

DHAHRAN JOUNIOR TENNIS ASSOSIATION

Board Meeting

MEETING: Regular Board Meeting
DATE: March 1, 2008
TIME: 6:30PM TO 8:30PM
LOCATION: Tennis Club house

ATTENDEES:

Hongbin Xiao	President
Tahir Bukhari	Vice president
Tim Hansen	Ladder Coordinator
Amani Haikal	Secretary
Lubna Rizvi	Treasurer
Rao Arimilli	Publicity Director
Eric Beachy	Travel Team Coordinator
Liliana Polanco	Tournament Coordinator
Abid Bhullar	Group Coaching Coordinator
Andy Mehta	Group Coaching Coordinator
Vicky Jones	Social Director
Lorna Bradford	Social Director
Aziz Rasool	Tennis Coach

MAIN POINTS OF THE MEETING:

- **Travel Team update (Eric Beachy):** Eric stated that we had 11 participants on the Kuwait travel team in February, 2008. Friendly matches were played over a 3 day period with a Kuwait club team and players saw the Kuwait Davis Cup team play against Pacific Oceania. Eric mentioned that there are no other travel team plans until Sept/Oct 2008 where a number of places are being considered. Eric thanked Coach Aziz for his valuable involvement in the arrangements for the Kuwait trip as well as coach Fareh who drove to Kuwait on his own expense to support the team. Coach Aziz mentioned that, unfortunately, due to his new job obligations as an advisor; he will no longer be able to get involved in the travel team arrangements. However, he would recommend another coach to extend the required help.
- **Membership Update (Amani Haikal):** Amani stated that we have 10 new members of DJTA which brings our total number of members to 274 (up from 264 last month). The new members have been added to our website and welcome packages and announcements have been sent to them through emails. Amani mentioned that the new players have been assigned ranks and few of them will be evaluated by Coach Rick to determine their skill level.
- **Money Matters (Lubna Rizvi):** Lubna stated that we are still doing very well financially with over 150,000 Saudi riyals total cash on hand and in bank(s). She

stated that we are expecting 5000 Saudi riyals from umpiring and we have to pay salaries for this month but we would still have a lot of available money. Therefore, we have enough money that we can use for new programs, gifts for kids, t-shirts or any needed items.

- **Voted suggestions for using the money:**
 - Tahir suggested buying an overhead projector that can be used during annual banquets and pizza parties for presentations and displays of tournaments' pictures. Board members voted on the proposal with the following result: 6 members with the proposal, 3 members against and 3 members abstain. Based on the results, it was agreed to buy the overhead projector.
 - Tahir mentioned that the existing lap top at DJTA is outdated and that because of DJTA needs for a new lap top to store information on and to backup on-line Data; he proposed to vote for buying a new lap top. Members voted on the suggestion which was approved by all board members. It was agreed that Rao and Andy will search the market for a laptop and overhead projector and they will present their recommendations and prices for both items.
 - It was agreed to buy prizes (ball cans, hats, wrist bands) to distribute on kids participating in the ladder day event. By doing this we will encourage more kids to come out and play. Board members agreed to start this procedure during the upcoming ladder day on Friday march 7, 2008.
- **Ladder Update (Tim Hansen):** Tim apologized for his absence last meeting (due to OOK travel). He stated that he will supervise the upcoming ladder day and he supported the idea of giving the participating kids prizes at the end of their matches. Amani mentioned that we need to develop a system regarding kids who refuse to play ladder matches in order to maintain their ranking. Tim stated that this has been a problem for a long time with no practical solution to it. Rao suggested to develop a system on line where kids have to earn specific number of points (by playing matches) in order to maintain their current ranking. It was agreed that Tim, Rao and Raza will get together in order to develop a program and put forward a proposal regarding the ranking system. Rao also suggested that it will be a good idea to have the rank of each player appear next to his/her name during tournament matches so that parents and players would know what the rankings are.
- **Social Events (Vicky Jones):** Vicky put forward a new proposal for pizza parties, she recommended the following:
 - To try Pizza Inn's offer that includes a small box of pizza, a box of French fries and juice.
 - Total cost: 10 Saudi riyals/ meal (8 riyals/meal for 100 or more orders).
 - Vicky stated that this offer will be easier to distribute on kids.
 - In addition to the small boxes, she suggested ordering 5 or 6 large pizza for parents and additional kids.Amani reminded the social coordinators that, after each tournament, "Thank you" emails should be sent out to all those helping in the tournaments' organization including recreation personnel and custodians. It was agreed that this would be a part of the Tournament Directors' responsibilities,
- **Group Coaching (Andy Mehta):** Andy said that arrangements have been made for spring intersession group coaching which will include four groups of kids (6-8 in each group) training for the period from March 23rd to April 16th by Coach Rick. It was agreed that Amani will send out emails to the members for intersession

group coaching registration (which will be during March tournament) as well as spring group coaching registration (which will start on line on Saturday, March 15).

- **Website update(Rao Arimilli):**
 - All new members have been added to the website.
 - Ladder has been updated by Coach Rick who is now familiar with the procedure for on line updating requirements and who will be in charge for future updates.
 - Registration for Spring Group coaching will be done on line.
- **Miscellaneous items:**
 - Lubna mentioned that we need to specify the role of the tournament director with assigned responsibilities that include the following:
 - Presence at the beginning and end of each tournament
 - Monitoring the conduct of children on court and intervening to stop out of line behaviour
 - Watching some of the games and encouraging good behaviour.

Tahir stated that this used to be the role of the director prior to Rick's hiring, but now with the presence of coach Rick who makes sure that everything is in order for the tournament these requirements have been relaxed.

- Tahir raised the issue of hiring coach Mario through DJTA starting fall 2008 for the following reasons:
 - Recreation can no longer process id for coach Mario due to changes in SAP approval procedure
 - Mario has been in the kingdom for 9 years
 - His schedule is fully booked for private coaching
 - If DJTA does not sponsor him, he will have to leave the kingdom.
- The following concerns were expressed regarding this issue:
 - DJTA already has its own coach (Rick) and we have just sent an email to members advertising empty slots for private coaching with him. Hiring another coach with his own private coaching will further reduce private coaching (DJTA income) with our own coach.
 - Is there a justified need for hiring another coach with a different contract and wouldn't that create a conflict within DJTA and with contracting?

It was agreed that there will be a voting on the issue during an emergency board meeting after presenting the pros, cons and justifications for hiring coach Mario.

Meeting was concluded at 8:30 pm.
Prepared by: Amani Haikal

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