

**SCTA Board Meeting Minutes**  
**April 17, 2024**  
**Lakehouse Bayside Room, 6:00PM**

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**Board Attendees:** Chris Scott, Interim President  
Martha Widgen, Treasurer  
Michael Sacks, Director, Membership  
Laurie Williams, Secretary  
Michael Ryan, Director, Bucket Brigade/Ombudsman  
Carolyn Walton, Director, Events  
Deb Campbell, Director, Tennis Ambassadors

**Absent:** Tyler Tollstrup, Vice President

**Call to Order: Chris Scott**

Chris called the meeting to order at 6:07PM and determined that a quorum of the Board was present. Laurie verified that the March 6, 2024 Board/General Membership meeting minutes had been posted to the Logo bulletin board, the SCTA website, and emailed in an E-Blast to the members. Deb moved to approve the minutes and Michael Sacks seconded the motion; the minutes were unanimously approved by the Board.

**Treasurer's Report: Martha Widgen**

Mix and Match expenses are coming in rapidly; other than food, we shouldn't have big expense reimbursements checks to write.

Account balance as of March 1, 2024: \$71,703.26

**Cash Inflows/Total Deposits:** \$4,500.00 Advertising Mix & Match Sponsors

**Cash Outflows:**

\$ 30.73	Court Maintenance	Fabric & wood for the fences
\$ 1,634.00	Mix & Match Expenses	Design work \$500 / Food \$700/ Rentals \$434
\$ 265.45	WTO – Misc Exp	Meeting expenses \$199.42 / Printing \$66.03
\$ 25.00	WTO – Trivia Night	Equipment rental
\$ 1,955.18	Total Outflows	

Account balance as of March 31, 2024: 74,248.08

SCTA balance: \$ 69,805.98

WTO balance: \$ 4,442.10

Deb moved to approve the report; Carolyn seconded the motion, and the report was unanimously approved by the Board. The March report is included with these minutes as a separate document.

## **DIRECTOR/LIAISON REPORTS**

### **Membership: Michael Sacks**

- 13 members joined during March and the first half of April
- 744 members joined compared with 735 members at this time last year. The 2024 budget is based on 750 members.
- I have submitted billing of \$3,425 for March 1 through Apr 15 to the CA:
  - \$650 of membership dues
  - \$2,775 for WTO Trivia Night
- Total dues for 2024 are \$36,300
  - Note: 744 members x \$50 = \$37,200.
  - The difference is 18 newbies who joined late in 2023 and received credit for the remainder of 2023 plus all of 2024
- If there are projects on which anyone was collaborating with Deb Welsh, please let me know. I will do my best to pick up where she left off.

### **Ambassadors: Deb Campbell**

The updated Ambassador's poster has been placed on the bulletin board by Court 1.

I contacted Mike Sacks, director of membership, to make sure I had all new SCTA members that joined in March. All new members were contacted by me and then directed to the correct ambassador. New members need to know they have support to help them get into the game. If anyone knows of new residents interested in playing tennis, please give them my contact information. The Getting Started sheet is on our website to give them most of the information needed to begin playing.

### **Bucket Brigade: Michael Ryan**

#### **Old business/questions:**

- Can we move court rollers someplace? – In shed.
- Handicapped restrooms at Logo? – No.
- Women's bathroom not completed at Logo - Facilities are aware and will complete with remodel.
- Fix screen between 3 and 4 so balls from 3 don't go into 4 – completed. Safety issue of Har-Tru and standing water in walkways after heavy rain - Steady progress.

#### **Current work:**

- Drains installed by sidewalk in front of court 2;
- Drainage ditches in progress on court 4 and court 3;
- Wood strips being added to courts;
- Beveled gate strips will be added as a test, probably on courts 5 and 6. This will require the gates to be temporarily closed. Please follow the signs to Push or Pull the gates open/closed.
- Net fixes on 3 and 8;
- Windscreens in good shape.

**New Business:**

- Work order submitted to sand and paint pergolas;
- Work order submitted to sand and paint AED enclosures;
- Work order submitted to replace net on #3. Should be Friday.

**FYI:**

- Logo building remodel to commence after Mix and Match.
- Logo building sunshade replacement has been sent out for estimates.
- Pergola sunshade chains being changed soon.
- Water fountain on court #11 will be replaced soon.
- Bucket Brigade will mobilize Sunday, April 21 at 7:00 AM.
- The drainage ditch behind court 3 has resulted in the ability to play on both courts 3 & 4 following rains. The efforts of the Bucket Brigade and years of continued petitioning by Chris Scott to the Sun City Hilton Community Association have finally paid off and are greatly appreciated by the membership!
- The drainage rocks added behind court 2 helped but didn't resolve the problem. Wood strips/beveled strips have been added outside the court mats and cement along with a mesh screen where the grass begins to keep har-tru on the court/keep from washing away.
- We discovered and removed a buildup of 5 inches of har-tru. Continued digging, sifting, and discovered a drain cover. We carefully removed the drain cover only to find 12 inches of packed har-tru material. Again, carefully removing that material only to find the entire 4 inch corrugated pipe full of har-tru. Using a very long screwdriver, small shovel, and some fingers, we made it through an opening. Next we flushed high power water spray through, and it wasn't long, water began emptying into the large catch basin. Hopefully this will resolve the buildup of mud and water in that location.
- Gary Roy continued his area of expertise, adding small wooden strips to assist the path water drainage attempts to take during rainstorms. His solution is working, keeping more har-tru on the court and less outside the courts.
- Rick Biethman continued digging a trench behind court 3 to help relieve the huge buildup of stormwater. Things are improving with this solution, courts 3 & 4 were ready at 7:00 am Thursday after all the rain we had Wednesday. Hat's off to Rick for a job well done.
- Bags and bags of raked up leaves were also removed.
- Court 11 has a new water fountain.
- Sunday, April 21 at 7:00 join the Bucket Brigade to prepare the courts for the Mix & Match tournament; coffee and donuts will be provided.

**WTO:** Angela Bossu Wolfe

- Treasure's Report: Ending balance for March was \$4,442.10.
- The Scholarship Committee received ten applications for 2024 and awarded all ten students with scholarships (3 from John Paul II, 2 from May River High Schools, and 5 from Bluffton High School). Letters were sent out on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Students have until

December 31<sup>st</sup> to submit their receipts for reimbursement. Scholarship committee will meet in May for final review of the application process.

- Trivia Night was held Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. Registration closed on March 29<sup>th</sup> with 111 registered/18 teams. The event was a huge success with over \$6,456.89 raised for Memorial Scholarships, Public Tennis, Inc., and Bluffton Self-help.
- The WTO hosted a Fundraising Think Tank on March 18<sup>th</sup>. The event provided many ideas and avenues the Steering Committee are considering for the 2025 event calendar.
- Match Point registration officially opened on March 28<sup>th</sup>. Flyers/posters have been distributed and the registration info has been forwarded to several key groups within the SCTA.

**USTA Liaison:** Bob Waite

Concerns are

1. USTA events are primarily on the courts leaving limited number of courts for the remainder of individuals looking to play.
  - a. Check Chelsea for available days, times and courts
  - b. Be proactive in signing up for a day, time, or court
2. Members want to join a team
  - a. Check the SCTA website for information on leagues and captains
  - b. Network by reaching out to the captains/players or through Intraclub
  - c. Start/captain a new team

Sign-ups have begun for 65 and 75

Mix and Combo sign-ups are in progress

**Intraclub Liaison:** Rich White

- There are 10 intraclub clubs; three are no longer participating primarily due to the lack of socializing. 6 will be participating during the summer;
- Mens 3.5 and 4.0 have paired down the courts being used;
- Coordinator changes have occurred for the W 3.5 and M 3.0;
- Mixed is starting followed by Combo and the Social teams will follow in the fall.

**Event Director:** Carolyn Walton

The trip to the Comedy/Magic Cabaret on March 18<sup>th</sup> was a great success. We ended up with 40 attendees, and everyone said they had a great time! Going on the bus made everything so easy for everyone!

The Bluffton Fire Department says that they are too short staffed to offer CPR/AED classes at this time. The Hardeeville Fire Department says that they would do the classes in the Lakehouse Ballroom, and I sent them the dates (thru April) that the ballroom was available.... have yet to hear back from them. We may have to look for another way to offer the classes. Just learned that the Fire Chief I was dealing with has left the department, and never bothered to answer any of my texts or emails. Further research is being done and suggestions were provided for contacts within the membership who may be able to assist.

I have reserved the ballroom at Pinckney Hall on Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, with the intention of have a dinner dance for the membership. It will be called "The Grand Slam Dinner Dance" and the menu will be from the different countries hosting the tournaments.

- Australia: BBQ shrimp and Lamb Chops
- USA: New York hotdogs with all the fixings
- France: Beef and Vegetable Stew
- England: Tea Sandwiches and Strawberries and Cream

The cost per person is \$35, all inclusive. Will bring plates, utensils, etc....

I would like to purchase white tablecloths that the SCTA can keep, as currently we pay \$10 per cloth every time we have an event. I can get them for \$7 each.

A very nice foundation has offered to pay the \$500 for the DD band to play for 3 hours.

The only cost to the SCTA would be the 2 extra hours that we need for set up and tear down about \$300, with the possibility of some other small expenses....total not to exceed \$500 max.

Further discussion and approval will be addressed by the new Board during the general membership meeting in May.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Mix and Match** Donna Ryan

We are in the final planning for the tournament. I have received the shirts, all goodie bag items, and team awards. Goodie bag assembly is tomorrow afternoon and teams will be announced to players tomorrow. Bucket Brigade will be sprucing up the courts on Sunday morning. The party to get the teams together for the first time is Monday evening. The tournament starts one week from tomorrow, Thursday April 25.

Martha and I have been communicating on the expenses for the tournament. We are currently tracking very close to the budget presented in February. We expect to end the tournament with a positive balance of about \$1800.

I hope everyone here will come out and enjoy the fun next week.

### **World Team Tennis** Chris Scott

Matches occurred on Thursday, courts 1-3; prior the matches were on the North side but cancelled due to rain. Considering 3.0, 3.5, and 4.0 World Team Tennis to occur this fall.

### **SCTA Gear:** Chris Scott

Sample shirts, (Sport Tech) with the logos were provided by Bluffton Custom Images who did the screen printing. They are very good quality and very reasonably priced. Sales tax will have to be collected. A flat fee can be charged and the amount can be remitted to SCHHCA and they will submit the form/amount to the state on our behalf. Discussions have begun with Angela of

WTO as a possibility for them to conduct/handle the sales of the shirts allowing for an increase exposure for their organization and potential profits would go to their charities.

**Pro Event:** Chris Scott

Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM following the Mix & Match play, the champions and runners up from last seasons Hilton Head Island pros will play on courts 1 and 5. ***This event will be open to SCHH residents only.*** There is seating in the grandstand and individuals will be allowed to set up chairs between courts 1 and 2 and between courts 5 and 6 behind the short fence as we are not able to remove the wind screens. The grill for Mix & Match will continue to run during this event. The Island schedule will begin following Friday's match.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Board Members:** Chris Scott

Two board members recently resigned their positions: Dane Petchul, President, and Debbie Ward, Secretary. Chris Scott stepped in as Interim President and Laurie Williams was elected by the remaining Board members to step in as secretary for the remainder of the 2-year term. Resumes were accepted by two individuals, Chuck Hirsch and Mike McCombs, running for President of the SCTA Board for the remainder of 2024. Chris Scott offered his assistance during the transition. The election began Tuesday, April 9 and ended Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. Election Runner is the encrypted software used to run the election. Once the candidate has been selected, Chris will reach out to the winner. Corinne Miller and Paul Wright will serve as auditors of the election. Subsequent to the meeting on Friday, April 19, **Chuck Hirsch** was announced as the new Board President via Eblast. Congratulations to Chuck!

**2.5 Mixed Hybrid League – Chris Scott**

- A request was made for the 2.5 Mixed Hybrid League to continue their league during the summer months. They would like to play Tuesday evenings at 5:30 pm on the North Side Courts. Currently there are 24 players that have been playing on Sunday's at 2:00, the program has been a huge success and they asked if they could continue during the summer but not during the HOTTEST times.
- The Board unanimously approved this request on April 12, 2024.

**SCTA Board positions** Chris Scott

There will be four positions open at the end of this year. A Nominating Committee is needed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00PM.

**Open Discussion**

Jack Kitka

- Who pays for the wind netting?
  - The Community Association covers the cost of the har-tru, nets, screens, rock in the drainage area, however, we are responsible for the sweat equity.
- Water Fountain on the North side
  - Michael Ryan – we do not expect the water fountain as we have been advised the cost is too great. We will continue to inquire and research.

Ann – confirm SCTA paid \$78.78 for the rocks for the project by court 2; the Community Association will cover the cost of the water fountain on court 11 and the replacement of the chains for the sun shade.

Charlotte Cornell advised it was the bar and not the chains lifting/hitting the posts that were making the noise as they were not installed correctly. Michael Ryan advised the chains will be replaced and if the noise continues, further adjustments will be made.

Glenn Pina – Questioned if Championship signs/wall will be put up. Attempts are still being made to have a place of recognition for tennis membership and their achievements. The greatest hurdle is identifying the spot that will support the signs/wall. This can be added as an agenda item in the future by the Board.