



**Harbour Town Racquet Club**  
3 Marina Road / P.O. Box 15001  
New Bern, NC 28562  
252-636-5652

**July 17, 2015**  
**Board Meeting**

**LOCATION OF MEETING:** Harbour Town Racquet Club House

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Ed Hall called the meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 1:00 p.m. In attendance were Ed Hall, Barbara Powell, Dan Frey, Mike See, and Kathy Rioux.

The Minutes from the May 2015 meeting were approved.

The June meeting was rescheduled because several members of the Board were out of town.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Updating Club Documents:** The Bylaws document has been re-formatted, and misspelled words have been corrected. Headers have been added. We will vote to adopt and publish this document at the October 17th Annual Members Meeting.

**Member Recruitment:** Ed Hall reported that Tom Balance is willing to put a poster in his downtown restaurant window, and suggested 24x36" in size. Ed will get estimates on cost of poster. We could also create a flyer and post at Morgan's or other area restaurants.

Ed also commented that too many people do not know we have a fine tennis facility here in River Bend. He talked about branding our club and suggested advertising in local newspapers and senior magazines, as well as TALK radio.

Ed suggested we offer some kind of incentive for new members. In the interim, it was decided that a member will receive one month dues free for recruiting a new member.

Dan Frey emphasized that we should talk up our club and our tennis pro. Dan said he will work on some media and outreach ideas.

It was mentioned that our club is not listed on the USTA website and this needs to be addressed. Mike mentioned that we may need to join the USTA as a club and the fee is \$95.00. All agreed that this is a reasonable thing to do.

Kathy Rioux is keeping in touch with the Newcomers of New Bern's Tennis group and has invited them to Mike's Clinic. A few were out in the spring but not lately. Mike has offered to do another special clinic just for Newcomers. Kathy feels that the fall will be a good time to promote this and she will be reaching out to the leader of the tennis group. In addition, a group of 3 or 4 women who are now Alumni of Newcomers are coming out to Mike's Clinic on a regular basis.

It was discussed that one Newcomer joined in the spring but quit after only 2 months, saying it was not a good fit for him. Ed emphasized that we should be focused on making beginners and new members feel accepted and welcome here. Mike should encourage the beginning tennis players to start with the Social groups and take lessons or clinics until their skill level improves to the point where they develop confidence and can play more competitively.

Media: Website and Newsletter: The website can now be accessed by all mobile devices! Steve has done an outstanding job and we are quite happy. Dan Frey has ideas for promoting our club, especially the Monday-Wednesday-Friday Men's and Women's doubles. Dan will also be submitting articles and "blurbs" for the newsletter to highlight the positive features of our club and the unique skills and experience Mike has to offer. These will be published in the monthly newsletter and website as appropriate. The monthly newsletter will be distributed to all members and guests, and members will be encouraged to forward to others.

Courts/General Maintenance: On order is 7 tons of Har-Tru and 1 ton of calcium chloride. Mike is working very hard to keep the courts in great shape despite many pitfalls and it really shows. The courts look beautiful and the members are quite happy.

Cleaning of Facilities: The cleaning person Mike hired is doing an excellent job. We did need to purchase a new vacuum. We will continue to emphasize that members treat our clubhouse as they would their home, and clean their shoes before coming up onto the deck or into the building.

Drainage Problems and Overgrowth of Trees and Shrubs: Many thanks to Jed Kennish and Ken Ralph, who helped in this area. Ken Ralph came out and did some major trimming of shrubs and this made a huge improvement. Jed came out with his backhoe and dug several ditches for drainage. Jed also suggested we contact the City of River Bend about overgrown trees and grading. Ed Hall met with a representative from the City of River Bend and they made suggestions for trimming overgrown trees and grading, which will be carried out in the coming month or so.

Social Tennis: Friday night attendance has been sporadic and this is affecting turnout for the Thursday night group, so this has been discontinued. Members have expressed interest in Sunday afternoons and we will plan to start this when the weather turns cooler.

Events: The Wimbledon Scrambles had to be cancelled because we only had 10-12 people sign up. Unfortunately, it seems like many were out of town or busy for the 4th of July. We will consider scheduling this the second week of July in 2016, and be mindful of not scheduling tennis events on holiday weekends.

The next event is the U.S. Open Scrambles on September 12. Specifics will be discussed at the August Board Meeting.

Dan Frey had ideas for promoting a community event in the spring and will be investigating this further. This could tie into the Centurion fundraiser or could be a separate event altogether.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Ice Machine: Has stopped working and needs a new compressor, which is on order. The cost estimate is \$780.00.

USTA Team Fees: We reviewed the club fee for outsiders playing on our team. The cost will be \$50 for a "season" and will include team practice once per week in addition to team Clinics/Drills with Mike.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for August 19th at 1:00 p.m.

This meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Rioux, Secretary