

NORTH SUBURBAN NIGHT TENNIS ASSOCIATION INC.

(Reg. No. A0015517W)



Minutes of the General Meeting Held on 27th August 2012

1. Apologies

32 Clubs present

Maria Keys, Princes Hill, Coburg & Michelle Murrell.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Moved Colin Akers (Tullamarine), seconded Cathryn Ryan (OLN) that the minutes of the previous meeting, which had previously been sent to all Clubs, be accepted - Carried.

3. Business arising from previous Minutes

Nil

4. Correspondence

(a) Outwards Correspondence:

- Hume City Council – Support for Hume Regional Tennis & Community Centre
- Deer Park – Requesting response on court lighting levels and court refurbishment works
- Westmeadows – Requesting response on court lighting updates
- All clubs – Pick up night notices with AGM details
- All clubs – Agenda August 2012 meeting
- All clubs – Minutes April 2012 meeting

(b) Inwards correspondence:

- Hume City Council – Request for letter supporting Hume Regional Tennis & Community Centre
- Taylors Lakes – Request for re-testing of lights
- St Monicas – Advisement of refurbishment work to both courts and clubhouse aswell as relocation of teams for Spring 2012 due to works
- Tullamarine – Change in email address
- Oak Park – Change in email address
- Tennis Victoria – Notice of Metropolitan Associations Forum July 2012, Minutes & Agenda
- Maribyrnong Park – Delay in works being undertaken to courts
- Deer Park – Response regarding court lighting levels and refurbishment
- Westmeadows – Request for re-testing of lights
- West Lalor – Change in email address
- Sydenham – Change in office bearers
- Princes Hill – Apologies for August Meeting and notes for proposed discussion about team withdrawals
- Royal Park – Feedback on withdrawal proposal
- Oak Park – Requesting additional time for discussion on withdrawal proposal
- St Thereses – Change in delegate details

5. President's Report

- It has been a wet start to the season with quite a few washouts so far as well as defaults. The men's competition already has a lot of fines for errors on results place online. Remember to fill out all details properly as the Association doesn't want to take Clubs' money for silly fines.
- Clubs have been offered the opportunity to learn how to use defibrillators so they can have them at their club in the case of an emergency. The machines come with and informative DVD. If there are any Clubs that haven't been approached for this equipment they should contact their local council for details.

6. Treasurer's Report (given to delegates)

- (a) Moved Graham Sandman (Treasurer), seconded Alex Rio (St Thereses) that the Treasurer's Report be accepted – **Carried**.

- (b) Bills for Payment:

Snap Printing - \$1863.00
Consumer Affairs - \$43.90
Tennis Vic Affiliation Fees - \$340.00
Peter Olney (AGM Booklets) - \$54.00

Moved Graham Sandman (Treasurer), seconded Colin Akers (Tullamarine) – Carried.

Fees Due 11th September with the Treasurer by 7pm or Loss of Games will occur

7. Match and Permit Committee Report

- The Spring season has started reasonably well except for some washouts. When a washout is declared over the phone the names of the opposing team must be given to the home team so they can be entered online by the home team, regardless of the match not being played the result sheet must be completed online.
- There is now a field on the online result form requesting the name of the person completing the online results with their contact number. This is a mandatory field and should be completed in full. These details are not posted on the website they are sent separately to the competition co-ordinator for verification purposes only.
- There have been 25 defaults so far this season across the 3 competitions which is quite high. Please encourage teams to find someone to play rather than give a default.
- Full names must be entered on result sheets for emergencies, so they can be put online correctly. This helps the Co-ordinators get the ladders updated quicker. Also, keep an eye on emergencies playing 3 games before applying for additional registrations.
- Maribyrnong Park have had to relocate games this season due to court works being delayed. Details are on the website and they should be calling clubs to make sure they are aware of the change in venue.
- There has been a team withdrawal — C Grade 2 Mixed Sydenham
- The match result books have now got details for phoning results in at the conclusion of Round 14 on the 3rd last page of the book. If this sheet is used earlier than round 14 there is no need to phone results then, just at Round 14, semi finals and grand finals.

8. General Business

- A discussion paper has been emailed to all clubs and a hard copy was given to Delegates at the meeting proposing changes to the withdrawal ruling. The Association is proposing a Special General Meeting at the next Delegate's meeting prior to the beginning of the meeting. The current rulings for defaults and team withdrawals needs to be re-addressed because in the last season two grades ended up with 2 byes because of team withdrawals. It is thought that there needs to be more of a deterrent for teams that withdraw. Under the proposed new rulings the earlier a team withdraws the higher the fine imposed. The longer the team plays the less the financial penalty given to the club. Under the current rulings there is only a \$40 fine and sometimes clubs feels it is easier to pay that fine rather than try and find players to play for the season. Clubs should be trying to register extra players in teams or with lower teams having additional players that can play up if required. Under current rulings a team is automatically withdrawn if they default 5 times, but under the new proposed rulings this would not apply. This would also decrease the work load for the competition Co-ordinators.
- Under general discussion these points were brought up:
 - It was queried if a Club can request to ban players from switching Clubs if they pull out of teams due to personality clashes. Under current rules, Clubs can only request the NSNTA to disallow players going to another club the next season if the player is in financial debt to the Club.

- It was queried whether the problem is isolated to particular Clubs or grades. There is no pattern with withdrawals, and no Clubs are seen to be more likely to withdraw than others, however some Clubs default more frequently than others.
- It was queried whether team entries could close later to allow for players to make the decision to be in a team closer to the season start date? Due to the time needed to grade teams and prepare and print the fixture, this is not possible. Under the proposal a Club can withdraw a team after team entries close but before grading without penalty. The Match and Permit Committee will work with Clubs and try and adjust the fixture if a team needs to be withdrawn after grading and before the fixture is printed, but this cannot be guaranteed. The fixture is printed about 2 weeks prior to commencement of a season and Club will definitely be unable to withdraw a team once the fixture is printed.
- Delegates are asked to take the proposal back to their Clubs and get feedback. If all feedback could be emailed to the Secretary prior to the meeting that would be great.

Meeting Closed – 9.15 pm

Next Delegates' Meeting – Monday, 22nd October 2012 at 8.30 pm at Maribyrnong Park Tennis Club