

EAST VALLEY SENIOR TENNIS LEAGUE
MINUTES
JANUARY 27, 2017

1. The regular meeting of the EVSTL was called to order by President Ralph Sharp at 3:00 pm at Viewpoint. Officers of the EVSTL were introduced and President Sharp made opening comments welcoming the presidents and league representatives. President Sharp requested that in the future all club presidents attend the membership meetings, noting that presently there were only about ½ of the presidents at the table, the rest were league representatives. He also encouraged all presidents and league reps to share all the information from the league board and the TAC with their respective club boards and players. President Sharp then proceeded with the agenda.
2. ROLL CALL: 16 clubs were represented by either the respective club president or league voting representative, constituting a quorum.
3. RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENT VERN LOLAND'S PASSING: Jack Sather read the obituary for Vern Loland, followed by a minute of silent reflection by the members. Vern is to be remembered for his significant commitment to the EVSTL and his many contributions.
4. MINUTES: Minutes of the regular meeting of October 28, 2016, had been posted on the EVSTL website prior to the meeting. Motion by Tom Arnold and second by Sunland Village East to approve the minutes as posted. Motion passed 16-0.
5. TREASURER'S REPORT: Arnold presented the treasurer's report showing a beginning balance of \$2,161.03, deposits of \$320.00 from member dues, disbursements of \$1,577.16, leaving a balance of \$903.87. A second payment to Tencap Sports was made in November for \$1,500.00 for the final installment for the current season.
6. Jack Sather, Vice President, presented the Standing Committee's report on Social Tennis. The report consisted primarily of a survey of the clubs and a description of how they incorporate social tennis into the club, in addition to the competitive league tennis. There was no discussion on the report.
7. 2017-18 league schedule; Tencap rosters: Ben Wilford, league scheduler, discussed two options for the calendar for league play for next season. Motion by Carriage Manor, second by Monte Vista to recommend option #1 to the board for scheduling. With this option, the fall season will start on Monday, November 6, and will end on Friday, December 22. The winter season starts on Tuesday, January 2, and ends on Friday, March 2. The 3.5 matches scheduled for Monday, January 1 would need to be rescheduled by each club.

Wilford then discussed an idea to help the clubs more accurately manage their Tencap rosters. The idea is to add an additional team to each club for each level for which it has a team, and to name this team xxxDec. This roster would be for team members who arrive after the Dec. 1 deadline for team rosters and would include late arriving players, injured and non-playing players, and others not available for play. Players would be transferred from the xxxDec roster to the play roster when they are available, and vice versa. This would enable the league board to understand

how many players are available to meet minimum team membership numbers and would help others to see what players will eventually be available for play. The membership agreed to recommend that the board further pursue this plan and present it at the next membership meeting in final form.

8. Nominating committee: Jack Sather spoke for the nominating committee. Motion by Mesa Regal, with second by Towerpoint, to approve the slate of officers as recommended by the nominating committee. There were no nominations from the floor. Motion approved unanimously. Officers elected for next season terms: Jack Sather, president; Tom Arnold, vice president; Carey Barnard, secretary/treasurer; and Ben Wilford, scheduler. Ralph Sharp will join these officers on the board as past president.

9. 4.0 Captains' meeting: President Sharp reported that he had held a meeting with the 4.0 captains to discuss the idea of adding a 4.5+ division. He said the results of discussions with the 4.0 captains was that they were not in favor of this idea at this time.

10. TAC report: Tom Arnold reported that there were 36 requests for voluntary move-downs and 35 were approved. The only one that was not approved was for a player who was just one point out of the current playing level. Arnold also explained the reason that the window for accepting requests for move-downs was changing, and that has been due to a lack of communication throughout the league to the players regarding the move-down option, and this seems to have been related to the end of the calendar year/ holiday calendar and people being gone.

11. Tencap report: Roger Stevens discussed the large number of tie-breaks we are now experiencing at all levels, how few errors are being made by captains, ratings not being recalculated once scores are verified, and the numbers of players who had moved up in the past two years with few players moving down. He also discussed making appropriate partner matchups and opponent matchups, and other administrative questions. A couple of questions were asked by the club presidents and also a couple of questions from the floor, including how the Tencap fees were determined.

12. Opportunity Match report: Joe Ricci, OM administrator, reported that the OM's seem to be doing well with few issues or problems. All clubs appear to be using the system, and the coordinators are doing a great job. Joe reported that 972 players have been able to play who would not otherwise been able to play if it were not for the OM's.

13. 1.5 Report: Jane Wise reported on the various activities that have been happening throughout the 1.5 league program, including the Fun Days and the league matches. 90 players attended the Fun Day at Monte Vista earlier in the fall, which included lessons as well as social play.

14. 1.5/2.0 League issue: Tom Arnold reported that the board and the TAC have been looking at the high number of 1.5 rated players who play at the 2.0 level. He distributed a handout showing 236 of the 488 players (48%) at the 2.0 play level have a 1.5 rating. This is creating some significant matchup problems for the captains. Arnold reported that the majority of clubs seem to be promoting 1.5 players to the 2.0 level in the same general manner, i.e. with permission of the

1.5 captain and the 1.5 instructor(s). This informal system may be contributing to the problem of so many 1.5 rated players at the 2.0 level. President Sharp stated that he was forming a special committee to study this issue and report back to the membership at the March meeting as to any recommendations.

Committee members are: MR, VDO, SSV representing 1.5 league clubs; SR, CM, SV representing 1.5 social clubs, and Jane Wise (1.5 coord), and Jack Sather, Vice Pres (chair).

15. 75+ League Update: Mel Franz of MV reported that the 75+ league is needing some players. Any clubs that want more information should contact Mel Franz at MV.

16. MV 2.5 level teams: Bekky Butler, past president, reported on the concerns of the MV 2.5 team and its low team numbers. She asked for some patience, that MV is working on the problem, and to please keep in mind that team membership numbers are projected in good faith in the fall, but are subject to change due to number of unforeseen problems.

17. Census comparison/ census report: Jack Sather discussed the census figures comparing this January vs. the previous January 2016. Total census for January 2017 is 2527, and total census for January 2016 was 2860. This reflects a decrease of 333, or -11.6%.

18. Sun Life request to join EVSTL: Tom Arnold reported that Sun Life Resort has requested membership in the EVSTL. Connie Greer is the president of the Sun Life tennis club. Due to its small size, Sun Life has requested joining up with AWWV as a membership club. Arnold stated that he has researched the EVSTL records and could not find a defined precedent or policy regarding a small club joining up with another club, and that he recommends that the league be open to such recruitment to increase the league census, and that perhaps Jack Sather, as president-elect could establish a committee next season to develop policy and procedure for admitting small clubs. Motion by Tom Arnold, sec/treas, and second by Mesa Regal to admit Sun Life into the EVSTL in conjunction with AWWV. Motion approved 16-0.

19. Proposed bylaw changes: Tom Arnold made three motions to approve three bylaw changes (attached to these minutes).

Motion re: VII.J. ***A player must be a member of a team and only one team/ roster.*** Second by SSV. Approved to send to March meeting for final vote.

Motion re: IX.A. add: Players who transfer between clubs within the EVSTL maintain their Tencap rating. The receiving club determines the level of play. Second by Mesa Regal. Approved to send to March meeting for final vote.

Motion re: VII.A.B. To change minimum team membership numbers. First team, no change. ***Second team, change to 20 men and 14 women.*** Third team, no change. ***Fourth team, change to 40 men and 28 women.*** Second by GV.

Discussion was held concerning this proposed change. Arnold stated that at present 26% (9/34) of all teams with 2 or more teams at a level are not achieving league minimum team size requirements. This seems to be creating problems in meeting the 4-3 match requirements, depending on play-ups and OM's to get to the 4-3 requirement. Arnold stated that the board recommends increasing the team size to go to a second team to 20-14 (10-7 per team avg.) to

allow for players who unable to be present, injured, or otherwise not available. Surplus players would then be eligible for OM's or to be borrowed by the sister team. Arnold reported that 24 of the 34 teams that now have 2 or more teams at a level would meet the new requirement. Arnold further stated that the board has had to spend well in excess of 100+ hours addressing waiver requests from clubs that have wanted to add a second team, involving a considerable amount of time over the summer months when club leaders are absent or unable to address the responses from the board, are unable to forge borrowing agreements between clubs, and may be unable to make commitments to team size until just prior to the September 1 deadline.

Membership discussion identified problems with this proposal for clubs with teams with a large number of one gender but not for the other gender, possible large number of sit-outs, and other concerns.

Regarding changing the 4th team, Arnold stated that it is the opinion of the board that the current policy is unfair to players who happen to be on larger teams, and that the proposal to have all teams (2nd, 3rd, or 4th) after the first team to be of the same minimum standards is more fair and equitable for all.

Vote to send to the March meeting for final vote approved 14-2.

20. Additional topics: None

Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Arnold
Secretary/ Treasurer