



Spring Member Meeting Minutes

March 28, 2023, 6:30pm

Sobey's Stadium Players' Lounge

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of March 29, 2022 Spring Member Meeting minutes
4. President's Report
5. Tennis Canada Presentation
6. Vice President's Report
7. Marketing Director Report
8. Mixed League Report
 - Motions for consideration
9. Ladies League Report
 - Motions for consideration
10. Junior League Report
 - Motions for consideration
11. +55 League Report
 - Motions for consideration
12. Tournament Report
13. Other business
14. Proposed date for next Spring Meeting March 26, 2024
15. Adjournment

1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum

Sonja called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda: Lee Wilson – Ballantrae Tennis Club
Seconded: Carol Ann Burgmann – White Oaks

Request to amend the agenda and move the Junior League Report after the Marketing Director Report.

Moved by: Todd Orrett

Seconded by: Marina Mihailovich

Motion passed. Approval of agenda as amended.

Motion to approve the minutes of March 22, 2022 meeting:

Moved by: Gary Hophan, York Weston

Seconded by: Paul Ward, King City

Motion passed.

Sonja thanked ICTA's partner Tennis Canada for allowing us to hold the meeting at Sobey's Stadium. Thanks were extended to all those in attendance who make it possible for the players throughout our Association to experience tennis in the various leagues.

Sonja acknowledged two non-voting guests in attendance at the meeting: Ayesha Patel, Community Programs Manager at Tennis Canada, who will be making a presentation this evening.

A warm welcome was also extended to Kathryn Laidlaw, the new Chair of Tennis Toronto. Kathryn is also a colleague of Sonja's on the OTA Board.

In addition to the representatives present, there are six individuals who are holding proxies on behalf of the clubs that they represent:

Seneca Hills T.C. – David Maples

North York T.C. – KC Cheah

Davisville T.C. – Stuart Teather

Ontario Racquet Club – Sue Evans

Banbury T.C. – Yenny Musalem

Boulevard Club – Alison Bittle-Fair

3. President's Report – Sonja Zibin

There are six clubs that are seeking to join the ICTA this year. As per the bylaws, we must accept each club one by one at this meeting.

Fountainhead T.C.

Glen Cabigas made the presentation. We are happy to be welcomed back into the league.

Motion to welcome back Fountainhead into ICTA:

Moved by: Sonja Zibin

Seconded by: Alfredo Gaudite, Leaside TC

Motion is passed.

Swansea T.C.

Located in Bloor West area of Toronto. Returning after a six-year hiatus.

Motion to welcome Swansea T.C. into ICTA:
Moved by: Sonja Zibin
Seconded by: Sue Cardarelli, Lambton G&CC

Motion passed.

Fort Erie T.C.

Located in north section of Fort Erie. They are part of the Niagara Region.

Motion to accept Fort Erie T.C. into ICTA:
Moved by: Sonja Zibin
Seconded by: Allison Bittle-Fair

Motion passed.

Grimsby T.C

The club has 4 well-lit hard courts and offer lessons at the junior level.

Motion to accept Grimsby T.C. into the ICTA:
Moved by: Sonja Zibin
Seconded by: Stephen Weiner, Donalda Club

Motion Passed.

Clarification that the Niagara Region has its own division, so teams will not be expected to travel there.

York Old Mill T.C.

Brad Kovatch stated that it is the 50th Anniversary of the club and they felt it was time to return to ICTA.

Motion to accept and welcome back York Old Mill T.C. into the ICTA:
Moved by: Sonja Zibin
Seconded by: Geri Flotron, Ballantrae T.C.

Motion passed.

Wards Island Association

They are a small club with three clay courts and no lights. Thriving membership. They want to have a ladies team. This is the first time they have ever had a team. As an incentive for people to play, they are willing to pay for the parking and for the water taxis of visiting team members.

Motion to accept Wards Island Tennis Association into the ICTA:

Moved by: Sonja Zibin

Seconded by: Paul Ward, King City

Motion passed.

Tennis Canada Presentation

Ayesha Patel made the presentation. Key service they are excited to provide this year is the ITF World Tennis Number. This is an important focus for Tennis Canada. The WTN is a new global rating scale. The same scale is used regardless of age or ability. You get a different number based on singles or doubles. To date, over 140 nations along with Tennis Canada have enrolled into the ITF WTN program Millions of match results have been used in creating the algorithm. This allows this rating to become an international tennis currency.

Sonja stated that we want to explore how the ICTA can work with Tennis Canada on bringing the WTN to our leagues. We would like all of the matches played in our league to be entered into the Tennis Canada league platform so that they can shadow our leagues. At the end of this year, as a pilot project, we would assess how beneficial this was to both of our organizations.

Sonja stated that she believes this program will be of great assistance in growing junior tennis.

We are still sorting out exactly how we would do it.

There was considerable discussion on what captains and co-captains would be required to input.

4. Vice President Report – Stuart Teather

Responsible for partnerships with Tennis Canada and OTA. Additional focus has been on internal processes, including timelines both externally and internally. Should help guide all of us, especially if you're new to ICTA to know when things happen.

Improvements to registration system.

Universal Motions

These motions are the same across all of the divisions.

Motions presented:

Ladies League

1. Fixture Requirements

A) A source of Drinking water is to be provided.

i) The home Team is to provide refreshments

That Rule D. 1. A) i) for the 2023 season will be:

1)Unchanged

2)Suspended

3)Changed to read ... The Home Team may provide refreshments

+55 League Rule

6.10 The home Team shall supply sufficient food and refreshments for all players.

That Rule 6.10 for the 2023 season will be:

1)Unchanged

2)Suspended

3)Changed to read ... The home Team may supply sufficient food and refreshments for all players

Mixed League Rule

6.11 The home Team shall supply sufficient food and refreshments for all players.

That Rule 6.11 for the 2023 season will be:

1)Unchanged

2)Suspended

3)Changed to read ... The home Team may supply sufficient food and refreshments for all players

Junior League Rule

C5 C. The home team will supply food and drink to be available during and at the completion of play.

C5 D. The away team will advise the home captain of the number of players he is bringing to help plan refreshments.

That Rule C5 C. for the 2023 season will be:

1)Unchanged

2)Suspended

3)Changed to read ... The home team may supply food and drink to be available during and at the completion of play.

C5 D. The away team captain will advise the home captain of the number of players he is bringing to help plan refreshments.

In accordance with the revision to Rule C5 C., that Rule C5 D. for the 2023 season will be:

- 1) Unchanged*
- 2) Suspended*

Ladies League:

Not controversial to provide drinking water.

Rule D1.A.1

Moved by: Stuart Teather

Seconded by: Anne Madden – Parkway Valley T.C.

Motion to amend – David Maples – to include food and drink.

Seconded by Marianna Sierra – ACTC.

Motion carried.

Motion on D.1. A.1

- 1) Means you must provide food and drink
- 2) Means you do not have to provide food and drink
- 3) Means you can provide food and drink if you wish

All in favour of 1- all opposed

All in favour of 2 – for a year. Will vote again next year. Yes- 13. No- remainder of room

All in favour of 3 – most of the room

- Ladies league teams can do as they wish regarding food and drinks.

55+ League

Rule 6.10

Moved by: Stuart Teather

Seconded by: David Maples

Same three options:

All in favour-

- 1) All opposed
- 2) 4
- 3) Passed by most of the room

- 55+ league teams can do as they wish regarding food and drinks.

Mixed League

Rule 6.11

Moved by: Stuart Teather

Seconded by: Carolyn Theil- MRTC

Motion to amend – Gary Hophan York Weston – eliminate option 2.

Seconded by: Yenny Musalem

Motion passed

All in favour –

- 1) All opposed
- 2) Eliminated
- 3) Passed by most of the room

- Mixed League teams can do as they wish regarding food and refreshments.

Junior League

Rule C5 C.

Moved by: Stuart Teather

Seconded by: Kristian Gravelle – Scarborough T.C.

- 1) All opposed
- 2) All opposed
- 3) Passed by most of the room

- Junior League teams can do as they wish regarding food and refreshments.

Rule C5 D. will be amended in accordance with the change to rule C5 C.

It was recommended that at a later date the rules be consolidated under one umbrella rather than sit within each league's rules.

Physical Abuse – Motion brought forward by Gary Bennett – Scarborough Bluffs

Seconded by Marianna Sierra- ACTC

For purposes of this rule, physical abuse is the unauthorized touching of an official, opponent, spectator or other person either by hand, racquet, tennis ball or any other object.

Players shall not, at any time, physically abuse any official, opponent, spectator or other person before, during or after an authorized match.

Violation of this rule will result in the immediate forfeit of the match by the offending team/player. Any additional penalties will be determined by the Division Chair.

For the Mixed League, this would be the new 2.6. 2.6 becomes 2.7; 2.7 becomes 2.8; 2.8 becomes 2.9; 2.9 becomes 2.10; 2.10 becomes 2.11

For the Ladies League, this would be the new II 8. II 8. becomes II 9.; II 9. becomes II 10.; II 10. becomes II 11.; II 11. becomes

II 12.; II 12. becomes II 13.

For the Junior League, this would be the new G3. G3 becomes G4; G4 becomes G5; G5 becomes G6; G6 becomes G7; G7 becomes G8.

For the +55 League, this would be the new 2.6. 2.6 becomes 2.7; 2.7 becomes 2.8; 2.8 becomes 2.9; 2.9 becomes 2.10; 2.10 becomes 2.11

This motion is presented to govern all leagues.

All in favour – motion passed.

7. Marketing Director Report – Alison Bittle-Fair

Alison shared some interesting information about the ICTA website.

Sponsorships: Merchant of Tennis amazing sponsor, Yonex (their 3rd year), OTA. We are actively looking for other advertising opportunities on our website.

Please contact Alison if you want to advertise or be a sponsor.

8. Junior League Report- Todd Orrett

Todd is hopeful that the numbers this year will be higher after a 2-year struggle of low participation.

The Junior League has the largest geography. If we get more teams, then they won't have to drive so far. Will be able to make more divisions.

Hope to have 40 teams this year.

Divisions have 4 teams. It is a 6-week season, each team plays each other twice. Season runs from May 13 to June 25.

We had first annual Mixed Team Junior Championships.

Tennis Rocks – had two venues last year. Will have 5 events this year.

The Board has decided based on length of the season – the team fee will be reduced to \$40 from \$70.

9. 55+ League – Marina Mihailovich

We are the smallest league. Unfortunately there are not enough courts to service all the players. While there is interest in a 65+ league, clubs do not have enough courts available.

Thank you to the three Divisional Chairs for all of their help in running this league.

Team registration should be completed by April 30th. Season starts May 11 for 14 weeks. Rosters are to be submitted by May 4th.

There are expansions in the Niagara and Durham Regions. We are providing them with an exception to the 5-team rule in a division.

10. Mixed League Report- David Maples

We are doing very well. This year we expect approximately 150 teams up from 133 last year. Majors – there will be one division. Teams will play each other once and the regular season will end at the end of July.

Mixed League Rule Change Proposals

Current Rules re: 3rd set.

5.13 The Match format is the best two out of three sets, with a Tie-Break played at a score of 6-6 in any Set.

5.14 A regular third Set shall be played in all matches except in any one or more of the following circumstances:

- a) If the number of courts being utilized at the beginning of the Fixture is three and inclusive of warm-up the Match has exceeded two hours; or*
- b. If the score is tied one set all and 30 minutes or less remain before the court becomes unplayable due to lighting or other court restrictions.*

1) Proposed Rule Change (by Mark Paklepa – Lambton GCC)

5.13 The Match format is the best two out of 3 sets with a 7 pt. Tie-Break played at a score of 6-6 for the first 2 sets. In the event of a 3rd set a 10-point Tie Break will be played.

Moved by: Sue Cardarelli – Lambton G&CC
Seconded by: Gary Hophan – York Weston T.C.

David introduced Motion 1 – proposed by Mark Paklepa from Lambton.

If motion 1 does not pass, a vote on the second motion will be conducted.

The current rule says 2 hours. The warm up issue comes up often.

Question was called on the discussion. Motion was put to a vote.

All in favour – 33
Any opposed – 13

Motion passes.

Motion #2 was read for information.

2) Proposed Rule Change - by David Maples – Mixed League Director

5.14 A regular third Set shall be played in all matches except in any one or more of the following circumstances:

- a) If the number of courts being utilized at the beginning of the Fixture is three and inclusive of warm-up the Match has exceeded 1 hour and 45 minutes OR*
- b. If the score is tied one set all and 30 minutes or less remain before the court becomes unplayable due to lighting or other court restrictions.*

3) Proposed Rule Change by David Maples – Mixed League Director

3.18 Current NCAA players in Division I, II, III, NAIA or U SPORT (Canada) players shall play at the Majors or A Levels only.

Moved by: David Maples
Seconded by Gary Hophan – York Weston T.C.

Motion passes.

4) Proposed Rule Change by David Maples – Mixed League Director

Current rule: 5.10. *Players may Sub Up a maximum of two matches.*

Proposed rule to replace 5.10

5.10 "Players may Sub Up a maximum of two matches. In the event that a player Subs Up for a 3rd match, the player can no longer play for the lower level team in the current season. They will be placed on the roster of the higher-level team and will be removed from the roster of the lower-level team for the remainder of the season."

Moved by: David Maples
Seconded by Kristian Gravelle – Scarborough Bluffs T.C.

All those in favour – 31
All those opposed – 6

Motion passes.

11. Ladies League Report- Kelly Stobbe

The Ladies League has a large number of motions tonight.

Kelly advised that there is now a C division in the league with 10 teams registered in the division.

We will have 75 teams this year. The divisions have been posted on the website. Promotions and relegations have occurred. Confirmations are requested by April 20th

There will be a captains meeting in mid-April.

Motions:

1. Adding a C division

Moved by: Sue Cardarelli – Lambton G&CC
Seconded by: Brad Kovatch – York Old Mill T.C.

Motion passed.

2. Fixture Requirements – home team to provide 3 courts unless have approval prior to season starting.

Moved by: Ann Madden – Parkway Valley T.C.
Seconded by: Karen Wright – Nobleton T.C.

Motion passed.

3. Unsafe courts – any player can deem a court unsafe.

Moved by: Marianna Sierra – ACTC
Seconded by: Gene Parker – Davisville T.C.

Motion passed.

4. Fixture Format – currently get 8 points for each fixture.

Moved by Sue Cardarelli – Lambton G&CC
Seconded by Anne Madden – Parkway Valley T.C.

Motion passed.

5. Team Roster – substitute players – currently a player can play once on each team at the same level. A player can sub up but you cannot sub across.

Moved by: Paul Ward – King City T.C.

Seconded by: Marianna Sierra – ACTC

Motion passed.

Discussion:

Clarification that players cannot sub across if there is more than one team at the same level at the same club.

6. Adding New Players – must be added to Roster by July 1, 9am.

Moved by: Geri Flotron – Ballantrae T.C.

Seconded by: Karen Wright – Nobleton T.C.

7. Captain Duties – on the day of fixture the roster must include both first and last name of the player.

Moved by: Marianna Sierra – ACTC

Seconded by: Carolyn Thiel – MRTC

Motion passed.

8. Inclement Weather – when rescheduling a match it does not have to be the same people that play the rescheduled match.

Moved by: Sue Cardarelli – Lambton G&CC

Seconded by: Carolyn Thiel – MRTC

Motion passed.

9. ICTA Championships – changing the name from Annual Tournament to ICTA Championships.

Moved by: David Maples

Seconded by: Brad Kovatch – York Old Mill T.C.

Motion passed

10. Promotions and Relegations – top team in each level may be promoted to next level as there are no longer any playoffs.

Moved by: Alison Bittle-Fair

Seconded by: Marianna Sierra – ACTC

Motion passed.

We have not yet determined how we will deal with the C division at this stage.

Motions from the floor:

ICTA Ladies League–Submitted by Anne Madden – Parkway Valley T.C.

1. *Clubs must provide a minimum of 3 courts to start fixture play in any level that features 4 total lines.*

This motion was removed as it has already been passed this evening. Anne agreed to remove the motion.

2. *When a fixture has been completely defaulted, the offending club may face additional penalties as determined by the Division Chair.*

Moved by: Anne Madden -Parkway Valley T.C.

Seconded by: Nigel McClean – Don Mills T.C.

The motion was defeated

Additional motions from the floor – Marisa De Francesco – Central T.C.

Definitions

“Fixture” means a series of Matches between the doubles pairs of two Teams, initially scheduled to take place in one morning session, and shall consist of four doubles Matches. The League Director has the authority to use a different Fixture and Match format.

1. *That, for 2023, instead of 4 lines of ladies doubles teams, 3 lines will be played for each match.*

Therefore, for 2023, that “Fixture” means a series of Matches between the doubles pairs of two Teams, initially scheduled to take place in one morning session, and shall consist of three doubles Matches. The League Director has the authority to use a different Fixture and Match format.

Moved by: Marisa De Francesco

No seconder for the motion.

No vote was required.

2. *For 2023, all matches will be a 2-hour timed match.*

Moved by: Marisa De Francesco

Seconded by: Marianna Sierra – ACTC

All in favour: 10

All opposed: 14

The motion is defeated.

3. *For 2023, one point will be awarded for a win and zero point for a loss. Ties will not be allowed.*

Moved by: Marisa De Francesco
Seconded by: David Maples

All in favour: 4
All opposed: opposed by most of the room.

Motion is defeated.

4. *For 2023, a minimum of 5 teams/clubs will be fielded in each division.*
Moved by: Marisa De Francesco
Seconded by: Sue Cardarelli – Lambton G&CC

All in favour – 5
All opposed – opposed by most of the room.

Motion is defeated.

12. Tournament Report – Yenny Musalem

The date for this year's tournament will be September 30 with October 1 being the rain date. All leagues will be represented at the tournament.

We are looking for volunteers to assist on that day.

13. Other Business

None.

14. Date for next spring meeting – March 26, 2024

15. Adjournment

Moved by: Marina Mihailovich
Seconded by: Paul Ward, King City T.C.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.