

Minutes
Spearfish Tennis Association
4 Feb, 2025
340 W Nevada St – 6:30pm

Present: Tom Fitch, Doug Stevens, Kent Meyers, Joe Doerges, Paul Soriano, Jill Milnes, David O’Bryan, Susie Mondloch
Absent: Cain Kolar, Kyle Doerges.

- I. Call to Order. 6:30
- II. Approve Tonight’s Agenda. Doug moved to approve and Jill seconded. Unanimous approval.
- III. Approve Minutes from Last Meeting.
 - See minutes sent 1/31/2025: Paul moved to approve and Jill seconded. Unanimous approval.

IV. Approve Treasurer’s Report/Bills

Summary: (See Treasurer’s report for details): We had a balance of \$21619.72 at the time of our last meeting; \$4919.04 has come in since then, and we spent \$435.85, for an increase of \$4483.19. Our current balance is \$26,102.91, which includes what we’ve earned from our winter clinics. The Milnes family donated \$2000.00 to our general fund.

For the overall year, our income was \$10,799.38; expenses were \$9922.34, for a net income of \$857.04. Major expenses last year were court resurfacing and picnic tables. Without the Milnes \$2000.00 donation, we would have had approximately a \$1400.00 deficit. That is largely due to the court construction expenses and the fact that we had to cancel the block party, which brings in members. Though the deficit can be explained, Tom suggested we should be alert to ways to generate revenue and membership.

Following Paul’s suggestion, the Board issued a formal “Thank You” to Jill and her family for the donation. Joe mentioned that David O’Bryan, through his company, has donated another \$500.00, which will be processed in the near future. Joe noted that if we exceed \$25,000.00 in our accounts, we have to pay higher insurance, so this is something we might want to watch. He also reminded those who lead activities to be diligent about filling out the insurance liability forms.

Membership: We have 23 main contacts, with 41 if we include family members. Last year at this time, we had 24 and 42, respectively. After some discussion about membership, Tom suggested we contact lapsed members who are still active in tennis and encourage them to rejoin. Joe agreed to do this.

David will be taking over the Treasurer’s position and is willing to also take care of membership, but he will be less able to do other things Joe does, such as help with registration at clinics. We discussed making these registrations easier.

Paul moved to approve the Treasurer’s report, Susie seconded, and it was approved unanimously.

V. Other Reports

- Jr Winter Clinics: Doug reported 18 in his clinic, and that the group is great and the DYC has been cooperative. Doug picked up the issue of registration and suggested we encourage online registration and waivers that extend beyond the year or specific event for which they are signed, remaining on file until they are rescinded. Susie reported that her clinic is going well and thanked Jill and Joe for their help. She has 15 or 16 in the clinic (depending on one participant who hasn’t shown up).
- MS Courts Cracking: Tom reported that he talked to Jason Olsen for advice and got names of companies that do this. Pro Track and Tennis, Inc. will be in town the last week of February, and if the weather permits will look at the MS courts and evaluate their condition and possibilities for correction.

VI. Old Business

- HS Courts shade and paving: Tom asked for quotes from Scull and RCS. They have taken measurements, but there is nothing significant to report.
- BHSU facility use/concerns/lighting: Doug will talk about lighting with them when he wraps up his clinic.

- Online registration/credit cards: Joe reported that the system has worked well. Twenty out of 33 participants at our clinics registered online. We pay a fee, but have made up for it by increasing our charge and seem to have lost no participants.
- Boys MS Coach: Jill has agreed to take on the MS boys program. She will talk to Gerty about helping. She is considering three-day-per-week practices. Dave will accompany them to the Pierre match.

VII. New Business

- Officer Elections
 - Pres: Tom Fitch
 - VP: Susie Mondloch
 - Sec: Doug Stevens
 - Treas: David O'Bryan

Tom suggested we vote the whole slate, with only the members present who are not up for election voting, which would compose a quorum. Jill moved to approve the slate, and Paul seconded. Kent, Jill, Paul, and Joe all voted for approval, and the motion passed.

- Board Member replacement for Kent: Dave suggested Jill Schultz, and he and/or Jill will talk to her. Susie suggested Marissa Alderson and will see if she's interested. Tom will ask Alexis Quail.
- Northern Tennis Coaches Conference: This is at the end of February. The USTA provides a stipend for it, and we're encouraging anyone involved in coaching to attend.
- SLAM Tournament: Joe reported that it will be July 18-20. After a brief discussion about our fee structure, including the information that USTA Northern sets a cap of \$70.00, Dave suggested, and consensus was, that we raise the fee to \$40.00 for singles and \$25.00 for doubles. Doug moved to reimburse Joe for the expenses required to establish the tournament; Paul seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Review scholarship application process: We have \$3000.00 in our June Dickey Scholarship Fund, and no one has applied for any of it, even though Tom and others have been pushing it. This led to a discussion of how to change the ways that money is disbursed. Ideas that emerged were these:
 - Offer a free clinic. Problem: participants would have no "skin in the game."
 - Get rid of our submission dates of May and September.
 - Let people apply after the fact and get reimbursed for completing an activity.
 - Allow members of the board to make decisions on distributing the money without going through formal application processes.
 - Use the money, at a coach's or teacher's discretion and board-member approval, to reward athletes for hard work and dedication during clinics, lessons, practices.
 - Let board members nominate athletes for scholarship money.
 - Offer scholarships to dedicated MS athletes for summer lessons.

After this discussion, Paul moved to set aside the earlier document laying out the rules for disbursing the June Dickey money and make it a more informal process relying on input from the board. Joe seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. (See addendum below.)

- Boys HS Tennis begins 17 March

Next Meeting: Tuesday April 1, 6:30. Kyle will check with Gary and Janeen for Club Nevada.

VIII. Adjourn: 7:36.

Addenda:

After the meeting adjourned, Tom emailed a proposed draft statement for June Dickey fund distribution, as follows:

"Any STA Board Member may nominate an athlete for award of scholarship funds via email to the board. The nomination shall include the athlete's name and the requirement (amount and use) for funds. Two additional

board members' concurrence will be required for approval. Funds will be disbursed to the instructor/organization performing the lessons/clinic if possible, or to the athlete as reimbursement if necessary."

After the meeting adjourned, Pioneer Bank and Trust requested the following entry in the Board minutes to update account information pursuant to the new officer elections, as follows:

David O'Bryan will be replacing Joe Doerges as an Authorized Signer on bank account number 21421651.