

CAPITAL AREA PICKLEBALL ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 22, 2022

1:00 ZOOM MEETING

Present were board members Rico Goedjen, Shelley Reynolds, Jerome Klein, Karen Jerg, Mike Barone, Mick Viney, Heidi Lawton, and Joanne Crapisi. Guest Richard Russell. Not Present Mark Blitz

Treasurer's Report:

Jerome sent the board the financial reports prior to the meeting. There were no questions on the reports. Jerome investigated the possibility of CAPA using Venmo to collect dues and other payments. Venmo is owned by PayPal. There is a transaction cost which is half the cost of PayPal. To set up a business account a personal account is needed. We will wait to see if there will be software changes made after the software committee investigations.

Administration Report:

Event Promotion: For Profit Joanne requested a discussion on CAPA promoting a for profit event at a for profit venue. CAPA's present policy is if members receive a minimum of 10% off regular fees 1 email will be sent to members and the event will be posted to the website. A question was asked if CAPA sponsored round robins held at an indoor venue if the venue had to offer a 10% discount to members. After a discussion it was decided that the policy should be reviewed, and the language updated. Joanne said she would draft new language for the policy and send it to the board for review. In addition, the board will review the current policies and after the review post the policies on the website.

A suggestion was made that we set ground rules, so businesses do not take advantage of free advertising through CAPA emails. CAPA could offer to send out a weekly email including events at venues that offer a benefit to our members with no upcharge.

Sign Up Genius: Organizers Reports Joanne has added Shelley as a viewer to Signup Genius. When Shelley runs an event, she can print the roster on her own and does not have to depend on anyone else to send it to her. This should be helpful with the potential for more events being offered in the future. A question was asked about how to solve the problem of event signups filling so fast some members are never able to sign up. Mick's event in Sun Prairie sign ups have been sent out on the same day of the week and the same time for the past couple of years. The potential for duplicate events at different venues may help with this problem.

Apparel Sale: Heidi reported there were just a few sales in this last apparel sale. We are willing to look at other options for ordering apparel. A CAPA member recently started a pickleball store and contacted Heidi about being interested in working with CAPA. Minute Man Press was also suggested as a possibility.

December email content: An email to members will go out about the second week of December. Some content Indoor corrections/changes-Joanne, PPR Certification update-Jerome, Oregon Update-Mike, grand opening of Sun Prairie courts in a Veridian neighborhood-Karen.

Membership Report:

Joanne reported that CAPA membership is at 820. 87 additional members since the last meeting. 25 of those were renewals.

Area Rep Report:

Area 3: Mick Viney- Mick had a meeting with the McFarland Park Superintendent. Mick tried to clarify CAPA does not want to take over court management but is there as a resource to park and rec departments. He showed what resources are available. A meeting was held for all area park and rec departments that manage pickleball courts. Mick spoke to Chad from the Sun Prairie parks and rec. Chad felt it was a positive pickleball court manager meeting. The meeting discussed what was working on area courts.

Area 5: Mark Blitz – (Madison and Monona) There has been a group that has been playing on the Monona Courts (four portable courts on two tennis courts). As the sport has grown, so has the size of their group and the frequency of their play. The Monona Parks Department has been making claims and comments to the group that they are “taking over the courts” and “not making others feel welcome.” The Parks dept said they are going to charge the group \$800 (per month maybe?) to play on the courts. Mark has been in touch with a member of this pickleball group, Sandi Bernhardt, with whom the Parks Dept has been talking. They’ve even said they could put Sandi on payroll so that she could collect the fees from the other players and deliver the money to the department!

There was a village meeting in Monona in which many people argued against the stances the dept was taking. Jacob Anderson, the parks person, stance is that tennis players should be able to play there too (even though the pickleball players haven’t encountered that issue, and there are other tennis courts in the village). Mark is going to set up a meeting with Jacob soon.

A discussion on this situation was had. CAPA should be careful not to get involved in politics. Our role is just to be a resource for court management.

Events Committee:

Volunteer use: Shelley asked how to move forward with the events committee. She has a list of volunteers. The Meetup events could use volunteers to run them.

Meetup Growth: Shelley reported that Meetup has 345 members at this time. She is looking for a place to offer events in the evening and weekends. Richard Russell is working with the Cross Plains/Middleton School District. There is a possibility of Sunday play at Glacier Creek school where there would be 8 courts. It is unknown if there are nets available or what the cost would be. Richard will keep the board informed when more information is available. Shelley asked if anyone had another suggestion for places to contact. McFarland was one suggestion.

Player Development Committee:

CAPA Training Development Scholarship Program: Jerome reported that there were 7 CAPA Scholarship recipients who successfully completed the PPR training program. 5 of the participants at the coach level and 2 at the pro coach level. In addition, CAPA members, Shelley Reynolds and Kevin Devine successfully completed the PPR training on their own. Shelley’s feedback on the class was that the 12:1 ratio of student to instructor did not give the student much feedback and the time for preparing lesson plans was shortened. All the successful trainers were sent an email reminding them of the commitment and given directions on the steps to take to set up a clinic. They were also given directions on how to get their names to be added to the lessons tab on the CAPA website if they wanted to. Jerome sent an email to the Player Development Committee to finalize the ground rules for the trainers. That will be sent to the trainers as soon as it is finalized.

The priority of the player development committee for the next 6-12 months is to monitor the trainers and iron out any problems that may arise.

New Working Committees:

By-Law Review: Rico reported that Richard Russell drafted a great document. Rico will send it out to the board for their review. After it is reviewed it will be determined when it will go out to members for approval.

Software and website: Mick sent an email to committee members listing who administers the current software. He plans to schedule a zoom meeting in early December to begin to explore what direction to go. Mick plans to have a recommendation to the board by May.

Player Rating: Mike and Karen met with the DUPR rep. This rating system is gaining traction. There is no perfect solution to ratings. DUPR takes several things into account. Number of wins, points scored and who the opponent was. There is no gender or age factored in the rating system. Scores won't count if your opponent's rating is more than 1.5 points greater than yours. Ratings change once a week currently. May go to everyday in the future. If we go forward a contract would have to be signed along with administrators named who would input the scores. Pitfalls would be falsifying a score or not recording a score. Record keeping could be extensive. Mike made a motion that CAPA should move forward with DUPR. All board members were in favor.

Tournament: Rico reported he sent an email with ideas to 7 members on the committee. He will be scheduling a meeting in early December to determine how to move forward and what tournaments to offer. Mick reported that the MadTown Pickleball Open will be held July 13,14,15 and 16.

New Business:

Playtime Scheduler: This is an app that players can use to schedule play. CAPA does not manage this app.

Next Meeting: Wednesday December 14th 1:00pm Meeting.

Submitted by Joanne Crapisi