

NCTTA Board of Directors, Face to Face meeting in Milwaukee, WI August 24/25th 2013

In attendance: Joe Wells (JEW), Willy Leparulo (WL), Chris Wang (CW), Randy Kendle (RK), Kagin Lee (KGL), Kevin Li (KL), Shelly Huang (SH, intern)

Absent: Wanda Wong (WW)

Board meeting minutes from July 28th approved 6-0-0 1 non vote-WW

Status on Division Directors/Regional Directors for 2013-14 season

New changes for RD's and DD's and what is missing

-CW updates on New Changes: Ryan Hsu- West; Co RD's N. Gore & Ethan Danahy -Northeast since Nelson was not able to learn the technology side; K. Lam -Great Lakes

South Region is looking for South TX division director;

-Chris Mar, new South FL division director; living in Orlando going to UCF

Northeast Region is looking for a New Jersey DD

-RK mentions that someone could run it from afar, Sumon based in Baltimore doing New Eng

Midwest Region is looking for a lower Midwest DD; conversation about the Lindenwood program; Lindenwood has yet to hire a coach; CW to discuss with Linda Leaf about Lower Midwest

Great Lakes Canada east (old e. Canada 2) still open; K. Lam should threaten the division into action

Membership packages for schools and staff

Double D's (David Del Vecchio) was on the board, schools; staff were sent packages for membership, does it continue?

-so what now?

-NCTTA BOD would like polo's and will do that

-DD's get: trapper keeper with NCTTA logo, USATT rules book, NCTTA DD handbook

-RD's get: trapper keeper with NCTTA logo, USATT rules book, NCTTA DD/RD handbook (physical copies)

-Discussion turns to the fact that print media being dead and how this is a waste of money for WL says nice to have something physical in hand, but rest of BOD says in this day and age doubts whether they use it and if we should continue the practice

****ACTION ITEM:** Binders CW will do with NCTTA logo and send out; WL will send out NCTTA polo's, NCTTA brochures

Technology changes; Technology committee charges

Discussion on disappointment of lack of movement towards practical changes in NCTTA

-Dan Notestein gave a great idea to put the roster on web vs excel sheet, but then disappeared

-Fede was the Tech chair but was not able to get anything done other than brainstorming, since most of the committee was not active

-KGL mentions that board needs to address the important points and then mandate this to this committee and to all committees; needed to assign the work

-Mentors or "board liaison" on NCTTA Committees; Jew disagrees with having mentors b/c it is overstepping boundaries, WL disagrees vehemently with JEW

-WL adds that his relationship with the Recruitment committee where Ed Toomey works at the favor of the board; WL sends emails as reminders of Board charges for this committee, each Board member should be a liaison of 1 or 2 committees

-in addition board needs to define specific charges (direction) for each committee, top 2 or 3 for each committee and **will for each committee place on hub with a deadline**

****ACTION ITEM: Assignment of Mentors (Liaisons) to committees**

The hope is that by assigning (Liaisons) for each committee will help stimulate activity within

- WL with Recruitment and Media Relations
- KGL with Coaching
- JEW with Marketing
- CW with Women
- RK with Technology
- KL with Audit/Rules
- WW/JEW with Alumni

CONNECT 2014-Future NCTTA Mtgs

Plan to have future face 2 face mtgs' Connect 2014 will be in Orlando, FL; August 21st-23rd

- JEW brings up the TEAMS event which is another Championship conference
- CW suggests having Bruce Major represent NCTTA possibly to this event vs a board member that doesn't live in Salt Lake City, UT (Nov 4th-7th)

ALUMNI Committee

No direction, establish direction

- WL asked board what are the charges for this committee? Can put this on hub for discussion
- KGL should be another committee to discuss the Alumni League idea
- discussion if Alumni League is a part of this committee or not or of a separate committee
 - a) Volunteerism (alumni)
 - b) Giving back to their school (running sport club function better, coaching the team)
 - c) In kind sponsorship from Alumni or cash donation from Alumni
- Having an NCTTA Alumni association, build it first. Promote it through LinkedIn, but it needs to have some benefit, why pay money to an Alumni Association? link the USATT 2 year membership with the NCTTA Alumni Association, maybe get a hotel discount and other kinds of discounts that young professionals could use (rental car, airline, etc.)

****ACTION ITEM:** *JEW will check on hotel discount for NCTTA Divisions and Regionals, but maybe this is a possibility too*

Status on 2014 Monroeville

Update on 2014 Championships with regard to hotel attrition and NCTTA direction

- hotel/banquet; CVB contract is signed, facility is unsigned but next
- informed the board about the attrition problem
- BOD decided to approve a direction for Champs committee in that anyone that did not stay at the tournament hotel will pay a fee of 218 dollars extra (surcharge)
- KL likes making it under 100 if possible (99)
- looking at the possibility of raising entry fees to cover the cost to lower the hotel fee 10 dollars
- will track who is staying where and make sure the schools are all staying in the same place
- NCTTA will have a paypal reader for those that didn't "check" with the tournament hotel

- Volunteers are always an issue, Visit Pittsburgh offered up the option to help,
****ACTION ITEM:** *JEW to follow up*
- Work with CW to get this up around December so there is not a rush to put this up
- Must reserve the hotel prior to registering for NCTTA event, requiring confirmation number
- BOD to decide exactly how Champs with attrition/promotion deal

BUDGET

RK goes over 2013-14 budget; raises in entry fees to balance budget

- Newgy NCTTA scholarship will be given out on a specific timeline vs being flexible
- Champs budget went up due to having to pay for the venue vs last year not
- KGL brings up scholarship surplus from NCTTA; WL follows up with old bod to verify and NCTTA will not continue to fund 2k to fund
- KL suggested to take this 2k and apply it towards a 2014 hotel promotion for 2014 Champs
- Suggestion to have Butterfly or other sponsors in this scholarship fund (JEW for '15 year)
- Mathematically we lose money at the NCTTA Championships with giving each athlete/coach, lunch, transportation, champs program, banquet; BOD looking for ways to break close to even
- bigger schools (more members) cost NCTTA more and will thus have to pay more at Champs

a) Motion by Kagin Lee:

Move that for the 2014 Champs Team registration for Men/Coed 250 per team plus 50 dollar each additional player above 4; Women 4 player team is 160 extra additional player above 4 is 40. (Clarification on 3 player women's teams will be charged 160) -KL 2nds the motion

Discussion: RK presentation on website should provide an easier understanding of payment; code should be set up as: 4 player team, 250; 5 player team, 300;etc.

2014 Championship Motion passes: 6-0-0; WW with a non vote

b) Motion by Willy Leparulo:

Motion to raise the additional coach fee at the 2014 Championships from 50 to 75 dollars.

-KGL 2nds the motion

2014

Championship additional coach's motion passes: 6-0-0; WW with a non vote

Budget (cont.) Hotel Discount for 2014 Championships

- WL is for a hotel promotion discount for our athletes, whether it is a calendar (timed discount) or something else
- KL would like to lower the price below 100 to 99 dollars (minus 10)

END OF DAY ONE 11:10 CST; DAY TWO STARTS 9:01am CST

Budget (cont.)

- KGL says for BOD agree on a direction and amount on the hotel promotion and then the CHAMPS committee will figure out logistics
- KGL says an approach of breaking even to budget it as a break even scenario
- question on what the upcharge represents? 2 nights hotel stay (\$218.00)
- What happens to ppl that live close enough in the area? RK
- WL states organizing organization must make designation for an exemption for close distance like 30-45 minutes away.
- RK we still lose 16k in the champs event, in the future would love to see this balanced

-Hotel will have a website and we must be in contact with the hotel, WL will have hotel username/password and give to RK to monitor during promotion, after to see who is fraudulent
-1st 150 room nights for 10 dollars off equaling 1500.00; NCTTA will publicize the promotion on footing the bill

c) Motion by Kagin Lee

Motion to approve this 2013-14 Budget; 2nded by Kevin Li

Motion for 2013-14 Budget passes 6-0-0 WW with a non vote

CONNECT Conference results

WL, JEW, KGL attended the recent Connect conference to find cities for 2015 championships

-WL: USOC in Co Springs (Elevation questions), Puerto Rico (questions about sponsors bringing tables, equipment), St. Charles (Lindenwood connection); Hershey PA (huge gym), Milwaukee

-JEW: Louisville, KY (Hoopstown, 12 basketball courts); Chattanooga, Knoxville TN; Columbus, OH

-KGL: helped get NCTTA 15 or so different locations

-Groups: AAU is a possibility for grassroots; NCAA was impressed with our membership numbers stating higher than many of the sports on current emerging sports list

-NAIA, WL spoke with them, and it is 15 or more NAIA schools and DO OFFER coed sports

****ACTION ITEM:** *JEW, WL will follow up with National High School Association- TT in high school sports*

NCAA with NCTTA discussion

Where is our direction with NCAA

-NCTTA doesn't have a full time staff person to follow up with NCAA status with schools

-KGL believes USATT may be the help we need since persons on the USATT board want this to happen through staff help, marketing, etc.; Find some way to make us (NCTTA) more visible to colleges

-RK NCAA has many rules/regulations that we are not going to find palatable. The level of commitment needs to be high; JEW states there would be time while on the emerging sports list to adapt for a new plan; RK is for the NCAA but cautious about the headaches that could come

****ACTION ITEM:** WL will contact NAIA and JEW will follow up with NCAA

3 goals from the past were:

a) Recruitment/growth b) High school Table Tennis c) Scholarship schools (NCAA, NAIA, otherwise)

Rules/Regulations (Updates, motions)

looking at putting forward different motions, cleaning up any ambiguous rules

a) Proposed Change to Ranking Calculation at Championships

-KGL met with different people in the champs/ratings area (Ranking taskforce)

Motion to change Ranking Calculation at Championships (proposed by KGL)

2nded by CW

"5.3 Seedings and Ratings

a. <singles stuff, unchanged>

b. Team: Team ratings are calculated based on the individual NCTTA ratings of the top 4 players (A, B, C, and D, in order) of a school. The team rating will be $[1.5 * (A + B) + C + D]$. If there is no D player, the team rating will be $[A + B + C]$.

c. Team Qualification Ratings: For wild card qualification purposes, the ratings of the 4 highest rated eligible players at each school will be used to calculate team ratings.

d. Team Seedings: For seeding purposes, the ratings of the 4 highest rated players registered for that particular competition will be used. At Divisional and Regional competitions, team seedings will be based on team ratings. At the National Championships, team seedings will be based on [team rating + team bonus points], where bonus points are awarded based on each school's final placement at Regional Championships as follows:

1st Place - 800 points

2nd Place - 600 points

3rd Place - 400 points

4th Place - 200 points”

Discussion: Giving winning Regionals something at the Championships

-RD's need to know that 1st to 4th place have a big significance now in Regional Champs

-KGL showed a top 24 of last year's nationals to show changes

-in the future use bonus points to get ppl to do what we want

-RK asks about the implementation, how will it appear on the website? KGL can regulate it

-CW states if a team shows up with 3 the 1.5 multiplier will not apply

Motion for Ranking Calculation change at Championships passes 6-0-0 1 non vote WW

b) Proposal to remove wording about Quarter Institutions in Eligibility area

-WL states that the wording goes against the previous ruling made on 60 days graduation/play

Motion to remove 2.3 about Quarter System eligibility (proposed by WL) 2nded by KGL

Motion on Quarter system eligibility passes 5-1(CW)-0; 1 non vote WW

C) Proposal to add last semester min. requirements

-WL states that during the course of the years, NCTTA Elig. Committee has allowed a student with less than standard NCTTA credit hours to compete with letter from advisor or registrar indicating that person was graduating and only needed xyz hours.

-WL: excess credit regulations are into play now; in some schools taking more classes costs extra

Motion to place the language in the Eligibility part of the NCTTA Rules/Regulations that states “As an exception, a student who is in the final semester prior to Graduation, is eligible if they are enrolled in the minimum number of credit hours required for graduation. Supporting documentation from the school's registrar office or equivalent must be approved by NCTTA.”

2nded by KL

Motion passed 6-0-0; 1 non vote WW

Fees in Rules/Regulations

Discussion about whether or not fees belong in Rules/Regulation

-maybe we have to build a separate fees page

-Rules are for Rules, not for fees necessarily KGL

-Rules/Regulations is also a guide for the organization

-could create a separate fee page—****ACTION ITEM:** *Kagin Lee will create for future*

Singles in the Fall (process)

Defining the correct Ratings process

- RK will go through extra training for DD's; Registration website has to be ready
- initial ratings are too slow and need it to be quicker; KGL will update the ratings program and given single recommendation as to a player's initial rating vs using Seemant like last year
- an argument over how the process should be done
- KGL wants ratings done in a batch (after the semester), RK wants it done separately
- In the current system a player's rating is in the tournament spreadsheet, overrides the rating in the database. If 2 meets are held in sequence there could be a problem as results from 1st meet are not fed into spreadsheet of 2nd meet. ****ACTION ITEM:** *CW will see to changing the process*
- KGL probably best that NCTTA not be focused on individual ratings anyways

Procedure for unrated players

- unrated players will get a number from KGL's system after the tournament and send to Dan and tell him to hold it or process it? Someone has to write the script and if it can't be done status quo remains. CW thinks he can write it (merging for each individual the ratings) to get a ratings adjustment
- need to get Dan Wang involved with CW, KGL and RK

League Scheduling for the Future

NCTTA League since its inception has done a 2 tournament format Team league, 1 Fall semester tournament Fall and 1 Spring semester tourney. With the addition of Regionals in late February, Early March the time schools, administrators, NCTTA has to prepare for the National tournament (April) has become shorter and shorter.

-This is a brainstorm session to figure out if there is another way. Mini Committee included B. Glad (Audit chair), J. Rather (Texas DD), F. Bassetti (Coaching chair) discussed different options

BOD opinions

- KL:** Venue location payment could be an issue and may make better sense to have Spring/Winter semester just be Regionals and Nationals
- WL:** 1 team tournament in Fall, plus 1 singles tournament all in the Fall; Spring is just for Regionals and Nationals
 - Venue accessibility, payment, weather rain outs, snow outs, can we fit it all in to the fall semester without running out of time?
 - Brayden from mini committee suggested a model that included only fall play and have up to first 2 weeks in February be only make up due to documented weather or mishaps
- KGL:** Regular season in the Fall (whatever the definition of a regular season); then in spring is the tournament qualifications from regular season.

League Scheduling (cont)

- What about spring admits? This is a minimal population and shouldn't be NCTTA's concern.
- CW:** 2 tournaments (teams and singles) in fall and Regional/National in spring; CW put in perspective that we can do all Fall tournaments b/c we do in Spring division team/division

singles/Regionals and Nationals all together. The only issue is losing schools from the fall semester to the following academic year.

-**RK**: Change our format within division play and hold Fall and Spring team division tournaments but with different format, do NOT do huge RR's; we do things on bonus points, hold teams and singles at the same time too.

DOING MULTIPLE SMALLER RR GROUPS vs a FULL RR format

Pro's: Lowers the amount of time a Gym/facility would be needed, tournament duration is quicker; RK says easier to run a tournament like this vs full RR format

Con's: less matches per division then past, does membership fee match the # of matches?

RETENTION in SPRING

-**WL**: is worried about Retention when January thru September there is no College TT for them, I think NCTTA will lose participation unless we provide them an outlet. NIT with ACUI idea to promote them to those ACUI Sectional tournaments

-is putting Spring semester singles enough to keep "retention" set?

-**KL** disagrees that singles is enough to keep retention for singles unless the team is there

-**WL**: numbers are always higher in the Fall then in the Spring and a concern about making changes to a schedule that creates a void in the Spring

-weaker teams drop off generally from Fall to Spring

-**KL** disagrees that retention will be a large factor for missing the spring, schools are going to follow through in the Fall and re start the club

-**WL** counters that the concern is more about who the main contact is and who has graduated and finding out how the culture of the club is or if the club is still even functioning

NIT type tournament discussion (RETENTION)

-Kevin Li brings this up to protect retention, like having a non regional champs qualifying team tournament within each Region, KGL says could be for profit

-who do you invite, how logistically do you make it work? How do you sell it/promote it?

-**JEW** says that NIT is an invitational tournament to schools that were close

-**WL**: the Regional tournaments already cater to the 2nd rate teams and National Champs is the best of the best.

-**CW**: states that 33 percent of schools already play in Regional format, if Spring was ONLY regionals, so for retention we are targeting the next 33 percent?

-**KL**: discusses about an RD running a for profit NIT type tournament, WL will ask Karen Wu about how this would work to "pay" RD to run the tournament in entry fees on whether or not this would get us in trouble with UBIT (unrelated business income tax)

Hypothetical choice for League Restructuring

KL: All division tournament in the fall and in the Spring only Regionals and Nationals, also wants idea of a for profit NIT regional tournament for others

KGL: All division tournaments in the fall and in the Spring only Regionals and Nationals

WL: Division team tournaments once in fall and once in Spring and MANDATE FALL have singles only

RK: 2 Teams, 2 Singles tourny in the Fall and Spring is ONLY Regionals, NIT, Nationals

JEW: (the same as WL), *needs to be a SURVEY question at the end of Regional Championships ask the NIT idea.*

CW: Maintain same number of matches and games, all Divisions to be in the Fall; need to do something to make up for the void in the spring, but must do something. Spring will have Regionals and Nationals

Motion to approve the NCTTA 2013 Annual Report to approve for publication

(proposed by KGL) 2nded by WL

Motion passes 6-0-0; 1 non vote WW

HR position on NCTTA BOD

-Wanda seems overwhelmed in her duties; due to her time zone issue

-CW will contact her and update the BOD with her situation

Motion to Approve 2013-14 NCTTA Rules & Regulations Document (proposed by WL)

2nded by CW

Motion passes 6-0-0; 1 non vote WW

NCTTA BOD MTG is adjourned 2:49pm CST