BPC Meeting Minutes

Date: June 10, 2025 **Location:** Via Zoom

In Attendance: John Bailey, Shelley Booth, Viviano Gutierrez, Molly Hammar, Jodi Mackey,

Bill Miller Absent: Cathie Badalamenti, Steve Gibbs, Kary York

1. Confirmation of Quorum

Viviano confirmed a quorum was present.

2. BPC Social Event – June 19

The board discussed the upcoming social event on June 19. Debbie Gibbons inquired about the refreshment budget. Jodi and others agreed that approximately \$150 per social event is appropriate.

3. Potential Indoor Facility Member Survey

The board reviewed a proposal from the Covered Court Committee to survey members about their willingness to pay for indoor facility access. Members expressed concern that this might conflict with BPC's mission to provide free pickleball opportunities to the community. Jodi and Bill emphasized that the club's role should remain focused on supporting public courts, not managing private facilities. The board agreed to table the survey proposal until input is received from Cathie, Kary, and Steve, as well as the incoming board taking office in August. Viviano reported that Claude, a key supporter, was upset about BPC's lack of financial commitment to the facility project. However, the board agreed not to commit financially without a clear business plan.

4. TrackitHub Contract Review

The board discussed the renewal of TrackitHub's contract and associated pricing changes. Viviano raised concerns about the 10% revenue share and the lack of clarity in the charging model. Bill clarified that 10% applies only to revenue generated through TrackitHub, not to additional fees. The board decided to wait for the full contract before considering alternatives. They also noted that most events are managed through other platforms, with only membership fees and school programs currently using TrackitHub.

5. Equipment Storage and League Planning

The board addressed equipment storage, including reorganization of nets and items in the storage locker. Viviano reported that some nets are being temporarily stored at Jimmy Wilkerson's house and that Barbara emailed about 13 nets that need to be picked up. The conversation shifted to Shelley's interest in organizing in-house leagues and tournaments. Jodi and Bill supported the idea but emphasized the need to evaluate TrackitHub as a platform for managing such events. The board also discussed more flexible ladder tournaments and social events, with general agreement on their potential to enhance member engagement.

6. Bellingham Athletic Club Donation Package

Molly proposed a donation package for the Bellingham Athletic Club's sign-in promotion. The board approved the package, which includes a free membership, a paddle valued at approximately \$100, and a BPC hat. Viviano and Jodi discussed the 10% discount available at the Armory, and Molly confirmed a similar discount at Players Pickleball in Ferndale. The board approved an expenditure of \$150, to cover the cost of a paddle and a BPC membership.

7. Events Committee Role Clarification

The Events Committee sought clarification on their responsibilities regarding social events and the Equinox Tournament. Viviano confirmed that the snack budget for June 19 was already approved. Bill clarified that the Equinox Tournament would be managed by a separate committee.

8. Financial Investment Strategy Review

The board discussed financial investments and agreed to continue setting aside 10% of net profits in a reserve fund. Viviano proposed calling it a "General Reserve" instead of tying it specifically to covered courts. Jodi reported on CD investments, including a \$3,000 CD maturing in July, which the board agreed to renew. The board also reviewed the \$40,000 savings account. Bill raised concerns about the absence of a clear investment strategy and suggested holding a financial planning session. The board agreed to revisit the topic at the next meeting, with Jodi and Steve providing detailed financial information in advance.

9. Tournament Planning and Facility Updates

The board reviewed several topics, including the ball machine, tournament planning, and facilities. Bill reported on the ball machine, noting that Doug saw it as primarily a tool for clinics rather than general use. The board agreed to explore a joint club tournament with the Skagit Club, with Bill following up.

Concerns were raised about Cornwall court closures and clarifying play rules at different venues. Viviano reported that construction on the new Cornwall courts is scheduled to begin July 5.

10. Next Steps / Action Items.

• Facilities Team:

- o Prepare for new court construction beginning July 5 (estimated 8-week timeline).
- Monitor court cleaning progress at Cornwall, including pressure washing of the 6 existing courts.
- Manage parking and noise concerns during construction while ensuring continued access to the existing courts
- **Jodi & Steve:** Prepare and distribute detailed financial reports on CD investments and savings account before the next meeting.

• Bill:

- Collaborate with Cathie to review the new TrackitHub contract and clarify the 10% fee structure.
- o Send ball machine research memo to the board and consult with Ed and Christian.
- o Contact Skagit Club about potential joint tournament.
- **Membership Committee:** Inform members that open play rules do not transfer when play is relocated from Cornwall to other courts.

• Viviano:

- Distribute the 13-page TrackitHub presentation and upcoming contract to the board.
- Notify the Covered Court Committee that the board will revisit the survey discussion in July.
- o Coordinate logistics for potential Canadian group competition at the Armory.
- o Collect 13 nets from Barbara's house and store them in the locker.

- **Molly:** Purchase a paddle and assemble gift basket with membership certificate, hat, and balls for BAC promotion.
- Events Committee: Prepare snacks and drinks for volunteers at the June 19 event.
- 11. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on July 8 with location to be determined.