

NORTH SUBURBAN JUNIOR TENNIS ASSOCIATION INC.

Reg No. A0058168N

MINUTES OF DELEGATES MEETING HELD ON 7 AUGUST 2017

36 of 44 Clubs present

Meeting opened: 8:08 pm

CHAIRPERSON: Ron Morton

APOLOGIES: Bobby Dela Cruz (Taylors Lakes), Virginia Porteous (Gladstone Park), Kim Peters (Greenvale)

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Circulated and taken as read.

MOVED: Alicia Dachs (St. Thereses)

SECONDED: Bruno Alderuccio (Essendon)

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

Nil.

CORRESPONDENCE: As tabled by Robert McDonald

IN

1. Tennis Victoria — Agenda for Metropolitan Associations Forum on 7 June 2017
2. Consumer Affairs — Annual statement notification
3. Tennis Victoria — Associations Junior League Reminder
4. Tennis Victoria — CEO Update
5. West Brunswick — Complaint regarding semi-final played on Riverside multi-marked courts
6. Riverside — Response to West Brunswick complaint regarding semi-final played on multi-marked courts
7. Tennis Victoria — Associations Forum 8 March 2017 Draft Minutes
8. Tennis Victoria — Associations Forum 7 June 2017 Draft Minutes and attachments
9. Tennis Victoria — Safeguarding Children announcement
10. Tennis Victoria — 2017-18 Affiliation renewal notice and invoice
11. Tennis Victoria — 2017-18 Affiliation confirmation
12. Tennis Victoria — Call for Director nominations 2017
13. Sydenham TC — Notification of road closures
14. Consumer Affairs Victoria — Receipt of annual statement
15. Essendon TC — A Special Format proposal
16. Tennis Victoria — Agenda for Metropolitan Associations Forum on 9 August 2017

OUT

1. All Clubs — 2017 Season 2 Fixture to check
2. All Clubs — 2017 Season 2 Fixture Delegate details to check

3. West Brunswick — Response to complaint regarding semi-final played on multi-marked courts
4. Keilor East — Letter of support for Book a Court system
5. All Clubs — Pick Up Day reminder
6. All Clubs — Agenda for 7 August 2017 Delegates Meeting together with minutes of Delegates Meeting held on 22 May 2017, Extreme Weather Discussion paper and proposal from Essendon Tennis Club regarding A Special format

MOVED: Robert McDonald (Secretary)

SECONDED: Larry Pelly (Bulla Village)

TREASURER'S REPORT:

No report as the Treasurer was not present.

TENNIS EVENTS REPORT:

1. Associations Junior League

The 2017 Associations Junior League (formerly junior pennant) starts in a few weeks. Information will be sent out to team managers in the next few days, who will then contact players.

2. Frank Sedgman Cup — 29 and 30 July 2017

The Frank Sedgman Cup was held on 29 and 30 July 2017 in Bendigo. The NSJTA team finished 5th after the group stage and 7th overall. All players represented the Association well and it was a great learning experience for them.

TENNIS VICTORIA REPORT:

1. There has been discussion at the last few Associations Forums about different competition structures. The next meeting is on Wednesday night.

MATCH SECRETARY REPORT:

1. The NSJTA would like to welcome all the new Delegates to their first meeting or Season 2 tonight.
2. There are 343 teams entered this season across 43 grades. This is 3 teams less than last season and one less grade.
3. There are some alterations to the fixture as follows:
 - D Special 1 OLN position 2 are playing out of Glencairn
 - C Reserve 4 OLN black Position 2 is a 9.30am start
 - Grade Secretary D3 and D4 and D5 is Rose Micallef — rm.mahalo@gmail.com
 - Grade Secretary D+2 is now Kym Stephen — kstephen@stepbak.com.au
 - Grade Secretary B2 and C2 is now James Stephen — jstephen@stepbak.com.au
 - Grade Secretary A-1(f), C3u and D+6u Stuart Ilsley's email address — sjilsley@optusnet.com.au
4. Clubs are reminded that every effort must be made to start all matches by their required start time. It is preferable if teams could arrive earlier than the start time, to allow a limited hit up time before play commences. By-law 27a, 27b and 27c all talk about 3 minute hit ups depending on the number of courts. It is important that the 7.45am games start on time and Friday night start time is 7pm. Saturday start times 7.45am, 8.30am and 9.30am. Please refer to By-law 26 a) for late players' information.

It is particularly important for clubs with three courts to have all teams arrive on time and to keep warm ups to a minimum and for games to flow consistently.

5. We have many new D Grade teams with lots of nervous parents taking their first steps on courts as umpires. In the initial weeks a parent (from either club) can take another parent onto the side of the court to learn how to umpire. It is important that we encourage all our new parents. An away game for their first match can be very daunting. It is equally as important to encourage and even guide our new juniors over the first weeks in particular.
6. It is very important to have a court supervisor to help keep the day operating smoothly, and especially important over the first few weeks with the new D Grade teams. Balls and paperwork need to be available.
7. Thank you to all our grade secretaries. The NSJTA appreciates all the work done by grade secretaries. Once again we are using the email system. There have been some changes so please let your team managers know.
8. Delegates are reminded that emergencies must play 3 matches (not including washouts) before being considered for additional registration, and that in these 3 matches the emergency details must be clearly stated on the match sheet. Most additional registrations will be automatic, unless the child's results indicate that he/she appears to be a significantly better player than two other team members. Delegates must keep an eye on the site to see if their player has been approved. Sometimes a fourth game may need to be played but under NO circumstances should a child play a fifth game without confirmation from the Match Secretary. If a registration is rejected a child may play as an emergency for a higher team.
9. Registering players without previous match experience: Please make sure that paperwork is emailed to Kym (kstephen@stepbak.com.au) by Friday night prior to their first game so that she can enter the child into the team. The player must have never played a competition match, even as an emergency.
10. The following very important points have occurred already this season.
 - It is very important to write the correct starting time on your sheets.
 - Item 16 on Advice for All Team Managers: at the completion of a match check that the result sheet has been filled out completely and properly, especially adding up scores, and also making sure the sheet is signed. We have already had one occasion where the scores were written incorrectly and not picked up for a few days. It is not a situation that we want to happen or to try and resolve.
 - Please encourage your team captains and parents to communicate with you (the delegate). Information can be blown right out of proportion by the time it gets to the correct people. You (the delegate) can then ring Kym or a Match Committee person.
 - From time to time decisions are made by the Match Committee. We don't make decisions lightly. If you ever have a question in regard to this, by all means talk to us direct so as to get factual information.
 - Advice for All Team Managers Item 4: For away matches you may take the first set on forfeit if the home club have not provided you with a court within 15 minutes of the starting time. However you may agree not to do so if informed that an A or B grade singles match is about to finish. Please note: a game may be taken off the court and then resumed when a free court is available (if there is going to be a significantly delayed starting time) so as to make way for a team to commence.
 - Injury by-laws: Please note By-law 37(c) and (d):
 - (c) In the event of an injury incurred by a player whilst playing that set, an injury period of no more than 10 minutes shall be allowed, prior to forfeiting the set.
 - (d) An interval of ONE HOUR shall be allowed to enable a team to replace a player with a substitute. In this event, the match shall continue by the playing of the other sets listed on the match result sheet.

- If Delegates seek special approval for a particular situation, please make sure that your team manager states this approval on the sheet, and the Match Committee person they got the approval from. This helps our Grade Secretaries so that they do not take games off your team.
- Combined team players playing an emergency (eg only) St Monica's / Corpus Christi.

By law 34(i): A player registered in a lower team from either of the clubs that form a combined team can play as an emergency in the combined team (players from either club can fill in combined team).

If a player from the combined team plays as an emergency in a higher team, then he/she can only play in a higher team from their own home club. (eg only) A St Monica's player can only fill in a higher St Monica's team. If a Corpus Christi player from the combined team fills in for a St Monica's higher team, the sets will be forfeited.

- If for some reason a game needs to be moved to an alternative venue, Match Committee approval must be given first. We do have a few changes at the moment due to clubs having upgrades to courts and club houses.
 - Last week we had an Extreme Weather situation (with further discussions tonight). Some clubs played some of their matches and others didn't play any at all. This decision was for the Club Supervisors and in some cases the Team Managers to make. Decisions should be based on safety and the duty of care to players, families and umpires.
11. Please note that the Team App is a very useful application to have on your phone. Lots of information is readily available and Aaron keeps it well updated with ongoing news.
 12. Delegates should ring Kym Stephen on 0413 527 902 if they have any questions. Leave a message if Kym can't answer and she will ring you back.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. A discussion took place about how to best implement the Tennis Australia Extreme Weather policy for NSJTA matches. The Tennis Australia policy states:

High winds have the potential to create dangerous conditions for players, spectators and officials. Where these winds create unreasonable risks within the court enclosure or on-site, play may need to be suspended by relevant Officials responsible for conducting and managing tennis events. This may include on court furniture or fixtures disturbed, fences damaged, items being blown onto court or players health threatened by the force of the wind.

Options discussed included the Association calling blanket wind-outs, the team managers making a decision for each match or Court Supervisors deciding. After discussion, it was agreed that the decision whether to call off matches due to high winds should be made by the Court Supervisor at each venue based on safety and risk to players. Once the decision is made, all matches at the venue should be called off, unless there are significantly different risk factors for different courts (for example different surfaces). There was also support for the Association issuing an advisory to clubs about the Extreme Weather Policy on days of high winds.

2. The following proposal to amend the By-laws to change A Special back to the previous format of 3 boys and 3 girls with matches to be played as per other A Grade Mixed grades was proposed by Essendon TC and debated.

Replace paragraphs (a) to (d) of By-law 14 with the following:

A special, A grade and A reserve mixed grades

- a) For A special, A grade and A reserve mixed grades, the competing teams shall comprise three (3) girls and three (3) boys.
- b) For A special, A grade and A reserve mixed grades, a match shall consist of nine (9) sets made up of three (3) boys and three (3) girls singles of 8 games with a tie-breaker at 7 all. There will

also be one (1) boys, one (1) girls and one (1) mixed doubles set each of six (6) games with no tie-breaker.

and replace paragraph (a) of By-law 29 with the following:

29) a) For Friday evening matches, Clubs must provide at least three courts for each A Mixed home match and at least two courts for A Boys home matches.

Essendon TC put forward reasons to support their proposal, including:

- Social aspect and team bonding. A number of players have dropped out and lost interest due to current format which has no mixed tennis. Having 9 sets of tennis with doubles and mixed partners changing regularly allows for a far greater social and team bonding.
- Will lessen the jump required from A1 to A Special. Allowing a strong A1 player to step into A Special as a number 3 seed allows that player to become better accustomed to the higher standard required. The current jump from A1 to A Special as a number one or two seed is a major jump for most players.
- Breaking up an A1 Team of 3X3 to current A Special format of 2X2, sometimes on short notice, is difficult and disruptive to clubs and team harmony.
- Reason for the original change from 3X3 to current format of 2X2 to attract stronger players does not appear to have occurred despite the best intentions and endeavours.

A general discussion took place about how to retain the best players in the NSJTA competition, particularly now there are more tournaments.

It was agreed that Club Delegates would take the proposal back to their Club Committees and it would be voted on at the next meeting.

3. Information about the Saturday afternoon NSTA competition was circulated to Delegates.

MEETING CLOSED: 9.14 PM

NEXT MEETING: BUCKLEY PARK TENNIS CLUB ON MONDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2017 at 8.00 PM