



NORTH YORK WINTER TENNIS CLUB

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86980996683> **MINUTES: NORTH YORK WINTER TENNIS CLUB**

Meeting:	Annual General Meeting	Meeting No.:	45
Date:	Dec. 6, 2022	Chair:	Todd Archibald
Time called to order:	7:05 PM	Secretary:	Sue Kormendy
Adjournment:	7:55 PM	Sites:	Oriole Community Centre

Board Members present:

Todd Archibald, Steve Andrews, Fiona Brown, Sue Kormendy, Dany Lester, Don Thomson

Regrets: Norman Lee

Staff Management Members present:

Dave Duguay, General Manager, Kunj Shah, Assistant Manager

NYWTC Members present: Sheila Burke, Anne Fairlie, Aline Gonsalves, Angela Kooji, Maggie McWilliams, Fiona Miller, Paula Scott, Cheng Yang

Proxies: 20

1. **Additions to the Agenda:** none

2. **Approval of the Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting**

Copies of the 2021 Annual General Meeting minutes were distributed. Angela Kooji moved a motion to approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting, dated Nov. 8, 2021. Maggie McWilliams seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. **President's Report**

Todd welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted this was the first in-person meeting in a few years. He gave a brief update on the current board members including Steve Andrews, a seven-year veteran as Vice President and Don Thomson a 20-year veteran currently serving as Past President. Don continues to provide advice to the board on many matters. Sue Kormendy serves as Secretary, Fiona Brown as Legal advisor, Dany Lester as Treasurer and Norman Lee as IT Specialist.

Each board member offers a specialty for the support of the Club.

Last year was a difficult one for the club because of the Covid rules; the club lost money but continued to have large expenses. This had an impact on the Reserve fund and resulted in the club having to increase membership and court fees for the next year (2022-2023).



Dave mentioned that a large windstorm last winter caused the South bubble to deflate but with Tyler's help it was restored in 7 days. The damage was \$150,000.

Another windstorm in May caused a further \$25,000 in damages but again with staff help the bubble was restored in 3-4 days.

As a result of these windstorms a new rule has been implemented for the 2022-2023 season to ensure members are kept safe: the club will close if any winds over 75 Kilometres per hour are expected.

These damages and ensuing claims have increased insurance costs significantly by 3 times even though the Winter Club grouped itself with others to reach a better rate.

Todd noted that a new Assistant Manager, Kunj Shah, was hired to replace Alfredo.

4. Report of the Treasurer

Dany Lester referred to the Financial Statements forming part of the AGM package which were created by the Audit firm, Grant Thornton. Grant Thornton merged with the previous audit firm for the club.

The statements reflect approval of the operations of the club.

Dany reviewed a few financial highlights from the previous year:

- The Government provided \$154,000 via grants and other offerings
- The club was still down \$300,000 over the period of 2020-2022
- No funds were able to be added to the Reserve fund
- The above deficits drove the membership and court fee increases for 2022-2023
- and these will help balance the books. The Capital fund will be topped up this year from expected surpluses.

In response to Angela's question about government employee assistance, Dany said that the part time staff were laid off. The remaining Head Office staff kept busy with upgrades to the sites and other tasks. Expenses and contracts were reduced where possible.

Dany also mentioned that there is an insurance claim recovery for damages.

He also confirmed that the Audit Statements cover all 3 sites.

4. Management Report

Dave reported that the 2020-2021 season started well but then was shut down in January because of Covid restrictions.

General: Other activities included a lot of shovelling work after the snowstorm last January.

Dave appreciated the former contractor's assistance with the bubble restoration.

In May, Alfredo resigned and the search for a new assistant was initiated. Kunj Shah was welcomed in September.



Occupancy: stands at 96 %

Membership: the 2022-2023 membership was closed in August which is the earliest time this has happened. There are 1,000 people on a waiting list.

For next year, the first 50 people on the wait list will be offered membership once the applications close June 1st.

Insurance: 20 bubbles in Ontario were damaged earlier this year which caused many insurers to balk at providing coverage. It was a challenge to find the new provider, BFL/Everest. The premium reflects the hesitancy of insurers to step up: \$110,000,00 which is over 3X the former cost.

Dave thanked his staff and wished for a successful winter.

Questions:

Cheng asked what the procedure is to prevent damage to the bubbles: Dave increases the pressure inside for resistance while also increasing the heat to encourage snow to slide off.

He also referred to the new safety rule about Club closing if 75 Kilometre winds are forecast. Steve asked if the new bubbles were better. Dave said the material used, Kevlar, is sturdier and the wishbone supports are also better although even these are not ideal.

Cheng had further questions about the booking system and Dave will send him information on this.

6. Election of Board Members:

Don, as past president, confirmed that there had been no nominations from the members so the slate remains the same as the previous year's.

The following names are the Slate for the 2022- 2023 season.

Todd Archibald, Steve Andrews, Fiona Brown, Sue Kormendy, Norman Lee, Dany Lester & Past President, Don Thomson

7. Other Business:

Todd opened the floor for questions.

Coaching: Fiona Miller inquired about coaching. She noted that there had been problems with receiving good adult lessons in the past but there had been some improvements.

She inquired whether there was a possibility to have coaches at each bubble.

Tyler responded that the Adult Group Lessons have been expanded to Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday for a group of 6 in each session. The lessons are concentrated at the East and South Bubbles.

The Club has a responsibility to balance court time between lessons and membership.

Dave said that coaches want blocks of 6 hours for lessons but this is not possible if the Club wants to provide adequate court time to its membership.

Tyler mentioned that Level 2 & 3 coaches are also expensive plus quite a few are leaving Toronto for less costly places to live or are going to private clubs which can provide



blocks of time for coaching.

Dave also confirmed that it is possible to ask for the coach you want and use permanent and other booked court time for coaching.

Fiona asked about clearly posting the coaching information such as coach lists on the website along with rules. She queried whether more lessons could be offered during quiet times outside of the tournaments held during the week.

High Performance Juniors: Angela had an inquiry about the high-performance junior players program. Tyler said that the program is currently full and thriving and that 8 players were sent from our program to Tennis Canada as a result of Tennis Canada lowering the acceptance age to 12.

He noted that Tuesdays and Thursdays are the programs for the 16-year-old group. The program is accepting boys as well this year and there is a 60/40 split between girls and boys.

Tyler is the only Level 4 coach in Toronto currently able to teach this program at NYWTC. The offering for the program is the 4-6 pm slot during the week for all juniors. This narrow allocation goes back to the problem of coaches wanting more hours than this club can provide and why they defect to other private clubs.

Other coaches are available to run the programs if Tyler is not available on a particular day.

Booking System: Cheng asked if it was possible to upgrade the booking system which he finds hard to use because it isn't intuitive. Todd suggested that Norman and Dave meet with Cheng to discuss if there are opportunities for improvement.

Kunj offered to send Cheng a copy of the user manual.

It would be challenging to adjust the system because it has financial information attached to the booking requests. Cheng offered to help with wording on the instructions to make them clearer.

Focus for next fiscal year: Todd listed membership, occupancy, balanced budget and possible expansion as the main focus.

Vending Machines: in answer to a question about availability, Dave confirmed that the City does not allow these on their property.

8. Appointment of Auditors

Dany moved a motion to appoint Grant Thornton as auditors for the Club.

Anne Fairlie seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Adjournment: 7:55 PM