

**COLUMBUS REGIONAL TENNIS ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday, April 10, 2012
12 noon
Twelfth Street Deli

Called to order @ 12 noon by Rem Houser

Attending: Rem Houser, Lauren Griner, Sara Dismuke, Brian Worstell, Scott Laymon, Bernard Francis, Melissa Foy, Doug Gibson, Betty Matthews, Lynn Reis, Nancy Prescott, Angela Stillwell, Natasha Arora

Ex-Officio: Joe Adame, Judy Pearce, Deby Caldwell, Charlie Clippinger, Cissy Sanders, Fran Carpenter, Hanane Toumi,

Excused Absences: Kim Glass, Cindy Williams, Greg Gatti, Tom Miller, DeAnne Martin, Liz Gobbel

Unexcused Absences: Max Patrick, Wanda Dryman

Additional Attendee(s): Helen Martin

Approval of the Minutes of Last Meeting by Lauren Griner

Treasurer's report presented by Judy Pearce for Liz Gobbel:

The financial report as of February 29, 2012 was presented and approved. (see attachment)
The \$1,000 under Facilities and Improvements was used for QuickStart lines at Lakebottom and Double Churches courts. CORTA received a grant funding from USTA-National, Southern and Georgia totaling \$750, so the net out of pocket was \$250.

Rem Houser: (Executive Committee Report)

Court Expansion Update:

Will White, Judy Pearce, and Rem Houser met with representatives from Columbus State University (CSU) to discuss interest in a possible partnership with CORTA. CSU needs a 12 hard court facility, and CORTA has land for court expansion. Hard courts would also be beneficial for junior development and could help during tournaments if we had bad weather, such as freezing temperatures and rain. Scott Laymon asked that we make sure there is enough of the same surface so Columbus can hosts tournaments. Judy and Rem are well aware of this issue.

Larry French is updating the court expansion project costs and is reviewing the overall design. Will, Rem and Judy will get back with the CSU for further discussion once updated information has been received from Larry.

Brian Worstell: (Legal Counsel)

No report.

Angela Stillwell/Bernard Francis: (Community Outreach)

Wednesday is the last night for TennisWorks. There were on average 59 kids each night. The next session will start in June and will run for 6 weeks. There are 12 kids who have been sponsored to play in the Celebrity Classic.

April 20th from 8:30-1:00 the Special Olympics Area Games will be held at Cooper Creek Tennis Center. There will be 80 athletes competing and there is a need for volunteers to help with this event.

Natasha Arora did the Be Well program at Benning Park. There were 12 kids that participated for 3 weeks. The goal of this program is to fight childhood obesity.

The Adopt-A-Unit project went very well. CORTA was able to ship a total of 28 boxes which included a CORTA banner, specially designed "Armed & Ready – Just Crush It" t-shirts, snacks and personal items for the soldiers, etc. Deby Caldwell has been in touch with the commander of the unit and he has been very appreciative. Once the boxes are received, they will send pictures back to CORTA. The Teen Council completed 112 hours on this project.

Deby Caldwell and volunteers introduced tennis at the Go Girl Go Expo. It rained on the day of this event, so the Expo was held inside of a gym. There were 250 girls that participated in this event.

Bernard Francis talked about the recent SmashZone event. It turned out to be a lot of fun. Lauren Griner will contact SmashZone to get information on the kids who signed up for 10 and under tennis. Nancy Prescott asked Angela to write a report about SmashZone to present to USTA Georgia.

Liz Gobel: (Budget and Finance)

No finance committee report.

Betty Matthews: (Development/Marketing)

Betty said it is getting harder to get donations this year, so her committee is trying to find new donors and new sources. Betty asked the board to help ask donors for money or items that could be used for upcoming tournaments.

Rem encouraged the board to think about fellow tennis players and keep them in mind for advertising. They will need to contact Fran Carpenter for advertising information and rates.

Buffalo Wild Wings is now giving 10% of your food bill to CORTA. Please make sure you tell your waiter you are a CORTA member.

Melissa Foy: (Tournaments/Officials)

The Southern BullFrog was last week. It was a hectic weekend with rain delays. A local tennis player, Christian Garay, made it to the finals. The next upcoming tournaments are the Senior, Adult, and Junior Bananas. There are 138 players registered to play in the Senior Banana.

Sara Dismuke for DeAnne Martin/Greg Gatti: (Special Events)

The Boys National 12s was February 25-27. There were 64 participants. A meet and greet was held at the Hilton Garden Inn for all participants and their family members. Saturday's lunch was sponsored by Centerplate c/o the Columbus Civic Center and Sunday's lunch was sponsored by CiCi's pizza.

There is planning underway for the Banana Tournament Series and the Member Appreciation party.

Max Patrick/Natasha Arora: (Volunteers)

Natasha said the volunteer committee can help with getting volunteers lined up for community outreach events. There is a need for new volunteers because the same people are volunteering for the different events and are getting burned out. There is also a need for volunteers for

Corporate Team Tennis (April 4, 11, 18, and May 9, 16, 23). So many people play Corporate Team Tennis that it makes it difficult to find volunteers.

Scott Laymon: (Adult Programs)

(see attachment for report)

Lynn Reis: (Junior Programs)

(see attachment for report)

Judy for Tom Miller: (Facility)

The next facility committee meeting will be held on April 23rd. Doug Gibson said there are several line brushes that are in need of repair.

Nancy Prescott: (USTA Georgia Report)

The 19-25 year olds is an age group where USTA has a lack of participation. How do we appeal to this group? This age group has different schedules, does not like Saturday morning matches, and in general does not like playing with older people. CORTA needs to focus on the 22-30 age group (those out of college).

Nancy said there is a financial incentive to have a team with 6 new USTA members. Anyone who brings in 6 new players to a USTA Adult or Senior team is eligible for a \$200 incentive.

Helen Martin:

The next USTA Georgia board meeting will be held on April 20th. There has been a decline in Junior Team Tennis, which is mostly coming from the Atlanta area. There is a big push to increase the number of participants in Junior Team Tennis. There are more juniors playing in tournaments than leagues.

USTA Georgia is looking for a District Director from our area. Anyone interested in applying should contact Elaine Hamilton at USTA Georgia.

There have been a lot of compliments about CORTA and how the organization is a model CTA. To date this year, CORTA and SATA (Savannah) are only two CTAs that have achieved Elite status out of 40 CTAs in Georgia.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m. by Rem Houser.

Motions:

To dispense of the reading and approve the February 7, 2012 Board Meeting Minutes.	Approved
To accept the Treasurer's report as presented.	Approved

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lauren Griner.