

Note: There were two City League Board meetings held in July 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Both sets of minutes are included in this document.

**Greater Portland City League Tennis
Board Meeting Minutes
Emergency Zoom Meeting
July 20, 2020**

- I. Call to order by Mary Klinger 10:30am via Zoom.
- II. Roll call: Members present – Linda Brumder, Mary Klinger, Kelly Buhlmann, Elaine Sibley, Ellen, Penny Birkhofer, Nikki Nadig, Kate Hunter, Joanne Reardon, Jill Craven, Patricia McKinnon, Jian Xu.

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| STATE OF THE LEAGUE AS OF 7/20/2020 | MPRC and WH are withdrawing from all fall leagues (USTA & City League). MAC is not allowed to host matches with other clubs. The Board has not heard back from CRRC, CGM or THPRD. All other clubs plan on playing in leagues in the fall. All teams paid team fees. We have a bank balance of \$19,338. Outstanding expenses are Olga (website) and Debbie (scheduling). Teams only paid \$60/team to prepare for the possibility of having to cancel the first half of the season due to Covid-19 restrictions. If the second half of the season has to be cancelled as well, we will discuss offering refunds or some other monetary arrangement, as necessary. |
| DISCUSSION | Per the Pro/Con chart created by Kelly, we discussed all options based on the current, yet quickly changing, Covid-19 situation and how it might affect players, captains and tennis clubs. We discussed how we might proceed with a focus on flexibility and fairness. At this time, there are four main options: 1) Play with no rule changes, 2) Play the first half “for fun” and address the second half when it gets closer, 3) Play with Default Rule changes, and 4) Restructure to smaller line-ups. The ultimate goal is to preserve the fundamental structure of City League. If conditions allow, the second half of the season would be competitive with winning teams moving up, losing teams moving down. |
| CONCLUSIONS | It was voted on and unanimously passed to proceed with option 2, stated “Play the first half “for fun” and address the second half when it gets closer”. The term “for fun” means that scores from the first half will not play a factor in end of the year movement. A plan will be written up to disperse to the league but will not be announced until August 3, 2020 as the Covid-19 situation is rapidly changing. A decision on the second half of the season will be postponed until more information is available. |
| DISCUSSION | Debbie J. is able to schedule the entire year omitting clubs that won’t have teams in the fall. The second half schedule will be held from public viewing until it is determined if we will be playing the second half of the season, as normal. |
| CONCLUSIONS | If 50% of the clubs are unwilling to host City League in the fall, due to Covid-19, we will discuss cancelling the first half of the season outright. Currently there are 29 teams NOT playing, 74 teams playing. |
| DISCUSSION | The question was posed, “Can players from the MPRC and WH teams register to play on another team in the fall?” If more clubs impose Covid-19 restrictions, will their players be able to play on “open” club teams? How does that affect the registration process? |
| CONCLUSION | Players at “closed” or “restricted” clubs will NOT be able to play on other teams. The only exception are players who are eligible to play on Senior Division teams. |

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| DISCUSSION | When playing, does each person need to supply their own can of balls, marked so only they touch them? |
| CONCLUSION | Every club will have their own policies and restrictions regarding Covid-19. Visiting teams should know what the home club policies are for playing: do they need to sign a waiver specific to Covid-19, do they need to bring their own tennis balls, etc. City League is developing their own Covid-19 recommendations for safe play. |
| DISCUSSION | The Zoom Captains' Meeting is still scheduled for August 12, 2020. All captains should be encouraged to submit questions beforehand. |
| CONCLUSION | There will be a panel of board members who will address all questions. |

Greater Portland City League Tennis
Board Meeting Minutes
Emergency Zoom Meeting
July 31, 2020

I. Call to order by Mary Klinger at 4:34pm via Zoom

II. Roll call: Members present – Kelly Buhlmann, Elaine Sibley, Kate Hunter, Penny Birkhoffer, Mary Klinger, Joanne Reardon, Patricia McKinnon, Nikki Nadig, Alisa Rakoz, Jian Xu, Jill Craven, Ellen Mulherin, Joy Kolesnikoff
Absent: Kelley Nielsen

DISCUSSION

New information has been presented regarding the viability of playing City League tennis in the fall season of 2020. SHC, IRV and CRRC have opted out of City League due to Covid-19 (MP, MPRC and MAC-away, opted out previously). This creates a substantial problem with the schedule that has already been generated by Debbie J. The numbers of teams unable to play, has not reached, but is quickly getting closer to the 50% mark. At the July emergency meeting, we discussed using 50% as a benchmark to seriously discuss the viability of continuing on with the plan to play the Fall season. Some divisions only have two or three teams able to play based on their tennis club's policies. In Oregon and Washington, masks will be required to play indoors. There is a possibility that schools will not open in the fall which may make play difficult. Kelly has been bombarded with calls about what's going to happen with the season, many concerned about playing safely with the Covid-19 threat. The option of allowing captains to invite teams to play "friendly" matches was discussed but liability was risky based on the danger of the Covid-19 virus. The Board was uncertain how players would adapt to indoor play with the Covid-19 restrictions and if clubs would have proper safety protocols in place. . Ultimately, the safety of our players became the overriding focus of the discussion. All Board members were saddened by the option of cancelling the Fall season.

CONCLUSIONS

A motion was made to suspend the Fall season with no schedule to be published. The motion was seconded and passed; 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining. The first half of the 2020-2021 City League season is officially cancelled. The Covid-19 situation will be monitored throughout the Fall/Winter.

CONCLUSION

Jian will work on the home page; Mary will get the new board list to Jian. Division Reps will notify their captains about the cancellation. Jian will notify her division plus the J and D division captains. Kelly's message will be posted on the home page. The new board will meet sometime in September. Division Reps will reach out to their teams around August 12th.

III. Adjournment

Mary Klinger adjourned the meeting at 5:55pm.

Next meeting: September TBA

Minutes submitted by: Linda Brumder, Recording Secretary