**USTA Rhode Island Board of Directors** – ​ **Minutes – February 19, 2019**

**CLCF**

**Board Members In Attendance:** Doug Chapman, Terry Charles, Steven Cohen, Anne Sullivan, Moh Raissi, Paul Brazenor, Frank Laliberte, Sandy Sweet, Randy Osga

Absent: John Jasionowski, Ryan Harry

Also in attendance: Charlie Michaelman, LLC, Christy Bennett, TSR, Courtney Smith

Doug Chapman called the meeting to order at 7:22pm.

**Secretary’s report:** Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. Sandy Sweet made a motion to accept. Moh Raissi seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer’s report:** Reviewed and filed.

**President’s report:** Doug talked about the revised New England grant process. NE is switching to a twice a year schedule – March and November. Rhode Island will continue to be a rolling grant schedule. Doug also announced that any surplus from the 2018 League expenses will stay under the League Committee. Also, the RI State Association will sponsor the annual captains meeting from the State Association budget.

**Adult League Committee report**: Anne Sullivan talked about the most recent League Committee meeting. The Tri-Level regulations were restored to the previous regulations for the 2020 season and the match time will be extended to two hours starting in the 2020 season in September. The RI League Committee is taking on an initiative to partner with the local clubs to increase league participation in the respective clubs. There are three NE subcommittees that were formed this winter and Rhode Island league members are participating in these subcommittees: Melanie Sloan is on Entry Level; Marisa Salvadore is on 18-39; and Anne Sullivan is on Championship.

Charlie Michaelman reported the current participation in the mixed leagues.

**USTA New England report:**

* Christy Bennett, TSR,reported that Central Falls received approval to apply for a grant to build a tennis court in the City.
* Christy is looking for donations for a silent auction that is being held to raise money for The Learning Community in Central Falls.
* Christy also met with the HOF regarding Net Generation coverage at the HOF professional tennis tournament scheduled for July.
* Also, Newport Parks and Recreation is piloting an Adult Learn to Play. Christy is looking to start a social league in the Providence area. Possible location: Slater Park.
* Team Challenges are a priority for the NE Section this year and will count towards JTT numbers for the Section. JTT numbers will impact the state funding starting this year.
* Doug will host the 3 on 3 JTT Tournament at UMass Dartmouth in June with the hopes of having similar tournaments at Tennis on Campus locations in RI.

**Junior Team Tennis report**: : Christy Bennett reported the JTT Winter League just finished and the summer league is being planned. Registration fee for summer league will be $25 per player.

 **OLD**  **BUSINESS**

**RI Tennis Scholarship Foundation:**  Applications are now being accepted for Board members. The New England office will send out a “blast” e-mail.

**By-Law Task Force**: Charlie Michaelman presented the Board with the revised wording for (b) USTA League Committee section of the By-Laws. Moh Raissi made a motion to accept the revised wording. Randy Osga seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

**High School Coaches Workshop**: This year’s High School Coaches’ Workshop is being moved to August and being held at Slater Park. Randy Osga was added to the Committee which also consists of Ryan Harry, Chairperson; Moh Raissi, Steve Cohen and John Jasionowski.

**2019 Nominating Committee**: Sandy Sweet announced that the Committee’s selection will be provided to the Board by the end of this week.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Strategic Priorities**: The New England Strategic Priorities were provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Doug requested that all Board members provide him with one idea for the Board to adopt that will align with the NE Strategic Plan prior to the next Board meeting in March.

**Women in Tennis Grant**: Courtney Smith conducted a Women-in-Tennis event last year. It was held at Wheeler Farm in Seekonk and was open to tennis playing girls between the ages of 14 and 19. Last year’s event was very well attended. This year, it is scheduled to be held at Bryant University on May 19. New England is hoping to make this an annual event and hold one in each of the New England states. New England is looking for each State Association to donate $500 to defray expenses. Frank Laliberte made a motion to give a USTA RI Grant of $500 to Women in Tennis. Anne Sullivan seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Sullivan

Secretary