BOCA WEST
COUNTRY CLUB

MINUTES

MEETING:	Racquet Sports Committee
DATE:	April 10, 2024
MEMBERS PRESENT:	Steve Roth, Chairman; Joan Attermann, Vice Chairman; Jerry Appelblatt; Camille Bauer; Michael Budd; Jeff Cohen; Marc Finkelstein; Glen Friedman; Mel Hellinger; Alan Lustrin; Judith Romanow; Janet Serle; Karen Sussman; Jane Zenker; Robert Zenn
MEMBERS ABSENT WITHOUT NOTICE:	NONE
PARTICIPANTS:	John Joyce, Director of Racquet Sports; Matt McInerney, Assistant Director of Racquet Sports;
ISSUE DATE:	April 16, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 1:33pm.

1. Chairman's Opening Statement:
   A. Steve Roth welcomed members to the first meeting of the new Racquet Sports Committee.
      a. He introduced the Vice Chair, Joan Attermann.
      b. He indicated that the next few meetings should address items that would impact next season as plans are made in advance
         i. The opportunity for suggestions for next year needed to be discussed now.

2. The minutes from the February Racquet Sports Committee meeting were approved.

3. John Joyce, Director of Racquet Sports reported the following:
   A. John welcomed all the members of the committee and congratulated them on their appointment.
   B. John indicated that the following tournaments/Exhibitions were all held in March and well attended:
      a. Pickleball Championships (increased players from 96 last year to 108 this year)
      b. Spring Fling (60 members in both sessions)
      c. Battle of the Sexes
      d. Memorial Day Tennis and Pickleball
      e. John discussed the need for a covered seating as evidenced by many attendees leaving during the exhibitions due to the heat which will be addressed in future meetings.

   C. John discussed the success of the Raquet Sports Awards Dinner on April 8th with over 300 members attending.
      a. The overwhelming consensus of the committee was that the Awards dinner was an enormous success and the staff had done an excellent job.
      b. Discussion ensued regarding feedback for the memorial of the two deceased racquet sports members.
         i. Feedback had been received that there were others who had not been remembered.
         ii. The consensus was to avoid memorials at events in the future.
      c. There was additional discussion regarding whether it was appropriate to name an event or tournament after a deceased member.
         i. The consensus of the committee was that this should be avoided.

   D. John reiterated, as he had in previous meetings, solutions regarding future pickleball tournaments that will allow for 180 players with minimal/no wait listing:
      a. All future pickleball tournaments will be played in one day with three sessions.
         i. 1st session will play 8:30am-10:30am
         ii. 2nd session will play 11am- 1pm
         iii. 3rd session will play 1pm -3pm
      b. Food will be served at 10:30am for the 1st session, to be refreshed throughout the day

4. Open Discussion:

   A. Steve Roth, Committee Chair, read the Roles and Responsibilities to the Committee Members.

a. He expressed the hope of determining goals for the committee; comparing and aligning them with Management's goals.

B. Steve Roth informed the committee that he had received many comments from Team Captains regarding players and team issues. He suggested the following:
   a. Have three separate Captains meetings with Power Pickleball captains, Kitchen Dink captains, and Tennis captains.
      i. These meetings should be held within the next month or so to plan for next season.
      ii. With feedback, suggestions could be made to external leagues as well as to management regarding the intra-club teams.
   b. Other comments made by the members dealt with the issue of players' expectations.
      i. Some players commit to playing on a team but are then are not available.
   c. In many cases, players believe that they are entitled to play for an equal amount of time.
      i. A discussion ensued and the consensus of the Committee and Management was that Boca West should always play to win when on the external teams.
      ii. This message should be communicated by the Team Captains, with Management's full support.
   d. Janet Searle indicated that she would like to understand the utilization of the Pro's time.
      i. She asked if we had enough pros.
      ii. She noted that her Tennis team would like to get more time with the Pros and requested that Pros accompany the team during playoffs.
      • John believes that there are enough Pros and that she needed to schedule time with Pros earlier in the season.
   e. Mel Hellinger brought up the misconduct of certain Boca West team members and thought that the Code of Conduct should be made stronger and incorporate language regarding behavior.
      i. Consequences should ensue if a Team Member does not act in a sportsmanlike manner.
      ii. Discussion ensued and Camille Bauer noted that there was existing feedback reporting on members in the Tennis structure.
      iii. It was determined that the existing Code of Ethics would be reviewed by John and the committee and then would be discussed again.
   f. Steve Roth made a general comment regarding the "maturity" of the Tennis Program and the fact that there were less issues as compared to the burgeoning pickleball community, which was to be expected.

5. Steve Roth asked each committee member to share any comments or questions they had, which are reflected below:
   A. Are dogs allowed on the deck?
      a. Yes, if service dogs are approved by the Club.
      b. They must be lashed, however.
   B. It was suggested that tennis matches should be expanded from 1.5 hours to 2 hours since oftentimes, matches are still in progress after the time limit.

C. Team Captains should be responsible for explaining inter-league teams "play to win" and management expressed total agreement and support.
D. Pickleball captains wanted Pros to have greater availability for lessons and be available for home matches.
E. Tenns captains wanted more availability for Rob to do lessons and attend matches.
F. It was recommended that uniforms for tennis should be changed to tee-shirts with logos like many other club teams; changed from the white-collar traditional shirts.
G. John will try to ensure that pickleball/tennis events do not overlap golf and other club events.
    a. However, once John schedules an event, he cannot prevent another department from scheduling their event if tennis or pickleball events are scheduled for the same time.
H. The condition of the tennis courts was discussed
    a. John indicated that a plan had been developed to improve the tennis courts over the following seasons, though exact details were not available.
    b. He agreed with the assessment that improvements were necessary.
I. A suggestion was made to reinstate the second pop session
    a. John said it was on his list as well.
J. Suggestions were made to create a men's, women's, and mixed doubles pickleball tournament.
    a. John also agreed, and said it was in the planning stages.
K. The guest policy was discussed
    a. The distinction was made between gold card members and regular guests during holiday weeks as well as other times of the year.
L. Bringing additional events to Boca West was mentioned as a goal.
    a. It was noted that certain events were being held at other clubs due to the price of catering.
    b. John expressed that we wanted as many events as possible here and he would work with Matt Linderman to try and accommodate as many as possible.
M. A question was asked regarding discussing committee items that were in the planning stages versus approved.
    a. It was agreed that the items being considered should not be discussed as it creates confusion when alternatives are suggested and approved.
    b. Once an item has been approved, the appropriate personnel will make the announcement.

6. Action Items:
    A. Captains meeting to be scheduled.
    B. Code of Ethics/Conduct to be reviewed and potentially revised.
    C. Follow up consideration on other items mentioned above.

7. Steve Roth thanked the members for their participation.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 PM.