

Tucson Table Tennis Club  
7963 E. Almond Pl  
Tucson, AZ 85730

9 March 2010

### **The State of the Tucson Table Tennis Club as of 9 March 2010**

Unorganized, no direction, aging, unsupported, divided, stalled, misguided, uninformed, and vitriolic; these are all words describing the current state of the TTTC. On the other hand, the TTTC has provided continuous support for many functions as described later in this letter.

In a nutshell, the TTTC is an entity, organized as a non profit organization, registered and approved by the IRS as a 501c (7). The TTTC owns assets consisting of ten (10) Stiga tables, numerous barriers, and monies held in Chase bank account number 22523232.

This entity, referred to as the TTTC, will remain solvent until officially dissolved by the IRS. Dissolution of the TTTC requires a final meeting of the TTTC elected board and instructions of how, or to whom, the TTTC assets will be dispersed. Disposition of the assets will be only with the approval of the IRS.

There are elected officers (2) who remain elected officers until their position is replaced by newly elected officers. These officers are Mr. David Wesley, Treasurer, and Mrs. Barbara Burnison, Secretary. Unlike the last elected president and vice president, Mr. Wesley and Mrs. Burnison have remained active in the TTTC conducting appropriate and necessary TTTC business.

Conducting appropriate and necessary business of the TTTC consists of but is not limited to the following:

1. Upholding and pursuing the primary guiding mission of the TTTC which is to promote and make available to everyone, the sport of table tennis.
2. Pursue avenues to expand the scope of the TTTC by developing new venues whenever possible.
3. Offer playing time and tables to as many players as possible.
4. Making available and supporting, organized tournaments and league competition.
5. Overseeing and insuring that damaged assets are repaired and or replaced.

Today, sadly, there is a cadre of individuals who feel it is their mission to subvert the guiding principles, the constitution and the mission of the TTTC. Their vitriolic representation of the TTTC has fostered misinformation, pitted player against player, denied access to TTTC assets by personal control, and placed scheduled activities, including USATT sanctioned tournaments, league play, and intercity and community activities, in jeopardy. One individual has removed the entire savings of the TTTC without the guidance and approval of a duly elected board. How can this cadre and especially this one individual justify they are acting in good faith on behalf of the TTTC.

**There are reasons.**

1. The remaining officers of the TTTC failed to adequately and clearly communicate the immediate problems facing the TTTC.
2. They failed to adequately motivate passionate individuals to be willing to stand as the guiding and directing body of the TTTC.
3. They failed to be fully inclusive, of decisions made on behalf of the TTTC, of players who would be affected by these decisions.
4. They too, after several attempts through the years, failed to continue to revitalize and reorganize the TTTC.

**The facts.**

Today, even though the TTTC is in need of reorganization, the TTTC has managed to:

1. Support more than five years of SATTA Tour tournaments.
2. Support a competitive league that has grown to over 150 participants.
3. Support a successful intercity / community competition to include Tucson, Marana, Sun City, Green Valley, and Sierra Vista.
4. Support senior table tennis at the armory, and Udall Park (until UP acquired their own tables).
5. Support, as much as possible, developing new venues.
6. Maintain our 10 Stiga tables in a playable condition.
7. Maintain an account balance of \$2758.98 even though there have been no accounts receivables for the past five years or so.

Even though we have been the guest of the Armory and owe Robin Landers loyalty and stability, the City could mandate further cuts in available time. Robin has fought hard to maintain the support provided to the senior table tennis players and the TTTC in turn fully intends to continue to provide the same level of support to the Armory.

New playing venues will continue to be sought after and tested and our ten tables will sometimes be stretched to accommodate adequate support. The immediate problem is insufficient tables to fully populate two competing venues. A secondary problem is with no income, and organized as a 501 c (7), the TTTC is unable to take donations or allow a tax write off. The task at hand is how best and quickest to generate more tables. This requires a meeting and voting.

## **The future of the TTTC.**

The TTTC needs to be and appears to be ready for new direction and leadership. There are many new players who surely have opinions and ideas and would be not only willing to share them publicly or in a forum, but to step up and actually stand for an elected position. These people, and their ideas, are important and need to be heard and shared.

Reorganization, in accordance with the constitution and bylaws, discussion, commitment, election, and finally, measurable contribution needs to be implemented. A business plan, not only to maintain that which has already been attained, to act as the directing document that details the who, what, where when, and how the TTTC will operate and move in the years to come needs to be developed and implemented.

## **In summary.**

Despite being disorganized, the TTTC has in fact supported the growth of table tennis in Tucson in a commendable manner. The TTTC has addressed the operability and safety of its tables. There are ten usable tables in use. The U of A is being tested as a new venue for future tournaments and league play. Recreational playing is offered at the U of A and because it is a business, there is a cost for the use of the facility. The using players will individually pay for the privilege of playing in a more desirable venue. To alleviate the table shortage, plans for acquiring new tables (Butterfly Europa Sky 25) are being explored and other plans will be solicited from the playing population. The TTTC needs to start reorganizing, but it must be in an orderly manner in accordance with established procedures. Please, step up and have your say and join in revitalizing the TTTC.

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