USTA Minutes of the USTA NorCal Wheelchair Meeting NORTHERN CALIFORNIA Tuesday April 8, 2025

Don Bearden, chair of the Wheelchair Committee, called the meeting to order at 7:04pm and roll call was conducted. The meeting was held by Google Meet video conference.

Committee Members Present: Don Bearden, Chair. Phil Peabody, Anil Pakina, Ashley Sisti, Kamni Del Barba, Dez Del Barba, Edgar Vidriales.

USTA NorCal Staff Present: Christy Perez, wheelchair staff liaison

Guests Present: Troy Rondeau, Community Department Manager

1. Approval of Minutes. The Committee considered approval of the minutes of the meeting held March 4, 2025. The following motion was duly made by Edgar Vidriales, seconded by Anil Pakina, and **approved** by a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

2. Chair Report

- <u>Item 1</u>: BAWT update. Anil Pakina will be giving the BAWT updates moving forward. Anil stated that 9 people have consistently been attending weekly practices and tennis practices are going well. Don and Ashley have been acting as coaches for the players. Michelle has been using her daily chair to practice in until they are able to do some adjustments to the chair that Phil Peabody has given to her. Additionally, BAWT has had great volunteers attending and helping at weekly practices.
- <u>Item 2</u>: Adaptive Athletics Association update. Phil Peabody gave the update. They have been working on their website and have made good progress with this. Friday night tennis has continued to be successful. They are working with the City of Sacramento to partner with to get additional wheelchair tennis players. Bass and Samantha have played an important role with wheelchair tennis at Sac State. Phil stated that they will be promoting wheelchair events/practices at SCI Fit and local rehab hospitals in Sacramento.

3. Staff Report

- The wheelchair committee reviewed and unanimously approved (7-0) the criteria for the yearly Wheelchair Awards, which was presented by Troy Rondeau. These awards will be given out at the Section Connection on November 1st.
- Kamni Del Barba announced that the San Joaquin County Board members will present a tennis proclamation to NorCal on May 13th in Stockton. The time of the presentation has yet to be determined.
- The Fremont Tennis Center will host a one-day Public Parks Wheelchair Tournament on Sunday, May 4th. NorCal is looking for volunteers to help at the AAPI Family Day event on Saturday, May 3rd from 9-11am. Registration for the tournament is now open.
- Kylie Hornbeck will contact Emily from BORP to arrange a meeting upon her return from the ITF wheelchair tournament in Texas.
- The committee received an update from Edgar Vidrales on the Valley Children's Hospital tennis showcase. The event will include a tennis clinic for children, run by volunteers and the Fresno State Women's tennis team. Following the clinic, BAWT players will participate in a tennis demonstration, featuring match play and an up/down demonstration.
- The shirt design for the SacTown ITF tournament is complete and ready for production. Christy will contact committee members to assist with specific areas of tournament planning.
- The North vs South Wheelchair Challenge in Fresno has been rescheduled to October 11th and 12th. A Valley Children's Hospital tennis clinic may be added on Friday, October 10th, followed by an optional team practice that evening for those who are interested and able to arrive early.
- No new player grants were received this month.

There being no further issues or discussion to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.