

**DHAHRAN JUNIOR TENNIS ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup> 2016**

Heidi Williams called the meeting to order at 1.35pm on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Clubhouse.

Present at the meeting were:

Heidi Williams (President); Enrique Kirch (Vice President); Jon Klesner (Treasurer); Taqi Baig (Group Coaching Coordinator); Kate Lobban (Secretary); Naomi Killough (Tournament Coordinator); Zarina Harun (Admin Support); Kim Bowker (Recreation).

Absent were:

Maggie Simonian (Tournament Coordinator); Stephen Benchluch (Ladder Coordinator); Reem Khudhairi (Publicity Director); Inoen Asfin (Social Director); Lesley Peter (Social Director); Marlies Prins (Committee Member); Azeb Yohannes (Group Coaching Coordinator).

**Agenda Items:**

1. DTA = potential economies of scale benefits

- Heidi updated the Board on a meeting she had with Wayne Ackerman of the DTA. He has been in discussions with Head, who have proposed a 25% discount on tennis balls annually, with additional offers on clothing and equipment
- Given that the minimum quantities required to be purchased are above our annual needs at the DJTA, and the additional shipping costs, the Board agreed that we should stick with the current purchasing arrangement with Match Point

2. Treasurer's Report

- Jon advised that March had been a critical month. Without the winter coaching fees, the DJTA had run out of money. He had to use personal funds to pay the coaches (although some left before the funds were available)
- With the spring coaching fees collected by the time of the Board meeting (more have been collected since) the DJTA is now in a much more comfortable position. Jon has been reimbursed and all coaches have been paid; and funds are available to pay the coaches for this session too
- However, Jon was pessimistic about the DJTA receiving the winter coaching fees, having seen little progress on the issue in the last few months. Payroll

deductions seem to have been made for some members, but not all, but these funds are not accessible by DJTA. Some payroll deductions have also been made from non-DJTA members

- Kim Bowker advised that Recreation is trying a new approach to get the funds to us. He said that working out who had fees deducted and who did not would be hard, and that it did not make sense that some members had the fees deducted and some did not. He would expect all or nothing
- DJTA continues to work with Recreation to resolve this issue
- In the past, the coaching fees charged, included a 50SAR per participant surplus for DJTA funds, with the rest going to cover the coaches salaries. Board discussions revealed that with a coach salary increase this year, and no coaching fee or membership fee increase, this DJTA payment has reduced to 20SAR per participant
- It was agreed this surplus should be restored to 50SAR through a coaching fee increase taking effect for the next session

### 3. Tournament Coordinators Update

- The April tournament was going on at the time of the meeting
- Naomi advised that she had received some complaints about the 7.30am start on a Saturday. However, the early start is the only way to avoid using the uncovered Court 7, which given the heat that weekend (and in May), is very important
- There had been two “no shows” on Friday. One family said they had never registered for the tournament. Naomi was going to follow up with them

### 4. Ladder Coordinator Update

- Stephen was not present to provide an update on the introduction of the new ladder system software

### 5. Group Coaching Update

- Enrique has continued to research the Spanish training option for coaches, at the JC Ferrero Academy. The best juniors in the world train there at the summer camp. Without a contract, our coaches would not be able to teach...but they would help the academy coaches, and learn from their approaches
- The academy would charge \$350 for each coach for two weeks. This would include accommodation and food. Rick already indicated that the coaches would pay their own airfares
- The Board members feel it may be more appropriate for DJTA to pay the (larger) airfares for the coaches, with them covering the fees. The proposed approach would be to send 2 this summer, and more next year if the results are positive

- Taqi suggested all coaches should go this year. However, DJTA funds will not allow this
- Enrique advised that the Academy will also offer a rate for DJTA members to attend: 1300 Euros per person for 2 weeks. Lessons are provided in both Spanish and English
- Taqi advised that he has received some requests to receive a refund for lessons their children will miss as they will be observing Ramadan. Heidi advised that she had checked past practice for Ramadan. The Board agreed that no refunds should be offered, as coaches still need to be paid. Members had been offered a shorter pre-Ramadan session too
- Next year, when Ramadan will cover a larger portion of the spring coaching, one approach may be to offer a shorter session, with the coaches providing an intercession during Ramadan
- One coaching participant had also been in touch about stopping lessons and only paying for the weeks attended. Taqi was going to follow up and advise them of the rules (as discussed at the last meeting). If there is an injury he will request a medical certificate

The meeting was adjourned at 2.45pm.

**Action Items:**

1. Implement coaching fee increase for next session **Heidi Williams/ Taqi Baig/ Jon Klesner**
2. Tournament no-show follow-up **Naomi Killough**
3. Make ladder system software recommendations **Stephen Bechluch**
4. Plan coaches summer training **Taqi Baig and Enrique Kirch**
5. Follow-up with families requesting coaching fee refund **Taqi Baig**