



San Diego District Tennis Association  
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## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 Meeting at Balboa Tennis Club  
Next General Meeting Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 7:00 PM

- I. **CALL TO ORDER: 7:01 PM.** Called to order by John Broderick. Attendees were Eric Alm, Mike Bauer, Jim Bodor, John Broderick, Larry Calder, Andrew Cretella, Carole Farr, Jeff Greenwald, Jerome Jayapal, Josh Jorgensen, Steve Kappes, Jim Lackritz, Jeff Lee, Steve Leffler, Anne Leistikow, Solomon Liu, Eric Mann, Shatoo Mohamad, Hillary Park, Anne Podney, Matt Previdi, Amit Shah, Simon Shen, and Todd Sprague. Guest: Linda Milan USTA SoCal/SCTA Foundation.
- II. **MINUTES:** October 12, 2021 General Meeting (MSP) and November 9, 2021 Executive Meeting (MSP).
- III. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** John Broderick thanked Ryan Redondo and Barnes Tennis Center and staff for hosting the recent Barnes Tennis Center Open. John also thanked Colleen Ferrell (Balboa Tennis Club), Randie Lettington (USTA League), Francis Simpson-Lang (Mountain View Sports and Racquet Club) for helping to promote the tournament. There were approximately 140 participants including many of the SDDTA Directors. He also congratulated Simon Shen on his National 40's tournament win. John noted the increase in tennis participation at area clubs during the pandemic provides the opportunity to grow the sport by converting new players into long-term players. To do so, the SDDTA should strongly promote new tournaments, league activities and events on its website, social media and other media including newsletters.
- IV. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jim Lackritz reported that the balance sheet is healthy. Expenditures have been minimal this year. A new printer was purchased for the office and newsletter expenses will be higher than normal. The Wells Fargo bank account has been restructured per Executive Committee guidance to make the SDDTA Treasurer the account executor and the office manager a signatory on the account. (MSP) A motion was made to add the SDDTA President as a signatory to the account. MSP
- V. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
  - a. **Nominations:** Anne Podney reported that David Jaehnig and Sabastiani Leon are being nominated as SDDTA Directors. David plays at Kit Carson, is a former Family of the Year recipient, was an assistant coach at Point Loma Nazarene and has agreed to chair the San Diego Tennis Hall of Fame (SDTHOF). MSP. Sabastiani is a professional player who wants to support the local tennis community. MSP. The committee proposed the following slate of officers for the January 2022 election. John Broderick – President, Simon Shen – Vice President, Jim Lackritz – Treasurer, and Steve Leffler – Secretary. No other directors expressed interest in running for office.
  - b. **Grant:** Anne Podney reported that Youth Tennis San Diego has requested a \$2,000 grant to cover expenses in conjunction with their Fall ITA tournament. This motion was tabled until next meeting pending further clarification. Mountain View Sports and Racquet Club requested a grant to help fund installation of LED lighting. A motion providing a grant of \$4,000 was made. MSP.
  - c. **Newsletter:** Anne Podney reported that the 8-page newsletter is at the printers and will be mailed soon. It was decided to produce the newsletter in color which will double the cost but enhance the quality of the league-related and event photos and somewhat compensate for the absence this year of the annual yearbook which SDDTA normally produces.
  - d. **Tournament Evaluation:** Hillary Park led a discussion of the goals and process of evaluating tournaments. She encouraged participants to perform evaluations to improve tournaments and the player experience. Suggestions from the Board included prioritizing first-time tournaments and new tournament directors and placing links to the tournament evaluation form on the tournament websites.

- e. **Tennis Fest:** Jerome Jayapal reported that Sunday, May 15, 2022 has been selected as the date for Tennis Fest. The planning committee will start meeting in mid-late January.
- f. **Budget/Finance:** Jim Lackritz reported that USTA SoCal reimbursed SDDTA for the grant cuts that were implemented earlier this year and the SDDTA has now received the full grant amount as in recent years. The Budget Committee will meet on 12/15.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **SDDTA Projects.** The following SDDTA priority projects were discussed:
  - i. **Tennis Clinics in Underserved Communities.** This effort supports the Diversity and Inclusion and Community Programs goals of SDDTA and USTA SoCal. The hope is that school programs can eventually lead to opening more courts for community access. Anne Podney will discuss with YTSD at Barnes TC to gather information about after-school programs and determine a possible strategy.
  - ii. **Evaluating Tennis Facilities in San Diego.** This effort is to make more courts available for play within diverse communities while expanding general tournament and league opportunities. It was decided to ask Jeff Anderson, SDDTA Office Manager, to perform the initial data collection, possibly with the aid of the USTA League Coordinator and others.
  - iii. **Tournament Supervisor.** This effort is to research and consider contracting with one or more independent contractors with tournament director experience to perform the service of supervising SDDTA-sanctioned tournaments if desired by the facility. The goal would be to improve the quality of District tournaments while lessening the administrative burden to the facilities that partake of this service. The tournament supervisor would provide detailed knowledge of USTA rules and tournament software, set up seeding, draws, scheduling, hire umpires and respond to player inquiries. The facility tournament director would manage facility-specific issues, staff the tournament desk, order trophies, etc. and provide tennis balls for the tournament.
  - iv. **Use of High School Courts.** This effort is to identify high school courts that could be made available on weekends for league and possibly for individual play. Generally, it has been difficult to obtain use of these courts. It will require negotiating with schools and school districts over liability insurance, court rental, and reimbursement of staff costs to open gates, supervise courts and provide bathroom access. Matt Previdi volunteered to chair this effort. Shatoo Mohamed, Eric Mann, Anne Leistikow, Jerome Jayapal, Solomon Liu, and Jeff Lee offered to assist.
- b. **San Diego Tennis Hall of Fame** – John Broderick proposed reverting to the biannual schedule of having SDTHOF inductions in even years although this year’s induction in August 2021 was delayed by a year due to the pandemic. Therefore, the next SDTHOF class would be inducted this summer (2022) under his proposal. After discussion, the consensus of the Board was to allow the new SDTHOF Chair to decide whether to induct a new class this year.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Leffler, Secretary

John Broderick, President