

Narrative Summary of VPTC History

1986-1987 The Viewpoint Tennis Club was organized on December 9, 1986, about 6 months after VP park opened, with 22 members. Ed Crudup was elected President. A Constitution and Bylaws was adopted. The only courts were the four West courts. Players self-rated as A, B, or C(lowest) players with three teams formed, with each team electing its own playing Captain. Hans Kusche of H.K. Tennis Clinics Inc. lived in the park and was a teaching professional. Members wishing lessons paid him directly. There was no free voluntary beginners' program. Members contributed voluntary donations for food (50 cents for matches in park) and the park provided coffee. Dues were established as \$1/year. Court erosions problems, court use scheduling (one sheet per day, singles 1-hour limit, doubles 2-hour limit, no more than two advanced reservation sign ups/person per week), wind screens, self-ratings amongst the newly formed EVTL were major concerns. Royal blue was chosen as the club's color for shirts with white shorts and socks for uniforms. At the final spring meeting March 31, 1987, it was announced that a 12 x 12 storage shed plus bleachers were to be added at the SE corner of the tennis courts.

1987-1988 Ed Crudup was re-elected President with club membership expanding to 65. Club dues were increased to \$5/year—Courts 3 and 4 were repaired. Hans K remained the "pro", a shed and ball machine were added. Kitchen materials and equipment were checked out as needed by the teams. EVSTL matches were played on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. Water jugs were also added to the courts.

1988-1989 Al Salloum was elected President, and membership increased to 72. The first in-park tournament was held, as well as the first Spring Fling banquet. A spaghetti dinner was held to raise funds for the tennis club. Wind screens were added in January 1989, courts were repaired and lights added.

1989-1990—no club membership total listed, but Gene Pauley was elected President. Clair Feiereisel arranged for U of Illinois tennis team to visit Viewpoint.

1990-1991 – Membership increased to 100 with Harry Crane elected President. Club dues were \$7 with \$5 to each team for food at EVSTL matches. Chris Langdon, a Certified Tennis Professional, was selected by the EVTL to rate all EVTL players, using the USTA skills numeric system, for \$2/person. Many players were unhappy with their ratings, especially those who were rated lower than they had rated themselves. Spring Fling dinner was catered at \$8/person. Han K still the in-park pro.

1991-1992 Membership still about 100 with Bill Dolan elected President. There are 6 VP teams (1- 2.0, 2- 2.5, 2-3.0, 1-3.5) Dues remained at \$7. A 12-man VPTC volunteer fencing crew repaired and replaced much fencing. A fun Christmas tournament held for first time. Don Foley arranged for ASU women's tennis team to visit VP. Spaghetti banquet again held to raise funds for VPTC. (Raised \$1000). EVSTL (name change with Senior added) ok's 45 y.o. as players, scorekeepers added, first SVE Farnsworth year-end championships. Patio canopy added.

1992-1993 Roger Gray elected President with 106 members. Dues increase to \$10/year- \$5 to Club and \$5 to team. Also \$5 /player for hosting out of park teams at VP tournaments. EVSTL has 12 parks. EVSTL ratings still an issue for VP even with a rating committee. Not all parks rate the same way.

1993-1994 H. Monk elected President- no minutes but lists of about 118 members. First mention of 1.5 team - by coordinator Joe Mammino requesting court time. First Breakfast in the Desert hosted by Dawsons.

1994-1995 Ruth Nelson elected president. First CanAm - in park tournament. VP has 124 members. EVSTL has 17 parks. EVSTL recommends all parks practice tiebreakers to avoid confusion during matches. Bill Dolan engineers (over 1000 hours of work) repainting courts, adding new fencing, posts, and gates. First adopted charity at Christmas (a family). First Breakfast in the Desert hosted by VP 2.5

White team. U of Illinois men's tennis team visits VP. Tennis Club fundraiser—Igor's jazz band and ice cream social.

1995-1996 Nancy Nicola elected President with 116 members. Club Dues raised to \$15 (\$5 to team). Microwave and refrigerator donated to club. Cracks on courts 3 and 4, wind screens needed, casino night started as fundraiser. Volunteers built tables for the event. Nancy Nicola elected VP of EVSTL and league scheduler. Breakfast in Desert at Usury Park.

1996-1997 Doug Dehne elected President, with 167 members. New court shed called the "Love Hut" donated by the Park. Windscreens added to courts 3 and 4, and a new ball machine purchased by the Club (users paid \$5 each until paid off). Monte Carlo (casino night) raised \$1800. Club participated for second time in St. Patrick's Day parade. First time in-park tournaments with SVE, VO, and Silver Ridge, who reciprocated with events at their parks. A Halloween tourney, sweetheart mixed doubles tourney and a tennis pool party were first-time events. Spring Fling was catered event with each team doing a skit. During this year, the tenth of the VPTC, a "Hall of Fame" was established with all past presidents honored.

1997-1998 Ralph Bell elected President with 190+ members including about 20 - 1.5's. Coached by Gary Bartleman. For our Christmas family, everyone asked to donate \$5 plus some canned foods. Breakfast in Desert at Usury, Viewpoint Park has purchased 30 additional feet for possible new east tennis courts in the future (possibly by fall of 1999). Crowded courts, scheduling problem. Court Courier, tennis club newspaper, started. Nancy Nicola elected President of EVSTL.

1998-1999 Ken Heide elected President with 239 members in club including 48 - 1.5's with Stan and Karen Wood as coaches. Rating guidelines were revised for VPTC. East court construction started spring 1998. HK Pro left park. SVE is no longer Farnsworth tournament. Christmas family donations close to \$1000. Casino night raised \$4000 for VPTC. West courts resurfaced November 98—so team league play held at Prospector Park. Breakfast in Desert moved to November.

1999-2000 Peg Ranous elected President with about 300 members including largest 1.5 group in Club history, 68 new players with 19 moving to 2.0 or 2.5 during the 99-2000 season. Linda and Bob Pigorsch were coaches along with Sandy Kincaid and Dick Johnson. Casino night voted out. Revised ratings to move down with 35% games in line 4, lowest drop to 2.0. Eleven VP teams from 1.5 to 4.0 team, six new east courts available for play in November, dedicated in December 1999, with new kitchen and two storage sheds. All east courts also lighted. No water in "Love Hut" at west courts.

2000-2001 Garnett Hammer elected President with 294 Members (86 couples), and 13 teams from 1.5 to 4.0 level. Gene and Pat Sullins ran 1.5 team with 19 players. Christmas charity raised \$1300.

2001-2002 Dick Johnson elected President with membership at 289. West courts were resurfaced and a new west court storage shed built near horseshoe pits and court 10. Dues at \$25 (\$15 for Club and \$10 for team). Tickets for Saturday tournaments \$4 +(\$1 late purchase fee) and rating guidelines changed with move up if winning 50% in at least 6 games. STAR team formed and allocated 4 courts/week for 12 members. No lights now on west courts. The 1.5 team had 28 members with Judy and Jerry Farr coaches. No meeting minutes found.

2002-2003 Stan Wood elected President. 307 members with dues still at \$25. Farris still coaching 1.5's with 30 members. Sunshine Acres becomes Christmas charity. Tennis club is one of 8 VP clubs sponsoring Casino night; club earned \$878 (most of any other club). 26 new scorekeepers added. First new complete redraw of teams in spring. Future redraws each year. No sink at west courts and club votes to purchase new ball machine for west courts with old machine to go to east courts. Largest invitational ever at VP - 359 persons with Greenfield. East court sound system installed.

2003-2004 Larry Warnke elected President with 359 members, including 51 1.5 players with Farris as coaches. A new ball machine was purchased (\$3162) and food handlers permits required if selling food (lunch tickets). Changed to a participation fee for in-park tournaments of \$4/participant +\$1 late fee. Trilogy added to EVSTL. If Line 1 player in EVSTL gets winning % to move up but does not, VPTC voted we may refuse to play that player. Viewpoint voted to move EVSTL league start times to 9:30 a.m. at VP to allow for court use from 8- 9:30 a.m. by club functions. Also voted to instruct VO that VP will not play at VO invitationals unless use the 1 hour format as no way to plan players' start times otherwise. Tennis club votes to support Tennia Against Cancer tournament in January 2004; ended up raising over \$10,000 for cancer research. Sunshine Acres Christmas fund raised over \$1200 plus furniture, clothing, food, and equipment donations. Rating guidelines again reviewed and revised. Defibrillators on courts discussed. Larry Warnke collected cost data and recommended replacement/resurfacing of west courts; studied and recommended by VPTC to Viewpoint Park. First budget for VPTC developed and handed out spring of 2004 for 04-05 season.

2004-2005 Dale Bowen elected President with 351 members including 38 1.5's coached by Harry and Maria Bitman. Constitution and Bylaws were revised and adopted January 2005. Tennis Against Cancer tournament raised over \$17,000 this year due to efforts of four couples. Casino night again raised \$1045 for the club. Al Colter headed a pro search committee that recommended Chris Langdon Sports, which was approved by the Board and membership for exclusive in-park tennis professional lessons. First complete budget report April 5, 2005 presented by George Peck, Treasurer. EVSTL discusses possibility of over-75 league.

2005-2006 Judy Farr elected President with membership of 391 of which 71 are 1.5's with Jerry Gowen as coach/captain. VP has 18 teams from 1.5-4.0. Rating committee expanded to 6 members. Invitational participation fee increased to \$6 +\$1 late fee. VPTC seven-member long range planning Committee established with Dale Bowen as chair; report to Board February 7, 2006. Also Lee McDougal and his committee created the first tennis club inventory of equipment and courts; submitted to Board January 2006. No minutes found for 2005-06.

2006-2007 Ed Dewald elected President with membership of 426 and 1.5 team of 63 players coached by Jerry Gowen. No minutes found for 2006-2007.

2007-2008 Sue Byrnes elected President with membership of 521 and 1.5 team of 105 and Jerry Gowen coach and captain. Self-rating begins in March of 2008. Christmas fund raised \$2268 for Sunshine Acres.

2008-2009 Jim Gerhardt elected President with membership of 281 and 1.5 team of 35 coached by Jerry Gowen. Self-rating retroactive to Nov 3, 2008. 16 teams, and Christmas fund to Sunshine Acres of \$1375. No minutes found except January 19, 2009 General meeting.

2009-2010 Clive MacRaild elected President with 405 members and 41- 1.5 members. Christmas Fund raised \$2347 for Sunshine Acres. Club Dues \$30 (\$20 Club and \$10 Team). Meeting agendas for Oct, Nov and January but no official minutes found.

2010-2011 Ralph Sharp elected President with 455 members including 45 -1.5 members and Jerry Gowen as coach). Christmas fund for Sunshine Acres \$2,800. Meetings were conducted between Viewpoint Park and a long-range committee about recommendations for replacement of west courts. No meeting minutes found. Club Dues were increased by a vote in March of 2011 to \$50 (\$20 Club operation, \$15 to Club Capital/Maintenance Reserves, and \$15 to Team)

2011-2012 Joe Morton elected President with 378 Members including 34 1.5 members with Dale Bowen captain/coach and 55 STARS team members.

2012-2013 Del Stitt elected President with 379 members including 53 1.5 players with Dale Bowen captain/coach. Christmas Fund for Sunshine Acres raised \$2200.

2013-2014 Ramona Rees elected President with 373 members, dues \$50/year, 39 1.5 members, 27 moved to 2.0 in March 2014, Dale Bowen captain/coach. Club installed new sunscreens and frames, on Courts 1 and 2 (Viewpoint Park purchased), ATGA (Chris Langdon) contract renewed, VPTC website installed and updated by Ben Wilford, Larry Beres, and Joe Sparrow. Ed Dewald and policy committee updated moveup/movedown policy, Spring Fling banquet at Tia Royal Islanders honored five club members still playing tennis over age 90.

2014-2015 Deena Burns elected President with 384 members, dues- \$50/year, 35 1.5 members with 21 moved to 2.0 in March 2015, Steve Shults captain, and Debbie Chang co-captain. Conflict Resolution policy adopted. ATGA had tennis professionals working with 1.5's and two other teams at least one practice/week. STARS team had 62 members with Jim Eggen captain and Bev Latrace co-captain. Major events of year: first Viewpoint Holiday Mixed Doubles Tournament held in January 2015, directed by Judy and Ken Gamble. First "Under the lights" in-park tournament in February organized by Jody Sander. Over 100 seat cushions fabricated by club members, Hold My Court on-line court reservation premiered summer 2014, then utilized fully beginning after EVSTL season on trial basis. ATGA contract extended for another year, Tencap member rating system discussed for experimental use by EVSTL. First full membership survey done in spring.

2015-2016 Bob Allan elected President with 369 members including 26 1.5 players captain/coach Steve Schultz and Deb Chang, and 52 STARS. Tencap rating system used in parallel to prior system, with moves being decided only by prior system. Opportunity Match system developed in EVSTL (OM's). Survey results posted to website and action plans developed. Playoff format developed by Ken Gamble and approved. Gail Hagert started the "Garden Project". TV monitor project begun. Revised Constitution & Bylaws, plus 14 policies approved at January GM. Hold-My-Court system permanently adopted. Sunshine Acres donation \$1900. Defibrillator purchased for east courts. HMT profited \$675. Adoption of Tencap rating system at February GM, for full use next season. ATGA contract extended.

2016-2017 Clive MacRaidl was elected President, with 360 members including 26 1.5 players with Captain Dale Bowen, co-captain Jacque Carey, and 38 STARS. Four new/amended policies adopted. Many repairs done by Viewpoint Park – resurface courts 2&3, new nets on courts 1/2/3, east kitchen floor replaced, kitchen fan replaced, replaced east defibrillator and put into women's washroom in a safe, various shed doors/jambs fixed/replaced. First Friday night BBQ's with social tennis hosted by Sharon & Phil Olson, with over 100 players. Purchase of new ShotMaker Deluxe ball machine to replace 1992 model. Larry & Patty Warnke donated funds to complete TV monitor project at both courts. Two more policies approved. Year-long effort resulted in over \$3500 donated to Sunshine Acres. VP purchased 3 new windscreens. Hosting of Holiday Mixed tournament was approved for 3 more years, with directors to be Karalee and Gord Mann. Court reservation start time moved to 6am in 1.5 hour increments. ATGA contract renewed.

2017-2018 Sharon Olson was elected President, with 364 members including 17 1.5 players with Captain Deb Morton, co-captain Ev Wright, plus Ron Lane and Deb Change in January, and 50 STARS. Approval of 10 policies reviewed. New directory of members and online registration for events systems created by Ben Wilford. New in-park team tournament "Toms & Hens" over Thanksgiving weekend for those who stay in the park. Viewpoint Park improvements over summer: courts 4&5 resurfaced, washrooms painted, purchased 2 new white benches, 3 bikeracks, 2 sets of posts, 4 sets scorecards, and 2 nets. Tables and chairs replaced at both court patios with re-used pool furniture from Viewpoint Park (16 tables and 64 chairs). One Bylaws amendment and 7 policies reviewed and approved. Second new ball machine purchased, also table with sneezeguard and ice-packs. Second membership survey done in spring. Spring

Fling theme was “Woodstock” complete with self-tie-dyed shirts. ATGA contract renewed with change to allow twice yearly all-club events presented by other tennis pros. Court 10 converted to pickleball courts over summer.

2018-2019 Michele Walters was elected President, with 360 members including 1.5 players with Captain Ali Garcia, co-captain Paul Thistlewaite. Survey 2018 results posted to website and action plans developed. Brent Abel brought in for coaches training session in November. Viewpoint Park improvements over summer included: resurfacing of courts 1 & 6, two new nets, replacement of east court lights with LED bulbs, requested addition of two courts to east side as well as modern water fountains with refilling capacity. Six policy amendments were approved. Proposal for 4.5 level in EVSTL. Sunshine acres donation was \$1,642. New sweatshirts and team shirt styles offered. ATGA contract renewed with no changes.

2019-2020 Mike Bowman was elected President, with 314 members. CPR training offered to all members. One new court was added to east courts area, called court 10 for this year. Year-long ladder play was offered for all divisions. Brent Abel conducted training session for coaches. Donation to Sunshine Acres \$2220. Sharon & Phil Olson served as tournament directors for the annual Holiday Mixed Tournament (6th year). Player movement procedures adjusted to align with changes to EVSTL Bylaws. Proposal for new player development program presented by members of the coaching group. Trial of 4.5 division in Tencap. March General meeting held electronically due to Covid concerns. ATGA contract renewed. Recreation division of EVSTL was approved with details to be worked out. Nominating committee recommendations were approved by President Mike Bowman on behalf of all members.

2020-2021 Harold Heyming was elected President, with 0 members due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Courts were renumbered from #1 in the east to #10 at the west end.

2021-2022 Pam Wolfe was elected President as of December 1, with 293 members. ATGA contract approved for this season. Streamlined social calendar, no teams assigned to host. League play (Tencap) deferred until Jan 1. No Holiday Mixed tournament this season. All kitchen duties coordinated by Val Jesky. Parallel streams of league and recreation play were offered. Garbage cans removed from individual courts. Review and updating of Bylaws and all policies undertaken. Technology committee researched and recommended a new software program for all Club needs. Three policy revisions were approved. Bylaws revision was not approved and was sent to committee of 7 members for further review for November general meeting. Viewpoint Park agreed to resurface courts 1 through 5 this summer; nets were removed in April. A social committee was struck to plan events based on member feedback; online survey was completed in early April.

2022-2023 Kersten Grant was elected President with 262 members. Updating of bylaws was completed. Eighteen of twenty-one policies were updated; the remaining three will be updated once the EVSTL bylaws are updated. A new technology policy is in the works. The EVSTL chose Tenniscores.com as the new system for managing EVSTL tennis. As a result, members were given the option to request to be re-evaluated. Eighty members chose to do so. EVSTL league teams will now be co-ed when possible. A very successful in-park league was organized to trial the use of Tenniscores. The league had an A and a B level with weekly matches being played. The social committee organized a large number of events, including a joint Christmas party with the pickleball club. Each level of players was responsible for hosting at least one event. Monday night socials were organized once per month with the attendance at these events growing each month. The very successful beginner’s program and advertising campaign brought in over 30 new players, 10 of whom became club members. A number of capital project items are being considered including updated water dispensers/drinking fountains, a hitting board, an expanded viewing/socializing area, new furniture at the east courts, and new bulletin boards.