



2024 APTUA Annual Meeting

Jan. 7, 2024, online

Attendees

Aaron Harris, Adam Dalton, Charles Nunn, Darren Potkey, Darren Potkey's Presentation, David Fisher, Eva Marie McCravy, ITA Officiating Department, Joe Chaffee, Kris Dee, P Zenoni, Pat Kirkpatrick, Roger Watson, Ron Cioffi, Ron Cioffi's Presentation, Sara Ghazi Asadollahi, Shaneji Ward, Tatia Neal, Val Walker, Wilson Smith

Transcript

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Charles Nunn: up here

Ron Cioffi: At least recording the meeting. Give everybody about. A minute and then we can start the meeting based on the members we have in attendance.

Charles Nunn: but you can hear

Ron Cioffi: Because all we're going to do at the beginning is say here's the agenda and let's talk about it.

Charles Nunn: Get it.

Ron Cioffi: So give us a little time to see...

Charles Nunn: Is it that?

Ron Cioffi: if we can get any more people in here.

Eva Marie McCravy: you want to About David David would be hard to send a quick email with the link again. or just reminder

Ron Cioffi: That's a great idea.

David Fisher: No. No, I could do that. Who do you want me to send it to?

Eva Marie McCravy: Just a membership.

David Fisher: To all the members.

Ron Cioffi: Members, yeah. Yeah. Yeah, they're all invited and Darren Parkey. Thank you for joining us Darren as usual. doing more than Then one would thank you so much for doing our kahoot, and we'll talk about that a little bit later.

Ron Cioffi: All right, we've already started recording. So what I'm going to do is let Davidson had another email reminding people that the meeting has started. And I'm gonna at least bring up our screen. for my screen

Ron Cioffi: and we're starting to 2004 at the annual meeting. January 7 2024 from six to eight pm. We're doing it virtually and listed up. There is the meeting link that we're using for our meeting.

Ron Cioffi: All right, pay your dues.

Ron Cioffi: If you're in this meeting, you're a painter Deuce. We like to think if you're in the meeting and you haven't please go directly to go and pay your \$200 and funny money, or \$40 for your app to reduce reminder. Hi Val. How you doing?

Ron Cioffi: Great to have you on here for people that don't know Val Walker. She's one of our former presidents and a very esteemed member of the afternoon that

Ron Cioffi: nice headphones Val

Ron Cioffi: so I just want to bring up the reminder of paying you do this because if you don't pay your dues, you will not get. 2024 assignments one of the ways that we keep an eye on that when Aaron and John take care of Staffing they will make sure that you're a member if we need you and you're not a member we can talk. Very often if that happens. We don't like it. But if that happens, we will occasionally deduct your membership from your first pay.

Ron Cioffi: All right, just so everybody knows who? This is our board and staff. Some of people are on and some are and I'll talk about that. I'm happy to be your president. My name is Ron cioffi, and I am moving into we'll be the last year of four years at the helm. Hi, Roger Watson. Thank you for joining us Roger. We're just getting started.

Ron Cioffi: Also on the call our vice president Tasha. Do you want to she's vacationing. So you can all see Tasha. She might not turn on her Mike and wave and say hi, but she's on the call with Our Treasures Zenoni He Is We want to say hi Phil? If you want to get off mute.

P Zenoni:

Ron Cioffi: There he is. Our treasure you can see is David Fisher. Our director Staffing is John Hickson, John is working and sharing right now and so is Aaron Harris Our other director is Miller Wayne is in the process of retiring from running the Harrison tennis center. And I know that he was supposed to retire by now, but he's gonna stay on for about a month a little longer but he's transitioning out of working here and living here in Georgia. And our past presence on are very dedicated past president even Marie mccravy.

00:05:00

Eva Marie McCravy: Hi.

Ron Cioffi: Also, everybody probably knows even Marie from her position as director of competition for your state Georgia, and it's proof of it. She's wearing the T-shirt, right? So just in case we forget that and I'm also wearing my usj Southern apparel, too. Our bookkeeper is Linda Edmonds. She is also the USA Georgia chair officials and she won't be able to join us tonight and our staffing a signer is Harris he has that role not only is a director but our staffing signer as we mentioned on the right side. Our board are all volunteers our staff is paid.

Ron Cioffi: But not very much. I'm always hope we can give them a little bit more money. But that Staffing fee just comes directly as the extra amount that we charge our clients.

Ron Cioffi: After.org is our website. I just want to bring it up for a new members. I know everybody's been there. But just a reminder that that's our resource for our pain dues are training documents on here are a list of clients previous and current And other information in the officials corner.

Ron Cioffi: the agenda

Ron Cioffi: I'll go over quickly the call to order. we started that earlier David Fisher's going to go over our minutes. We have a treasury report from Phil that is a number of documents Staffing director. John Hickson will be able to read out through that. I'll take care of that. Sharon Wright is our new training coordinator and hopefully we'll join us for a brief overview our marketing chair That's me presidents report again. You're stuck listening to me our board quiz. Results in prizes Darren's going to run that on a online service called kahoot that there will be three prizes that we will tell you about a little bit later.

Ron Cioffi: And that is personal information about the board members. So the board won't be able to win those prizes. I plan to have Anthony Montero the ITA jail Council and director of officiating join us around seven eight seven PM then we'll talk about the awards for 2023. We'll talk about the nomination and election of the board positions and put out a call for volunteers to be on our nominating committee for next year and then any questions comments before we adjourn as I put up in the right hand corner promise to finish in two hours.

Roger Watson: my God

Ron Cioffi: Treasures report. Okay, I've got one listed here. One I'm going to do is if Phil is ready. I am going to go and present a different screen.

P Zenoni: just

Eva Marie McCravy: Hey Ron Hey on the agenda you had to approve the minutes first.

Ron Cioffi: Yeah.

Ron Cioffi: That's Okay, so my bad on that let's take care of that. I know we'll call it David to do that and I will again stop presenting here.

00:10:00

Ron Cioffi: growing up

Ron Cioffi: Let's see.

Ron Cioffi: Here we are. David see that.

David Fisher: I guess I had it in front of me as well. So Okay,...

Ron Cioffi: Okay good.

David Fisher: our annual meeting last year was on January 8th, the most important part of the whole meeting was the first bullet point which was launch, of course from noon to 12:50. We called to order at 12:50. Also, you see our attendees and we had a few members present Linda Mel Don Edward and Daniela the treasures report was given by feels zenoni Staffing report by John training report was given by Ron the president's Ron speaking about the new rate increases for all of our officials. There was a special Portman by Linda Edmonds the Georgia chairman of officials updated the members that were present about the new recertification process, which everybody loves.

David Fisher: The game quiz results was Daniela Monaco won first place in Mel Burgess one second place award presentation's were official of the year was Darren potkey graduations there mentor of the Year. John Hickson Rookie of the Year, Daniela Monaco. There was a motion by Eva Marie to accept the new nominating Committee of Eva Marie mcCravy Darren potkey Adam Dalton and Joe Chaffee that was seconded by Don Bradley and approved the emotion to adjourn by Ron and second by Eva Maria proved adjourned at 2 pm. Minutes are done.

P Zenoni: Good.

Ron Cioffi: Do I have emotion from any of the members to accept the minutes as read?

Eva Marie McCravy: I make a motion to accept the minutes as read.

Ron Cioffi: Do I hear a second?

P Zenoni: second

Ron Cioffi: all in favor

Eva Marie McCravy: I

Ron Cioffi: opposing a please

Ron Cioffi: Motion passes minutes are accepted. Thank you so much.

Ron Cioffi: All So let's go right to the treasures report. And we'll start with is the balance sheet what you want to talk about first Phil.

P Zenoni: That'll work.

Ron Cioffi: Okay, we've got the balance sheet up on here.

Ron Cioffi: I'm going to make it a little smaller and maybe if everybody can see it. That's the entire balance sheet. Is that legible enough for everyone?

Ron Cioffi: Good.

P Zenoni: Okay real quick our Assets in the checking account.

Ron Cioffi: Go ahead Phil.

P Zenoni: We got a little over 28,000 and our PayPal account 1700 we have 29,88 total. Bank accounts a country receivable. We have a little over I guess almost 9,000. We're still trying to collect from a few of the colleges. And I believe also was something with the HBCU which we're trying to get all worked out.

P Zenoni: So our total current assets or 38,696. Liabilities. We have none. We've paid all our bills, we had an opening balance at 31,876 retained earnings 6900 so our total Equity is 38,696.

Ron Cioffi: excellent

P Zenoni: English about that

Ron Cioffi: any questions for Phil?

Eva Marie McCravy: Darren has a question.

Darren Potkey: Yeah, Thanks for presenting this. What issues are we having with HBCU? And the reason why I say that is because UST Georgia actually paid some of that bill. Are we still haven't paid it?

P Zenoni: Yeah, and so did USDA Southern but it's from what I am being told it came out and what you paid and what USTA Southern paid came out to about 5,000 and we're still trying to figure out how we're getting another 1500. Is that correct, Ron?

Ron Cioffi: Right. Yeah.

Darren Potkey: Okay.

Ron Cioffi: I'm working with USA national USDA Southern is this the organization that helped facilitate the request for officials so that 2500 so far is come from USTA National and the expectation is that they're going to pay the balance of that though. They might be reaching out to HBCU to contribute to that cost basically...

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Darren Potkey: out

Ron Cioffi: because of rain and

Ron Cioffi: through day being added because of that rain the estimate was And too low and so that to certain degree. There's a little sticker shot going on, but we're going to get that worked out.

Darren Potkey: Okay, thank you. Yeah, just because we contributed to that and I'm disappointed.

Ron Cioffi: I know, right?

Darren Potkey: It hasn't been taken care of yet. It just add that to another thing.

Ron Cioffi: right

Darren Potkey: That's a problem with that tournament. So

Ron Cioffi: Yes, I agree.

P Zenoni: Yeah, I think you guys do mourn your share Darren. Thanks,

Ron Cioffi: Round of Applause for you, Darren and Eva Marie and Ashley Georgia for basically splitting a tournament that I know they're happy to have in Georgia. But really that's a well above and beyond the contribution that we would expect. So thank you to both of you.

Ron Cioffi: All right, should we go on to the profit and loss for the year.

P Zenoni: Yep.

Ron Cioffi: All right. I am going to reduce it again in the idea of we'll be able to see all. Okay.

P Zenoni: okay, we have some 23 dues and we also have some 24 dues. I'll just real quick. The ITA income was 83,000 which is up significantly from last year's. Our USTA income was 45,000, which is a good bit down from last year. So we did fewer junior tournaments than we have in the past. We did the it.

P Zenoni: F income was seven thousand dollars then if you go down to our expenses, we have a bookkeeper Linda that may 2400 our staffing coordinator, Aaron May 1900 and then as you go down you see our little this that and the others and then we have an insurance bill, which is 1653 which is a big expense, but it all adds up that we

P Zenoni: Had 139,490. 459

P Zenoni: and when it was all said and done I think up to a lost 96 dollars last year and one of the things I don't know Ron was gonna talk about this later, but we are increasing our staffing fee, which hopefully will bring in somewhere around 3500 dollars next year which Auto make sure we're not losing a little bit of money, but we did lose 96 dollars likes here. In questions about any of that.

P Zenoni: I will attempt to answer.

Ron Cioffi: Okay, great. I can bring also, one of the things for our new members are parlance or our way of talking about income is what we get from our clients in those areas. So the IGA income, We're getting it from college and universities. The ITF income is not from The ITF that is from the tournament we did that was an ITF tournament as opposed to another type of tournament and then the usja come means a USGA type tournament Juniors adults Etc again, not from the organization, but from the tournament that we are Staffing. Okay.

Ron Cioffi: I'm going to go on to the next one which is the profit and loss that compares the two years. Give me a second to go back over there.

David Fisher: Hey, Ron, can I interrupt you a minute? I'm having some people say that they can't get on...

Ron Cioffi: Yes, sir.

David Fisher: because the file. Won't open for them and Dropbox. Is there another link that we can? Hook everybody up with on this thing.

Ron Cioffi: Let's see.

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Ron Cioffi: Okay, the link is the one that right here, which I am going. Let me I can do something right here.

Val Walker: David do you know trying to access it via desktop or cell

David Fisher: I don't know. They just said they tried to open it up and Dropbox and it wouldn't open for them. So.

Ron Cioffi: Dropbox wouldn't be the place. You would go to a regular browser. so the

David Fisher: but the link takes you to Dropbox that you put in the agenda it takes you to

Tatia Neal: It does and once you get there the Google meet link is there so we probably just need to send a Google link.

David Fisher: Yeah.

Ron Cioffi: Okay.

Ron Cioffi: and is there people that I can send a link to by text?

David Fisher: the only person that responded to me was shaneji Ward who was trying to get on so

Ron Cioffi: Okay.

Eva Marie McCravy: I just sent her the link.

Ron Cioffi: Okay, great.

Ron Cioffi: Yeah, I want to.

Ron Cioffi: apologize about I know on one of the first invitation was linked to a kind of a drop a Microsoft link his first time that happened to me. I think it was something that Microsoft changed and then I figured out that okay, so that unfortunately went out in a weird way, so hopefully Sanjay can get in. All right, so let's go back to

Ron Cioffi: our

Ron Cioffi: Etsy profit and loss for The entire year all at two years combined. I will again make that a little bit smaller. If it's too small. Let me know.

Ron Cioffi: So that this runs over a couple pages and if you want we'll feel what I can do is just go from the top and then scroll down. How's that sound? Okay.

P Zenoni: That's fine with me. comparing life Shear in this past year, as I said it income went from 67,000 in 22 to 83,000. So we had a nice increase in Income. ITF is basically the same and where we drop down was on USTA income. We had 61,000 and 22 and only had 45,000 and 23. so that was a big decrease, virtually everything is the same there were some bumps up.

P Zenoni: I know that Linda had said something about QuickBooks was getting more expensive and I think Arbiter is going up some also. So those things went up a yearly meeting this will be something that's when I went out because we actually had one last year and the board meetings actually went down just a little bit. But for the most part everything stayed pretty similar with the exception of the ITA income going up in the USTA income going down.

P Zenoni: You want to add anything to that Ron or?

Ron Cioffi: no, I think that covers it in that we have a pause. I want to welcome Sanjay Ward and Sara.

Ron Cioffi: 11 second and thanks for joining us in for the meeting. Okay, let's go on. bill

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P Zenoni: A lot of that's about has it.

Ron Cioffi: Okay, nothing down here at the bottom that we need to go over. Okay, but as you mentioned and...

P Zenoni: Not really not.

Ron Cioffi: is the idea that we are looking at how we make sure that we're not losing money any year. Obviously, we have a good amount of 38,000 in reserves, but that reserves is not to be chipped away on a yearly basis. And we hope okay.

Ron Cioffi: anything else any questions we have for Phil or anybody on the board about our p&l

Ron Cioffi: Okay. right

Ron Cioffi: so I'm gonna go back to our presentation

Ron Cioffi: and let's Let me go through it. So I went up to the front and I want to do that board and staff we talked about. the website

Ron Cioffi: in the next thing on the agenda after Treasures report is Staffing report.

Ron Cioffi: And are standing director John Hickson and Staffing a sign of Aaron Harris. They are both in the chair today. They knew that it might be tight, but they I know both are still working. So they've asked me to provide the Staffing report and the poor thing about the Staffing report Phil is addressed with the idea of a lot Unfortunately less junior tournaments and That's obviously a concern that we have and we'll talk a little bit more about what direction we're going to hopefully we fix that. So some of the highlights this year Staffing and we did.

Ron Cioffi: Three college conference tournaments. We did the USA South up in Rome. We did Peach Belt tennis conference in Columbus State and that Columbus close State campus. courts and the SAA Conference tournament up in Chattanooga As we have done the numerous years before the girls twelves

National Championship. We did that a lifetime. It's a USA national level one and the Atlanta Junior ITF that we also did a lifetime. It's ITA opportunity to grade four.

Ron Cioffi: both those tournaments have a good number of chairs, especially the girls 12 and gives us an opportunity not only for us to do shares but also start to give our new officials who want to share on the road to doing some Junior chairs, which is usually the first step before you get in the chair for a college match. And then the Staffing totals USDA events 39 games which basically means 39 events with 220 slots.

Ron Cioffi: ITA College events 169 games and 338 slots how many people actually worked and the miscellaneous 21 games 42 slots probably. It might be some high school. We've done some high school previously, even though at this point for high schools. We are just passing along the request to our officials in letting them handle on their own. We've found working with the high schools. a little bit more difficult than colleges for collecting and trust me colleges at times are a bit of a hassle too because

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Ron Cioffi: you're not always working with the coach. You're very often working with the financial department. So overall we had 229 games with 600 slots. What you think is it is a very strong number especially growing in colleges. Other takeaways we have the seven active members. 49 ITA certified members eight new certified officials 20% increase over the last year and one new event, which was the SAA Conference tournament. Have any questions about the Staffing report? I'll do my best to answer it.

Ron Cioffi: All I do want to have a chance to maybe get a high in a way from our two latest people jumping in here. That would be Shanae also knows Jay Ward and As though I mean the butcher your name, sorry Sara good to have you in if you want to come off you and wait, you're more than happy to.

Shaneji Ward: Hello everyone. It's Shawn Jay or Jay.

Ron Cioffi: Hi Shawn, Jake. Thanks for joining us good to have you in the call. excellent

Sara Ghazi Asadollahi: Hi everyone. This is also ra. Sorry for being late. Yeah, some kind of issue with finding the link. But thank David for sending me

Ron Cioffi: Thank David. Definitely good to see you again, Sara.

Ron Cioffi: Okay, so let's go back to our agenda and our marketing chair report, that is me and also

Ron Cioffi: Roger Watson is on the committee, and so Roger

Ron Cioffi: anything you'd like to say. They are.

Roger Watson: not Ron in honestly, you did most of the work so I don't want to usurp anything. You're gonna say here. up I'll pick up the metal for next year Ron,...

Ron Cioffi: I appreciate that. That would be great.

Roger Watson: but this year I was pretty inactive.

Ron Cioffi: So yeah, we weren't very active and I'll take responsibility for that and I think the best goal that we have is to have Roger and Don Bradley who most of take over as co-chairs of that committee. We

considered very important. But the great thing is we did have 13 members and we added Columbus State as a client and we staff this dream conference championships. So we feel like we're growing in that area.

Ron Cioffi: The report though is that we really want to focus on how we can convince tournament directors in the Atlanta area to use us as opposed to doing their own Staffing and that's something I know Don and Roger talked about and done this particularly focused on getting out there basically and selling in a little convincing. about the fact that we have well-trained officials we have

Ron Cioffi: excellent Financial situations where we save the money by handling taxes and the pay all the things that we do as volunteers and also our staff to make it easy for tournament director to do. That part of their job and so it's our hope that we get back to doing a little bit more.

Ron Cioffi: Junior tournaments and mostly not only because that'd be great work for everybody. But we all know that that's not on the most amount of work that you can have but more importantly the entryway for most officials to begin their career is to Make sure that we have enough.

Ron Cioffi: We have enough junior tournaments. I've got somebody waiting to be admitted.

00:35:00

Ron Cioffi: Let's see.

Ron Cioffi: Adam Dalton, hi, Great Adam carriers

Ron Cioffi: Adam has a poor position and In his work as a staff or USDA Southern he's also the liaison to the southern officials committee and works a lot College work. He's had earned a badge on top rate officials. So Adam, it's good to have you in the call.

Ron Cioffi: Bring all You're welcome. All right, so

Ron Cioffi: Gonna go to the president's week unless they had questions the presence report. You might see something a little different at the top, right? We've come up with a new logo. We believe is cleaner more modern and technically more precise than the old logo. So this is what the balls of roof. It keeps the same colors as the previous logo. We believe it has a really nice impact and we'll set us apart, especially when you consider the old-fashioned circle logo, you only ever see any of those anymore pretty much in any new designs.

Ron Cioffi: Let me talk about some other things in the presence report. because last year we wanted to have a party and covid still got in the way of that but we aren't. Going to plan a June party with tennis food and games a Monday June 17th is our tentative date in Harrison, Tennessee Marietta, but a poll will go out about the best day and time as we get a little closer, but that's what we're thinking about doing. The reason for that is we're saving a lot of money by not having this meeting in person. and secondly, we want to have a

Ron Cioffi: a party or a gathering where we can strengthen our community talk some tennis talk some officiating but hopefully enjoy each other's company and play some tennis and maybe some other games and do something that get us away from Worrying about went Did you put in the single sticks? And did you put them in right and what's the best way to decide when to code somebody and we're not so we're looking forward to doing that.

Ron Cioffi: More training virtually on a regular basis. We do have a new training director extremely experienced and now it's Official Sharon Wright. Most of you hopefully no Sharon, and she was hoping to be able to jump in for the meeting and talk a little bit about what we're talking about, but I'll give you An overview, we just have a meeting a member. Calling all the way in from South Carolina Wilson Smith. How you doing Wilson?

Ron Cioffi: All right, so he's on you right now, but when it's great to see him and know we have somebody that expands us out of Georgia Eastern, South Carolina. All right, so let's go back to presentation's report rates. We increased. ITA rates

Ron Cioffi: last year, we decided the whole steady this year with the expected increase of rates for 2024 to 25. the board also made the same decision about USGA that we voted higher rates in September 2022, but Health steady this year, we expect increased rates in 2025. Our rates are still higher than most of what people are getting paid around Georgia, and we also identify especially in the college realm that we could go up even higher when we compare ourselves to some of the fees that we see in the surrounding states. Also going to increase our staffing fees. And the reason for that is that's not the fee that doesn't come out of the pay you get. It's just the paid a recharge our

00:40:00

Ron Cioffi: our clients and the reason we want to do that is to make sure that we're not running so tight. When it comes to our budget at the end of the year and I think you saw that when we went over the p&l, is that where either what? Lost a little bit of money last year and we didn't even have a meeting which can cost us up to two thousand dollars. let's say 1200 and so we realized that we need to strengthen our financial position with increasing the Staffing rates.

Ron Cioffi: Some of the member accomplishments we had this is a short list. I'm leaving out. A lot of people that I shouldn't but Linda Edmonds. It's a Georgia Fisher of the year and attended its Center of Excellence for chairs. The ITA cup Eva, Marie and Cheryl Helton attend a USGA serve Excellence for Danielle Monaco attended to chairs for Center of Excellence. Aaron Harris worth the Orange Bowl and a number of other high-level College. I think the ACC Championships. We also had a number of people.

Ron Cioffi: She also did the HBCU championships here in Georgia? That was chaired by quinterra Moore. We got Aaron. And we pull yeah the chair what?

Ron Cioffi: Aaron He might be still on you good to have you in the meeting Aaron. We've already done the Staffing report. And if there's anything that you feel like you want to go over we can do right after I finish with the president's report. All right. And just mentioned your compost for the year. expanded training in with an emphasis on chairs and roving every year we have done a

Ron Cioffi: a line training with the run-up tournament to the Atlanta open There's two reasons why we don't think that's very effective and that is one. the number of chairs is Obviously going down as we have more electronic line calling as some of you may know. The ATP is decided that after next year all matches will be shared electron not shared but line call will be electronic and his second reason is the land opens going away after this year. And so

Ron Cioffi: the easiest and best place to do line training is at the land open, but we also know that what we want to do is really focus on roving and chairs and share right? It's going to take on that responsibility

to be the coordinator for that. Also, we've started discussions and looking for comments about the idea of doing a

Ron Cioffi: Kind of Roundtable any calling? That we could do on a Monday evening, maybe once a month maybe twice a month where we can just have a discussion about officiating and that would be something that Sharon.

Ron Cioffi: if you have where that there could be a discussion that would helpfully clarify some. Situations go over the question of should that be a code. Should I warn the person again?

Ron Cioffi: How do I address a coach when they won't stop arguing any of those things? So that's something we are considering and obviously we're looking for input on that. also we have some of the officials we know or members who retiring Ron Frasier sent you about Geo and Edgar fenegra. But I'm sure I'm missing some there, too.

00:45:00

Ron Cioffi: Val you on the call Can you meet yourself?

Val Walker: I am here.

Ron Cioffi: Here you are. Okay, so One thing that we couldn't go by without mentioning. Naughty Snips. So now if you want to talk a little bit about naughty.

Val Walker: Okay, for those of you...

Ron Cioffi: We'd appreciate it.

Val Walker: who didn't know. Just the Norton Smith.

Val Walker: He was one of you no matter that started. after

Val Walker: it's and wellness and If you're not older sister, over the top chair and

Val Walker: inspection stops here. the one that got me into officiating nor was the schedule when I thought and there was no such thing as always over there what the software they had just come out. I had just retired from doing it for 32 years and her great Winston settled out. This is the job you can do because Nordy has been doing it on.

Val Walker: Microsoft questions I will be very hard job to keep up with history. and so Northern and I began our relationship that you and he walked me the process and Again, I guess for a number of years were exactly.

Val Walker: And every tournament that we had over there. a public lifetime nobody was a member of

Val Walker: Our club we always put the facilitator before to get courts and help us with anything that we need to do it. So I build a great relationship with them and it lasted for a lot of years his first one to get me on the football Court.

Val Walker: Just standing man always Always have a good deal that smile on that face right here the small it always had and it spent many good times together. So he will forever be loved by me and everybody. right

Val Walker: Thank you.

Ron Cioffi: Pick you out and I could have just mentioned that nor did pass away the age of 91 in November. And was somebody I do very well invited me to get involved in an app to a I know what annuit Final accomplishments was starting to play Pickleball and he did sign up for one of the early national championships in pickleball. Probably going back about six years and he was in the highest age bracket and the soul entrant and so naughty was very happy to report that he was a national pickleball champion. and did it with the smile and

Ron Cioffi: Self-invasing humor that he always had so we really miss somebody like this and it shows the progress of our association that unfortunately using people that started it won't be with us forever. So, thanks so much to Val for

Ron Cioffi: Joining So one of the things with the itae presentation, we're still waiting word from anti-montaro and haven't heard back from him and we've been in contact. So I hope to that will proceed with our Kahoot...

Darren Potkey: You tell me Anthony's late.

Ron Cioffi: if that's okay with Darren, and then when Anthony was ready.

Darren Potkey: what she

Ron Cioffi: He just might be. it's five minutes.

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Darren Potkey: Okay, okay.

Ron Cioffi: He's supposed to be at seven. why don't we go ahead with the kahoot and then if money when he calls in we can stop it or...

Darren Potkey: Full Speed Ahead, Ron

Ron Cioffi: do we have to

Ron Cioffi: I mean sure you refuse to stop it for Anthony.

Darren Potkey: Yeah, I mean Val's actually on it National Committee now,...

Ron Cioffi: Is that what you're telling me?

Darren Potkey: too. I'm sure she would agree. So let's

Val Walker: And you've been strong with you be?

Ron Cioffi: okay, why don't we do that and so

Darren Potkey: that's All right, he's gonna give me control.

Ron Cioffi: all So what I'm going to do is stop presenting and can you jump in Darren?

Darren Potkey: You need to give me a ability to show my screen.

Ron Cioffi: Hey, let me do that.

Darren Potkey: What are the prizes anyway Ron's handshake or Mercedes and there's cheaper?

Ron Cioffi: Something like that. Let's see.

Ron Cioffi: Here, let's see. Yeah.

Darren Potkey: Yes, the US Open of darts.

Ron Cioffi: You guys open? Yeah, it's coming out of the Southern jtt. Budget. Thank you so much. I will show you our prizes. The more important thing is to get this over to you. let's say

Eva Marie McCravy: And even though the board can't win we can still play right? Thank you.

Darren Potkey: Yeah, you're gonna there you go. Okay.

Ron Cioffi: All right, you're now a co-host? Okay, so let me go down a second here this Could Linda Edmonds helped out Darren and that's the kahoot and the price is ladies and gentlemen the first ever off the presses. And after the logo on a mug and don't all clap too loud at once. All right, Darren, you've got the floor.

Darren Potkey: Yeah, I still can't.

Ron Cioffi: against I like Joe Chaffee Joe good to have you in he is he No.

Darren Potkey: I still can't know.

Darren Potkey:

Ron Cioffi: He still can't do it.

Adam Dalton: Too They lost 49 to 14 today.

Ron Cioffi: Is there any way you can throw that link? Did they?

Darren Potkey: Yeah, parent their coach did something at the end too.

Ron Cioffi: Yeah,

Darren Potkey: That wasn't great. But everybody get the resume ready. They'll be an opening tomorrow.

Ron Cioffi: So Darren, can you throw that link? And can I run it or?

Darren Potkey: yeah, but I have to give you the admin side, but

Ron Cioffi: Because I've made you a cup, but you get there.

Ron Cioffi: Okay, Hold on a second.

Darren Potkey: that's it. Yeah, go with Anthony. We'll try to figure this out.

Ron Cioffi: I think we've got our guest here.

Ron Cioffi: That sounds good. All right, Anthony. Thank you for joining us.

Ron Cioffi: I'm going to go back here and say that we've got Anthony Montero. He is the director of officiating for the ITA and its general counsel. Anthony has been traveling. I think he's on the East Coast right now and if you

Ron Cioffi: Want to a mute yourself? We'll get you in.

Darren Potkey: Ron will Anthony does that I think I figured it out. So I think we're good.

Ron Cioffi: Okay, All right. Let's see.

Ron Cioffi: Anthony can you hear me? If you don't beat yourself a second to help me, but let me do this.

ITA Officiating Department: Is that better? Can you hear me now?

Ron Cioffi: Yes, we can. there you are. Fantastic. Thank you. Right on time. Appreciate it seven on the button.

ITA Officiating Department: No. I mean New York City. Yes.

Ron Cioffi: Where you calling from? Are you in New York? Good. All right.

Ron Cioffi: The floor is yours.

ITA Officiating Department: Okay, thank First and foremost. I want to thank Ron and after allowing me to speak today. I wanted to just kind of give a five minute kind of update it where we're at talk about a few major issues and then really just open it up to questions. I have been doing this across the country yesterday. I did it with the North Carolina Tennis umpires Association. I met with the big 10 the SEC my goal we may not agree. There may be topics where we'll have to, agree to disagree or there's but I hope that the very least that you will walk away saying that we were transparent and completely up front.

00:55:00

Ron Cioffi: Okay.

ITA Officiating Department: I think that we can obviously disagree on very important topics and there's more than one way to solve some of our problem, but hopefully, you can at least walk away saying okay, we were transparent on what we're doing so very

ITA Officiating Department: Quickly just an update on certification. I'm very happy to announce that we surpassed 1350 officials, which is over a 10% increase from last year, that is predominantly tied to both the recruitment incentives that we offered because believe it or not. They're about 20 officials that

recruited five or more new officials. So that is partly and then also just a result of some direct liaisoning with the USTA and working on some processes there so that I now get informed if John Smith becomes the USTA official I get an email 24 hours of that for every new US School official so that I can reach out to John Smith and very low-key casually just say hey congratulations on becoming a new USTA.

ITA Officiating Department: So if you are interested in college tennis, here's the process to become Collegiate certified. So even with our retirements and unfortunately our passings we have seen a 10% increase which is a really good. Our goal is five hundred and five years. So we really want to be somewhere in the 17 to 1800 range. at least we'll meet that in year one, but obviously the challenge will be year two. four and five

ITA Officiating Department: some takeaways that I'd ask for everyone related to that. tied to that growth is over 200 new ITA officials and we are doing a lot of things to try to keep them engaged. We're going to be having monthly meetings with them. We're kind of doing the pseudo mentorship program Etc. What I need from everyone in the group is just to remember what it was like when we were new right because I've already attended and it not you I want to be very clear but I've already attended National events or not or ITA events including a dual match that's already happened this January and the way that the referee or some other officials talk to the new officials in my mind. I didn't say it out loud, but I was thinking okay, we just lost one there. let's all just kind of remember what it was like to be new. They are gonna make mistakes.

ITA Officiating Department: Still going to ask dumb questions, but we just need to do our best to not perhaps reflect the system that we all grew up in us and not just shoot them down or you can correct people but let's not and obviously whatever your policies and procedures are you want to stick with those but let's try to do it in a positive way and not in a way that demeans.

ITA Officiating Department: They want or that leads to a public shaming Etc because we are not going to reach our goals of 700 to 800 officials. If we don't continue to maintain, about 200 new officials each year. We have pretty much tapped out the USTA certified officials who have been long time official where there's not a huge Market there of three or four hundred additional officials that we can recruit. So the vast majority of our growth going forward is going to be new official. Tied into that very quickly before I jump off of this topic is USDA certification. We had about 50 people who did not get the USTA certifications. the new requirements don't like the new requirements.

ITA Officiating Department: Pro-con indifferent you're a better job as a group of meeting the requirements. We waited over nine weeks, the ITA National officials committee whose several of them are on this call, it felt very strongly like we didn't want to do the USTA certification check a week after that was due November 1st. We didn't want to do it like November 7th. We wanted to give people and we gave them over nine weeks to resolve the problem get it fixed or appeal do whatever you need to do to get your USTA certification.

01:00:00

ITA Officiating Department: And so, we're working. we sent the email to 50 already 10 people have gotten their issue resolved that have been reinstated. So we're down to 40 officials about 3% of our officials who lost their temporarily suspended until their USDA certification is reinstated and while I'm on that topic once again in the interest of transparency, I get from Groups, why do we require the USTA certification? It's not necessary. we need to move away from it. I'm just being a hundred percent honest

and not knowing fully everyone who's on this call, but I'm just being honest. I think that's a losing battle. I think if you look at

ITA Officiating Department: how the ita's finances are and the funding that we're receiving and the amount of money. We're getting from the USDA. I just don't think that you're gonna ever see where the ITA could move to a position of saying that a USB certification is not required. I'm just being honest. I understand people have very strong views on that but my advice would be let's focus our energies on For example a new thing coming out next year.

ITA Officiating Department: Your ita's certification webinar will count as your two hours of tennis knowledge training. So that's where I think that we can make some improvements. We can use our leverage and our relationships to get some improvements in what we're able to get more value out of that USTA membership. I really think you're being done to Jose and spacing a windmill if you think with the way the finances are now the ITA is gonna ever turn to the USDA and say hey, we're not going to require you a membership. That's just want to be 100% transparent.

Ron Cioffi: Okay.

ITA Officiating Department: I often get a few questions on that. that's kind of it in certification to other big topics. I want to just hit on before I open it up to questions.

ITA Officiating Department: We are moving forward with electronic line recalling systems. I tell you that only because I'm sure at some point you will read about it. There will be a press release or something. I just want to be clear. if it's a 10-stage process. We're in stage two. This is not something that's going to be here, in the fall of 2024 it is probably over a year out still but we are looking at systems that will do electronic Line review as an aid or

ITA Officiating Department: Fisher not as a replacement for the official but as an aid to the official and it will not be a Hawkeye where an actual call is made but it will be where the Umpire will have the ability to go to a loss or an iPad or some person and then it will have some kind of challenge system or be very clearly. We'll have to get together with a lot of experts including some badges that are also it certified and work all of This is nothing coming out tomorrow. I just let you know that this is in the works and we are looking at various systems and you're going to hear about a product being used.

ITA Officiating Department: In a blind test in the upcoming ITA men's team indoors this February to be clear. It will not be used by the officials but we are just seeing how the runs how quickly it pulls up the last shot things like that. So it is not being used live by either won't be electronic Line review. We are just testing the system to see how it works in a dual match environment.

ITA Officiating Department: And then my last topic is Recruitment and Retention. So, we're doing like the italics. We're trying to do things like recognize officials both who have retired and done things work currently on the court. and so if you have any ideas for Recruitment and Retention, please reach out, I would love to hear it officials that it tennis.com. I would absolutely love to hear your ideas. The only who I ask is please keep in mind. The ITA does not have that small little bake sale called the US Open right that generates millions and millions of dollars. So what I love to send every official uniform shirt absolutely would love that and help our attention but is that realistic in light of our budget? No, it isn't to be perfectly honest. So that's the only thing I ask, try to think outside.

01:05:00

ITA Officiating Department: The Box I've already gotten some great ideas, and I look forward to even more ideas. So please reach out if you have anything related to recruitment and retention.

ITA Officiating Department: And then the only other thing I wanted to hit on there's one significant change if I can focus on rules just remember and start the Dual match season that medical timeouts or no longer concerned about treatment versus diagnosis time. It is just up to five minutes. And so if that trainer comes out, we're gonna start our clock when that trainer starts either touching the player or substantively communicating with the player and then they'll have up to five minutes for that medical time out. We're not worried about treatment or diagnosis time and that trainer as long as they're actively working with the player that they can treat one issue or 700 issues. It's what as long as they do it up to five.

ITA Officiating Department: And should you have situation where that trainer packs up their bags at two minutes then your medical timeout is over at that time because obviously it's up to five minutes not a guaranteed five minutes. all the other rules I think are pretty, hand in hand the other cost significantly major rule. Remember that D3 has switched no ad scoring. with that I'm more than happy to answer any questions on those topics or any other top of that related.

Val Walker: Hey Anthony, That's the question about. Can you hear me man? Okay.

ITA Officiating Department: Yeah.

Val Walker: so on Department operated. I want to talk about these mountains. previously. we would say maybe 10 room but you remember the time now at the three minutes treatment and then before that ladies and gentleman training has been called the court, right? Now we're in the five minutes.

ITA Officiating Department: Great.

Val Walker: Trying to get five minutes. Do we just found out then? Or do we still wait on a On cut? How do

ITA Officiating Department: A great question. I think nothing changes with ladies and gentlemen, the train has been called the court that the amount of time it takes the training to get to the car. I think 9% of the top trainer gets there and under 15 minutes, but nothing changes there then once the printer gets on the court. I think as soon as the trainer and the player starts substantively communicating or the player and the trainer touch each other. Yeah, the trainer touches the player. I think then you would make your announcement Stanford is taking their medical time out. remember that we're going to say even though we're getting rid of treatment versus diagnosis whenever the trainer is done at five minutes. We're We're gonna say treatment then we're gonna wait a reasonable amount of time before we take time.

ITA Officiating Department: if that was just literally the trainer came out and rubbed my shoulder. It might be you say treatment complete and five seconds later you say time, but if the trainer wrap my ankle you're gonna say treatment complete and then you're gonna give me maybe a minute to a minute and a half for the point for the player to put his socks back on tie their shoes. The importance of that is because remember once you say time, you're essentially telling that player they've got 30 seconds to play and if they don't it's a code violation delay of game. So we want to make sure we're very clear the treatment complete ends the medical time out and then we're gonna wait the reasonable amount of time based on what occurs during that MTO and save time.

ITA Officiating Department: And then obviously if it's men's after you say on make additional announcement Stanford's taking a medical time out and...

Ron Cioffi: he

01:10:00

ITA Officiating Department: buy rule will be assessed.

ITA Officiating Department: No problem.

Ron Cioffi: Yeah, you would say assessed the point when you make the medical time out not At the end,...

ITA Officiating Department: No at the end after you say time, right?

Ron Cioffi: okay. Okay Any other questions?

Eva Marie McCravy: I have a question.

Ron Cioffi: All right. Yeah.

Eva Marie McCravy: hey Anthony, I was just wondering if y'all were gonna have A webinar to restart the season go over the newest rules and verbiage and...

Eva Marie McCravy: stuff like that.

ITA Officiating Department: We're debating that currently with the Education and...

ITA Officiating Department: Training committee. There seems to be a lot of interest in that so I think the idea of doing a couple quick, one hour or last maybe even a half hour or less Refreshers will certainly look at that and shoot for that next week or the week after

Eva Marie McCravy: That would be great. I really appreciate you doing that last year. It was very helpful.

Ron Cioffi: and Anthony as we add more ITA officials, is that because of Shortages we have now. Wouldn't it be...

ITA Officiating Department: Yes.

Ron Cioffi: because additional slots could come up because more schools are going to use more officials or both.

ITA Officiating Department: Both is the answer. We are definitely understaffed in some parts of the country. We are severely understaffed but we are understaffed in most parts of the country. And then on top of that I do expect over the next three to five years. You will see this year it became a recommendation but in the non D1, I think you will start to see implementation of requirements for officials as to exactly what that will be. One two, three. I don't know but I do think the general consensus among those on the rules committee and the operating committee which we're all coaches and administrators. Not a cools. Is that how can we take you any AIA or Juco? Seriously, if you don't have an official at the map

ITA Officiating Department: When they haven't complaint not how political I'm seriously, but it doesn't that in fact contribute when there are complaints. So I think it's coming. Yeah.

Ron Cioffi: World stand we're using ion court or other digital sharing devices.

ITA Officiating Department: Ultimately that decision rests with the institution. The ITA obviously is entered into a partnership with is court and fully supports it where they have been able to fully integrate. It is extremely helpful. So for example, I work a lot of University of Southern California matches USC the Southern California, and they have been able to integrate ion Court not only with where scoreboard also with their online streaming so that one device that the official using actually replaces for

ITA Officiating Department: And so that scoring in the match is automatically going to the scoreboard to the live scoring and recording it and then most importantly when the match is done and automatically the scores are reported to the ITA because every year we have accusations that people are not reporting scores because they don't want the loss this week. It's affect their rankings Etc. So it does when fully integrated really ease the process and make a lot better, but it is not able to be pulling into every school depending on who that school's contract is either with the live streaming or that's poor.

ITA Officiating Department: But every month it gets better but to be clear there's no ITA manding, you must use it that is up to the individual Institution.

Ron Cioffi: Is there any training that you're going to provide in that respect because I know that for instance there's some junior tournaments whereas the chairs have been asking the tournament director of the referee to move off the paper and go digital and it'd be great if there was some Training done by the app developer Etc. That would help us both of that transition.

01:15:00

ITA Officiating Department: Yes, as soon as the Australian Open is over we will be because some of our smes are there. But as soon as the Australian opens, it's over. We will be having something that at least is going to be designed to get people acquainted with ion court and the requirements for ION Court. And then obviously rolling into the summer and fall of next season. We will as it becomes more readily adopted by various schools.

Ron Cioffi: 's that a lot of great news coming from you about new officials about Streamlining the MTO and where we are digitally so that's great to know.

ITA Officiating Department: Someone has their I think Adam Dalton Anders raised.

Ron Cioffi: that

Adam Dalton: Hey, that's me.

Adam Dalton: How's it going? Anthony?

ITA Officiating Department: Good. How are you Adam?

Adam Dalton: I'm good. I just have a question and I know from just being a referee at a certain school and dealing with a certain coach and I'm not gonna say names but there's been multiple, inquiries about how he's treated officials and been rude to officials and I know a lot of people all don't feel like anything is

being done to this coach and it just keeps getting worse. I don't want to go there ever again because's just mean to the officials. He's not mean to me because I know him but he's always screaming at the officials that are with me and working with me and just being very rude. I know multiple people on this because up to a staff multiple people have turned in. It's I guess incident reports or whatever. Can you just go over the process of how that works and Is the art is each.

Adam Dalton: Each incident by itself or will you look back and if there's four instances and one season or over three seasons, does that play into how a coach has handled as far as the ITA goes or is it just straight to the ad and they have to handle it and if they let them go away with it. They just keep harassing and being rude to The officials that are there working. Times. Just wondering if you

ITA Officiating Department: Yeah. No, that is a great question. Thanks for asking and Starting in September of this year. So to start the 2023-24 season the ITA adopted. What is the equivalent of this rolling suspension points for both players and coaches. It's not quite the same thing. But essentially there is a tiered system based on first off. Is it a aggravated penalty or a non-aggravated penalty? And then they have levels based on is it his first offense or his third offense and

ITA Officiating Department: You look at the penalty guidelines and it's specifically States and obviously as you get further through the penalty systems the penalties get greater. So that has been in place. we have already suspended one coach for 30 days with a letter to his athletic director. And what we've done is suspended him from attending an ITA events. Obviously, you can't suspend and we're not the employer we

ITA Officiating Department: Have we have done that with one coach and then we've also had a couple players who have had some repeats so it is one of the things that I wanted to do with something a kit. I'm for those of you that I'm a former Federal prosecutor. So I wanted something similar to the US sentencing guidelines where we have this chart and we're going to look at everything mitigating circumstances and aggravating circumstances and we're gonna line up and then we're gonna go and see and we're gonna get a recommended sentence. and so that the coaches and players know your second offense if it's aggravated, you're automatically six months suspended, and so this whole system is in place. I'll tell you though. Because I don't know exactly I have an idea but I don't know exactly which coach you're talking about. Don't be surprised if in fact.

ITA Officiating Department: This coach has not been written up because we've dealt with every write-up that we've receive. So the biggest thing for referees is it's absolutely incumbent that if you do have this you do there is a online form on the website both in zebra web and in a ita.com the official Sub menu that you report and file agreements against a coach because my guess is that this coach is done some things and people have said that they were going to do something and for a whole variety of reasons that happens. Me too. We get busy. We don't follow through on that complaint.

01:20:00

Ron Cioffi: And what's the process Anthony for that?

ITA Officiating Department: you fill out the form then it is referred to our sportsmanship and grievance committee and then they walk through the process and assess the points and penalties accordingly.

Ron Cioffi: And are we talking about a code violations more?

ITA Officiating Department: No, no, this would all be coach Behavior separate and apart from you still obviously have within the match the coaches code of conduct violation and then the objection this would be just, to that.

Ron Cioffi: Okay, in other words, you're probably getting to an injection with a coach. Let's say before you would submit. Something yeah.

ITA Officiating Department: Correct, right, and then you should let us know. I mean if you inject coach if you rejected you are required to fill out the score,...

Ron Cioffi: right Yeah.

ITA Officiating Department: So, That would be my other question. if we really do have and I know we do I'm not in any way doubting it but if we have this coach who has been not respecting officials how we followed through has he got the coaches warning has he got me injection and if we haven't done that then we really don't have a leg to stand on with whether or not that it's his third time we've done anything more.

Darren Potkey: Yeah Anthony, it's Darren. I mean, let's call a spade. I was chair of ethics for the year and a half of that. The bottom line is as you mentioned if the school won't do anything. The ITA really doesn't have a lot of power in this case. At least from when my experience working with that committee it was similar to what you just said. we're not gonna allow him or their players to attend a certain It event. I think I threw that warning out once of all the cases that I was dealing with. in ultimately the ITA is not the employer of the person and so they could try to convince the hierarchy but at the hierarchy is not going to do much about it or the conferences isn't going to stand behind the ITA.

Darren Potkey: It's an uphill battle. I don't mean to be negative about it. It's just not easy it doesn't have that power. that would be based on my experience working with that.

ITA Officiating Department: yeah, and I'll be happy to send Ron to you the New sportsmanship guidelines for coaches and players and you can distribute it. Once again. It's purely FYI because it is not anything you all are involved with you do your jobs and just fill out the report. It's post that but I'll be happy to send that to you all so you can look at

Ron Cioffi: Thank you.

ITA Officiating Department: no problem. Once again, just want to thank you for having me and thank you for all that you do for college tennis day in day out. Thank you.

Ron Cioffi: Thank you.

Val Walker: Thank you.

Ron Cioffi: Even Maurice clapping real hard. All right. Thank you so much.

Ron Cioffi: You can hang you around if you wish more than happy to have you. Okay, so let me go back to

Val Walker: I want someone right quick just for at four. and in line with your company as it's important that directly they do a time, especially that we already know. What?

Val Walker: Document patient to dealing with coaches that are being aggressive and...

Ron Cioffi: You're breaking up some.

Val Walker: disrespectful to officers that are hired Through activities at who I have a little bit. when I was stepping we had situations we had a little bit more levels because you could Tell them. We're not sending anybody. Okay, he doesn't have a couple of times and that has helped that quote.

01:25:00

Val Walker: Put some discipline on itself. So it's organization has some leverage that they can do they the best way to have okay, that's all I want.

Ron Cioffi: And I think we all know who we're talking about and there has been discussion of not Staffing that matches because numerous officials and referees of all felt like the respect wasn't there and the experience was not what we want. So, it's good to hear your thoughts about that especially as we continue to look Whether we staff any specific schools, especially when we don't feel like the coach or coaches are respectful. So

Ron Cioffi: I think we're ready to go right to the kahoot. I don't think we have to mention anything because I've already shown up prices of a new app to mug. So Darren, you could take over you're gonna jump in is there you are.

Darren Potkey: Yep. Thanks.

Ron Cioffi: Excellent.

Darren Potkey: man Sorry, it took a little bit.

Ron Cioffi: Love it. problem. All right. Yeah.

Darren Potkey: All I know a lot of you familiarity with this. program so,

Darren Potkey: It's gonna generate a game pin. You can go to that website or if you happen to have the app.

Darren Potkey: Give yourself a nickname.

Ron Cioffi: what are you going to kahoot.com?

Darren Potkey: a kahoot.it

Ron Cioffi: Okay,

Darren Potkey: Okay.

Darren Potkey: Get a minute or two here.

Ron Cioffi: there it is and

Darren Potkey: Ron your name is five minute MTO, right?

Ron Cioffi: I'm concentrating on typing.

Darren Potkey: Alright, sorry, sorry.

Ron Cioffi: I didn't hear you, but I'll put in I'm sure it was funny. Yeah. All right. How many people I like number two. We come on we got to get some more people in here. All right.

Darren Potkey: yeah, just and just put that game pin in and you'll be

Eva Marie McCravy: And Darren,...

Darren Potkey: ready for action

Eva Marie McCravy: if you're on the phone, you can just take a picture of that QR code, right?

Darren Potkey: Yeah, you could.

Ron Cioffi: boom

Darren Potkey: Only get fancy like that.

Ron Cioffi: That's very fancy.

Darren Potkey: All right, we'll give one more minute and then we'll get going.

Ron Cioffi: Come on, let's get some people remember the board myself and some others cannot win we can participate.

Darren Potkey: Yeah. It takes out half the group.

Ron Cioffi: so Yeah, I know so. Should we give another minute for people that type will slow?

Darren Potkey: It's like the Oscars.

Ron Cioffi: We get that might be a board member.

Ron Cioffi: It's at winding. Yeah.

David Fisher: What was the clip? What was the clue?

Darren Potkey: All right. You got 30 seconds. Let's get started.

Ron Cioffi: I want everybody to make their calls faster than this. Correction, the ball was good. You don't get five seconds to do it.

Darren Potkey: in some countries you do run.

Ron Cioffi: I haven't worked overseas yet having that.

Darren Potkey: Right, right.

Ron Cioffi: Yeah opportunity.

Darren Potkey: Okay, I think we're good. All...

Ron Cioffi: Okay, that sounds...

Darren Potkey: Remember that.

Ron Cioffi: All right.

Darren Potkey: It's gonna ask some questions you pick the color you think is right and will generate a score if you get it wrong you get nothing. This is all about the app to board members

Ron Cioffi: mm First yeah,...

Darren Potkey: Who are these people?

Ron Cioffi: we'll find out.

Darren Potkey: All First question is if they say this to you, you're in trouble quote. This is my inside voice.

01:30:00

Ron Cioffi: Okay.

Darren Potkey: About 10 seconds. Yeah pick the call you think is right.

Ron Cioffi: And speed counts here. If I'm correct that speed counts.

Darren Potkey: Yep.

Darren Potkey: All right Eva Marie.

Eva Marie McCravy: Yeah, thank you.

Darren Potkey: Is that accurate?

Eva Marie McCravy: Yes, I have a sign at my house that says this is my inside voice because so many people here. Keep telling me. I'm too loud.

Darren Potkey: Having worked in the same office with you.

Ron Cioffi: Wow, there we go.

Darren Potkey: That might be true sometimes but that's passionate. All right, let's use the first who is our IE. Whoever's first. Good job. All right, next one.

Ron Cioffi: Yeah.

Darren Potkey: On the proud parent of a former ITA Arthur Ashe leadership and sportsmanship award Regional winner. It's quite a prestigious award. So I'm the proud parent of one of these people.

Darren Potkey: Or five seconds for those that have an answered. All right, Phil.

Darren Potkey: Want to give your daughter some recognition there?

P Zenoni: He said right here.

Darren Potkey: All right. quite a prestigious honor

P Zenoni: Thank you.

Darren Potkey: Okay, and the nice thing is the regional winners have doubling the salary the winnings. I got from the previous year, All right, and of course, I would think you'd be in first now Phil based on that Quest.

P Zenoni: We don't own right?

Darren Potkey: Okay. Yeah.

Darren Potkey: When I'm not officiating tennis, you can find me on the pickleball courts.

Ron Cioffi: don't like to hear that.

Darren Potkey: Yeah.

Darren Potkey: But it's the truth. We're all about the truth. You're Ron.

Ron Cioffi: If we have to be yeah. Yeah.

Darren Potkey: Yeah, yeah, don't let the facts get that. We have a good story, right?

Ron Cioffi: Exactly. I learned that in journalism School.

Darren Potkey: There you go. All right, John Hickson John on tonight.

Ron Cioffi: He is sharing right now. Yeah, or...

Darren Potkey: All there you go Don't you yeah,...

Ron Cioffi: at least it says he is yeah.

Darren Potkey: exactly. All...

Ron Cioffi: Yeah.

Darren Potkey: Good job.

Darren Potkey: All Couple more. You won't find this in the friended Court rather a tattoo on me for Good Fortune.

Ron Cioffi: girls on fire

Darren Potkey: fascia

Ron Cioffi: Wow.

Darren Potkey: All Good job, Tasha.

Darren Potkey: All right, here we go. Three more. If you find yourself stuck in a burning building in the dark. This person can crawl through it.

Darren Potkey: Who's crawling through that burning building?

Darren Potkey: All right, Mr. Fisher, right? Nice job, David. Have you had to do that lately?

David Fisher: I'm officially retired.

Darren Potkey: okay. We can press you into Duty right in case.

Ron Cioffi: Yeah.

David Fisher: You need me I know how to call now. I'm on one.

Darren Potkey: All right, last one.

Ron Cioffi: Wow.

Darren Potkey: two more. Okay, when I sing a glass never shatters.

Ron Cioffi: Don't worry.

Darren Potkey: When I sing glass never shatters.

Darren Potkey: Let's see what people think here.

Darren Potkey: That is Mr. Harris. I think he's on right.

Ron Cioffi: He is.

Darren Potkey: All right, Aaron, is that true? I hope you

Darren Potkey: Okay, I'll take that as Since I don't hear a shattering glass. All...

Ron Cioffi: good point

Darren Potkey: last one.

Darren Potkey: Don't you love the soothing sound of the Great American instrument the harmonica I do.

01:35:00

Darren Potkey: Glad to see somebody still likes the harmonica. That's you Mr. Cioffi. Have you one's last time you click on front of anybody?

Ron Cioffi: That it is. I wait a minute. I might have one.

Darren Potkey: Dear, please. All...

Ron Cioffi: All right.

Darren Potkey: Who is crazy? Who is that?

Darren Potkey: It still got them.

Eva Marie McCravy: Says Joe was crazy.

Darren Potkey: All right. Good job bill.

Ron Cioffi: Okay,

Eva Marie McCravy: Joe did a good job.

Darren Potkey: All right, so I will run the report since we have two board members at least who's crazy?

Ron Cioffi: Yeah.

Eva Marie McCravy: Joe

Darren Potkey: Joe so you won And I'll pull up the second and...

Ron Cioffi: Okay, you won. Okay, and then that'd be great. Yeah.

Darren Potkey: third as we go so.

Darren Potkey: All right. Thanks everybody.

Eva Marie McCravy: Thanks, Darren. That was fun.

Ron Cioffi: Thank you so much Jeff.

Ron Cioffi: I want you to send along those Who thank Good job, and we do want to send out some too our winners for second and third. Thanks so much. Okay. So let's

Darren Potkey: so I haven't really here Ron who is r i e who was that? Okay, that's you who was Tootsie?

Darren Potkey: Anybody Bueller? Tootsie

Darren Potkey: I think that's Shawn Jay.

Ron Cioffi: Yeah,...

Darren Potkey: She just put her thumbs up.

Ron Cioffi: I say that.

Darren Potkey: All right, so she finished second. And then Ron and then boo.

Darren Potkey: Boo would be next. And Dalton,...

Ron Cioffi: I don't know.

Darren Potkey: so there you go. Shawn Jay Adam,...

Eva Marie McCravy: magic system

Darren Potkey: Dalton. Are you three? agree with

Ron Cioffi: All right, I'm Gonna Mail. Adam your mug by walking it down the hallway so that would be that reason.

Darren Potkey: thanks everybody.

Ron Cioffi: Thank you so much for doing all that and

Ron Cioffi: you might have to take a mug too, but that's okay. So there's the mug.

Darren Potkey: How much is that going for on eBay do we know?

Ron Cioffi: what will Autographed by the designer about three cents. All right. So look, let's go back here. So now we're going to announce our Ward winners.

Ron Cioffi: I guess that falls to me. I'm very happy to announce that our rookie of the year is more snow. Let's congratulations Morris. We understand he worked a lot to the great job was always willing to learn and that is a key to becoming a great official so Congratulations on your ward

Ron Cioffi: All right. Our mentor of the year Don Bradley Don continues to be one of the people who believes and shares knowledge and I was very happy many years ago to have a great mentor and Anne Burrell Smith, but the person who was there over and over again when I had questions.

Ron Cioffi: Was done and so don. Congratulations. I know that you decided that to do something a lot more fun tonight than be here, but we'll get you a Ward and then when I talk about our

Ron Cioffi: official the year and so I think obviously so many people on this call are qualified. when officials Ward officially the year many people have And I know Darren has and numerous others. Even Marie John hixson's on cob is it Aaron Harris one last year this person not only excelled Encore but all so of course, which is so important and this award goes to the USGA, Georgia official the year. the Georgia chair our bookkeeper

01:40:00

Ron Cioffi: who does so much to keep us all in line and take care of everything somebody who has attended the ITA Cup in science of that the official Center of Excence. So artificial the year. Is Linda Edmonds? Congratulations to Linda Don and Morris and a plaque is in the mail? Thank you so much for Eva Marie to taking on that task. So congratulations to them again and for a great year and what you all done to improve officiating either on court or off Court.

Ron Cioffi: All right denominating committee report. I turn it over to Eva Marie.

Eva Marie McCravy: Denominating the slight for nominees for the coming year. So this year we have three board positions up for secretary treasurer and director at large number one

Eva Marie McCravy: I want to just mention before we do the vote. What a great job David Fisher has done last couple years. It's our secretary. way to go days and Phil zenoni's been a great treasure and we've really appreciated his service to the board. And even though Wayne Miller hasn't been on board that long. He has been a great help too and we just want to thank him for being on the board. one more thank you

before we look at this late. Thank you to the nominating Committee of Joe Chaffee Adam Dalton Dalton and Darren potty. They were great help to me and getting this late this year and now it's my job as past president. I want to present for your consideration as treasure. for the next two years Linda Edmonds for secretary

Eva Marie McCravy: Shawn J. Ward and for director at large number one David Fisher

Ron Cioffi: also

Ron Cioffi: Natasha raised her hand go ahead Tasha.

Tatia Neal: That was an error.

Ron Cioffi: That we didn't hear you.

Tatia Neal: That was an error. I was trying to clap.

Ron Cioffi: okay. I guess that's a positive vote. What we have here is we've already gotten three proxies that and I've gotten verbal proxies from John Hickson and Linda Edmonds on voting yea also so the activists five votes at this point. We need 12, which is 20% of the membership. So do we have any other nominations from the floor.

Ron Cioffi: If I hear no nominations, I'm going to ask for those three positions. and seconding the motion of Eva Marie's committee. Thank you, Joe for mentioning that Joe's second emotion. Do I have a vote on this slate of candidates all famous saying?

Tatia Neal: Yeah.

Ron Cioffi: and two yeses...

P Zenoni: I just

Ron Cioffi: but from Joe Chaffee Adam Dalton, Darren Parkey any in days

P Zenoni: it's

Ron Cioffi: I hear no So the Slate of candidates passes. Congratulations to Linda Shanay and David for their new terms that start immediately and we really appreciate your service and thank you so much for stepping up to make after a happen and more importantly to support officiating in and around Atlanta and Georgia.

Ron Cioffi: All Next thing is not 2020 for nominating committee. We've got a call for volunteers from even Marie if you want to explain that go ahead and please

01:45:00

Eva Marie McCravy: I just need someone thats meeting at least two people at this meeting three is fine to volunteer to be on the nominating committee for next year. If you are on the nominating committee, you cannot yourself be nominated to any open position on the board.

Ron Cioffi: And those four positions are vice president Staffing director and one of the director positions the other one that wasn't filled by David.

Eva Marie McCravy: So I already have one vote for Joe and one Darren and Joe both said they would help. If no one else and Adam said so that that's all I need is three. So if y'all are good.

Adam Dalton: Deficit it's the same group.

Eva Marie McCravy: That it is the same group. I really appreciate y'all felt this year.

Darren Potkey: Hey Marina, that probably shouldn't happen to be honest.

Ron Cioffi: I...

Eva Marie McCravy: really?

Ron Cioffi: if let's put it this...

Darren Potkey: Yeah.

Ron Cioffi: if there's anybody else who wants to serve on this committee. Please let us know now.

Darren Potkey: Yeah, so I would say it'd be nice it behoove us to get at least somebody different if not two so.

Ron Cioffi: I agree.

Eva Marie McCravy: One new

P Zenoni: I will help out on this committee. Phil's money

Ron Cioffi: Galaxy they still appreciate somebody with experience on the board.

Eva Marie McCravy: Thank you.

Ron Cioffi: Anybody else would be a newcomer. We realize that.

Eva Marie McCravy: I should have mentioned. I mean it's not a lot of your time because we only do it one time and it's right a month before this meeting. And we meet virtually and make suggestions and talk and y'all give me your suggestions and I reach out to those people.

Eva Marie McCravy: So you want to feel Joe and Darren? Adam your last one. That's why I didn't mention you.

Ron Cioffi: Okay.

Eva Marie McCravy: we really know the Adam doesn't want to be nominated next year. I'm teasing Adam, but I've been great if Phil Joe and Darren, is that good?

Eva Marie McCravy: so I make a motion that Still Joe and Adam, I mean Phil, Joe and Darren are the nominating committee that works with me next year.

David Fisher: But what would those positions be even Marie on there?

Eva Marie McCravy: president vice president

David Fisher: Yeah, Who would be who?

Ron Cioffi: Yeah, the nominating Committee just comes up with names for each of those positions. And then based on the input from the people they select so this committee recommends others.

Eva Marie McCravy: Yeah, I just reach out to them in November and they give me a slate of who they think will make. position people on the board that would serve well And...

Ron Cioffi: right for instance go on.

Eva Marie McCravy: then I presentation.

Eva Marie McCravy: Then I present them to the board if the board is happy with the Slate then I present it to the membership at Large.

Ron Cioffi: For instance this committee. nominated you for director David

Eva Marie McCravy: Bye Joe.

Ron Cioffi: And basketball.

David Fisher: Got it. Yeah, I got it.

Ron Cioffi: Thanks, exact ify. Thanks for Thank so we still in the process of Do it. I will second the list of nominating committee members.

Eva Marie McCravy: I feel Joe and Darren.

Ron Cioffi: Of both please on this slate of nominating committee members all in favor. Say aye.

Ron Cioffi: don't unanimous off all posting a

Ron Cioffi: That All right. So A do we have any questions comments? Aaron's come back in he dropped off a minute. Thanks Steph for coming back in Aaron. So questions comments. We have five minutes left in the meeting. I promised we would be done in two hours. but obviously I'm here and I'm sure the board is here for any questions or comments.

01:50:00

Darren Potkey: Ron I guess. I'll start I want to salute Aaron and Daniela for their efforts that the Orange Bowl they were part of the developmental team down there. Not the easiest event to do and all the reports. I got back from the coaches as they did excellent. So I happened to the supervisor this year of that event.

Ron Cioffi: right

Darren Potkey: So they did a great job and represented up to a very So good job everybody.

Aaron Harris: Thank you Darren. Appreciate it.

Ron Cioffi: anyone else so Without any other comments or questions. I want to thank you all for your dues and now that your members We will give you silence assignments have been handed out for some college matches and more will come. again, I feel like it's a great honor to be able to lead this group because of the quality that you bring to officiating and the willingness to serve for our board members and others willingness to serve on our board and committees so the second

Ron Cioffi: Kris I don't know you but we are just wrapping up our meeting.

Ron Cioffi: However, we are still in the process of taking questions and comments. So do you have anything that you would like to bring up?

Tatia Neal: minutes crystal, that's Crystal

Ron Cioffi: It's Okay. Hi Crystal.

Ron Cioffi: You've got the floor for three minutes anything you'd like to discuss.

Ron Cioffi: If not, it's great honor for the Act important. Yeah.

Eva Marie McCravy: Ron will you be sending this out to the membership you were recording it?

Ron Cioffi: Yes, We'll send out a recording or put it on the website and let people know about it and also a transcript.

Eva Marie McCravy: That's great. Put it on the website. Yeah.

Darren Potkey: Hey.

Ron Cioffi: Definitely in our officials Corner page. That's where we'll put it. inst

Darren Potkey: Ron one more thing. I forgot there are some USDA Workshop opportunities coming up in Georgia there's two at the end of January and...

Ron Cioffi: ead

Darren Potkey: as a chair Empire one in March here and in Valdosta, I was putting together all the statistics for the southern officials committee and Georgia last year alone hosted 13 workshops And that is significant credit to Marie and Linda. They're the ones that kind of pushed that. The next highest state was five and six of the nine Southern States didn't host any. which is disappointing but

Darren Potkey: The message here is Linda really wants to make those continue education opportunities easily accessible to us. So kudos to her on that and any suggestions, please send to her, but we got a couple coming up and I'm sure they'll be more throughout the year. So just be on the lookout for him.

Ron Cioffi: thank you, before we sign off. There is a no real way to know this but did by General agreement. We are near the largest local official Association in the country and it's all because of what you do. And your willingness to work and serve that make this organization?

Ron Cioffi: A pillar of a local officiating the United States. thank you for your dedication on and off the court. It's great honor for the active board to serve after we're members provide assignments and improve our craft with training. and so

Darren Potkey: That Ron I hate to do this. I got one more. So this year happens to be the last one and...

Ron Cioffi: don't

Darren Potkey: it's very important this year happens to be We Believe Sharon writes 50th year of service. With officiating and...

Ron Cioffi:

Darren Potkey: I know UST Georgia is planning on doing something to recognize that so maybe the two organizations can maybe work together to make a really big deal about that. That is an incredible achievement. To have to last 50 years and in all the things that Sharon has done so be on the lookout for that shortly and I hope she's not on this call. I don't think she is. but no just a tremendous accomplishment by her.

01:55:00

Ron Cioffi: That's great to know.

Darren Potkey: And so that's all I got. I appreciate it.

Ron Cioffi: You and that's obviously one of the reasons why we're looking to her to be our trainer who would be better to improve your skills and explained how best to work than anybody else in Georgia. I hate to admit to it, but we're at eight minutes and one eight hours and one two hours and one minute of time. So, let's wrap it up. Thank you very much, and we'll see on court.

Eva Marie McCravy: Bye. Thank you.

Ron Cioffi: By now.

Tatia Neal: Thank you Ron.

Ron Cioffi: Thank you everyone.

Tatia Neal: Good job. It's all right.

David Fisher: Thanks everybody.

Ron Cioffi: Thank you. Bye now.

Charles Nunn: Thank you, Ron.

Ron Cioffi: You welcome Charles. Pat great to have new people on the call. Love it.

Charles Nunn: Absolutely, very informative.

Ron Cioffi: Thank you.

Ron Cioffi: All right, everyone.

Charles Nunn: Bye-bye.

Ron Cioffi: by myself by Charles

Ron Cioffi: They will miss you without a doubt.

Ron Cioffi: I'm glad even Marie mentioned you leaving I meant to do that too. So I'm glad she did it.

Meeting ended after 01:57:11 🖐️