Sudbury Indoor Tennis Centre
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: August 11th, 2026, 7pm
Location: Zoom
Regular Meeting

Attendance

- Present: Michael Boeswald, Kris Venkatraman, Elena Zabudskaya, Kiran Arunachala, Phil Howard, Olga Demchenko, and Mark Ament.
- Regrets: Vedran Dukic
- Staff: Jana Hall.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of Previous Minutes

- **Motion: To approve the minutes of the June 16th, 2026, Board meeting as amended. Moved: MA. Seconded: KA. CARRIED.**

Summary and Action Items

1. Facility Repairs and Reopening

The Board received updates on dome repairs and outdoor court construction. Surfacing work was expected to begin August 24th, with the SITC reopening targeted for October 1st and installation work targeted for completion between September 15th-20th. Farley will handle lighting and membrane work, while F&G Electrical will complete the wiring. The Board also discussed pickleball line placement and the need to protect equipment and maintain safe access during construction.

Action Items:

- **Richard**: Review the pickleball court line layout before installation to minimize interference with tennis play.
- **Management**: Coordinate reopening preparations and communicate timelines as they are confirmed.
- **Management**: Follow up on security arrangements related to fencing, HVAC protection, the trapdoor and camera installation.

Proposed Next Steps:

- Confirm repair and installation milestones before communicating a firm reopening date.
- Confirm outstanding security and access requirements with the City, contractors and insurer, as applicable.

2. Programming and League Development

The Board discussed programming plans for reopening, including concerns about filling junior, including competitive stream, program spaces. Kiran proposed a Wednesday evening singles match-play league to accommodate players and families unable to participate on Sundays. The Board also discussed requiring appropriate tennis shoes for competitive players and providing branded T-shirts to junior players when the facility reopens.

Action Items:

- **Richard:** Continue recruitment and registration efforts for competitive stream programs.
- **Richard/Kiran**: Develop the proposed Wednesday evening singles match-play league for further consideration.
- **Management**: Coordinate first aid training for staff before reopening.

Proposed Next Steps

- Confirm the competitive-player footwear requirement and communicate expectations before implementation.
- Finalize the junior T-shirt distribution plan and associated costs.
- Begin league registration and confirm participation ahead of reopening.

3. Tournament Planning and Club Championships

The Board reviewed feedback from a recent tournament, including positive comments about food sponsorship and event organization. Future tournament options were discussed, including summer events and indoor winter tournaments. For Club Champs, the group considered 3.0, 4.0 and 5.0 rating categories, with Richard and Kiran determining player ratings rather than relying on self-assessment. Allowing players to enter up to two rating categories was also discussed. Restrictions related to court spacing and hosting higher-level tournaments with pickleball lines were noted.

Action Items:

- **Richard and Kiran:** Determine player ratings for Club Champs and develop the tournament structure.
- **Operations**: Continue planning for the Club Champs tournament scheduled for late December.

Proposed Next Steps

- Confirm eligible rating categories, entry limits, and tournament rules.
- Review the feasibility of future indoor winter and summer tournaments, including applicable court-layout and competition requirements.

4. Winter Cup Participation and Inclusion

The Board discussed concerns that some players felt excluded from the Winter Cup. Kris proposed introducing a lottery system to select participants for the draft, with the aim of making the process more inclusive while retaining the tournament's existing format. The group agreed to hold a separate discussion with Dan, Richard and Board representatives to consider the proposal and seek Dan's input, while ensuring tournament costs are covered.

Action Items:

- **Kris/Kiran/Richard**: Coordinate a separate discussion with Dan and Richard regarding potential Winter Cup selection changes.

Proposed Next Steps:

- Evaluate the lottery-based selection proposal and agree on a transparent process before confirming the next tournament format.
- Confirm the tournament budget and cost-recovery requirements.

5. Staff, Safety and Operational Policies

Jana provided an update on Kevin's employment status and work permit process. The Board also discussed operational readiness, including first aid training, potential updates to staff contracts and vulnerable sector checks. These matters require further clarification before any new requirements are implemented.

Action Items:

- **Jana:** Continue coordinating Kevin's employment and work permit matters.
- **Jana**: Coordinate staff first aid training in preparation for reopening.

Proposed Next Steps:

- Review existing contract and screening requirements to determine whether changes are needed and establish the appropriate process for implementation.

6. Facility Security and Insurance

The Board discussed the theft of the outdoor air conditioner and related security concerns. Insurance follow-up was underway with First General (i.e., reinstalling cameras). The group also considered the implications of fence removal, including power-line constraints, equipment protection, and maintaining the required fire exit.

Action Items:

- **Jana / Management:** Continue following up on the A/C theft and related insurance matters with First General.

- **Management**: Coordinate security planning with the relevant contractors and City representatives.

Proposed Next Steps:

- Confirm whether existing fencing should remain and/or be revised, considering HVAC, snow removal, emergency exit, and access around the dome/building.
- Confirm the compromised trapdoor and camera arrangements
- Follow-up with City regarding a longer-term solution for ground near new emergency exit.

7. Wine and Cheese Member Appreciation Event

The Board discussed the wine and cheese event planned for October 2. Save-the-date notices had been sent to members, and the event was intended for members plus one guest, with costs covered by the Club. The group discussed food, potential live music, sound levels, and alternative social activities. The event was intended as a member appreciation event rather than a fundraiser.

Action Items:

- **Olga / Social Committee**: Finalize event logistics, including food, entertainment and event communications.

Proposed Next Steps:

- Confirm entertainment arrangements and ensure sound levels allow attendees to converse comfortably.
- Consider bingo or other social activities as separate future events if appropriate.

8. Revenue Development and Future Events

Jana proposed exploring Friday evening corporate networking events as a potential source of additional revenue. The Board also discussed opportunities to host future tournaments and expand event offerings.

Proposed Next Steps

- Assess the feasibility, pricing and operational requirements of Friday corporate events before developing a formal proposal.
- Evaluate future tournament and event opportunities based on facility capacity, staffing and revenue potential.

Proposed Next Step:

- **Board**: Continue monitoring relevant community developments and assess any implications for SITC's programming, partnerships and longer-term facility planning as appropriate.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: October 13th, 2026, at 7:00 p.m