



Annual HCPA Membership Meeting

May 6, 2024; 6:00 PM

St. Croix Y Camp River Center

I. Welcome to the meeting by Deanne DeGraff, Board Chair.

- Deanne introduced Theresa Douglas, St Croix Y Camp Director of Business Development and Liaison with HCPA.
- Theresa welcomed the HCPA members and reiterated that the Y Camp is excited to continue and further develop the relationship between HCPA and the Y Camp.
- Theresa explained that it would be beneficial to the Y Camp if our HCPA members who are also Y members to also scan or sign in at YMCA on the days they play at the Y Camp.

II. Purpose of the meeting is to fulfill the obligations of the HCPA By Laws and to explain the following topics:

- Review Minutes and waive reading of minutes from 2024 annual meeting
- History of the HCPA Organization
- Finances
- Communications
- Social Committee Activities
- Court Schedule and Activities Planned
- Election of Directors

III. Introductions were made by Deanne DeGraff. She reminded the group that all are Volunteers.

HCPA Board Members – Tom Menter – Treasurer, Tom McDonough – Secretary, Carol Cumming – Communications (emails/website), Julie Graber – Program & Activities, Deanne DeGraff, -Chair

Operation Managers – John DeGraff-Head, Mike Hawk (thanks were given to Mike for all his efforts this spring to get the courts ready for play.)

Three Consultants - Colleen Hammer– (Colleen facilitated the online registration for this year and also manages the HCPA Website and Group Me app), Wes Caine – (Wes assists in meeting the Tax and IRS requirements for a 501C3 nonprofit status) and Michael Lammer (Michael continues to advise on legal matters as well as the 501C3 legal business).

- **Organization** – A brief history of the HCPA's efforts to build pickleball courts was given. 2017 - Surveyed members (80-100) who supported building courts, the group was playing at Anderson Park

- 2018 - In February a plan was submitted to the City Park Board; consideration of building courts at Grandview Park on city land but the city had no money. YMCA also in partnership but no money to donate.
- 2018 Anderson Park Court expansion was proposed. Half of the cost would have been donated by Paul Anderson however proposal failed because the neighbors rallied and complained about the noise.
- 2019 - In January HCPA Board decided to become a WI Charitable nonprofit organization so gained official status with completion of 501C3 paperwork. This status provides tax exemption, donation write off for business/corporation/individuals. At this point the Y Camp came into consideration for courts.
- 2020 - The agreement came together to move forward to reconstruct pickleball courts on the 2 tennis courts at the Y Camp. In February a MOU was signed between the HCPA and the Camp St. Croix. Fundraising and grants, planning of the courts and finding vendors to construct the courts began. The courts were completed in October for \$80,000.
- 2025 - We are beginning our 4th summer playing on the courts. We have reached our 2025 membership capacity with 402 registered HCPA members.

- **Importance of Partnership and Relationship with Y Camp**

We are grateful for the use of land because the Camp owns the land. We encourage members to participate in Y Camp Opportunities – Farmers Market and Pizza Night, Barn Dance, etc.

There may be times during the summer when the courts will close either for Y Camp events or HCPA planned activities. These will be announced on the website and email. Parking for HCPA members is on the lot next to the courts with overflow parking down the gravel road (Stay off the grass).

The HCPA Board and Y Camp are in final negotiations to replace the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with a formal contract that will detail the responsibilities of and between the parties. It is anticipated that HCPA will subsidize the Y Camp in some monetary amount for use and access of the land and facilities. The increase of the annual membership fee was in anticipation of the Y Camp subsidy and reserves for existing courts and potential expansion.

- **GUESTS**

Guests are welcome but must come with a member and they are the responsibility of that member. They must register at the Y Camp link HCPA website/sign Code of Conduct and pay the appropriate fee. There is a QR Code at courts, or Guest Forms are located in the metal box with the completed forms and fee placed in Shed Box.

- **Private Courts –**

The HCPA courts are Private Courts – Not Public (Anderson Park) – Members, and their guests, are required to utilize their name tags to be placed on paddle in the paddle caddy when waiting to play and on the appropriate court peg when playing. Everyone must be a member or a members registered guest to play.

Please respect camp guidelines (do not plan to play outside court posted hours or be on their grounds). Remember and be aware of Camper safety and privacy which is the key and what it is all about. It is the agreement we made to get courts – it should be kept **first and foremost for everyone**.

- **Code of Conduct –**

The importance of the Code of Conduct was reinforced.
Every person involved in HCPA pickleball pledges as follows:

- I will not engage in unsportsmanlike conduct or encourage others to do so.
- I will not engage in any behavior that would endanger the health, safety or wellbeing of others.
- I will not engage in the use of profanity or inappropriate language toward others.
- I will treat others with respect.
- I will exhibit fairness and honesty in my dealings with others.
- I will observe the Golden Rule of doing unto others as I would have them do unto me.

Each member is responsible for their behavior. Concerns on the court should be reported to a board member or Operations Manager.

IV. Finances and Treasurer's Report

Current members 402

Includes new members 104

Renewing members 298

2025 Budget was prepared based on 400 members.

Budgeted expenses include dollars for Y Camp usage fees, social events, pickleballs, court maintenance equipment and supplies, member expenses (bag tags and holders), and administrative expenses (PO box rental, credit card fees, website maintenance, printing).

Budget also includes operating reserve funds (saving) for long-term court maintenance such as resurfacing and nets, as well as possible court expansion.

- **Demographics per online registration –**

Gender;

Female 52%

Male 48%

Age;

18 – 35	6%
36 – 50	12%
51 – 64	43%
65+	39%

Skill Level (Self-Assessment);

Beginner/Lower Intermediate	41%
Intermediate/Advanced Intermediate	50%
Advanced	9%

V. Communications –Carol Cumming

Carol reported that announcements are being made through email and the website. Members are encouraged to check the website for the latest information and to read the emails that are sent. She commented that Group Me is an unofficial not sanctioned by HCPA communication tool among the group.

VI. Social and Court Play Reminders

Safety related items -

Quick head to toe review

- Hat / Sunscreen - Use them.
- Protective Eyewear -recommended - Note: Prescriptive glasses are NOT protective.
- Appropriate attire - dress for the weather
- Shoes - Shoes That Are Not allowed: Hard Sole shoes (i.e. Cowboy boots), Dark Soled shoes, Shoes that don't secure to the foot (i.e. Flip flops); Shoes that are not recommended: shoes that don't give the foot and ankle support (i.e. Moccasins), shoes that don't allow for side-to-side movement (i.e. most running shoes)

Hydration is always important, and everyone should remember to bring water with them.

Alcohol consumption is NEVER allowed at the courts. We ask that everyone be mindful of our image and the impression we are making on the St. Croix campers - therefore no one should give the appearance of drinking alcohol while out at the courts (i.e. drinking a non-alcoholic beer, drinking from cocktail style glasses, etc.).

Music - Bluetooth speakers / Boom Boxes are not allowed on the courts. If you are working / drilling by yourself, you could wear headphones / earbuds but nothing that projects music is allowed

Emergency Procedures:

Basic First Aid kit is in Big Box. There are additional Single use cold packs are found in the Big Box. In the event of a serious emergency 9-1-1 should ALWAYS be called immediately. The physical address to tell 9-1-1 operator is posted on the lid of big box

AED (Automated External Defibrillator) is kept in Big metal box --- DO NOT PUT ANYTHING ON TOP OF THE AED. Training is NOT required to use AED -instructions are included in the AED itself and are very straightforward - however those who are interested in free AED training can sign-up is available May 16th at 9:00 or 4:00, *please note this is AED training NOT CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) or BLS (basic life support) training.

ANY emergency that either requires contacting 9-1-1 OR medical attention (i.e. going to urgent care) needs to be reported to HCPA - See a board member if assistance is needed. - This can be done after the fact.

Tom McDonough recognized and thanked the members of the Social Committee.

Social Committee will have three annual events again this year

- Annual Meeting Welcome and Refreshments
- Annual Picnic – August 20th – Wietkamp Park
- End of Season Round-Up

More information will be placed on the Website Calendar. A Monthly Calendar will be posted at Courts - these will be updated but reference to the website for most up to date information.

VII. Court Schedule and Activities Planned – Julie Graber and John DeGraff

Daily Schedule for courts – time (absolutely no play before 7:30 AM) and different level court assignment 3 days per week plus challenge courts 2 days per week. Paddle Stacking is allowed again this year.

Activity Overview includes leagues, tournaments, skill and drill days.

The board is committed to remain flexible in daily play to meet the members skill and participation levels. More information will be posted and updated on the HCPA website.

VIII. Introduction of Board Candidates – Deanne DeGraff

Tom Menter, Carol Cumming and Deanne DeGraff are incumbents running for reelection for a two-year term.

IX. Vote – John DeGraff

John called for nominations from the floor for any other candidates. With none, he asked for a hand raise vote for the incumbents, Tom, Carol and Deanne. The vote was unanimous.

X. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.