

**The National Capital Tennis Association**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2016**

**November 25th, 2016**

**Britannia Yacht Club**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:45pm with Phil Johnson, NCTA President, presiding.

AGENDA:

The following was the Agenda adopted for the NCTA AGM 2016:

1. Roll call (Bruce Ramsay)
2. Approval of minutes of last AGM (Bruce Ramsay)
3. President's report (Phil Johnson)
4. Senior National's report (Bruce Ramsay)
5. Treasurer's report (Marinus Wins)
6. Capital Kids update (Fei Wu)
7. OTA Update (Matt MacKinnon)
8. City Agreement (Paula Hadden-Jokiel & Ward Cosman)
9. Election of Officers (Phil Johnson)
10. Any other business (Phil Johnson)

ROLL CALL

Bruce Ramsay, NCTA Secretary, undertook a Roll Call.

The following OTA member clubs were in attendance:

- Barrhaven
- Britannia
- Craig Henry
- General Burns
- Elmridge
- Manotick
- Orleans
- St. James
- Tennis Centre West Ottawa
- OAC
- OTLBC

The following NCTA member clubs were in attendance:

- Glen Cairn
- The Glens

The following OTA Associate members were in attendance:

- Kunststadt Sports

In addition, the following non-affiliated tennis club was in attendance:

- Crystal Beach

With over 30% of the OTA/NCTA member clubs in attendance, a quorum was declared for the 2016 AGM.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST AGM

The minutes for the AGM 2014 had been previously distributed by email. Bruce Ramsay briefly summarized the minutes, and noted several typos for correction. There was 1 Action Item from the 2015 minutes: Phil confirmed that all defibrillators had been distributed by the City, the AI was closed and the minutes were unanimously approved.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS FOR 2016

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\*\***... detailed information on all reports submitted are included in the PowerPoint slides as supplement to these minutes. Only summary information, questions and clarifications are included below.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Phil Johnson's report highlighted progress with regard to the stated goals of NCTA from last year's AGM. NCTA has moved away from the old 2-tier membership model. In response to a question from the floor by The Glens, Phil reiterated that as of 2017, clubs will need to join OTA in order to join the Association and participate fully in its activities. NCTA will be working to bring all non-affiliated clubs into the OTA community. Phil also stated that it is very likely that the new City agreement with community clubs will mandate membership in OTA.

Phil noted the fact that OTA/NCTA club membership in 2016 was up. Additionally, NCTA saw an increase in participation in tournaments, leagues and junior programs. He also highlighted Ottawa's success in hosting the Canadian Senior Nationals during the late summer. A note of concern was that the smash cage was only used 7 times during the summer season. Phil and Fei thanked Kunststadt Sports for storage and for assisting Fei in moving the smash cage to tennis events.

#### STEVE STEVENS SENIOR NATIONAL REPORT

Bruce Ramsay presented a report on the Senior Nationals, held August 21-27 at the following tennis clubs: TCWO, Rideau, OTLBC, Elmdale and New Edinburg. A total of 461 players from

across Canada, and several other countries, participated in 56 events during the week. Several top senior players from the Ottawa region participated and indeed, won national titles. The event could not have taken place without the tremendous assistance of the all the volunteers from the Ottawa tennis community. All clubs who participated as hosts found the experience very positive, and indicated it helped them connect with the tennis community beyond their own club. Feedback from Tennis Canada, OTA and the players themselves was also extremely positive. It is hoped that, in future, Ottawa can be included in the cycle as future hosts, alongside Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal.

Phil Johnson stated that the Ottawa tennis community will be seeking to host more high profile events in the future. Specifically, there is a possibility that Ottawa could host the upcoming Davis Cup tie between Canada and the UK. This event would take place in February, 2017 at the TD Place indoor arena. A decision on this is expected from Tennis Canada in the near future.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Marinus Wins, NCTA Treasurer, reported a projected surplus of \$1000 for 2016. The 2017 budget anticipates revenues of \$16,600 and expenses of \$14,950, for a projected surplus of \$1,650.

In regard to a question concerning the \$3,800 loss shown by the City Championships, Marinus explained that, as the showcase NCTA tournament in the region it, involves prize money to attract our top pros. Thus, this tournament is budgeted for a loss each year. However, this year, with the Senior Nationals slated for the following week, additional costs for indoor courts were accrued in order to complete all events before the start of the Nationals.

#### CAPITAL KIDS REPORT

Fei Wu presented the report on the Capital Kids program. This program provided a free first tennis experience to 1741 kids, between the ages of 6 and 12 at 13 locations throughout the city. Locations have been selected specifically to provide this opportunity to kids from low income families. Fei also presented details of the very positive feedback obtained from a parents survey conducted this summer.

Comments from the floor regarding this program were generally very favourable. A few clubs commented that the discount coupons for club memberships were not utilized. Geoff Pearce, NTS, said that Capital Kids likely has an indirect benefit to clubs through increased participation in club junior program participation, from which new members will come in the future. Orleans TC noted that their Capital Kids sessions were run in May/June so as not to conflict with junior summer camps. The Crystal Beach representative said that their free intro lessons are in May/June, and junior attendance drops off subsequently. However, they will have difficulty convincing their older membership that the club should join the OTA and take advantage of the programs offered.

NCTA has received word that grant funding for this 3-year program will not be renewed. The success of this program has been overwhelming, and so NCTA will be investigating several options that would enable this program to continue. These options may include sponsorship from the business community and/or a modest fee from participants. A suggestion was made to

certify volunteers as level 1 coaches so that pro costs could be reduced. Phil Johnson stated that NCTA is committed to the continuation of Capital Kids, but its form and scope may have to be reassessed.

#### OTA REPORT

John Wins-Purdy has moved to Scotland, and so is not longer the National Capital Region OTA Coordinator. After a recruitment and interview process, Phil Johnson was pleased to announce that Matt MacKinnon will take John's place. Matt has already travelled to Toronto for an orientation session with OTA. Matt gave a brief backgrounder on his experience and on his successes at Elmdale TC. He outlined the club benefits of an OTA membership, and presented statistics on the successful OTA junior season. He summarized the activity this summer in the "Little Aces" and "Little Aces in Schools" programs. One aspect of the position that Matt wants to enhance is: events promotion, particularly through social media. He closed by outlining the expanded OTA benefits package for 2017, and urging members to keep in touch to provide ideas and comments.

#### CITY AGREEMENT

A City representative was unable to attend the meeting. Paula Hadden-Jokiel heads an NCTA committee that is leading a collective discussion with the City on a new community club agreement. She stated that Ward Cosman is retiring early in 2017, and so there is some urgency to these discussions. Some of the issues to be addressed in these discussions are: City club renovation cycle; defibrillator training; club affiliation with OTA; and pickle ball on city courts. Paula asked for volunteers to sit on this committee, and several members from the floor volunteered. After talking to each of the volunteers, Paula will be announcing the makeup of her committee shortly

Phil stated that, at a recent club meeting hosted by the city, the majority of community clubs supported a clause in the new community club agreement that would require clubs to join OTA.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Phil stated that a full slate of officers was elected to the Board of Directors at the 2015 AGM. Thus, no elections are required this year. However, he did announce a recent appointment to the Board. Rachel Cruickshank was appointed as Club Professional representative on the NCTA Board.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

There was a question from the floor asking whether club members in the province of Quebec can participate in OTA/NCTA events. Phil stated that the NCTA area encompassed the national capital region on both sides of the Ottawa river, and that there is agreement between OTA and Tennis Quebec regarding the full participation of Quebec players in NCTA events and programs.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Phil Johnson thanked all for attending and adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:00pm.