

Pacific Northwest Tennis Officials Association

Annual Meeting Minutes

April 6, 2022

Call to Order: by Scott Pennington at 7:10pm via Zoom.

Attendance: (Directors) Scott Pennington, Mitchell Roth, Camilla George, Denise Alexander, Tony Hernandez, Barb Silvey, Holly Weyhrauch, Siamak Hajarizadeh, Barbara Anderson;

(Members) Carl Beardsley, Jill Borgida, Roberto Castro, Mike Devenney, Mick Horton, Nancy Koeppen, Don Kronenberg, Laura Lu, Garrett Mau, Jacob Moya, Robin Okubo, Barbara Wyatt;

(Guest) Brett Haberstick.

Approval of Agenda: Barb moved, Holly 2nd, to approve the Agenda. Approved.

Approval of Minutes: Camilla moved, Barb 2nd, to approve draft minutes of the March 2, 2022 meeting. Approved.

Guest Speaker: Brett Haberstick, USTA National Chair of Officials. Scott introduced Brett, who gave a brief overview of changes in the national office and stated that loss of officials, retention and recruiting are top priorities.

- **Recruiting:** All current officials are asked to help recruit new candidates and should have received officials business cards with their FAC. Contact Brett if anyone didn't receive them or needs more.
- **Certification Process:** How can it be improved for new and current officials? Barb Silvey noted there are no USTA events in E. WA and therefore no way to fulfill requirements beyond F2. Most need ITA certification. Brett stated that ITA webinars will continue and they are hoping to have live ITA clinics soon.
- **Line Officials:** No longer used for US Open. Other major tournaments (>\$250K) vary depending upon the economics of installing electronic line calling systems. In general, the bigger the tournament, the easier it is to financially justify automated line calling. \$25K events use 2 line officials, while \$15K events have 1 and will continue in the same manner. Line experience can be an issue in PNW where there are no pro events. Training is available, but difficult to get work assignments in other regions. Brett noted Centers of Excellence are important gateways, but work records must be kept up to date for selection. Training is typically offered in connection with \$15/25K events, such as Denver on June 11. Another possibility may be the Yakima Open.
- **Mentoring:** 320 officials are participating nationally. The best way to sign up is to email: officiating@usta.com.
- **Training Consistency:** Denise asked how to improve consistency of ITA officials due to local training differences. Brett noted this is also an issue at USTA. ITA is aware of the problem. NASO has conventions to address it. It is under discussion at USTA.
- **Background Checks:** Currently, separate Safepay and background checks are required for every sport. Can this duplication be eliminated? Short answer: not at this time.

Officer Reports

-- **Treasurer:** Scott for Barbara

- Bank balance: \$1982; Committed: \$980; Available: \$1002.

-- **President:** Scott – Year in Review

- We are playing tennis again, but TOA lost 10 members. The shortage of Officials is real.

- The 2022 Rate Card is published for all events @ \$22/hr.
- Valerie Weaks agreed to the proposed contract terms for PNW/USTA events. Approval is expected by the next meeting.
- D&O insurance has been changed to NASO Association and the TOA now belongs to NASO.

Committee Reports

- **USTA Section Chair:** Denise
 - Safelap dates are individual; don't let it expire.
 - USTA contract will be approved; no word on when new PNW Section Chair will be appointed.
- **Shadow Assignors:** Denise, Holly, Barb, Mitch, Camilla
 - Denise has a recruit from Medford
 - Holly reported uptick in local tournaments and high schools needing Officials.
 - Camilla reported 2 new recruits this week. Will follow up with some who dropped out due to pandemic.
- **Grievance Committee:** Holly, Barbara, Siamak
 - Holly reported the Committee dealt with a few Junior grievances, but no active cases.
- **Workshop Committee:** Tony, Barb, Denise
 - Tony reported taking input for workshops; will schedule as needed.
- **Bylaws Committee:** Mitch, Barbara, Camilla
 - Mitch reported on the amendment to the Treasurer's section of the Bylaws to designate President and Treasurer as bank signatories.
- **Awards Committee:** Denise, Barb
 - Last year, 6 honorary memberships were awarded.
 - Rookie and Official of the Year Awards are coming up; more information to come.

New Business

- **Board of Directors Election**
 - Nominations: Three positions are open for the expiring terms of Scott, Mitch and Barbara. All are running for re-election. Denise nominated Nancy Koeppen, who declined the nomination. Denise nominated Jill Borgita, who declined because she is a USTA employee. Hearing no other nominations, Barb moved, Camilla 2nd, to close nominations. Approved. Candidates need to supply bios to the Election Committee in the next few days.
 - Bylaws: The Board recommends voting for an amendment to the Bylaws to clarify that the President and Treasurer are the bank account signatories.
 - ElectionRunner: Will again be used to conduct the election online from April 16th through May 2nd.

Director Comments:

- Scott: Thanks to all members for their contributions and participation in the TOA.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 4, 2022 @ 7:00pm PDT via Zoom.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mitchell Roth, Secretary