

NORTH SUBURBAN JUNIOR TENNIS ASSOCIATION INC.

Reg No. A0058168N

MINUTES OF DELEGATES MEETING HELD ON 29 AUGUST 2022

36 of 47 Clubs present

Meeting opened: 8:05 pm

CHAIRPERSON: Ron Morton

APOLOGIES: Mark Kennedy (Avondale Heights), Minh (Craigieburn), Aaron Sharpe (Doutta Galla), Josh Rowe (Glencairn), Justin Fisher (Hillside), David Dinh (Maribyrnong Park), Nicole Busuttil (OLN), Lisa Palmer (OLN), Kylie Hunter (Princes Hill), Julian Mancini (Tennis Events Convenor)

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Circulated and taken as read.

MOVED: Paul Thitchener (North Park)

SECONDED: Glenn Ferris (Oak Park)

CORRESPONDENCE: As tabled by Robert McDonald

IN

1. Tennis Victoria — Upcoming UTR education forums
2. Sydenham TC — Change of Junior Delegate
3. Fawkner TC — Committee changes
4. Tennis Victoria — Federal Government Volunteer Grants

OUT

1. All Clubs — Competition formats discussion invite
2. All Clubs — Match Centre and UTR update
3. Some Clubs — A Special six team fixture
4. All Clubs — Agenda and attachments for Delegates meeting on 29 August 2022
5. All Clubs — Competition formats information
6. All Clubs — Upcoming UTR education forums

CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS

2022/09	In	Code of Conduct complaint from Avondale Heights TC regarding D Grade 1 match on 23 July 2022
	Out	Copy of the Code of Conduct complaint to Strathmore TC
	In	Response from Strathmore TC
	Out	Letters to Avondale Heights TC and Strathmore TC advising outcome of complaint

MOVED: Robert McDonald (Secretary)

SECONDED: Ray Reymers (Coburg)

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Balance in transaction account as at 1 August 2022	\$1,895.99
Payments received since 1 August 2022	\$2,247.50
Payments out since 1 August 2022	-\$443.19

Balance in transaction account as at 29 August 2022 **\$3,700.30**

Balance in investment account as at 29 August 2022 **\$12,345.76**

MOVED: Colin Thompson (Treasurer) SECONDED: Paul Thitchener (North Park)

There are still a few clubs with fees outstanding: Glencairn, Green Gully, Hume, Merlynston, Princes Hill, St John Bosco and West Brunswick. These clubs are requested to pay as soon as possible.

TENNIS EVENTS REPORT:

1. Associations Junior League (AJL)

- NSJTA has 15 teams competing in AJL on Sunday mornings. That's the second highest number of teams from an association in the competition.
- We've just completed the 3rd round out of 10 rounds (plus a grand final for the top 2 teams in each grade).
- Thanks again to all the Team Managers and clubs that have made this possible.

2. Pat Pearce Cup

- Waverley Tennis is hosting the 2022 Pat Pearce Shield on 30 September 30 to 2 October at Doveton.
- Each team consists of 4 boys and 4 girls in 15 & Under and 4 boys and 4 girls in 13 & Under. Eligibility is age as of 31 October 2022.
- Matches consist of best of 3 singles matches and doubles matches. Each team plays each other in singles/doubles.
- Play each day commences approximately 8:00am.
- Nomination form is on the NSJTA website

TENNIS VICTORIA REPORT:

1. Tennis Victoria are holding a series of UTR education forums to better explain the system and dispel some of the myths. Links have been sent out to all club delegates. If there is interest, we can also get Justin Cox from Tennis Victoria to attend a Delegates meeting.
2. Clubs are requested to encourage all players to set up a competitive player profile. Instructions on how to do this are on the Tennis Victoria website: <https://www.tennis.com.au/competitiveplay/competitive-player-profile>

MATCH SECRETARY REPORT:

1. **Team withdrawals** — Oak Park D Grade 1 Unisex had withdrawn and been replaced with a Bye.
2. **Seedings** — Clubs can now change their A Grade singles seedings order for the second half of the season (Round 8 to Round 14). Please email your completed seeding sheet (regardless if you make a change to the seeding order or not) to results@nsjta.org.au. Seedings must be sent no later than Wednesday 31 August 2022.

Teams which change their seeding order without informing the NSJTA will not be able to change their order and will be required to play in the order entered for Rounds 1–7. In the finals you can play your team as either Rounds 1–7 or Rounds 8–14. Whichever order you choose for the Semi Finals must be used in the Grand Final. An example would be: A Club may play their girls in the Rounds 1–7 order and the Boys in the Rounds 8–14 order. This order must be then used in the Grand Final.

3. **New Registrations** — October 14th and 15th (Round 11) is the last opportunity for additional registrations. Emergencies wanting registration must have played their third match by and including these dates.

Round 7 was the last week that By-Law 6b could be used for registering children with no competition experience. All new players must now go through the emergency player process of playing 3 games before, and including, round 11. Delegates are reminded that emergencies must play 3 matches (not including washouts) before being considered for additional registration, and that these 3 matches the emergency details must be clearly stated on the match sheet.

4. **Emergencies** — Please encourage your team managers to always go through you, the Club Delegate, to find emergency players. It is a combined total of emergency matches eg: 3 games in A-4 and 3 games in A-1 adds up to a total of six games played up. You should never play a player any more than 4 games. Please ring me if that occurs. This is why it is important to send your results in on time.
5. **Filling out sheets** — Please make sure all details are correct on the Results Sheet before sending it to your Grade Secretary. The NSJTA should not be chasing people up and asking them if they remember the score or not etc. With us being halfway through the season, an incorrect score could be what determines a finals berth.

There are still some outstanding score sheets. Delegates could you please follow up. It doesn't matter if it's the Home team or the Away team who supplies the sheet to the Grade Secretary. I, as a Grade Secretary, have requested some, and they are still outstanding.

Date of birth must be filled in for all emergency players.

6. **Issues** — The following are a few points that have come up recently:
 - a) In D Grade both teams must supply umpires. It usually works out 3 sets each. If either team has parents who do not know how to umpire, invite them out to stand by the side of other umpires to learn. It is just not acceptable to expect other clubs to umpire all the games.
 - b) On Friday nights and Saturday mornings there must be an allocated Court Supervisor. We have the green fluoro vests that Aaron had organised to wear on Friday nights and Saturday mornings, so people know who to approach if there is an issue. If your club hasn't got one, please email me at matchsecretary@nsjta.org.au.
 - c) When a player has not turned up and the players games are forfeited, please write forfeit. Please do not just write in 6-0.

There was a situation last season where an emergency player was refused registration as this player's combined statistics, were considered to be, strengthening the team on the day, and better than their other team players. Upon my call to the Delegate, to notify them of the refusal, it was discovered that the game was not played at all and an additional game had then been requested to be played by the Match Committee of that player. The result was the player was accepted into the team.

And just last week I rang another club to have a chat re the registration of a D+ player only to find out the player was registered in a team already and was in fact playing up. The child's name was incorrectly spelt on the team sheet.

- d) The NSJTA is in the process of improving the match sheets so that there is more room to write emergency details. In the meantime, please encourage your team managers to write legibly.
 - e) Fair line calls — As we progress further into the season and get closer to finals, I once again ask Clubs to encourage fair line calls. We all make mistakes. I, personally, have seen some very confronting line calls. Please encourage all players to be fair.
7. **Behaviour (Player and Spectator)** — There have been a number of Complaints lately from Clubs about the unsportsmanlike behaviour of some of our NSJTA players. We have also received complaints

about parents and spectators being vocal and using hand gestures from the sidelines during games. I must remind you that there must be no interference from spectators. In umpired games, please allow the umpire to deal with anything that might arise. Delegates, in any non-umpired games, please let the children know that they can call for an umpire if need be. Both Team Managers or the Court Supervisor can help get that organised. This should only happen if the players cannot sort the issue out themselves.

Found in: ADVICE FOR ALL TEAM MANAGERS:

- a) *Ensure there is no coaching or umpiring or other disturbances occurring from outside the courts. If this continues after warning the offenders report the situation to your home club supervisor who may ask the offender/s to leave the courts.*
- b) *Poor behaviour by players ie: swearing, racquet throwing, intimidation and deliberate time wasting should not be tolerated. Team Managers or the Home Club Supervisor should first warn the child and then declare a forfeit of that set if the behaviour continues.*

8. **Home Club Supervisor** — One of the requirements of Clubs participating in the NSJTA is for there to be a supervisor. The supervisor is in charge of the smooth running of Friday nights and Saturday mornings. If there are any problems they need to be aware of the rules and contact phone numbers (Delegate, Match Secretary or NSJTA Committee members). Situations that can arise during the course of the match should/could be brought to the attention of either the opposition Team Manager or Court Supervisor. It is often so much better to deal with it on the day/night without confrontation. Facts are clearer on the day.

By-law 30 Home and Away Matches

- a) *For all home matches, the host Club must provide a senior person (over 18 years of age) to be the Court Supervisor who will supervise matches at their courts.*
- b) *The Court Supervisor must clearly distinguish themselves as the Court Supervisor by wearing the identification provided by the NSJTA.*
- c) *If a dispute arises during a match that cannot be resolved by the two competing teams, it should be reported to the Court Supervisor. If they cannot resolve the dispute, the Court Supervisor should contact a member of the Match Committee.*
- d) *Parents and spectators must comply with any instructions given to them by the Court Supervisor.*

9. **Attendance at meetings**

By-law 2 General

- c) *Failure to be represented at General Meetings of the Association and pick up days shall result in the fine specified in the Fines Schedule. Non-representation at three consecutive meetings may result in that Club's teams being withdrawn from the competition. The decision regarding the withdrawal of teams shall rest with the Match Committee.*

10. **Clearances** — By-law 9 f), g), h), i), k), l), are all equally important and with transfer dates coming up it would pay all Delegates to familiarise themselves with all of these

By-law 9 Clearances

- c) *To obtain a clearance, a player must complete a transfer application form, which must be signed by the Club Delegate or Secretary of both the current club and the new club.*
- d) *The completed transfer application form must be received by the Match Secretary by 6.00pm on the Saturday of Round 11 of the current season.*
- e) *A club may only refuse a transfer on the grounds that the player owes fees to that club*
- j) *Any club or representative of a club approaching a player registered to another club and intimating, suggesting or advising the player to change clubs without that player already having a*

clearance from that player's current club may be fined the fine specified in the Fines Schedule at the discretion of the Committee.

m) A maximum of 3 players may transfer from one club to another in any one season. For the purposes of this by-law, multiple players from the same family will count as one transfer.

11. **Grade Secretaries** — I just want to thank all our wonderful Grade Secretaries. It is very important that all clubs get the results in asap (before end of weekend would be great). The NSJTA needs to run various weekly reports, and the results need to be in for us to have accurate reports. Many thanks or everyone's assistance in this matter.

Please let me know (via email) if you wish to be a Grade Secretary for Season 1 2023.

12. **Finals** — Let me know (via email) if your club would be interested in hosting finals. The NSJTA is looking at giving the finals a great atmosphere again, by playing a few matches at some venues. This has been very successful previously. The NSJTA tries to share finals around our clubs.

13. **Important dates**

- **Sep 02/03**— A Grade teams may now change their seedings for the second half of the season. Please send a copy of seedings to results@nsjta.org.au
- **Oct 14/15**— Last opportunity for additional registrations - emergencies wanting registration must have played their third match by these dates.
- **Oct 15** — Transfers for next season close — transfer forms and \$20 clearance fee must be lodged with the Match Secretary by 6PM.
- **Nov 05** — All A grade team entries for next season (Friday and Saturday) must be entered in League Manager on or before this date.
- **Nov 07** —Third and final Delegates Meeting — starts 8PM at Buckley Park TC
- **Nov 12** —All other Saturday team entries for next season must be entered in League Manager on or before this date.

14. Kym's mail address is matchsecretary@nsjta.org.au for all communication.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. **Child Safety Update** — Please ensure your club is up to date with its Working with Children Checks.
- It is a Tennis Victoria requirement that everyone on a club or association committee has a Working with Children Check and provide evidence to their club/association.
 - All volunteers involved in junior tennis also require a Working with Children Check, unless they are under 18 or a parent whose child participates, or normally participates, in the activity.
2. **Proposal to amend the By-laws — match starting times** — The following proposal to change starting times for matches was discussed:

Replace By-laws 25, 28 and 38(b) with the following:

25) The starting time for matches is:

- a) A Grade Friday night grades — 7.00 p.m.
- b) A Grade Saturday grades — 8.00 a.m.
- c) B Grade Saturday grades — 8.00 a.m. (or 9.00 a.m. if specified on the fixture)
- d) C Grade Saturday grades — 9.00 a.m. (or 8.00 a.m. or 10.00 a.m. if specified on the fixture).
A club will only be granted a 8.00 am start for a C level team if it can satisfy the Match Committee that it is genuinely needed on court capacity grounds.

- e) D Grade Saturday grades — 10.00 a.m. (or 9.00 a.m. if specified on the fixture)
- 28) a) For Friday evening matches, the finishing time shall be 10.30 p.m. No play is permitted after this time, and sets still in progress shall be recorded as incomplete.
- b) For Saturday matches, the finishing time shall be 12.30 p.m. and no new sets may be started after this time. A set which is already in progress may continue at this time as long as both Team Managers agree to do so, and the set must then be completed so long as courts are available.
- 38) b) The Match Secretary will make a decision whether or not to abandon all matches by:
 - 6.00 p.m. for Friday night matches
 - 7.15 a.m. for Saturday morning matches commencing at 8.00 a.m.
 - 8.15 a.m. for Saturday morning matches commencing at 9.00 a.m.
 - 9.15 a.m. for Saturday morning matches commencing at 10.00 a.m.

MOVED: Robert McDonald (Airport West)

SECONDED: Jacqui Theuma (Keilor East)

Defeated by a majority.

- 3. **Saturday competition formats discussion** — We have circulated some information to clubs about the competition formats discussion that we held online. There are lots of different views and different options suit different clubs. As there is no clear alternative to the current formats, no changes are being proposed by the Match Committee for Season 1 2023. Individual clubs can put options forward at a future meeting if they wish.

The Match Committee is still concerned about the number of Saturday mixed teams and the evenness of the standard within grades. We ask clubs to try to arrange their teams so that they can enter more Saturday mixed teams if possible.

MEETING CLOSED: 9.06 PM

NEXT MEETING: BUCKLEY PARK TENNIS CLUB ON MONDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2022 at 8.00 PM