

## **Coordination Meeting: 5/8/25, 4:00 - 5:00, Location: Zoom**

### **Agenda:**

**...Organization/Announcements: Greg**

**...Finance: Priscilla**

**...Post Season Coordinator**

**...Strategic Off Site (SOS) Meeting Update: Greg**

**Questions & Opens**

**Next Meeting: 6/12/25 4:00p**

**Prize Drawing**

## **Quick recap (From Zoom)**

The meeting covered various organizational updates, including new team members, vendor changes, and the creation of a new coordinator role. Financial matters were discussed, with a positive outlook reported and budget planning initiated. The group also addressed strategic initiatives, player rating systems, and challenges related to team splits and substitutions, concluding with discussions on the appeals process and improvements to player connectivity programs.

## **Next steps**

- Carol/Appeals Committee: Review and process appeals with more leniency for players appealing to move up
- Carol & Scot: Lead the working group focused on Metro and 4.5+ activities across regions
- Priscilla & Rules Committee: Review and update rules, including the potential new rule about requiring new balls for home team matches
- Carol & Tom: Calculate and determine the amount owed to/from Surprise venue for court rentals before fiscal year end
- Jan H.: Reach out to regional directors to share and get feedback on the roles and responsibilities document for post-season coordination
- Greg schedule a budget kickoff meeting with the RDs
- RDs: Coordinate budget input with your team
- Alexa/Greg: Generate and internally share a player ratings report by region on the internal resources page, showing distribution across different skill levels
- Linda/Jill/Elise: Complete the development of new PSAT program format and form for free agent player networking

## **Summary**

### **New Team Members and Vendor**

RDs shared information about new team members, including JT Westling in Chuck's region and Tracy Willis in Carol's region. Greg announced a switch in vendors from Boss Teez to Pickle High, a company with a local contact that showed enthusiasm for APPL at the State Championship. Pickle High will also help with social media presence and branding.

### **New Coordinator Role for Postseason**

Greg announced the creation of a new coordinator role to manage the transition from regular season to postseason and State Championship activities. Jan Harding will assume this responsibility, serving as a single point of contact

for teams and improving communication. The role will involve coordinating with regional directors and league coordinators, starting around March 1st, to ensure all teams are informed about postseason events and to assist with State Championship planning. Jan will work with the RD/LCs to clarify the transition process and roles.

## **Financial Update and Budget Planning**

Priscilla provided a financial update, noting that the organization is in good shape. She reported that expenses for regional and state championships are close to budget, with some regions underspending their allocated funds. The bookkeeper costs are slightly over budget due to increased responsibilities. Priscilla encouraged regions to spend their allocated funds and mentions that the organization's bottom line is better than expected. She also announces that budget planning for the next year will begin soon and requested input on new budget items.

## **Pickleball Strategy and Venue Updates**

Greg provided an update on various working groups and initiatives following a recent strategic offsite meeting. The group is focusing on continuing the 18+ (now called "open age") and 2.5 categories, while aiming to strengthen the 4.5 and above categories. They are exploring partnerships with Center Court and developing marketing strategies to attract more players. Priscilla is leading the rules committee to clarify and update policies, including a potential change to require captains to bring new balls to home matches. The group is also working on venue strategies, particularly for indoor venues.

## **APPL Index System Discussion**

The group discussed the implementation of the APPL index system and its impact on player ratings. Steve E. reported that in the East Valley 65+ division, many higher skilled players are being moved down due to the impact of playing against younger players in 2024. Jan H. mentions that most player's APPL indexes in TVR were accurate. Some having difficulty locating them on the website. The discussion also touched on the effects of merged flights and mixed-age play on player ratings. Greg's opinion is "no more merging flights anywhere". This will get further discussion at the Exec Committee.

## **Appeals Process and Player Ratings**

The group discussed the appeals process and agrees that playing down will be rare. Carol suggests taking regional action to reduce angst and workload for the appeals committee. Jan requested access to player ratings data by region to better understand team formation possibilities. Greg confirmed this data is available but emphasizes its confidentiality. Linda mentions ongoing improvements to the PSAT program to help free agents connect and form teams.

The meeting concluded with a raffle, won by Jill Robinson.