

GOLDEN RACQUETS
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes – November 29, 2023
Braddock Hall, Burke, Virginia

PRESENT:

Tom Burroughs	President
Doug White	President Elect and Deputy Information Officer
Catherine Wilde	Vice President and Chief Information Officer
Al McFarland	Treasurer
Suzanne White	Secretary
Art Politano	Ratings Chair
Joanne Henley	Website and Caring Committee Chair
Liz Walker	Newsletter Chair
Ed Falkowitz	Information Specialist
Raj Shah	Information Specialist

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

President Tom Burroughs called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM and welcomed those present.

REPORTS

Chief Information Officer

VP and Chief Information Officer Catherine Wilde introduced Information Specialists Ed Falkowitz and Raj Shah as the newest members of her team. She announced the open enrollment season schedule for pickleball in January and tennis in February 2024.

Treasurer

Treasurer Al McFarland reported that court costs have increased significantly over the last two years and supported Pickleball Operations Chair Karla Vernon's recommendation on the cost savings of placing a bulk order for pickleballs. He expressed an interest in talking to Fairfax County Parks and Recreation about the process for requesting and building indoor tennis facilities on County Park land.

Ratings Chair

Ratings Chair Art Politano addressed the ratings reviews that are due for players who were last rated in 2021. These players will be notified, and their reviews scheduled as will ratings evaluations for new members in March 2024. He reported that the ratings committee currently has 12 members, including two that are new. 10 members attended the meeting on November 28th to discuss the documentation of any recommended player ratings changes. There was some discussion as to whether win/loss ratios should factor into ratings recommendations and whether there should be any division within Golden Racquets between social and competitive players.

Newsletter Chair

Newsletter Chair Liz Walker reported that the latest issue of the Golden Racquets newsletter would be out next week. She reviewed the articles received from Al McFarland and Joanne Hensley.

President

President Tom Burroughs indicated that he had sent out Social Chair Howard Ho's report to the Board earlier. He announced a new pickleball venue at Burke Center that will begin on January 8, 2024. Lastly, he expressed support for the recommendations provided in Pickleball Program and Operations Chair Karla Vernon's report.

President Elect

President Elect Doug White thanked Tom Burroughs for his leadership of Golden Racquets for the last five years, especially through the difficult days of the pandemic. Looking toward the coming year, he identified securing venues, refining the ratings process for both tennis and pickleball, and promoting the social aspect of the organization as priorities.

OLD BUSINESS

New Years Day Tennis Party

Joanne Hensley provided an update on the planning of a New Years Day tennis party at Fairfax Racquet Club. Three blocks of court time have been reserved, with the first and second blocks full at 32 participants and 12 registered for the third block. There was discussion about placing food and drink orders to supplement what participants will bring. The facility will not permit alcoholic beverages. Supplies will also be needed.

NEW BUSINESS

Pickleball Party Proposal

Joanne Hensley proposed a pickleball party on January 19, 2024, at the Burke Center from 6:30 – 9:30 PM. She suggested that food and beverage be potluck. The cost of court time could be covered with an estimate of 60 people attending for a \$15 per person fee. After some discussion, the Board agreed that Joanne would provide a detailed proposal for the event to the board, who would vote on it via email.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Burroughs thanked those present for attending and **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 AM. The motion was **SECONDED** by Suzanne White and **PASSED** unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Suzanne White, Board Secretary

Date