 - February 10 – 14: *Food for Love*—collection of food, supplies, and donations to Bluffton Self Help with delivery date of February 14. Details to follow by email.
Chairperson: Jo Ellen Bitner and her Fireballs

- Saturday, April 18, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm: *Charity Fundraiser*—there is only one scheduled this year. Local charities include: Memorial Scholarship Fund, Public Tennis, Inc., Bluffton Self Help, Carolina Cups. Budget is \$8000. Help is needed for food, beverage, decorations, etc. **If you can help, please contact JoJo Barthman at jbarthman@aol.com**
- September 16 or 23rd at 5:00 pm: *Fall Wine and Cheese*, a “meet and greet” for all women SCTA members. Watch for more information.
- Women’s Interclub League—Fall 2020
Former captains will discuss the viability of this league for 2020 and future.
- If you have any tennis clothes, shoes, equipment, etc. in good condition that you are willing to donate to junior players in need, please contact Dr. Diana Seggie at mdseggie@aol.com or Anne Clemmitt at suncityclem@aol.com.

Public Forum: Facilitated by Chris Scott

There were many issues brought forth by the guests at the board meeting. Among those issues are

1. Guest Fees: These fees continue to be a source of debate with attendees supporting both sides of this issue. SCTA continues to represent its membership in this area, but the deciding body at Sun City is the SCHHCA Board of Directors. The SCHHCA Board may consider this a revenue generating resource because many tennis players choose to use “guest” as a place holder. Hopefully, as tennis players provide names for the court schedule (especially since “guest” impacts court availability negatively), the SCHHCA board may realize it is not the money-making vehicle originally thought.

One option put forth was to allow family members to use the courts for free after 5:00 pm. However, it was pointed out that everyone using the courts, regardless of time, have an impact on our courts’ conditions which could result in additional costs.

2. Gavin: Several attendees want to know exactly what Gavin’s responsibilities will be. We also want to know what his social events will be. We need some clarification from Health and Wellness, who directs Gavin’s activities.
3. Problems/Hazards at tennis courts: An attendee pointed out several hazards that have existed on court 6 and court 9. It was suggested that work tickets should be submitted, but it was pointed out that work tickets seem to go unheeded. Other options included using the Ombudsman in this area.
4. Enhancements: Attendees expressed concern about SCTA needing to invest in enhancements, but Tom Bastian was very clear that his understanding is if we want enhancements, we will need to make an investment.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.