**MINUTES OF THE N.S.L.T.A INC. MEETING**

# HELD IN STRATHMORE CLUB ROOMS 22 MAY 2023

**MEETING OPENED** 1:00 PM: Gail Riddell OCCUPIED THE CHAIR

PRESENT 27 MEMBERS REPRESENTING 24 CLUBS

**APOLOGIES:** Faye Mason (Keilor Park)**,** Rosemary Manser (Yarraville), Gail Atkins (Hillside), Nicole Sue-See (Hume).

**THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** were emailed to all Club Secretaries and are available on the NSLTA website.

**MOVED**: Kay Ehrenberg (Rosamond) **SECONDED:** Helen Mansfield (Greenvale)

All in favour **CARRIED**

## BUSINESS ARISING: Nil

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**IN**:

* Consumer Affairs Victoria: Auditor request for 2019 proof of payment; Auditor acceptance of 2019 proof of payment; reminder for lodgement after 2023 AGM.
* Oak Park (Tania Ford): Section 1 team withdrawal Rounds 11-14 due to injuries.
* Lena Graham (Williamstown Central Section 3): Advice of team returning to Williamstown club (Power Street) for next season.
* Renae Cadman (Williamstown Central Section 1): Confirmation of remaining at current club for next season.
* Rosie Fredericks (Bulla Section 3): Letter re changing match format from 5 to 4 players per team.
* Elaine Williamson (Sunbury): Letter with ideas for discussion re changes to Match/Team playing format in future. (reduce number of players per team, increase set length, borrow registered players between clubs)

**OUT:**

* Consumer Affairs Victoria: Proof of payment for 2019 fees
* All Club Secretaries: Minutes of Delegates Meeting (20 Mar) and Date/Time of Next Meeting (22 May/1pm)
* Williamstown Central: Confirmation of approval to all requested Pool Player/Team member changes
* Award Pennants: Order for 12 pennants (Autumn 2023/Spring 2023 seasons)
* Lena Graham (Williamstown Central Section 3): Request for new club information (Secretary etc.) to allow re-establishment of Williamstown club affiliation for next season.
* Renae Cadman/Sara McGuire (Williamstown Central Section 1): Request for information on intention to stay or return to Power St next season.

**MOVED:** Kay Ehrenberg (Rosamond). **SECONDED:** Maureen Morrish (Keilor East)

All in Favour **CARRIED**

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

Bank Balance as at 30 April 2023 $3,639.10

Investment Bank Balance as at 30 April 2023 $7,969.79

**MOVED:** Rosie Fredericks (Bulla). **SECONDED:** Sandra Desmier (Hadfield)

All in Favour **CARRIED**

**SECRETARIES REPORT / MATCH & PERMIT REPORT:**

* Team Entry cards for Spring 2023 season to be collected by all delegates in attendance at this meeting. Those clubs without any representatives here today will have the cards mailed to them. Team entry cards to be returned at next Delegates meeting (19 June) or mailed to Match & Permit Chair (Alma Henshall – 7 Downes Street, Strathmore, 3041) BEFORE 19 June.
* NSLTA Secretary (Kay Ehrenberg) will be away from 24/5 to 8/7, with no access to email/text. Assistant Secretary (Carole Houston) will be acting Secretary during her absence. Please continue to direct all correspondence to the official email account nsltasecretary@outlook.com which Carole will be monitoring.
* Important Dates:
	+ Monday 19 June: Return of Team Entry Cards at next Delegates Meeting.
	+ Monday 17 July: AGM (including Special Business).
	+ Thursday 20 July: Spring 2023 season commences.
* Reminder to all teams to arrive at match venues on Thursdays in time for hit-up to commence by 10am.
* Two rounds of Home and Away matches still be completed. Good luck to all teams who will be participating in Finals that will commence in a fortnights time.

**FINES**

**Walkovers**:

Airport West – Section 5. Mar 23 to St Monicas

Corpus Christi – Section 2. May 11 to Essendon

Doutta Galla – Section 3. Mar 23 to Bulla

Essendon – Section 2. Mar 23 to Hume

Maribyrnong Park – Section 1. Apr 27 to West Brunswick

OLN – Section 2. Apr 27 to Sunbury

West Brunswick – Section 1. Mar 23 to Essendon

Sunbury – Section 2. Mar 30 to Hadfield

Hume – Section 2. Mar 30 to Buckley Park

**Team withdrawal**:

Oak Park – Section 1

**MOVED:** Kay Ehrenberg (Rosamond). **SECONDED:** Helen Moses (Avondale Heights)

All in Favour **CARRIED**

**NSTA REPORT: Gail Riddell**

* Meeting conducted last Monday.
* All finals now completed, and currently on a break between seasons.
* Dates for next season are still to be confirmed.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

* M&P Committee recommends that 2 motions to update By-Laws be voted on as part of Special Business at July’s AGM to:
	+ officially include Pool Player concept (which is currently only documented on the NSLTA website).
	+ officially alter the Finals for 8 team sections to be a two (2) week format (which has been implemented on a trial basis for the past few seasons).

There was a general consensus among Delegates for putting this to a vote at the AGM. ***Documentation of these 2 proposed Motions will be issued in late June to all Club Secretaries in conjunction with the AGM Notice.***

* Discussion on playing format for future, based on correspondence from Elaine Williamson (Sunbury) and Rosie Fredericks (Bulla Section 3).

***All Delegates were in favour of ANY changes to the playing format which are passed at July’s AGM applying to seasons starting from Autumn 2024.***

* + Idea #1: Reduce number of players per team per match from five (5) to four (4).

This means there will be a total of only 6 sets played in a match, with each person playing 3 sets each.

12 delegates present indicated they were in favour of the concept. Supporting reasons: players wanting fewer sets per match; trouble finding sufficient players due to holidays/injuries leading to walkovers; not enough emergencies/pool players to cover gaps.

Concerns: lack of fifth player to babysit grand/children present; some people want to keep playing the same amount of tennis each match.

***This idea will be documented as a proposed Motion for voting at the AGM in late June****.*

* + Idea #2: (Assuming that Idea #1 is carried at AGM) To increase length of each set from six (6) to eight (8) games.

Supporting reasons: compensates for the reduction in the number of sets played per person each week.

Concerns: every team member plays up to 15 games per set for 3 sets in a row without a break, which is difficult for older players.

It was suggested that some of the higher grade sections might want the longer 8 game sets, with lower grade sections staying with 6 game sets.

***The M&P Committee will investigate if the NSLTA website can handle this scenario, and report back at the next Delegates Meeting for further discussion on this idea.***

* + Idea #3: Allow players to be borrowed and play for other clubs/teams when not required by their own Club/team.

**The M&P Committee recommended that this idea NOT be implemented, due to concerns about its logistical administration.** Supporting reasons: currently not enough Pool players to meet demand; some other Melbourne tennis competitions use this concept.

Concerns: idea #1 above plus Pool Players might be sufficient to solve lack of players; Arranged Borrowing being cancelled at last minute if original club/team suddenly need their own player back; how will Captains know which registered players might be rostered out from another Club/Grade; how to prevent a club with more than one team in a given section from stacking stronger players into one of their teams to ensure wins.

***As this was the first time such an idea had been considered by the NSLTA, Club Delegates should share this idea with their teams for subsequent Delegate Meeting discussions.***

**MEETING CLOSED at 1:40 PM. NEXT MEETING on 19 June 2023 at 1pm**

**SIGNED: DATE:**