

## **2024 APTA BOARD MEETING LEAGUE COMMITTEE**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The goal of the League Committee is to support APTA leagues in growing the sport and to provide value to our membership. The League Committee intersects with several other APTA committees in addressing Issues that are critical in the administration of league play.

### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

The League Slack Channel continues to be the best forum for League administrators to communicate with each other, share ideas and ask/answer questions. With 140 league administrators with access, it is extremely active throughout the season. Some of the Issues addressed this season included:

- How to best clean up stale email distribution lists on PaddleScores.
- Entry of scores for defaults/forfeits of either the whole match or games/sets due to other penalty, such as tardiness to make sure they are not adversely impacting PTI calculations, but the match will display properly in history,
- Assistance running tournaments on PaddleScores and PTI impact.
- Eligibility rules & requirements for who can play for clubs in leagues, i.e., can pros play, residency requirements for public facilities, can someone play for multiple clubs in the same season, league rules regarding coaching during matches.
- Opinions on pickleball lines on paddle courts among many others.
- There is always a lot of good-natured banter among the participants as well.

There were several new leagues that joined the APTA for the 2023-2024 season. These included:

- The largest of these was the Chicago North Suburban Women's Paddle League (CNSWPL) bringing more than 3000 members back to the APTA.
- Hartford Women
- Detroit Men's Partner
- Stamford/Greenwich Men's Partner
- North Shore Boston Women's Flex
- Newport Country Club.

Several smaller leagues and clubs have been trialing PaddleScores this season:

- Columbus - will require APTA membership next fall.
- Birmingham Athletic Club (BAC) - Michigan
- Nantucket
- Minnesota (Twin Cities)
- Washington D.C. Women – Many of these players already belong to the APTA through participation in their intra-club leagues at the 2 main clubs Chevy Chase and Columbia

- Denver Women's Partner trialing this summer and may require APTA membership in the fall.

### **GOALS**

We continue to try to engage the 3 largest leagues that do not require APTA membership and do not use PaddleScores. These are Westchester Men, Westchester Women and Bergen County (NJ) Women.

### **PROJECTS**

The APTA PTI Algorithm Committee continues to develop better tools to assist league administrators and PTI committees in identifying players who need PTI adjustments and guidance on how to do it. In November 2023 there was a Zoom League Summit call for league administrators to discuss these tools. The "What If" tool which was made available in December 2023, has been extremely helpful in testing the results of start rating changes without the trial and error of the changes being made with the actual data. The "Played Like" Analysis Reports continue to be an excellent tool for adjusting newer players by identifying those who either out-performed or under-performed over a small number of matches. The call also included an overview of the prototype for a new PTI algorithm. The new algorithm is intended to make PTIs more accurate and to reduce the number of manual adjustments required by PTI committees and league administrators to achieve better accuracy. It also addresses some of the psychological stressors caused by PTIs. If/when the new algorithm is implemented, the League Committee will be instrumental in developing the implementation and communication strategy to ensure a smooth transition.

Submitted by Sue Pijawka  
League Committee Chair