



HSVTA News

Member Concerns Voiced at Board Meeting

A well-attended Board meeting held March 31 addressed a number of items concerning the future of the Association and its role in improving the Tennis Center facilities.

Treasurer Irena Nelson opened the meeting with a report on the annual audit of Association finances which was conducted by Marion Brandt. No discrepancies in reporting or procedures were found, and the auditor complimented the Association for its adherence to proper bookkeeping practices for a non-profit organization.

The Association has a balance of \$12,341.47 in its account as of March 31, 2021.

Bob Wagstaff reported that the Tennis Center, in conformance with Arkansas guidance regarding Covid protocols, would dispense with masking requirements effective April 1. The Tennis Center building will now be opened with transactions and player registrations taking place at the counter, but players are asked to keep indoor traffic to fewer than 8 people. Coffee service will be reinstated, but the ice machine and water in the patio area will remain out of service until May 1. The Free for All

which is usually held at this time of year has been postponed, with a reschedule date yet to be determined.

In light of continuing uncertainties about social gatherings and Covid variants, the Board decided to delay setting plans for events like Fun Sundays until after May 1.

Discussion then turned to the ways the Association can leverage its bank account to improve the Tennis Center facilities. Over the years the Association has contributed to the amenities by providing the outdoor furniture, bulletin board, barbeque grill, defibrillator,

benches, and other niceties to improve the tennis experience.

In conversations with members prior to the meeting and during the spirited discussion with attendees at the meeting, several ideas were proposed, including:

Replace the wind screens.

This is now being carried out. In the process we will lose the Hot Springs Village logos on courts 1 and 7 because of the extra expense required to add the imprint. Rick Meyers is now looking into having sponsors like Ike Eisenhower insurance



HSVTA President Doug Ogilvie welcomes members attending the March 31 Board meeting.

and Rigney Financial put commercial imprints on screens to generate revenue for the Association. The Association is also considering installation of replacement banners featuring HSVTA for under \$200 each.

Placing umbrellas at the benches.

Install ball deflection screens or devices to keep balls from rolling to adjacent courts.

Because the distance between the courts is the USTA minimum of 12', neither of these is permissible due to player safety concerns.

Install an extra gate near courts 5 and 6 to allow alternate access for the court maintenance vehicles.

It was noted that courts 1 and 2 take longer than the other courts to dry after it rains. When the maintenance vehicle uses the gate at court 1 to maintain the other upper courts after a rain, its tracks make courts 1 and 2 unplayable for some time. With a gate by court 5 the vehicle could get on the courts to do maintenance without affecting 1 and 2.

Install LED lights on the lighted courts.

This is a capital expense which is not feasible now because of the tight POA budget.

Improve the hot water supply for the clubhouse.

Hot water runs out quickly when washing dishes

after social events, making clean up an extended pain. Bob is looking into it.

Use metal clips rather than plastic zip ties to secure the bottom of the net.

The maintenance crew reports that metal clips are impractical because they rust out quickly and can only be opened by cutting them with a hacksaw. Heavy duty zip ties are effective. The problem is created by players using household zip ties as replacements when a strap breaks.

Replace roller squeegees for the hard courts.

This is now being done. The problem with squeegees is due to players using them to block holes at the bottom of the fence. When the sponge material rests on the ground it deteriorates rapidly. They need to be hung up after use. And the holes need to be fixed.

Refurbish the outdoor bulletin board.

The Association is looking at ways to modernize and improve the structure.

Repair the cracks on the hard courts.

This has been an ongoing problem for many years. Short term fixes using bonding agents are ineffective. The long-term solution—a post-tensioned concrete overlay—is a six-figure capital improvement that is unlikely to happen in the current budget climate.

Competition



USTA 70 and Over Tourney Returns to the Village

The USTA Adult 70 & Over Multi-State Championship will be held April 27 – May 2 at the Tennis Center, with over 250 players from as far away as Georgia and Oklahoma expected to participate.

HSV will field two teams in the men's 3.5 division and one team in the women's 3.0 division. In addition to leading one of the men's teams, Rick Meyers will assemble a crew to tend to the courts during the event.

Kathy Ogilvie is working with the USTA on arrangements for meals for participants during the tourney. The goal is to have players place orders on line with local restaurants such as Clampits, Debra's, Melinda's, Xplore Lakeside, and the Home Plate. The meals would then be delivered for pick-up at the Tennis Center. Many places are also providing gift cards for free dinners that would be won by prize drawings during the event.

Around the Club



Doug Ogilvie Recognized by USTA for Umpiring Service

In recognition of his “outstanding contributions to tennis officiating in Arkansas,” HSVTA President Doug Ogilvie was named Umpire of Year for 2020 by the U.S. Tennis Association of Arkansas. An 8-year veteran in the umpiring ranks, he has called matches at the junior, high school and college levels. Doug joins another HSVTA member receiving the accolade--Chuck Skarshaug received the honor in 2018.



A Sign of Normalcy?

The scorecards that were removed last spring to prevent player-to-player transfer of the virus have returned. It's not quite as dramatic as the swallows returning to Capistrano, but it's an encouraging sign. Glenn Kelkhoff now faces the same problem as the rest of us: figuring out which way to flip the cards.

Show Up For Drills!!



Drills are offered by Coach Bob for men on Mondays at 9:00 for intermediates and 10:30 for advanced intermediates. Similar sessions are held for ladies on Thursday.

It's a great (and cost effective) way to learn new techniques, kick bad habits, and groove your best strokes. For information, call the CTC at 922-5054.

Updated Version of HSTVA Directory Now Online

This year's effort to update the Directory was eased by the fact that all 2020 memberships were carried over to 2021 without having to renew. Even so, new members have been added to the Directory and some changes have been made to the listings of existing players, so you will want to make sure you have the current version. It was attached to the message with this edition of Crosscourt, enabling you to copy it to your computer, tablet, or phone. You can even print it out if you want a hard copy. As changes occur during the year, check the HSVTA website at HSVTA.org for the latest version.



Membership Directory