BOCA WEST
COUNTRY CLUB

MINUTES

MEETING:	Racquet Sports Committee
DATE:	October 10, 2023
MEMBERS PRESENT:	David Shifrin, Chairman; Steve Roth, Vice Chair; Howard Attermann; Michael Budd; Jeff Cohen; Dr. Marc Finkelstein; Lisa Glassner Frank; Glen Friedman; Karen Sussman; Jane Zenker; Robert Zenn;
MEMBERS ABSENT WITH NOTICE:	Jerry Appelblatt; Camille Bauer; Sandy Boilen;
PARTICIPANTS:	John Joyce, Director of Racquet Sports; Matt McInerney, Assistant Director of Racquet Sports; Maria Tato, Operations Manager
ISSUE DATE:	October 20, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 1:31pm by David Shifrin, Committee Chair.

The minutes from the September 12th, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

- John Joyce, Director of Racquet Sports, reported the following:

- The four pickleball courts that are currently being resurfaced should be completed & usable by this coming weekend.

- The small gap in the fencing adjacent to the gates on the new pickleball courts will be addressed & remedied.

- The tennis court resurfacing project will begin on October 23rd, 2023, with two courts being resurfaced at a time so that only two tennis courts will be out of commission at any given time.
    a. The resurfacing project has been delayed due to the weather.

- POP (pickleball open play) will now be held on Mondays, only, from 10:30am - 12noon.
    a. POP begins October 16th.

- We will have two new pickleball "ball feed machines" and we will begin taking reservations for use of these machines beginning in November 2023.

- Tennis Game Arranging
    a. There will be a notice sent out to members stating that starting on November 1, 2023 you will only be permitted to request another player in game arranging one time per week on Tuesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays.
    b. On Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, members will be permitted to arrange their own foursome beginning at 9:30am onward.

- New water/beverage and ice machines are in the works for the new pickleball courts under the canopy on the east side next to the parking lot.

- The Maccabi Pickleball Games will be hosted by Boca West Racquet Sports on October 21st & 22nd.
    a. Members are welcome to play in that tournament.
    b. Several members have already signed up.

- Boca West Racquet Sports is looking forward to launching its Intra Club Pickleball League this January, 2024
    a. The league name will be "Kitchen Dinks" and will consist of four co-ed teams of all playing levels.
    b. Players must be Racquet Sports members aged 18+.
    c. Enrollment in the newly formed league will continue until November 15, 2023.
    d. To date, there are 160 members signed up.
    e. The new Intra Club League is planning to conduct a "draft" of players that will be executed by the team captains, co captains & professional staff.

- The Season Tennis kick-off dinner & tennis exhibition will be held on November 10th, 2023.
    a. The tennis exhibition will take place at 5pm with dinner following at 6pm.
    b. Lisa Glassner Frank will meet with Sara Holiber in catering to finalize the event menu selections & details.

- The opening tennis tournament will be held on Saturday, November 18th, 2023
    a. The opening pickleball tournament will be held in two sessions.
        i. One on Sunday, November 19th & Sunday, November 26th.

- On Saturday, November 25th, 2023, there will be a pickleball pro exhibition by the new Boca West resident touring pro, Christa Gecheva.
    a. We will also be welcoming a new pickleball & tennis teaching pro ~ Nico Ruiz.

- John shared that there was a recent issue regarding pickleball guests.
    a. Two members had invited 9 guests for evening play and then proceeded to play on wet courts which is prohibited due to the danger of injury during play on wet court surfaces.
        i. Members are not permitted to invite more than 3 pickleball guests, each, at a time.
    b. John discussed the issue with Matthew Linderman, Club General Manager.
        i. The Racquet Sports staff and management will be following up with a solution to governing & securing the safety of the pickleball courts regarding non-members, especially after hours.
        ii. Since this is a liability risk to the Club, someone suggested having our security guards monitoring the courts after hours.
        iii. Steve Roth pointed out that the security guards are employed by the Master Association and are not employees of the Club, per se.

- John reminded everyone what the morning "opening procedure" is for the courts.
    a. The pro shop opens at 7am and at that time, the racquet sports staff walks the perimeter of all of the tennis and pickleball courts to determine if there will be a delayed opening on that day.
        i. The daily update will be posted at 7:15am.
    b. Karen Sussman suggested having a "to be determined" notice posted the evening prior so that there is no confusion if someone checks the website at 7-7:15am and sees the court availability from the day before.
        i. The committee unanimously agreed with Karen's suggestion.

- Racquet Sports now has 3 VAPTRs blowers to assist in drying the pickleball courts.
    a. They may be used only by the staff.
    b. Also, large blowers are being looked into.

- Jeffrey Cohen had a question:
    c. Regarding whether or not it was possible to have a partial tennis court opening if some of the courts were drier than others.
    d. The staff informed Jeffrey that that would not be possible as it would cause too much confusion regarding who could play & who could not.

- Play For P.I.N.K.
    a. Lisa Glassner Frank and Maria Tato reported that tennis registration had opened the morning October 10th and so far, registration had been running smoothly for this first annual Racquet Sports fundraising event!
    b. Each player must make a minimum $50 donation to the Play For P.I.N.K. organization in order for their event registration to be considered valid.
    c. The registration for pickleball will open tomorrow, on October 11th, 2023.
    d. Currently, the Racquet Sports dinner on Friday, December 8th, the night prior to the fundraiser tournaments, is already 50% subscribed.
    e. Lisa handed out "gift in kind" forms so that the committee members may help solicit raffle items for the event.
        i. Lisa also had an example of the pink ribbon cards that will be personalized & purchased by making a donation to the organization.
        ii. The pink ribbon cards will be displayed in the pro shop window for one week leading up to the event(s).

- Matt McInerney, Assistant Director of Racquet Sports:
    a. Matt discussed the implementation of the DUPR rating system for Boca West pickleball players.
    b. DUPR is an acronym for: Dynamic Universal Pickleball Rating, which is commonly referred to as the most inclusive and accurate rating system in pickleball.
        i. It takes into account multiple playing formats, such as rec and tournament, uses a 3-digit system, and rates player attributes on the same scale.
        ii. Boca West Racquet Sports is looking forward to using this system to help place pickleball players on appropriate teams and tournament levels.
        iii. It is viewed as similar to having a golf handicap. It takes approximately 5-10 matches to establish a DUPR rating. The more matches played, though, the more accurate the rating will be.
    c. One of the committee members inquired as to whether or not the courts should be divided during open play by your DUPR rating and the remainder of the committee and staff felt that open play was better played by a mix of levels.

- Karen Sussman:
    a. Karen made the suggestion that better signage was needed on the pickleball courts regarding hanging bags on the fence with hooks rather than placing them on chairs.
    b. Karen also suggested having signs to let all of the players know where the paddle racks are located for early morning player rotation & also player rotation when the courts are full.

- Lisa Glassner Frank:
    a. Lisa passed along the inquiry by several tennis players as to whether or not an Intra Club Tennis League could be formed, similar to the new Pickleball Intra Club League.
        i. The unanimous answer was that the new pickleball intra club league would serve as a prototype this season & if all goes well, a similar tennis intra club league will be considered next season.
    b. In the meantime, there is a new Singles Player Tennis Intra Club League being implemented for the first time this season.

- David Shifrin asked the committee members if they sensed a need for additional pickleball courts.
    a. The consensus was to see if the current number of courts are sufficient during the holiday rush.
        i. David noted that there are some locations being held in reserve in case expansion is necessary.
        ii. Establishment of a stadium court was also discussed, with amphitheater type seating possibly located on the grassy hill bank beyond the original four courts.

*Meeting was adjourned at (approximately) 2:45pm

*Next Meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 14th, 2023 at 1:30pm

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Glassner Frank