

## **BGCC Tennis Club Annual General Meeting**

**Minutes for the AGM October 5, 2022**

7pm BGCC Recreational Centre

### **Attendance:**

**Executive:** John Perz, Ginny Tullis

(Note executive absences: Iggy Natoli recovering from hip surgery, Rennie Wittenbols positive with Covid, Geri Flotron's husband positive with Covid, Karen Clark out of province)

**Members:** Brian Morris, Packy Morris, Sue LaRosa, Alison Thomas, Mo Murray, Marna Moldon, Art Sanders, Debra Taylor, Lesley Bonar, Frank Weis, Donna Whibbs, Christel Storf, Bill Lukewich, Terry Chapman, Therese Skinner, Carron Canning, Dennis Carter, Neil Kinney, William Orr

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It was established that the number of attendees and number of executive qualified as a quorum.

John Perz chaired the meeting.

### **President's Remarks:**

In Iggy's absence, John Perz read out the President's report verbatim.

Iggy was thanked for his work as president this past season.

### **Social Director's Report:**

Ginny Tullis reported that the opening round robin and social of May 21/22 was well attended. Rennie Wittenbols did an amazing job of organizing the players, running the 50/50 draw and collecting prizes.

Our second social, was the annual July 1<sup>st</sup>. round robin and lunch. Rain didn't deter the lunch as we set up under cover on the

Rec. Centre patio. As tradition, Frank Weis conducted a rousing rendition of *Oh Canada*.

The closing event was a blind draw, mixed round robin competition that pitted Animals versus Veggies in a farm themed, two day event. BBQ ribs and salads were served in the Rec. Centre. Thank you to Alison Thomas and Mo Murray for stepping in to organize the food and set up and to Tom Mansi and his assistants, Jim Murray and Art Sanders for their BBQ skills. Overall it was a good season and thank you to Geri Flotron for heading the committee.

The focus of next year will be to encourage new members and increase the number of social events.

### **Activity Director's Reports:**

#### **Men's League – Art Sanders and Neil Kinney**

It was a good season with an average of 16 players per week. Players requested an earlier start time and a 3pm start time was instituted part way through the season. In all, the play was solid, fair and competitive while keeping the main focus on social tennis. Art and Neil will continue as Men's League Directors for 2023 season. Suggest new score cards for each court. Art and Neil were thanked for their continued support.

#### **Ladies' League – Karen Clark**

Twenty six ladies signed up for the league.

On average we had 3 groups each week with only two weeks with 4 groups.

There were not many weeks when we had subs available. Four times we drew subs from outside the league to fill in. Thank you to Darlene Kinney and Brian Morris (we didn't make him wear a skirt!)

A mid-season luncheon and a season end luncheon were held at the tennis courts.

Fran Bulkis filled in twice while I was unavailable this 2022 season and has agreed to take over the Directors position for 2023.

### **Mixed Ladder – Bill Lukewich**

Twenty-six members signed up but we never had good attendance. We had only seven regular participants and an average of four players following the Monday Drop-In launch. It is impossible to run a ladder with that number of regulars. My suggestion is to discontinue the ladder. I am happy to support the tennis community and the events going forward as needed.

### **Drop-Ins- Brian Morris and Sue LaRosa**

The Wednesday/Saturday 8:30 to 11am Drop-Ins proved to be very successful. Folks liked the 'come and go' schedule with no sign up. By popular demand, a Monday Drop-In was added mid season. There was a full range of skill levels attending each Drop-In, but the atmosphere was non-competitive. By the chatter and laughter around and on the courts, everyone enjoyed these social tennis activities.

### **Mixed Open and Advanced – Iggy Natoli**

Unfortunately, both of these activities were poorly attended and never got off the ground despite the efforts of Director, Iggy. Even a time change for the Mixed Open to an earlier slot didn't produce more participation.

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### **Club Pro Report-Adam Johnston**

Unfortunately, Adam Johnston didn't respond to an invitation to the AGM. Comments were made that he was difficult to communicate with and didn't do a good job of promoting clinics/lessons with the members. It was suggested we look for another Pro. Everyone agreed that Slavko Radek did a fabulous

job and made an excellent Pro, but has made it evident that he is unfortunately done teaching and playing tennis. (But watch out for him on the Pickle-ball courts!)

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**Financial Report:** John Perz summarized the financial report and indicated that the club is in good shape. The final balance is higher than usual for several reasons; the club spent less money on social events in 2022, we got a rebate for empty water cooler bottles returned to our supplier and we sold left over sleeves of tennis balls from last season to a member. Condo 1202 (Rec. Centre) offered to cover the cost of two new tents for courtside. The old ones were ruined in the May 2022 storm. John's suggestions for 2023 are to use more of the social budget by increasing the number of events and doing more extensive food service. Another suggestion would be to hire a Pro to give clinics on set dates. Clinics could be available for a nominal fee to members. The Pro could be hired by the members for individual or groups for lessons. Other issues for the new executive to review are membership fees, ball machine use fees, what to do with the voluntary membership fees paid by folks over 80 ie: going to a charity, some kind of shade structure for court two (Dennis Carter is to forward Sue LaRosa photos of a system he recommends), new record cards or a new system of record markers and some device to keep balls from going under the back door. A member suggested lights for the courts, however, the cost is prohibitive.!

**Ball Machine:** John Perz oversees the operation and use of the ball machine. Although there were no firm stats, the machine has seen a great amount of use this season. For a \$20 annual fee, members who have registered to use it are given a demo on safety and given tips for keeping it functioning properly. This nominal fee has now paid for the \$1000 machine, but we do need a reserve for maintenance and repair.

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**New Business:**

**Nominations for 2023 Executive.**

The following nominations were forwarded to Iggy; Brian Morris, President, Sue LaRosa, Vice President, Geri Flotron, Mo Murray and Alison Thomas as Social Directors and Marna Moldon as Director at Large. John Perz has agreed to stay on as Treasurer and Karen Clark had agreed to stay on as Secretary/Communications. Iggy Natoli will stay on for one year as past president.

With no other applications, it was unanimous that the nominations all be accepted.

Rennie Wittenbols was thanked and praised for the many years he has volunteered for the club in many positions, his last being Vice President. Rennie was also the unofficial 'head maintenance' person and organizer of many past events including 50/50 draws! His efforts were applauded. Rennie will continue to be an active member in the club.

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**Remarks from the new 2023 executive:**

**Brian Morris –**

In summary, Brian thanked the past executive and welcomed the new members. The executive will be meeting soon to discuss plans for the 2023 season. The focus will be on further developing the social aspects of the club and make a plan to encourage new members. We will be looking for a new '*Welcome Ambassador*' to take the place of Ginny Tullis.

**Susan LaRosa** confirmed that the next year will be engaging and members can look forward to a great season. There is a master plan by Condo 1202 for improvements to the outdoor facilities

which include new Bocce courts, trimming of the trees around the courts, structures for shade etc.

**Marna Moldon** is happy to be part of the 2023 executive and is looking forward to working with the team. She served on the executive many years ago at the start of the BGCC tennis club. Playing in the Tuesday Ladies' League the past two years has renewed her enthusiasm to be an active participant in the club. She has many good memories from past tournaments, socials and season end dances and will strive to bring back those good times. Her main focus will be on getting more new members and welcoming those new members coming in.

Brian Morris thanked everyone for coming and to email any suggestions or comments regarding your BGCC Tennis Club. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.