

Minutes LCTA Board Meeting					
	Date: 11/20/13	Time: 6 pm	Location: FCTC	Facilitator: Ken Edwards	Recorder: Elisabeth Pickelsimer
Board Members Present	Ken Edwards, Rob Eppelsheimer, Meg Farrelly, Susan Mock, Bob Peiffer, Elisabeth Pickelsimer, Nancy Pitcairn, Steve Speer, Steve Wilson				
Board Members Absent	Joe Denning, Dee Mack				
Guests	None				
Discussion					
Primary Presenters	Discussion				Key Decisions
Ken Edwards	As introduction, Ken stated that the purpose of the meeting was to decide important changes to the LCTA Bylaws and whether the Board desires to expand LCTA's mission or maintain its status quo. LCTA is in essence a Community Tennis Association (CTA) and the Board must take the lead if it wants to implement new programs, such as organizing and running a youth tennis program and assuming an expanded role in the Lowcountry tennis community.				
Ken Edwards	<p>Ken acknowledged Bob Peiffer for rewording the Bylaws presented for discussion. In Bob's words, the proposed changes to the amended and restated LCTA Bylaws would read:</p> <p><u>CHANGE 1</u> Replace the third sentence of paragraph 5.1 with the following: The Directors shall be elected every two years at an annual meeting of the Members of LCTA by a majority vote of the Members present at the meeting. <u>Rationale:</u> Having elections every two years provides greater continuity for the Board. Please note that I did not change the term of office for the officers of the organization. I feel this is appropriate since the officers are selected by the Board, and the performance of the officers will be evident to the Board. An officer who is not reelected by the Board in the second year of his/her Board term would still be on the Board unless he/she chose to resign or removal action was taken by the Board.</p> <p><u>CHANGE 2</u> Replace the first sentence of paragraph 5.3 with the following: Each Membership-elected member of the Board shall serve a term of two years, and each Director-appointed member of the Board shall serve until the next regularly scheduled election of Board members by the Membership. Directors shall be eligible to serve consecutive terms. <u>Rationale:</u> a. This maintains consistency with CHANGE 1, and also establishes the end of the term for a Board member who is elected by the Board to coincide with the end of the term for a Board member who is elected by the Membership.</p>				

b. The change of the term “Director-elected” to Director-appointed” is to maintain consistency with wording in paragraphs 5.1 and 5.4. As an alternative, we could use the term, Director-elected throughout—and I would actually prefer that change since the appointment is being accomplished by an election by the Board of Directors.

CHANGE 3

Replace paragraph 5.5(a) with the following: The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Vice-President at least 45 days prior to an election of members of the Board and should represent all areas of the LCTA. The Nominating Committee will present to the membership, at the annual meeting of the LCTA at which an election is to be held, a recommended slate of directors taken from a list of volunteers.

Rationale: To be consistent with previous changes establishing a two-year term for Board members.

CHANGE 4

Replace the first sentence of paragraph 4.5 with the following: The President has the ultimate responsibility for the attainment of the objectives of the organization and for the successful accomplishment of all programs undertaken and operated within the purview of the Lowcountry Tennis Association.

Rationale: The President is no longer responsible to administer and implement the LCTA’s Local USTA League Tennis program, and to interpret the LCTA’s rules, regulations and procedures; however, the President continues to have the ultimate responsibility for the accomplishment of all programs being run by the organization.

CHANGE 5

Change paragraph 5.5(b) to 5.5(c), and add a new paragraph 5.5(b):

5.5(b) Adult League Tennis Local League Committee. The Board shall appoint, with the concurrence of the USTA South Carolina Director of Leagues, the LCTA Adult Tennis Local League Coordinator, who is responsible to administer, manage, and implement the LCTA’s Adult Tennis Local League Program, and to formulate, distribute, and interpret the Lowcountry Tennis Association Local League Regulations. The LCTA Adult Tennis Local League Coordinator has the sole authority to appoint and remove members of the Adult League Tennis Local League Committee.

Rationale: While this change is not absolutely required, I believe it would be very beneficial to establish the authority, previously held by the LCTA President, of the Adult League Tennis Local League Coordinator as part of the Bylaws. If, in the future, similar programs fall under the auspices of the LYTA, similar recognition should be provided within the Bylaws.

Bob Peiffer	<p>Bob clarified that the local tennis league is currently the only significant program under LCTA. He provided examples of LCTA’s past involvement in minor initiatives (i.e., Davis Cup, Family Circle Cup, and attempts to form a youth program). He further stated that, if the Board wants LCTA to broaden its role, Board members must assume additional responsibilities and suggested that perhaps Board members should not dually serve as league coordinators.</p>	
Rob Eppelsheimer	<p>The Lowcountry Youth Tennis Association (LYTA) is a newly formed CTA in the area with which Bob, Rob, and Meg are involved. The LYTA intends to develop and implement a youth tennis program. Rob gave a brief history of unsuccessful attempts to start other youth programs in the area. The new CTA has incorporated and its Board will be applying for 501(c)(3) status. Kathy Lewis, a Charleston County School District employee who is involved with organizing the LYTA, suggested that LCTA and LYTA representatives meet for discussion during this early planning stage.</p>	
Meg Farrelly	<p>Meg commented that our number of members would give LCTA strength if we elect to apply for external funding. She further recommended that the Board raise league fees as a mechanism to secure money to help fund local youth programs. She encourages LCTA to make a financial commitment to youth tennis and perhaps fund a youth tennis administrator. She feels that we could assume that these youth would eventually participate in LCTA leagues.</p> <p>Steve Wilson suggested that LCTA additionally consider funding a “Wounded Warrior” program. Special Olympics could also be considered. He asked if the Bylaws should be revised by adding wording about a youth program. Ken responded that the Bylaws, with the proposed changes, would allow LCTA to expand its program. He offered that the Board may wish to consider adding two or more members. Ron Charron, another participant in the newly formed CTA, had informed Rob that LCTA may be too late in wanting to implement a junior program. Meg responded that both LCTA and LYTA could implement new programs with the possibility of merging in two or more years.</p> <p>Steve Speer opined that LCTA does not have a sufficient number of involved members now and it would take a lot more effort to run junior leagues. Rob added that it would be more practical to fund other programs than for LCTA to run an independent program.</p> <p>Bob recommended that league fees not be raised unless the Board has a plan for a youth program. We would need accountability for any donations. Ken stated we would need a budgetary process. Meg suggested we develop a process for grant applications.</p> <p>Susan asked, “How much money do we need?”</p>	<p>Rob and Meg will construct and present a preliminary budget for youth programs in outlying areas to the Board. After that, the Board will vote whether to allocate funding to youth tennis.</p>

Ken Edwards	<p>Ken suggested that the Board consider paying the Local League Coordinator (LLC). Meg asked if USTA-SC has authority to determine who the LCTA LLC should be. The reply was, "Yes." The regulation on this authority goes above the state level.</p> <p>Meg asked, "Who owns our league?" Bob indicated that, in reality, USTA-SC determines who has leagues.</p>		
Ken Edwards	<p>The proposed question: Board members currently serve one-year terms of office. Should the terms be increased to two years?</p> <p>Steve Wilson suggested that if the Board votes for two-year terms, that the terms be staggered starting in 2014 with some board members serving one-year terms and others two-year terms.</p>	The Board voted unanimously that the terms of office be two years effective with the 2014 elections.	The Board voted that the terms not be staggered.
Ken Edwards	The Board voted on each of the proposed changes to the Bylaws.	The Board voted unanimously to accept each separately proposed Bylaw change.	
	<p><u>2014 Elections</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The date of the annual/captains' meeting has not been determined. Ken will reserve a room when the date is finalized. • Nancy Pitcairn will assemble the nominating committee and present the Board with potential Board nominees within the 45-day period as stated in the Bylaws. • Meg suggested that persons nominated for the Board, but who are not elected, be asked to serve on committees. 		
	<p><u>Errata</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bob reminded the Board that authority over local league regulations lies with the LLC and the coordinators. • Rob stated that the Meredith Corporation provides some funding to "Courting Kids" and to other programs associated with its primary sponsors such as Dove. • To align registration fees received with the year in which league play takes place, Bob requested that LCTA delay opening registration for the spring season until December 16. 		
Next Meeting	Date: TBD	Time: TBD	Location: TBD