

Highlands Pickleball Association  
Board Meeting Minutes – September 22, 2022

At 3:05 p.m. President Mike Cook called the meeting to order. Board members in attendance were Mike Cook, Tom Harris, Bill Buell, Dave Epperson, and Marissa Buell. Absent Board member JoAnn Jones. There were 32 attendees in the room, including the board, and one attendee via Zoom call.

Mike Cook then introduced the first agenda item, introducing the ability for all HPA voting to be done via electronic voting. Some discussion was had regarding what sort of voting would be done via electronic voting and clarifications were made. Tom Harris made a motion to adopt electronic voting. Dave Epperson seconded the motion. Mike indicated that the Board would do a write up and send it out to the membership to clarify the change.

Mike Cook notified attendees that we are likely to have 2 Board positions open in February, including secretary and treasurer. He encouraged people to think about running for those positions. He also said that we will likely be seeking new members for the Scheduling Committee and they would need to work with the current Committee during March, and transition in for the early summer session.

Mike Cook introduced the idea of a HPA membership dues increase. With the potential addition of 4 courts, we will need new and more balls, social events etc. Bill Buell, Treasurer, then passed out a copy of a budget proposal with prior year spending. A discussion ensued about club spending and how it might change and what we would need to think about for 2023 and when and how much to implement an increase if we were to approve it. Dave Epperson made a motion to increase the dues from \$15 to \$25 yearly. Bill Buell seconded the motion. Jim Hefe confirmed that the dues increase met the requirements of our bylaws by being a formal agenda item and members being notified of the discussion 7 days in advance. He indicated that the increase would need to be approved by a majority vote of members in attendance. A vote was called to raise dues to \$25 to be assessed with the October HOA billing for 2023 HPA membership. The vote was 25 members “for” versus 5 “against”, meaning the dues increase was passed.

Mike Cook introduced the idea of forming a Social Committee. NO additional discussion was had.

Mike Cook introduced a change to how drills were done and introduced Jim Widdows who was in attendance via a zoom meeting. He also reminded people of our guest policy meaning guests were invited only 2 times per month per HOA bylaws. A discussion was held regarding the November welcome back party, and whether we should do a potluck versus a pizza party. The discussion was tabled until the October meeting.

Mike Cook confirmed that there was nothing new on the court expansion project. He clarified how we ended up with tennis court 1 as the option to convert to pickleball courts. Some discussion was held regarding how the HOA had proceeded and what the next steps were.

Mike Cook then reported that Jim Widdows, an HPA member, was recently certified as a pickleball instructor. Jim explained how his first class would be a class that helps transition players from tennis to pickleball, and that this was not an attempt to poach tennis players, but help those who have a tennis background and want to be better pickleball players. Jim also suggested that we put more comprehensive articles into the Highlander Newsletter regarding pickleball.

Next Mike Cook introduced Gail Epperson, a Court Reserve Scheduling Committee member, who then reviewed the proposed fall schedule. (See attached presentation and schedule proposal.) There was ongoing discussion regarding member feedback, the various HPA organized events, group play etc.

We then had a Q&A session and discussed:

- How to integrate new players into the pickleball community.
- How to form a group and how to be a group leader
- How many people does it take to form a group
- Should we rate our players

There being no further discussions or actions, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

JoAnn Jones, HPA Secretary

Attachments