

Minutes
Spearfish Tennis Association
April 27, 2023, Thursday
Young Center – HOF Room – 6:30pm

Present: Joe Doerges, Paul Soriano, Kyle Doerges, Doug Stevens, Susie Mondloch, Kent Meyers, Pat Salcone, Gerty Wyatt (arrived at 7:05).

Absent: Tom Fitch, Pam Heisler, Jan Bloom, Susie Mondloch.

- I. Call to Order: Paul, acting as substitute chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30.
- II. Approve Tonight's Agenda: Kyle moved, Doug seconded to approve the agenda. Unanimous yes.
- III. Approve Minutes from Last Meeting: Joe moved, Kent seconded approving minutes. Unanimous yes.
- IV. Approve Treasurer's Report/Bills
 - Current Income/Bills: \$19, 828 total in our accounts. Doug moved, Pat seconded paying bills totaling \$559.44 for items noted in the Treasurer's report and including MS T-shirts, reimbursement for screws for the benches, reimbursement for the bench plaques, and our share of the Ty wraps. Motion passed unanimously. Joe also reported that Dave O'Brien and his company are donating \$2500.00 to us, with \$1000.00 for scholarships, and \$1500 for resurfacing courts. Joe and Paul will send Dave a thank-you note.
 - Membership Update: We have one new student member for a total of 35, 58 if we count family. Kyle moved and Pat seconded approving the Treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously.
- V. Other Reports
 - USTA-Northern/USPTA Coaches Training Seminar (Tom and Susie attended): This was tabled since neither Tom or Susie were present.
 - On-court clinics, speakers from around the country, product demos, well worth attending.
- VI. Old Business
 - HS Courts Update – cable ties, USTA Grant, Resurfacing bids – Joe reported that we have received bids of \$47,000.00, \$92,000.00, and \$225,000.00 to resurface the HS courts. The school will provide \$30,000.00 max, the city \$25,000.00 max. The USTA would probably grant us from \$12,500.00 to \$25,000.00. These are commitments for this year, but the project has to be extended into next year, so we need to make sure the school and city will carry those funds into next year. We discussed finding ways, if possible, to preserve any money left over from the school and city for other improvements, specifically lights, if the USTA grant is enough to more than cover expenses. We also discussed the picnic table at the courts and decided to recommend that the school simply remove the current table rather than purchase new ones at a cost of \$500-\$1200/each, with us splitting the cost 50/50. Paul noted that the real need at the courts is for new bleachers and that we should ask the school to replace them.
 - Court Bench Replacements – Kyle: Kent, Joe, Kyle made them. Knecht's donated \$1200.00 worth of materials, Builders First donated \$160.00, Heisler's Hardware donated the stain and some screws, and QuikSigns gave us a 30-percent discount on the signs. The old benches were moved to the Middle school courts. Kyle and Joe tightened bolts on the backboard and fixed MS gates. We need to repaint the MS shed.
 - Landscaping/Covering Options at HS Courts –
 - Tom discussed with Josh Gerhold and provided photo of possible design: Tabled.

- Officer Elections – Kent has agreed to continue as Secretary and needs to be confirmed: Doug moved, Pat seconded Kent as Secretary. Motion passed unanimously.
- Spring MS Tennis, MS Coach – discussion on adding MS Tennis as sanctioned activity in Spearfish School: Joe reported that the MS program is going well, in spite of the weather. The school seems committed to the program and has given him access to the multi-purpose room for practice. If we can convince the school to sanction it, its costs will be paid for by the school. Consensus was that we support this move and ask the coaches to bring it up with the school administrators. We could write a USTA grant for the money to begin the program and have the school take it over after a year or two, though we might want to reserve this option and use it only if the school seems reluctant.

VII. New Business

- Hall of Fame nominations/discussion - Kent nominated Walt Cook and Doug seconded; Paul nominated Joe Doerges and Pat seconded. Both motions passed unanimously. Paul will contact Walt.
- HS Tennis Coach Update – Tom: Tabled.
 - 13 Varsity and JV players; matches every weekday in April but three until State 15-16 May
- USTA Northern Training Grant \$500 - Joe: We gave Tom and Susie \$500.00/each for the cost of the training. USTA-Northern will reimburse us.
- STA Program Evaluations, Parent Quiz - Joe got one response for evaluations on winter clinics. Evaluations are useful for grant approvals and for improving our programs, so we'll try again.
- Summer Tournament: Joe reported that the summer tournament has been approved by the USTA and is open for registration, though no one has yet signed up. Dates are July 14-16.
- Other “off season” activities? Block Party is June 3. Doug is interested in running some group and individual lessons and asked for our input. In addition to school groups, he is interested in trying to appeal to adults using a “pickleball” model of more social interaction and less difficulty with an event where people use orange balls, QuikStart lines, and no serves. He will look into offering this on a Tuesday or Thursday. Joe and Gerty are interested in offering lessons Monday night.
- Other: Pat asked about wind screens. There is one left to be put up on Court 1. Doug suggested that we try to utilize the north courts whenever possible to extend the life of the south three courts. Court 1 could start to become a safety issue, especially for higher level competition. Kyle will get in touch with Tom concerning putting up the absent wind screen and adding ties to some of the screens where they are missing.
- Joe has been asked by the school to produce record boards for the school. He needs input on what should be included. We suggested he add the sportsmanship trophy the girls won last year and otherwise see what the data suggests as he looks into it.

VIII. Next Meeting: We set Thursday, May 18 as our next meeting, with May 25 as a reserve date if the 18th doesn't work for people. The Block Party will be the main thing on the agenda.

IX. Adjourn: 8:05.