



**Agenda for ICTA Fall AGM
October 24, 2017, 6:30 p.m.
Bayview Golf and Country Club (North Ballroom)
25 Fairway Heights Dr.
Thornhill, Ontario, L3T 3X1**

1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes of Spring AGM, March 28, 2017
4. President's Report – Anton Katz
5. Vice-president's Report – Sonja Zibin
6. Treasurer's Report - Sagar Karri
7. ICTA Tournament Report – Stuart Teather
8. CIO Report -- Adrian Cordea
9. League Reports:
 - Junior League Report - Todd Orrett
 - Over 55 League Report - Eric Poon
 - Ladies League Report - Adwynna Mackenzie
 - Mixed League Report - Gary Hophan
10. Submitted Motions
11. Election of the 2018 Executive Board
12. Set Date for Fall 2017 AGM
13. Other Business
14. Adjournment

Executive Attendees:

- Anton Katz
- Sonja Zibin
- Rick Bertozzi
- Stuart Teather
- Eric Poon
- Sagar Karri
- Todd Orrett
- Adwynna MacKenzie
- Gary Hophan

Executives Absent:

- Adrian Cordea
- Flaviu Dinca

Non-Executive Attendees

- See attached

1. Call to Order and determination of quorum

Anton called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM, and reported that the quorum conditions were met.

Opening remarks:

Anton thanks Bayview Golf and Country Club (one of the ICTA's sponsors) for hosting the AGM. 2017 was another successful year for the ICTA but not without challenges. One of the biggest challenges was the rainy weather, however our League Directors and Division Chairs managed to ensure minimal disturbance to the schedule. A second challenge this year were the applications pending before the Human Rights Tribunal. Our Association has been in existence since 1962, more than half a century, we are operating in five municipalities across the GTA and offer leagues for ladies, mixed, juniors and seniors (over 55). We are the biggest tennis league in Canada with over 6000 matches a year and over 26,000 players participating during one season. Special thanks to all the volunteers that are involved in running the league.

2. Approval of Agenda

Jasmin (Henry Farm) moves motion to approve Agenda seconded by Joe (Pine Point). Agenda approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes of Spring AGM, March 28, 2017

Marina Mihailovic (Wishing Well) moves motion to approve Minutes, seconded by Martin Gula (Gwendollen). Meeting minutes approves unanimously.

4. President's Report – Anton Katz (PowerPoint presentation pages 5-7)

Two of the members of our Executive are stepping down:

- Adwynna MacKenzie the Ladies League director was an executive member for 10 years
- Eric Poon was our Over 55 director for 5 years.

Anton present gift cards to the departing members.

Update on Human Rights case:

One of the Applicants withdrew her application. The relief sought by the three remaining Applicants is non-monetary in nature; they would like us to change the format of the Mixed League such that there will be an equal number of men and women. The ICTA filed a response and retained legal counsel. We received an overwhelming mandate from our members to maintain the current format of the Mixed League. Mediation was pursued in 2016-2017 that did not lead to a resolution. Numerous conversations were held between Anton and Adwynna and the applicants.

A hearing was held on Aug. 25-26 at the Human Rights Tribunal. Three of the applicants testified as well as four witnesses representing the respondents (ICTA). The matter has not been decided on, there are two more hearing days set aside on March 1-2, 2018. Likely any changes as a result of a decision by the Tribunal will not take effect until the 2019 season. A decision may be delayed for up to 6 months after the hearing.

Questions:

- Todd: Is there a possibility that more hearings will be scheduled?

We have 5 witnesses scheduled to testify during the two days. It is possible that there could be additional hearing days.

- Ron Denis (Mimico): What kind of response did you get to the surveys and was the survey information used at the hearings?

Two surveys were conducted; one for players with 2200 responses and another one for club reps (approx. 60-70 responses) and. We received lots of data, however could not reach a consensus with the Applicants in interpreting the data. Would

prefer to not comment further on the surveys until their data is presented at the Tribunal.

- Gary Hophan (York Weston): As a Mixed League director, I received a request from a C team to run a division in an evenly split format between men and women (6-6). Upon polling the other teams in the divisions, none was interested to pursue the format.
- Jasmin (Henry Farm): If changes will be imposed by the Tribunal, when will they take effect?

In theory the Adjudicator could request that changes take effect immediately, however it is rather unlikely given the confusion that such changes could create.

Task Force for growing the ICTA Membership:

If growth is strategic and mindful of needs and gaps it could be very beneficial to the Association. A Task Force was created in the spring of 2017 to look at growing the membership of the Association. There may be a possibility to add clubs from the East (Durham League) to our Association. Additionally, there is lots of potential in the West (Brampton and Mississauga). Such expansion would allow us to minimize travel, which was always a concern with our members. We could also look at organic growth that would result in some of our existing members adding teams in some of the leagues that they do not participate in.

As such, the Task Force recommended and the Executive formally approved the recommendation to create a new Board position of Marketing Director.

Questions/ Discussion:

- Carolyn (Brampton TC): Is this position needed long term or just temporary? Would an ad-hoc committee be able to address this?

The motion that is proposed does not have a time limit; however the situation may be revisited in the future. We feel that we need someone to be accountable for this rather than work by committee. Cost associated with the creation of the position would be \$400 for the honorarium plus a relatively small marketing budget.

- Gary (York Weston): To be noted that we eliminated a Board position last year by merging two positions. The challenge for League Directors is to fill in gaps within existing divisions.
- Carolyn (Brampton TC): Is this the reason for the proposed fee increase?

The fee increase is only partially related to this, it is also intended to cover legal fees and make up for loss of sponsorship.

Gary (York Weston) moves the motion to create a new Board position of Marketing Director. Anoja Dias (Angus Glen) seconds the motion.

Questions/ Discussion:

- Gary (York Weston): The challenge for the Mixed League and in general for all League Directors is to fill in gaps within existing divisions.
- Todd: Similarly there are big geographical gaps in the Junior League; it would be helpful to have someone focusing on expanding all leagues and grow the ICTA.

Motion carries with a majority of votes.

5. Vice-president's Report – Sonja Zibin (PowerPoint presentation pages 8-9)

Procedurally, we will be accepting applications for the new Board position until December 31, 2017. We will then interview candidates and make a recommendation to fill this position at the Spring AGM.

We renewed again this year our partnerships with both Tennis Canada and the OTA. Our relationship with both organizations is excellent and beneficial to all sides. Miele decided to terminate their sponsorship with Tennis Canada and as such they also terminated the sponsorship of the ICTA.

We held our fourth edition of Tennis Rocks this year; the event is growing every year. We also managed to support Tennis Canada with volunteers for the Rogers Cup.

6. Financial Report - Sagar Karri (PowerPoint presentation pages 10-15)

The draft financials presented are shown to the end of September 2017. We came in \$2800 below our budget due to the cancellation of the Miele sponsorship. On the expenses we came in line with expectations.

We followed up on an issue raised during last year's AGM and established that we do not qualify for the GST rebate as a non-profit organization.

Clubs that have overpaid teams or registration fees will be issued a credit for the amount overpaid and the club names will be presented at the Fall AGM. The respective clubs must apply the credit against the registration fees to be paid for the next Season. Credits must be applied through the online registration form on the ICTA website.

Questions/ Discussion:

- Does the online registration form require the club rep's name to be recorded?

Yes

- Do you still accept corporate checks?

Yes and we also introduced online payments. We do not accept credit cards.

- How much money are we talking about in overpayments?

As of last year the accumulated amount was approx. \$600.

- Is the online form user friendly in terms of claiming these credits?

Yes, it is.

We need to replace the amount lost through the Miele sponsorship and as such we propose an increase of Club Membership fees from \$30 to \$50. Sagar moves motion, Andrew Fan (Seneca Hills TC) seconds.

Questions/ Discussion:

- Nigel (Don Mills TC): Is there a concern that by increasing the fees we may lose some clubs?
- Todd: We have to make sure that we have a good balance of revenue vs expenses and that we are able to provide a good service to our members.
- Nigel (Don Mills TC): Is there an advantage to being a non-profit organization as opposed to a business corporation?
- Is there a reason why only the team fees are increased rather than to apply a percentage increase to all fees?
- Sagar: Team fees were increased last year and we are now only adjusting club fees.
- Gary: Speaks strongly in favour of this proposal as it will stimulate clubs to enter more teams in various leagues.
- David Maples: Would it make sense to increase the new club fees to \$60 to actually fully compensate the loss of the Miele sponsorship. Sees the fees as being very small in comparison to other sports organizations.
- Anton: Is anyone concerned that the new fees will represent a burden to their club's finances?

Gary Hophan (York Weston) moves to amend the motion and proposes an increase of Club Membership fees from \$30 to \$60. John Mowatt (Lawrence Park) seconds.

Questions/ Discussion:

- Is this going to be a disincentive for the ICTA looking to secure new sponsorships.

- Stuart Teather: Our intention is to continue to seek sponsors.
- Martin: If we manage to get a sponsor we should not reverse the fee increase

Vote is called on the motion to amend the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

Vote is called on the main motion to increase the membership fees from \$30 to \$60. Motion carries unanimously.

7. ICTA Tournament Report – Stuart Teather

Will focus the report more on the preparation for the Tournament rather than the Tournament itself. Each League has specific rules as to who attends the Tournament.

There were new rules regarding eligibility for the Mixed League Tournament this year. Eligibility was reduced from 5 matches to 3 given a rule change in the mixed league that did not allow new players to be added to rosters after July 9. The decision was made relatively late in the season. The intent is to maintain the same eligibility criteria next year. This change was made to avoid defaults at the Tournament. The draw for the Mixed League Tournament is based on seeding each team in the draw with consideration to avoid that two teams in a division are on the same side of the draw.

Questions/ Discussion:

- John Mowatt: The concern with the draw is that it is more of a placement. Suggests that 1 out of 4 teams should be seeded as per general Tennis Canada rules for tournaments. Suggests only seeding the top 4 teams and randomly drawing the rest.
- Stuart: Is willing to consider if the membership prefers this option, however this may require a more formal draw process with verification and witnesses. It is rare that second place teams do better in the Tournament than first placed teams.
- Gary Hophan: Why does Stuart establish the Tournament rules for the mixed league while the other leagues do that themselves?
- Stuart: The workload of the Mixed League director is generally higher than that of all the other directors and historically the Tournament director has been running the Mixed League Tournament.
- Justin Hummell: Why aren't the Tournament rules formalized in a similar way as the various League rules?

- Stuart: They could be formalized; however we should take into account the fact that there is no guarantee of us being able to organize the Tournament every year as it depends on the availability of courts from Tennis Canada.
- Discussion regarding specifics of the Tournament draws for the Over 55, Ladies and Junior leagues.
- The Tournament ran very well this year; the grounds were in very good shape; the weather was great and we managed to complete the Tournament in one day.

8. CIO Report - Adrian Cordea

Adrian could not make it to the AGM but suggested that anyone with technical/IT issues contact him via e-mail.

9. League Reports:

- **Junior League Report - Todd Orrett** (PowerPoint presentation pages 18-23)

2017 was a very successful year; we had 59 teams participating with over 800 juniors. We had some challenges in the East division as the Newmarket boys team had to travel to Hamilton for one of their matches. We also had a girls team that was entered in a boys league; their level of play was strong and they reached the championship finals.

This was the second year when we ran the Future Starts level – participating teams are co-ed with girls and boys under 14 playing together on the same team. The Tournament was very well run this year.

Tennis Rocks was organized together with the OTA at the Aviva Centre in a festival type atmosphere. It is a one day tournament from 8 am to 9 pm with 51 teams and more than 200 players.

Todd introduces a number of rule changes for the Junior League – see Appendix page 23.

Doug (Withby TC) moves motion to approve proposed rule change to rule L2; seconded by Mehran (Unionville TC). Motion passed unanimously.

Gary (York Weston TC) moves motion to approve proposed rule change to rule L2; seconded by Stuart (Davisville TC). Motion passed unanimously.

If any club is interested to enter the Junior League, please contact Todd as we would love to grow the League.

- **Over 55 League Report - Eric Poon** (PowerPoint presentation pages 24-28)

Eric has been the director of the Over 55 League for over 5 years. Eric presents the proposed rule changes for the Over 55 League – see attached PowerPoint slides.

Questions/ Discussion:

- John Mowatt (Lawrence Park TC): Why did the league change from 2 levels to 3 considering that there are so few teams in the first place? This will result in increased travel time

There is a big difference between teams within the same level of play.

- How many teams in each division?

Some divisions have 8 teams others only 5 or 6.

- Marina Mihailovich (Wishing Well TC): We should not compare this league with the Mixed or Ladies Leagues. The current Division 2 is focused mostly on social play while Division 1 is more competitive. We as division chairs feel that a third level would better make the transition between the social and competitive levels. At the same time we align with general ICTA practice and have three levels denominated as A, B, C. Comments from all team captains playing in this league were very positive to the proposal.
- Ann (Parkway Valley TC): Agrees with Marina's comments, is only concerned whether we have enough teams for all 3 divisions
- Stuart: This may open up more opportunities for players and teams to join the league
- Gary: This kind of change could facilitate the growth of this league
- John Mowatt: Proposes motion to amend the rule regarding defaults to include "up to" where appropriate before the time limits. Motion seconded by Jasmin.
- Stuart reviews Mixed Leagues and suggests keeping the current wording.
- John withdraws motion.
- Gary moves motion to amend the Over 55 League rules as proposed by Eric. Seconded by Dorin (German Mills TC). Motion carries.

- **Ladies League Report - Adwynna Mackenzie** (PowerPoint presentation pages 29-34)

We had 12 divisions; 82 teams, 1467 active players. We had amazing division chairs and Adwynna would like to thank them all for their contribution.

There were recent changes to the Ladies League at the 2017 Spring AGM with stronger definitions and the introduction of Classified Players. These changes were rather complicated and caused some problems in the process of promotion and relegation.

Adwynna proposes changes to rules A1G, A1H, D2, D7C and Section E rule C.d – see attachment. Adwynna moves motion to approve the proposed rule changes; seconded by **Josai (?)** (Unionville TC). Motion approved unanimously.

- **Mixed League Report - Gary Hophan** (PowerPoint presentation pages 35-37)

Gary would like to thank everyone that helped him during his first year as a League Director: the division chairs, Adwynna, Sonja, John Mowatt and George Mihailovic. Weather was an issue this year and we had many instances when matches had to be rescheduled. The new promotion and relegation system introduced 2 years ago is now working fine. The new trust for 2017 has been on enforcing rule 3.7 regarding players playing at their appropriate level. We have already started the system of promotions and relegations for 2018.

A number of proposals for rule changes resulted from the division chairs meeting; many of them were proposed by players and team captains through their respective division chairs. Gary presents rule changes to the following rules: 5.2; 4.12; 5.3; 5.14; 5.2; 4.4 – see Appendix.

Questions/ Discussion:

- Is there any chance to go back to a third set super tiebreak?
- Gary: By a large majority, clubs wanted to play a full third set.
- Stuart: There appears to be an error in citing rule 5.2 on player retirement – to be corrected
- Dorin (German Mills TC): It is often difficult to find 8 players that can play away matches at 8 pm given the travelling. Proposes amendment to motion

regarding rule 5.2 such that more than three 7 pm matches will require the consent of the visiting team. Amendment seconded by Andrew (Markham TC).

- Gary: There are clubs that like to have 4 matches at 7 pm such that courts become available for the members once the intercounty matches are completed.
- Joe (Pine Point): We do have 4 courts available at 7 pm set aside for intercounty and would prefer to avoid late matches.
- Anoja: Suggests to give the option to the visiting team to accept play on more than 3 courts at 7 pm.
- Gary: Suggests to vote on the initial motion and leave the proposed amendment for consideration at the Spring AGM.
- Andrew (Markham): It is not a huge problem, however would like to give the option to the visiting captain to accept or reject that more than 3 matches are played at 7 pm.

Vote is called on the motion to amend the motion. Motion carries with majority of votes.

- Stuart: Concerned about the modification of rule 4.4 requiring that teams shall have a captain and a co-captain. Would prefer to use acting captain instead of co-captain.
- Martin: Would like to avoid forcing a co-captain for all teams
- Gary: This is intended to deal with situations that occur during matches and have more than one person that can handle any possible disputes.
- Anton: Does anyone want to propose a change to the co-captain rule?
- Jasmin: Would like to maintain the current rule as is.
- John Mowatt: Supports Gary's appointment

Stuart moves motion to individually vote on each of the proposed rule changes.

Rule 4.12: Vote called; rule passed

Rule 5.3: Vote called; rule passed

Rule 5.14: Vote called; rule passed

Rule 5.2 amended to say three instead of four: Vote called; rule passed

Rule 4.4: Vote called; 17 votes in favour; 8 against; rule passed.

- Nigel: What is the penalty if one cannot find a co-captain?

10. Submitted motions

Point removed from Agenda due to withdrawal of the only submitted motion by Bruce Young.

11. Election of the 2018 Executive Board

Anton: In 2016 we changed the by-law and introduced a nominating committee. The committee met and put forward a slate as follows:

- President – Anton Katz
- Vice President – Sonja Zibin
- Secretary – Flaviu Dinca
- Treasurer – Sagar Karri
- Past President – Rick Bertozzi
- CIO – Adrian Cordea
- Tournament Director – Stuart Teather
- Mixed League Director – Gary Hophan
- Junior League Director – Todd Orrett
- Ladies League Director – Deborah Kiss (replacing Adwynna McKenzie)
- +55 League Director – Marina Mihailovich (replacing Eric Poon)

Is anyone else interested in running for a position? No responses.

The two proposed new members of the Board (Deborah and Marina) introduce themselves briefly.

Nigel moves motion to approve the slate; seconded by Rita Lee. Motion carries.

12. Set date for the Spring AGM

Suggested date for the Spring AGM: March 27, 2018.

Stuart moves motion to approve the proposed Spring AGM date; seconded from O'Connor Hill; motion passed.

13. Other Business:

- Concern raised about the condition of the courts and facilities at some member clubs.
- Mimico has clay courts whose condition is usually affected at the beginning of the season by rain; would appreciate if they could play away during the first weeks of the season.

- Nigel: Questions whether any of the motions he presented at the Spring AGM will be considered.
- Anton: Communication from Nigel was only received 5 days prior to the present Fall AGM; this does not meet our by-laws regarding minimum notice to be given to all members. The executive considers Nigel's proposals as suggestions or ideas rather than motions. These motions need to be formally made and meet the minimum criteria as motions.

14. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn: Jasmin, seconded by Joe. Passed unanimously
- Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM