

InterCounty Tennis Association

Spring 2009 Annual General Meeting

Location: Tennis Canada, Rexall Centre, Toronto, Ontario

Date: March 31, 2009

Start Time: 7:00pm

Agenda:

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
 - a. Minutes by Kim MacKay
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of minutes of the Fall 2008 AGM (under League News)
4. Treasurer's Report – Sharon Menzcel
 - a. Financial Reports
 - b. Outstanding Receivables
5. President's Report – Sherry Shannon-Vanstone
 - i. Secretary -- Kim MacKay
 - ii. Juniors League Director - open
 - b. Compensation for Executives
 - c. Club and Team fees
 - d. Changes to Constitution (under League News)
 - e. General Rules (under League News)
 - f. Finance Review Committee
 - g. Expansion of Tournament Committee
 - h. New Logo
6. CIO Report – Adrian Cordea
7. 2009 ICTA Tournament Update – Stuart Teather
8. Miele League Challenge Update – Adwynna MacKenzie

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Agenda (cont'd)

9. League Updates and Issues
 - a. Ladies -- Adwynna MacKenzie
 - b. Mixed -- Bill Crothers
 - c. Plus 55 -- Bill Wright
 - d. Juniors --
 10. Set Date for Fall 2009 AGM
 11. Other Business
 12. Adjournment
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Attendees

Sherry Shannon-Vanstone – President
Rick Bertozzi – Vice President
Sharon Menczel – Treasurer
Adrian Cordea - CIO
Bill Wright - +55 League Director
Adwynna MacKenzie – Ladies League Director
Sonja Zibin – External Liaison
Kim MacKay –Secretary
Stuart Teather – Tournament Director

Absent

Sam Kern – Past President
Bill Crothers – Mixed League Director

1. Call to Order and Roll Call TIME: 7:02pm
 - We have a quorum
 - Minutes by Kim MacKay; Introduction of Kim MacKay

Motion by Bill Edward, Wishing Well Tennis Club, to ratify Kim MacKay as Secretary. Seconded by Virginia Lee, Hillcrest. Carried.

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2. Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Ann Thompson, Thornhill, approving the Agenda, Seconded by: John Dallison, Gordon Allcot. Carried.

3. Approval of minutes of the Fall 2008 AGM (under League News)

Motion by Val Swail, Newmarket, approving the minutes of the Fall 2008 AGM. Seconded by Raj Paraj, Unionville. Carried.

4. President's Report – Sherry Shannon-Vanstone

a. Roles:

- i. Role definitions are to be posted on the website
- ii. Secretary -- Kim MacKay
- iii. Juniors League Director – currently vacant; please spread the word

b. Compensation for Executives

Proposal to increase the exec pay to \$400 to cover increased costs for meetings etc. We are not proposing Div. chairs increased; less and less travelling responsibilities; scores are entered by captains; prior fax and mailing expenses.

Q. What does the payment cover? Ink/ internet, telephone, gas, 407 costs. Last change was 5 years ago. To cover costs for transporting to Tournament –Miele.

Q. Are the division chairs okay with \$25? – Sherry asked the league directors to decide whether it should be raised. A few in the room were asked ; it is fine.

Motion by Peter Gibson, Brampton TC, to approve honorariums for the Executives to increase to \$400. Seconded Setsuko Pye, Whitby. Carried.

c. Club and Team fees:

Team fees have been \$30 per team, we don't see any reason to increase those fees. Unless things change, we will not change this year and do not anticipate a change in the fall.

d. Changes to Constitution (under League News)

Last year we made changes it had not been updated in 5 years. This year we have some minor changes. The major change is the following:

- i. Accepting clubs to have a minimum of two courts available, to encourage other Clubs to join; in order to become a member we propose a change from 3.

After discussion it was decided to add a clause that refers to the specific league requirements.

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Motion by Bill Edward, Wishing Well, to approve the changes to the Intercounty Tennis Constitution and Bylaws. Seconded by Setsuko Pye, Whitby. One opposed, by Ashley Joe, Sandy Beach. Majority Carried.

- e. General Rules (under League News):
 - i. General Rules need to be aligned: executive voted to remove the word 'merely' from G1, as the term doesn't adequately define the rule - players are using it to get around the rule.
 - ii. Last year we had to have a waiver for insurance purposes; directors need to be insured and protected; we open ourselves up as directors and officers to be involved in a legal battle. This is the reason for the waiver of claims. These are the overall rules.

Q. Will people playing need to sign a waiver? No, only at the tournament. By playing in the league you adhere to this rule.

Q. About minimum court requirement for the mixed league has to be three courts. Maybe some sort of exclusion for the mixed league needs to be changed. Adwynna said the rules already state that for the various league. "Add specific requirements for the league please refer to the rules."

Motion by Ak Mal, Brampton, to accept the General Rule change, Seconded by Dan Civic, Gordon Alcott. Carried.

- f. Finance Review Committee

Sherry introduced the purpose and functionality of the Finance Review Committee:

Would review the books, sit down with the Treasurer at the end of the year and confirm everything is in order. We are doing proper governance by having another set of eyes on it. The Committee would have at least 2 members – one executive member and one non-executive member. We are hoping to solicit someone from the membership with some background in accounting prior to the spring AGM each year. Voted in at the Executive Meeting. We are asking you to provide your input. Any comments?

Q. Is there no audit group? No not required. This is just a check. Going forward the tournament could be huge and bring in a lot more money and this is the first step to covering that. If you know somebody please pass the word. If you know of someone from membership who would like to get involved, please let Rick know.

- g. Logo – want to give you a heads up that we are working on a new logo. No comments.

5. Treasurer's Report – Sharon Menzcel

- a. Presentation of Financial Reports (see Spring AGM 2009 powerpoint presentation (ppt) on the website)
- b. Comparative Statement – 90 clubs in 2008; 2007 84. Teams - 276 2008; 2007 278
- c. Outstanding Receivables (see ppt presentation and note: Kew Gardens; Belfountain are paid up now)

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Q. Regarding the honorariums how is that figured? 11 Executives x \$300; 35 Chairs x \$25 for each Division.

Q. What is the money used for resulting from net income? Sherry: that's why we don't have to increase the fees. We incurred a loss during the previous year due to no sponsorships.

Q. How long do we allow clubs to not pay? Silverthorne was behind and paid in 2008 and thought they were up to date but discovered still behind. No policy but may need to consider in future.

Q. Do we charge extra if they are late? We are supposed to but it doesn't work out. We are considering point penalties for not paying. We are trying to also find out earlier in the season when someone owes. A lot of times it's the Juniors that have little adult support from their club. Rick has taken on helping Sharon to find out who to contact at the clubs.

Q. Sounds like you collect money and pay expenses all year and the bank account should remain constant. Any thought about putting it into money market? Sharon said as a non-profit we really cannot earn profit. Can set the money into a reserve – emergency fund. We might need the cushion for Tournaments, emergencies, etc.

Motion to adopt Financial reports by Val Swail of Newmarket. Seconded by Bill Edward, Wishing Well. Carried.

6. CIO Report – Adrian Cordea

a. Tenniscorers

- i. Will be used as for scoring, scheduling, standings, team information, roster, etc. but main page will now be controlled directly by ICTA; We are working on a few areas with Tenniscorers, we have a few issues. Met in January this year and reviewed issues from last year. My report will be posted online.
- ii. Issues discussed with them –
 1. 4 databases – so broadcasts resulted in 3 or 4 identical emails. We asked to synchronize to a single one.
 2. Entering the scores; no data validation in past – anything could be entered incorrectly. Tenniscorers is working on that. Captains will not be able to enter points – points will be generated based on scores entered. Tenniscorers promised this will be in place before season starts.
 3. Team captains asked for a remember me option – its now in place
 4. Some issues with ladies leagues indoors limited to 2 hours
 5. Some of the division chairs lost their capabilities that were available in 2007 not in 2008. We couldn't track it.
 6. Their website getcourtside.com – two components players/pros. Free for players. Type of facebook for tennis players.

Q. Will passwords be the same? Yes.

- b. ICTA in 2009 – we have a new interface; will have links on intercounty.pvtc.ca. Tentative launch date is April 15th. Updating forms.

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Q. Can two people go in and enter scores – League Director will give access.

7. 2009 ICTA Tournament Update – Stuart Teather

- a. A couple of years ago, we decided to have a tournament. We decided that the format should be division championships from each league competing against each other. We have play downs to determine 2 final teams and have them play at the Rexall Centre in September. In the 1st year, the tournament lost \$3800. In year 2, we signed Miele on as a principle sponsor for 2 years. This helped to support the cost of the tournament. It has been a big success and is now a large part of what the ICTA offers to its participating teams.
- b. Dates this year: Anticipating Sept 12/13 (raindate) possible September 19/20th. Up to Tennis Canada and availability of the courts.
- c. Executive decided to split the responsibilities – Sonja and Adwynna/Tennis Canada will handle the Miele League Challenge. Stuart will manage the Tournament.
- d. Projected Budget is broken into two parts. \$6000 revenue - \$5000 Miele sponsorship and additional sponsors and \$5800 expenses. Hoping to increase sponsorship dollars each year, as a result we hope to provide more for the tournament. If any of you have any companies that would like to get involved please let me know...contact Stuart.
- e. Volunteers: We had over 30 last year. The more volunteers, the smoother it will be run. I will be asking you to participate.
- f. Feedback – if you have thoughts about what you would like to see please let us know.

Q. How did you decide on the format as mixed is different from the ladies? Format is standard for the mixed. Ladies was different from the season format but this year it will be the same. The tournament should be a reflection of what happened during the year.

Q. Is there any chance to get more clubs participate? ie. 1vs2 and 3vs.4? We looked at having it run over 2 days but it was not really feasible for us to do that. The number of people willing to participate falls dramatically over 2 days. Our current participation rate is 100%. If you start diluting that, then it's a logistics nightmare.

Q. Was there any talk about taking the top two teams from each division? If there was time, then we would consider this. Mixed league season ends on Aug. 11th. Different leagues present different challenges.

Q. Could we have one division play at the Rogers Cup instead of all playing in the Tournament? This is mainly run by Tennis Canada and a showcase event. At noon they have the presentation and awards which could seriously affect the outcome due to shortened matches.

Q. Can we have more playing in the playoffs – two top teams from each Division instead of just one? If there was time to do this at the end of the season, then it is something that we would look at. It depends on the number of Divisions per league.

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8. Miele League Challenge (MLC) Update – Adwynna MacKenzie
 - a. Tennis Canada hired me last year to run the MLC for them. Exciting things – Miele has secured Daniel Nestor for the official spokesperson for the MLC. He will work with us, may show up to a couple of league matches. He will be prominent on our posters, reward at the end of the year. This shows how committed Miele is to have a national league – regional qualifiers then national championship.
 - b. We publish a monthly newsletter, around the end of April. Need clubs and captains to forward that on to their club members. We are always looking for human interest stories. We are trying to build recognition that League tennis makes tennis happen.
 - c. There will be a team of ambassadors to visit clubs.
 - d. Potential to win tickets to box seats at the Rogers Cup with dinner.
 - e. Pro-am hit with Nestor more details to come.
 - f. Negotiating some better discounts for being part of the Miele League Challenge.
 - g. Showcasing matches on the Final Sunday August 23rd. Semi-final Toronto Ladies League.
 - h. Sherry commented that the bylaws allow us to release certain info on our clubs for improvement of ICTA, the Executive have voted to provide the names and addresses of the clubs. We will send a poster and pamphlets. Last year we sent them to OTA clubs but some of the ICTA clubs are not OTA members, so many clubs were left out of promotions last year. If anyone has an objection, please comment. (No one had an objection.)
9. League Updates and Issues
 - a. Ladies -- Adwynna MacKenzie
 - i. Season starts on May 6th. Captains vote on season dates, rule changes, etc. Let your club know. Captains have to know what works for their club and make adjustments as needed.
 - ii. Lot of new rules – Captains did a full online vote. Significant changes to the rules. I.e. a rule was added to cover a conflict - playing on just two courts is permitted; bubble coming down, kids camps, etc.
 - iii. Due to the rule changes not every division chair plays every week – Captains will have someone to call on duty.
 - iv. Schedules posted April 15th approximately.
 - v. Rosters will be open once the schedules are posted.
 - vi. League divisions to be posted on Tenniscores by end of this week.
 - Q. Regarding new Captain info - you can email Adwynna and she will update it.

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- b. Mixed -- Bill Crothers (absent -Rick gave his report):
 - i. Season begins Tuesday May 12 and Thurs. May 14; Ends Aug 11 and 13.
 - ii. This year there is an extra division in the B level.
 - iii. All scheduled matches must be recorded on line. Failure to enter could result in penalty.
 - iv. If you delete players after season starts, it will mess up the stats.
 - v. Schedules to be posted by April 15 so let Bill know of changes prior to that.
 - vi. Try to make up your rain dates before the end of the year.
 - vii. Good luck on the season any questions let him know.
- c. Plus 55 -- Bill Wright
 - viii. Season begins on May 7 or 14 and ends in late August
 - ix. Total of 22 clubs existing or potential clubs that have shown an interest
 - x. Possibility will have 2 divisions from the East.
 - xi. Possibility to add a plus 65 division next year.
 - xii. Cannot get enough ladies to commit, we should consider being allowed to replace the ladies doubles matches with a mens doubles match. This should be considered after this season.
 - xiii. Any suggestions, let Bill know.
 - xiv. Bill is still looking for teams. Let Bill know if you hear of any potential teams.

Q. Plan to have over a 65 category? Some people are very competitive, and only want to use their best players, and end up with the younger end of the plus 55 group. So to 'recoup' some of those members, need to get older people in a separate group – two divisions plus 55, plus 65, to get them participating as well. Tennis Canada has said Tennis is a game that you play for life.

Q. Why was 55 chosen, maybe it should be plus 60? That might solve the problem.

Q. Did anyone talk about over 55 A & B?
- d. Juniors
 - a. Setsuko Pye
 - i. Regarding the mixed Juniors league that they started – 8 teams on Sunday afternoon about 2 hours – world team tennis format – girls and boys

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doubles and singles, then mixed. On court coaching is allowed and players can be substituted in. Age 18 and under. More participation would be great to have and grow this league. In September the division winners playoff at the Rexall Centre. Only need two courts – four players – 2 girls 2 boys.

Q. What is the minimum age? Must be born in 1991 or earlier. There are 2 divisions – Majors 12+/A (mid to high level)

Q. What is the geography? –East and West – Yonge to Oakville, for example. Need to recruit in your area.

Q. What is the deadline to enter a team? Mid-May start, need to know by end of April.

b. Val Swail – Division Chair for Boys and Girls Juniors Leagues

ii. Boys and girls league Sat mornings – 5 divisions – Major (boys) E& W; A E&W, proposing 1 in east and 1 in west. Girls league – combined to 16 team league. Starts 1st Saturday in May runs for 10 weeks. Ends beginning of July. Hard to get kids to play on a Saturday thru the summer.

iii. Representation for most clubs is pathetic representing the Juniors. No commitment to running the junior leagues. Multiple defaults as a result. Has to be a responsible adult associated with each junior team to be contacted prior to the games. There are 16 divisions. Go back to your clubs and confirm your slates are up.

10. Set Date for Fall 2009 AGM

Motion by Peter Gibson to set the date for the Fall AGM as October 27, 2009. Seconded by Bill Edward. Carried.

11. Other Business

a. Approval of New clubs – The Tennis School – located in Oakville – 5 courts lights and restrooms. Putting in two ladies teams and one mixed team.

Motion by Sherry Shannon-Vanstone to accept The Tennis School. Seconded by Rick Bertozzi. Carried.

12. Adjournment

Motion by Peter Gibson to adjourn the meeting at 9:20pm. Seconded by Larry from Thornhill Park. Carried