

**SADDLEBROOKE TENNIS CLUB**  
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 8, 2021 – 2:30PM**  
**Vermillion Room**

**Call to Order** – Doug Wolf called the meeting to order at 2:30pm. Board members in attendance were Doug Wolf, Stan Manzanares, Laura Ingold, Peggy Payne, and Cindy Madsen.

**Announcements**

Doug discussed the time and date of the Special Membership Meeting to discuss and vote on the new Bylaws and Rules changes. The meeting is scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 – 5:00 PM in the Coyote Room (North & South). It will be held both in person and by ZOOM so that people who have left Saddlebrooke for the summer can still participate in both the discussion and the vote. People will have to be participating either by ZOOM or in person to vote at this time since electronic voting has not been approved in the current bylaws.

TJ Duffy added information from the National Association of Parliamentarians and recent Roberts Rules of Order concerning the holding of electronic meeting, electronic voting, absentee voting, and holding elections remotely. Both organizations have presented changes to their protocols to accommodate those participants that cannot not physically attend the meeting for whatever reason yet want to participate and be represented.

TJ Duffy asked:

- Should all STC members in good standing be entitled to have their say and vote regarding the governance and operation of their club?
- Should all STC members in good standing be required to physically attend meetings to be heard and cast their votes even if they determine it's not in the best interest of their health.
- Should all STC members in good standing be prevented (disenfranchised) from being heard or denied the ability to cast their vote if they're away and cannot physically attend?

Doug Wolf wondered if we can agreed on the bylaw and rules changes at the general membership meeting, could we send out the finalized document to the entire membership for an electronic vote so that everyone could have input?

Melanie Murphy stated that the current bylaws says only people attending the meeting have the right to vote – either in person or online.

Peggy Payne stated that everyone who is a member in good standing should have a voice in how this club is run. Electronic voting on the finalized document would give all members a chance for their input and their opinion to be heard.

Melanie Murphy stated that our bylaws are our bylaws and we must follow them.

Jim Marchisio stated that when we voted for the board last fall using the EZ vote system, our interpretation was that was a meeting. Anyone participating in that vote was considered being part of that meeting or if you attended in person you were considered being part of that meeting. That is what our bylaws said so we felt we followed the bylaws.

Melanie Murphy said she felt that only people online at the meeting or in person should vote because changes to the document occur at the meeting and only those people attending will be aware of the changes. You cannot vote in advance of the meeting.

Doug Wolf stated that what he would propose is having the special membership meeting, making the changes agreed to at that meeting, and sending out the finalized document to electronic vote by the whole membership. If not, we will have to rely on taking a verbal vote of all attending in person and ZOOM participants. The document must have approval of 2/3 of the people voting at the meeting.

Doug Wolf received an email from Liam Flynn stating that clubs that are registered and listed on the HOA2 website must provide up to date bylaws that meet minimum standards and an information form with current contact information. The bylaw template is provided as a guide to clubs and provide for consistency and ease of review. However, the bylaws template that HOA2 sent does not have to be used. You can use your existing bylaws as long as the meet the minimum requirements. I suggest you review your current bylaws to see if all lines in the template are covered.

**Approval of January 13 General Membership Meeting Minutes** – Motion for approval made by Laura Ingold. Seconded by Peggy Payne. **Unanimously approved by membership.**

**Treasurer's Report** – The report is posted on the STC website. Stan Manzanares reported that as of January 31, our net worth is a little over \$38,000. Approximately \$3,000 in checking and \$35,000 in money market. We estimate ending the year with a \$17,000 balance. Membership is now 431 members.

### **Committee Reports**

- Doug Wolf announced we are looking for a volunteer to chair the Social Committee. With the Covid numbers improving, we will be able to hold some socials in the summer and fall.

- **Software Selection Committee** – Riley Jackson reported that the committee looked at 30 vendors and had narrowed down the selection to 2 vendors – Court Reserve (located in North Carolina) and Tennis Director (located in Florida). The committee has talked with both of these vendors and they have already customized software for tennis club already and should be able to work with our club. The next step is to send out a RFP to both vendors. It will include questions so that a side-by-side comparison can be done. Hopefully a decision will be made mid June. We need to determine how much development work needs to be done and what it will cost. The generalized cost of the software (without customization) is \$16/court/month or approximately \$3,820 annually. The costs are very reasonable so far with \$0 up front costs.

Both software companies have given us a number of references to contact. These 2 companies deal more in the tennis business. So far the references are giving raves reviews of the software programs. Great customer service.

Riley was asked why are we making a change in software at this time. The software system we have today “Ghost” was written by Bud Alexander about 11 years ago. It has gotten old and creaky. Some of the code and the structure behind it needs updating. Everything is working and will continue to work for some period of time. Bud is getting tired of being the programmer with no backup and having to be available to maintain this system fulltime. He wants out. That leaves us with this proprietary code and no one to maintain it.

- **Nominating Committee** – Peggy Payne read Keri Davis report. She reports that Keri has assembled her team of 5 for the 2021 nominating committee. They are Keri Davis, Giovanna D’Arco, Bob Stocks, Melanie Murphy, and Richard Wantuck.

### **Old Business**

- It was decided that the name “Saddlebrooke Tennis Club” will stay. We have invested in logos and merchandise already. The suggestion was made to change it to Saddlebrooke Racquet Club but it was pointed out that POP tennis uses a paddle not a racquet. POP tennis and traditional tennis is tennis.
- Evaluation Process (Rating New & Existing Members) – Pat Mauer reported his group has completed 17 lessons/evaluations and there are 10 people yet to complete the process. Currently we offer a free lesson to new club members (tennis & POP). He decided to do away with the free lesson because it was an expense to the club and was not driving new memberships. The new member can decide if they want to be rated so that they can participate in Organized Play or tennis socials. We are also changing the membership notation to “R” for rated and blank for not rated. Every new and existing member who is not rated (USTA) is entitled to one free evaluation. At the end of the evaluation, the pro will provide the member with a summary of things to work on. The evaluations will be done in groups so that we can provide feedback in a more timely manner. If the member is unhappy with their rating, they will be able to appeal their evaluation at their own expense. The appeal

forms are available in the clubhouse. We will work towards getting everyone in the club rated that wants to play OP or socials.

Phase 1 – Clear the backlog of new members

Phase 2 – Review existing players with the pros to see if they are accurately rated – Still needs to be approved by the board.

Must have a USTA rating or be rated by the pros to play in OP or socials.

### **New Business**

- How do we compensate the pros for the rating/evaluations? They are paid by the club on an hourly basis (\$50). Administrative fee in Phase 2 of \$30/hour for rating existing members which is done in groups.

### **Members Comments and Questions**

Melanie Murphy asked that the meetings minutes be posted to the website.

**Adjournment** – Meeting was adjourned at 3:19 PM.