



AMERICAN PLATFORM TENNIS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Executive Committee 73-3 was held at 6:00 p.m. at the Downbeat Restaurant on Monday, February 12, 1973. Those in attendance:

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Peter A. Thistle
Richard C. Farr
G. Estabrook Kindred
Paul C. Melley
Alan W. Peters
Robert A. Brown

The following subjects were discussed:

(1) Peter Thistle brought a copy of the registered mark, the original of which is held by Howard Kafer. The copy will be retained in the Secretary's files. The mark does not include the crossed paddles logo (why?), just "APTA", with the address:

The American Platform Tennis Association
Fox Meadow Tennis Club, Wayside Lane
Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583

The U.S. Patent Office Registration No. is 952,444, dated Jan. 30, 1973. Serial No. is 360,440, filed May 21, 1970. (A telephone call to Howard Kafer to inquire about omission of the crossed paddles was without success as he is away on vacation for a week).

(2) Courts

- (a) After extensive discussion, it was concluded that the APTA should broaden its scope of acceptability of various court surfaces in order not to hinder the expansion of the game nationally as well as internationally. Considerable pressure now exists for the recognition of surfaces other than douglas fir 2 x 6's. This includes aluminum, plywood, asphalt, laykold, etc.

It was agreed that

- (i) a policy on this should be drafted and circulated to Executive Committee members for review and agreement.
- (ii) an engineering firm should be engaged to revise our plans and specifications to conform with this policy.
- (b) Meanwhile, Peter Thistle will reply to Don Jackson and Dick Gould.
- (c) Paul Melley noted Pelham Country Club's dissatisfaction with Tournament Master's courts and agreed to ask Bill Ballard to write a letter to us detailing their complaints. We would then take this up with Tournament Master



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- (d) Approval of Reilly's aluminum court was recommended by Bob Frethingham since the court has now passed the policy requirement of at least two season's play. The committee agreed, pending official re-inspection, to the recommendation and Pete Thistle will write Bob Frethingham regarding the required final re-inspection step.
- (e) Anticipating that SMAC may shortly request full approval for their courts, we should get prepared now. The following was considered advisable:
- (i) Bob Frethingham should request Hornigold to obtain a letter addressed to the APTA from the Exmoor Club, who according to Hornigold, are not happy with surface wear and received two different types of plywood on the two courts.
- (ii) We should seek written commentary from others known to have SMAC's courts particularly if they have been in use for some time.
- (iii) Brown and Melley should re-inspect the Fairview Country Club's courts which have now been in use for almost two seasons. We should also seek written commentary from the Fairview platform tennis chairman.
- (3) By-Laws - no progress has been made.
- (4) The following schedule dates were agreed to:
- (a) Fiscal Year is revised to September 1 - August 31.
- (b) April - final Newsletter issued, including rankings
- (c) September - Issue Tournament Schedule and Annual Meeting Notice
- (d) Late September - Issue Dues Notice
- (e) Mid-October - Annual Meeting
- (5) Regarding rumors of a possible tournament being promoted with money prizes, it was agreed that the APTA would not sanction or recognized such a tournament.
- (6) Concern was expressed over the last minute change in dates by the Greenwich Committee of their tournament from February 24-25 to March 3-4. A letter has been written by Dick Farr to the committee advising them of our concern and indicating that the tournament's rating for ranking purposes may be lowered depending upon the quality of the draw.

It was agreed that henceforth such a schedule change will not



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be permitted, that clubs will be notified of this in developing next year's schedule, and that sanction will be withdrawn in the future from a sanctioned tournament if the tournament date is changed.

PRESIDENT

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(7) The following tournament matters were discussed:

- (a) Exclusion of players from Invitationals is a problem of increasing concern. Satellites or "B" tournaments are one way of relieving this, but are difficult to promote and administer. No solution was forthcoming.
- (b) Dick Farr will hold a meeting in March of all local tournament chairmen who ran tournaments this year, to exchange ideas.
- (c) At Cleveland (Men's) a 20 minute late default rule will be enforced.
- (d) Footfaults - will be discussed at the next meeting.

(8) Barr's ball box-top indicating "National Platform Tennis Association" approval was brought out. It was agreed that Bob Frothingham should write to Barr about the matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert A. Brown

Robert A. Brown
Secretary