

AMERICAN PLATFORM TENNIS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE 1972 ANNUAL MEETING

The 39th Annual Meeting of the American Platform Tennis Association was held at the Princeton Club, New York City, at 6:30 p.m. on October 30, 1972.

The meeting was attended by 132 people.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Peter A. Thistle, President, welcomed members to the meeting. "The season has already gotten underway and I appreciate the interest shown by all you enthusiastic people attending our meeting this evening.

Each year we report about the expansion of Paddle Tennis, and it is no different this year for me to indicate that growth is occurring faster than anticipated. This is not only in the East, but in the North, South and West. The list of tournaments is ever-increasing. There have been public courts in Scarsdale for many years, and there are now public courts springing up in other areas.

It has been fascinating to be involved in the "fastest growing sport". In reading brochures of athletic facilities or community group-type ventures, Paddle Tennis has now become one of the attraction-getting facilities.

I should mention the accomplishment of some of our objectives and the pending objectives.

As you have read in the newsletter, the Equipment Committee has finalized and now has in operation inspection and approval of paddle courts in order to have the game continue to be played under uniform conditions. Bob Frothingham and his committee deserve recognition and compliments for this job.

We now have, in addition to clubs, memberships for individuals, and are extremely pleased with the return. The main difficulty here is spreading the word, which will be done in mailings to the clubs or through individuals in all areas in the forthcoming year.

During the coming year, we plan to revise the by-laws of the association.

I, personally, believe we have gone a long way. As you know, the Men's Nationals will be played in Cleveland this year, and the use of club's announcements of their tournaments, etc., sanctioning of tournaments, and the setting up of national rankings was accomplished for the first time this year.

Once again I request that all newsworthy items be forwarded to Brook Kindred so they can appear in our Newsletter. The formation of regional associations with mutual cooperation between APTA and the local associations is of utmost importance. I am sure when we have continued our efforts and the hard work of all of the committees, that the structure will be most helpful and have the approval of all devoted players.

You will understand the depth of our activities on your behalf as I now turn the meeting over to the Officers and Committee Chairmen for their reports. The amount of work performed by the Officers, members of the Executive Committee and the Regional Vice Presidents is most appreciated."

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Robert A. Brown, Secretary, reviewed the activities of the Secretary's office. "In pondering what to discuss this evening, I concluded that those of us involved in the administration of the game of platform tennis may tend to presume a knowledge on the part of members about our functions that doesn't really exist. So I will simply tell you a little about what the Secretary does.

Aside from preparing agenda and keeping minutes, the Secretary's office is the main communications interface between the association and the public. In the past year it is estimated that we received between 10 and 30 letters per week. That's about 1000 inquiries received and answered, more than double what it was a year ago. We have no set format or form letter that we use for replies. Each is individually treated according to the information desired. Inquiries do, however, tend to fall into the following broad categories:

- (1) Requests for literature or information on the game:
In reply to these requests, we provide background comments and answers to any specific questions; we forward a copy of the APTA booklet, a recent article and picture on the game, advise about availability of our film, APTA membership, and the availability of court plans and specifications and the two books on the game.
- (2) Courts: We offer plans and specifications for \$30 and a list of "recognized builders". As an indication of the growing interest in the sport, following is a record of plans and specifications sold for the last three seasons:

1969-70	-	60
1970-71	-	88
1971-72	-	191
- (3) Questions about specifications, such as types of building materials that can be used, type of deck surface, etc., are referred to the Equipment Chairman for reply.
- (4) Requests for information about platform tennis activity in a certain region from someone newly exposed to

the game. We are now regionally divided into ten regions and will, in reply to this request, advise the names of some nearby Member Clubs and individuals as well as the Regional Vice President for the vicinity.

In the area of publicity last season we saw an unprecedented number of articles on the game. Starting with an article in Dun's last fall, other articles appeared in American Home, Town and Country, The Wall Street Journal, and the New York Times (National Men's Doubles). We are often asked to provide information to the authors of these articles and sometimes review and comment on the articles in draft. We are also aware of other articles appearing in local newspapers in Pittsburg, Providence, Miami, White Plains, Harrison and the Chicago area.

Two statistical indications of the rate of growth of the game are the growing number of tournaments and the number of balls used. Our tournament schedule (copies available at the reception table) this year lists 43 tournaments, compared to 29 last year and 25 the year before. In a discussion with Barr Rubber Company, the only manufacturer of balls, we were advised that this year's production and sales of balls will be 35% over last year and that last year the increase was 100% over the previous year.

The rapid growth of the game is attributable to the increasing number of "newcomers" who are exposed to and are taken up by the game. With this in mind and in order to maintain the high level of sportsmanship and good conduct that is such an important part of "paddle", the APTA recently published a new booklet entitled "The Etiquette of Platform Paddle Tennis" (copies available at the reception table). This has been mailed to all members and has been well received. We have received subsequent requests for over 3,000 additional copies of the booklet. Although basically intended for the newcomer, we have received a number of requests from old timers as well, who apparently plan to give it to some of their close playing friends!

In summary, we are extending ourselves to be as helpful as possible and to acquaint people with platform tennis. We are increasing our publicity and therefore the public exposure of the game. It is interesting and stimulating to be a part of something that has the vitality and appeal that characterizes platform tennis."

TREASURER'S REPORT

Alan W. Peters, Treasurer, submitted the financial statement for the fiscal year November 1, 1971 - October 31, 1972, as follows:

AMERICAN PLATFORM TENNIS ASSOCIATIONANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTOctober 31, 1972REVENUE:

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Net Income</u>
Dues	\$ 7,447.85	\$ 132.00	\$ 7,315.85
Plans & Specs	5,355.00	18.20	5,336.80
Ties	673.50	895.00	(221.50)
Books	100.25	129.05	(28.80)
Interest	594.49	---	594.49
Other	103.65	18.00	85.65
Totals	<u>\$14,274.74</u>	<u>\$ 1,192.25</u>	<u>\$13,082.49</u>

OPERATING EXPENSE:

Meetings, Entertainment, Publicity, etc. (a)	\$ 1,843.63
Printing, Mailing, Administration, Sec'y., etc. (b)	<u>4,649.54</u>
	<u>\$ 6,493.17</u>

NET OPERATING INCOME\$ 6,589.32TOURNAMENTS:

National Boys	\$ (54.44)
National Seniors & Veterans	(47.98)
National Men's	822.20
National Mixed	623.82
National Senior Women's	(118.82)
National Women's	<u>(91.73)</u>
	<u>\$ 1,133.05</u>

NET INCOME FOR YEAR\$ 7,722.37Note: (a) & (b) - See Notes to Financial Statements

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BALANCE SHEET

<u>Assets</u>	<u>10/31/71</u>	<u>10/31/72</u>
Checking Account	\$ 1,808.44	\$ 3,936.32
Savings Account	9,736.46	15,330.95
Total	\$ 11,544.90	\$ 19,267.27
Liabilities	None	None
Net Worth	\$ 11,544.90	\$ 19,267.27

CASH RECONCILIATION

November 1, 1971 Beginning Balance -	Checking Account	\$ 1,808.44
	Savings Account	9,736.46
		\$ 11,544.90
Add: Net Income 1971 - 72		7,722.37
		\$ 19,267.27
October 31, 1972 - Ending Balance -	Bankers Trust Co.	\$ 3,936.32
	Union Dime	
	Savings Bank	15,330.95
		\$ 19,267.27

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- a) Breakdown - Meetings, Entertainment, Publicity, etc.
- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Annual Meeting (Princeton Club) | \$ 1,224.71 |
| Travel (APTA & Regional VPs) | 293.23 |
| Awards | 181.13 |
| Other | 144.56 |
| | \$ 1,843.63 |
- b) Breakdown - Printing, Mailing, Secretarial, Phone, Administrative, etc.
- | | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Secretarial | \$ 1,136.73 |
| S-J-S Mimeograph Co. | 2,399.94 |
| Other | 1,112.87 |
| | \$ 4,649.54 |

TOURNAMENT ACTIVITIES

Mr. Richard C. Farr, Tournament Chairman, reported that tournament play in all APTA National tournaments and APTA sanctioned events was characterized by measurably increased competition from younger players and by players from other than the Eastern Seaboard. For the first time, a major event was won by a team from the West - Messrs. Clark and Dickenson from the Cleveland area. Tournament results for the season indicate greater intensity of competition during early rounds of tournaments than has been the case in the past. The 1971-72 season also saw four major tournaments postponed to some degree as a result of inclement weather.

At the conclusion of the season the Tournament Committee proposed the following rankings which were subsequently adopted by the Executive Committee of APTA.

MEN'S

1. Mangan - Kingsbury
2. Sammis - Gray
3. Drowne - Lowell
4. Beck - Fitz Gibbon
5. Russell - Squires
6. Dickenson - Clark
7. Chase - Miller
8. Ball - Benedict
9. Lankenau - Baird
10. Lowell - Kimberly

Tie
Tie
Tie

WOMEN'S

1. Hannas - Lee
2. DeBree - Dillenbeck
3. Babington - Cavanaugh
4. Bermingham - Jackson
5. Stanton - Perrine
6. Adams - Huber
7. Dickson - Reimund
8. Kauffman - Wasch
8. Hill - Wachenfeld
8. Cox - Wachenfeld

For the 1972-73 season the Tournament Committee has been enlarged numerically in an attempt to provide adequate attention to all aspects of tournament competition. Plans have been made for official APTA representation at all sanctioned tournaments. A system has been devised to ensure the prompt and accurate communication of tournament results. A program to achieve a higher degree of consistency and uniformity in the preparation of the draw for all sanctioned tournaments is being instituted.

The tournament schedule for the 1972-73 season has been finalized and sites for all tournaments have been set. A significant addition to the tournament schedule for the forthcoming season is a new National APTA Tournament for men 45 years of age or over. The Hartford Golf Club will host this event which promises to be one of the most popular and most competitive of the National tournaments.

Mrs. Charles C. Stanton, Tournament Co-Chairman, thanked all the Chairmen of the Women's tournaments: Dodo Parry, Joey Pierson, Priscilla Hawkins, Dottie Chapin, Liz Woods and Audrey Moncrieff.

The Detroit Women's Tournament, originally scheduled for November 18-19, 1972, has been cancelled due to their change in schedule. The National Women's will start on Tuesday, February 27, 1973 and will be held at the Field Club of Greenwich.

Administration of Women's activities will be strengthened by the addition of a committee and a Co-Chairman.

HONOR AWARDS

Brook Kindred, Vice President Honor Awards, "....."

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

Comments on regional activities were given by the following Regional Vice Presidents:

Eldridge Bermingham - Western Pennsylvania
William Cartier (for Charles Lockwood) - Northern New England
Carrington Clark - Mid-West
George Dartt - Long Island
Amby Hardwick (for George Ball) - New Jersey
Michael Kenefick - Western New York
Edward Prince (for Dick West) - Middle Atlantic

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Mr. Paul G. Sullivan, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, whose other members were Charles Baird, Paul Molloy, Edmund Swanberg, nominated the following slate of officers for the 1972-73 season:

President	Peter A. Thistle
Secretary	Robert A. Brown
Treasurer	Alan W. Peters
Tournaments	Richard C. Farr
	Mrs. Charles C. Stanton
	Mrs. Joseph E. Cox, Jr.
V.P. Honor Awards	G. Estabrook Kindred
Equipment	Robert Frothingham

Regional Vice Presidents:

New England	Charles Lockwood
Western New York	Michael Kenefick
Long Island	A. George Dartt
Western Pennsylvania	Neil Van Horne
New Jersey	Amby Hardwick
Mid-Atlantic	Edward M. Prince
Mid-West	Carrington Clark
Illinois & environs	Richard Hornigold

The nominations were seconded and unanimously elected.

Peter Thistle acknowledged the presence at the meeting of the following past Presidents of the Association:

Walter H. Close
Paul C. Molloy
Will J. Price
Paul G. Sullivan
Edmund R. Swanberg
Kenneth Ward
Donald M. White

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert A. Brown, Secretary