

2015 NCTTA April Face 2 Face Board Meeting in Clarion Hotel in Eau Claire, WI

9:05pm Central Time:

Attending: Kevin (online), Joe Wells (JEW), Kagin Lee (KGL), Willy Leparulo (WL), Chris Wang (CW), Sam Huang (SH), Randy Kendle (RK); Guests- Joe Brown, Dan Reynolds, Brandon Lawrence, Spencer Ip, Tae Kim

Motion to approve March meeting minutes

Proposed: KGL

Seconded: WL

Motion Approved 7-0-0

1. US Open

- event organized for collegiates?
- putting a table at US OPEN--WL will contact Gordon for details
- create brochures, multi media for us to bring--WL will work with CW on this
- Get Ed H to ship tall step/repeat there to showcase that.
- Tae Kim could represent us there

2. US Nationals:

- Alumni and Team event maybe
- Is it NCTTA or Collegiate; Is it Alumni and General or both; What format is it?
- What is alumni< Does it have to be NCTTA? or something else?
- as long as NCTTA BOD doesn't have to spend alot of resources and time on this event (runs itself)

Summary from BOD:

WL: alumni Network within a team basis with NCTTA name

RK: Within NCTTA name/brand, more people whether it is alumni or current players--EASY

CW: mostly what Randy said, networking, connecting with ppl were once or still have an interest
tt: combo of both, networking to improving NCTTA

KGL: it should be alumni and current players separately, the intention, alumni-use them to develop actual college NCTTA membership, to use for fundraiser, 2 events, 1 alumni 1 current student team event; and it doesn't require NCTTA to do ANY extra work as our time is strapped as it is

Joe Wells: mixed for the 1st year, with alumni and current membership, b/c of number of entries, bring out as many participants as possible, us having another product, visibility for the rest of USA TT, juniors at event that there is more tt available to them; promotion for youth potentially, pipeline that continues to grow

Sam Huang: agree with having 1 event both alumni and current students, crucial that our time is not taken away.

Kevin Li: Same as Randy, both current players and Alumni to build a bond, young alumni that just graduated, this would be a good opportunity to play with younger graduates, softer on the rules, likes 2 singles and 1 double

WL: Would like to be liberal on the format, allow players to be from different teams, schools, even be a different format than traditional 4 singles and 1 double, something smaller
-how strict we are, who we are including, matching uniforms?
-potentially create a different NCTTA product, ALUMNI Teams are a different format?

NCTTA should be included in the Name of the event, branding

Goals:

Alumni League

Networking

Branding

Visibility

Connection to ex players that we have lost contact with from graduating in the past

All BOD is fine with having an event, but specifics (eligibility, rules, etc.)

Create Task force-WL--ACTION ITEM

3. USATT Ratings--Tabled

4. Monroeville Barriers in Ed's warehouse

- TMS, Butterfly, Newgy, NCTTA- (give for free, Kagin suggestions)
- BOD agreed to let KGL sell it and follow up with BOD
- 75 dollar a month; RK will pay the remaining months we are missing

5. Connect conference 2015 in Pittsburgh

- Sam Huang, Chris Wang, Joe--Guest
- sunday, we have a face 2 face mtg

6. ELECTION

- WL will activate Dan to do the Elections and have it done by July 1st
- talked about paying a staff member; Dan Reynolds stated he could do forecasting
- raising the fees to pay for a staff member; how many staff members, what to pay? basically fill in the variables (how much to raise the fee to pay a staff member, or multiple ppl)
- CW stated that we average 3.5 emails per day, but January to March we are in (busy season)
- raising membership fee for NCTTA, but need to offer something more for membership (WL)

7. Talk about multi media; NCTTA brochures, NCTTA pens, etc.

- new website--plans with Tae and Dan
- WL and CW ACTION ITEM:** work together to get promotion gimmicky crap
- WL ACTION ITEM:** to get Big Mike to do tri fold

8. Talk about 2016 National Championships

- BOD needs to be in action May 15th for Bid Deadline and then the next month we must decide
- RK suggests we could seek out an area instead of waiting

9. What to do for next year

Champs changes: changing the schedule (maybe), but maybe change the concept of volunteers and umpires

- concern that volunteers could take off work or students could take off school too
- KGL: suggests inviting and spending the money on the core volunteers that we know will work and allowing the local host to recruit the general set up and tear down volunteers
- CW: DD travel subsidy-reliable using same people, plan better, get a list of phone numbers to get a hold of ppl.
- RK: ED H can do more than just staying at the desk, RK would like to do NCTTA spreadsheets and use NCTTA people to do it along with Diana
- WL was the only person wanting to change singles for Sunday and put teams on Saturday

Bracket Challenge Recap

- Double Fish and TMS participated
- JEW believes the bracket should have started with earlier rounds;
- Teams 112 ppl; singles about 30 ppl participate

10. League Changes:

(Changes/updates-this year's league season that we want to make better for the future)

a. Age Limit

- is our system being exploited?
- Joe Brown- talks about typical college athletes, why NCAA has specific rules about age limit;
- CW: good thing that schools and old ppl take our award so seriously, quality of play has increased over the last few years
- Brandon says maybe creating an actual age limit for an image of NCTTA, maybe just putting a number that affects very small % of the population
- KGL says growth of our league is more 18 yr olds not older players and talks about losing schools membership to NCTTA for being killed and **WL interjects** that there needs to be more to NCTTA membership than just the league system.
- RK: to develop a Tier system- National Championships Division 3, Division 2, Division 1, etc. to suggest a way for ppl to play more for something
- WL: with such low numbers of ppl playing College TT right now, it would be counter productive to limit people to play since our overall goal is to include as many people
- tabled for later discussion

b. B team ppl being able to play on A team

- Why can't you allow B team that have played a match, been on the elig. form, why can't they play on the A team for Regionals or Champs?
- in the past it was just be on an elig. form and play a match on A, B, W and then could qualify
- it could affect eligibility

ACTION ITEM- take a look at the "Why" of this rule

c. How many division meets in a semester

- can they play 2 division meets in the fall--explore this more
- current rules needs checking on # of division meets per semester and spring

WL ACTION ITEM

- Clarification in our rules about doubles, that the player chosen for doubles be anyone on the roster, not just the 4 people in singles; also the 4th player on a team vs a team with only 3 players, does that 4th player count as having played a match? --**ACTION ITEM**

d. 3 player team vs 4 player team

- NCTTA wants to get more people involved, so having 4 player teams vs 3 player teams
- Brandon brings up when interest level is less, it is more difficult to get 4 players, so there should be some leniency towards 3 player teams at a division level, but then change it for Regionals/Nationals?
- WL concerned about the bigger picture. Lowering the number, means less potential retention of club b/c there is no incentive to grow, lower numbers overall for NCTTA. In highschool table tennis the numbers are 10 to a team, why are they so much lower in College?
- Duke University and UMD was upset but both DD's states they knew about the rule early on and did nothing to correct it by simply recruiting a 4th person for their team

Regional Tournament quality

- mini nationals
- creating websites for each region a mandate
- video, streaming, photography--just like our Championships have designated people to serve for each area
- Del Vecchio had mentioned he could send each region a mobile streaming camera

Website

- Better collection of media; Tae believes we need to set up the website better to search media better since everything is on facebook and social media
- profile set up, team profiles, more visually fun; team pics
- individual player profiles, champs video: easier to find the match, generate hits
- redo the results page: RR for divisional and regionals, link to team profile and even videos-TAE
- Drupal, making new website also as options--we need to move website off of Dan's server

ACTION ITEM--RK and Tae

Mtg Adjourned April 13, 2015, 12:22am Central time