



Venture Out Tennis Club Annual General Meeting

March 2, 2026

4:00 PM – VO Tennis Veranda

Those Present: Carol Ann Elliott (Co-President) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Tennis Club Board members present included: Susan Carrigan (Co-President), Gordon Cummings (Vice President), Roger Schwartz (Treasurer), Pat Balfour (Secretary), Paula Sundet Wolf (Player Development), Kim Regier (Court Play), Marcie Rackow (Social Coordinator) and Steve Yoast (Court Maintenance).

Adoption of the Minutes: It was moved and seconded that the posted minutes from the March 5, 2025 Tennis Club Annual General Meeting be adopted.

Adoption of the Agenda: It was moved and seconded that the agenda for today's 2026 Tennis Club Annual General meeting be adopted.

Roger Schwartz presented the Treasurer's Report: The tennis club currently has \$2,100 available for expensed through the end of this season.

Carol Ann Elliott and Susan Carrigan presented the Co-Presidents Report: Highlighting some of the achievements and changes Susan & Carol Ann's leadership has overseen the past 3 years: Formation of a player evaluation committee, rather than a single evaluator. Implementation of the tennis ball recycling program. Implementation of a professional tennis coaching program. The transition from TenCap, a dynamic rating system, to Tenniscores league management system. Installation of the water fountain & bottle filler on the VO tennis veranda. This year's VO Tennis turns 50 celebration. In 2024, we were at risk of cancelling the 25th annual VO Fall Classic tennis tournament. Thank you to Pat Murphy who stepped up as Tournament Director, and to Newman Maurer for shadowing her and overseeing this year's tournament. The introduction to VO hosting Valley of the Sun and WoW tennis league matches on our courts. The introduction of the non-playing tennis club membership, so that spouses, friends and former players can all belong to the club, be included in club activities and receive club communications. The approval for the resurfacing of courts 3&4 (completed fall 2025) and 5&6 (scheduled for summer 2026). The transition from Hold My Court to the new online Court Reserve court and event registration platform. We're happy to say that as our term comes to an end, we also have a friendlier, more amicable relationship with the other VO clubs in our park. Going forward, we recommend the introduction of the Red Ball Tennis program. We also emphasize that not only do we all need to help recruit new members to our club, but that we also help & support them through team activities and player development.

Gordon Cummings presented the Vice-Presidents Report: Thanked Carol Ann Elliott and Susan Carrigan for their leadership and mentorship over the past year. Emphasized the use of Court Reserve and the new Tennis Club website, as the go to places for both members and non-members to find club information, event schedules and sign-ups.

Team Lead Reports

Paula Sundet Wolf – Player Development: A demonstration of Red Ball tennis will be held after today's meeting and all in attendance are invited to participate. Several of our board members have played this at other parks and found it to be a fun social game with a rapid learning curve. Our club will soon have our own equipment (balls, rackets and nets) and we feel that this will greatly accelerate the development of both new and former players returning to the sport.

Kim Regier – Court Play: We participated in 5 invitationals this year and have at least that many scheduled for next season. We had very good participation by our club members and it was a great way to meet and socialize with players from the other parks. We're reviewing the social round robin format, to see if changes need to be made for next season to encourage better participation.

Steve Yoast – Court Maintenance: One of the motors on the ball machine in the tennis kiosk shorted out, so the ball machine from courts 7&8 was brought over to replace it. A new motor is on order and is expected to arrive and be installed any day. Thank you to Rob Stoutenberg for overseeing our tennis ball recycling program and to Lorne Smelsky for all of his assistance with cleaning and maintaining the tennis courts. We tested out a water removal machine on the courts, and found that while it did an adequate job, the courts still weren't dry enough to play on until the sun comes out and finishes the process.

Carol Ann Elliott – EVSTL: We are in the final week of our 16 week long EVSTL schedule. Thank you to all of the captains that provided leadership to our club teams throughout the season. We had many teams use the extra board this year, and this afforded players that weren't scheduled an opportunity to still play each week. Our 3.0 women played out of Tower Point this year past year, and it looks like they'll have enough players to form a team that plays out of VO this coming season.

Frank Muller – Invitationals and Tournaments: We had great participation in this year's Invitationals and VO always has more participants than any other park. There are two upcoming East Valley tournaments over the next two weeks: the SVE spring doubles tournament and the SSV mixed doubles tournament.

Newman Maurer – VO Fall Classic Tournament: Registration will open April 1st for the 2026 VO Fall Classic. The format will change for next year's tournament to round robin pool play in the early rounds. Players will still be guaranteed 3 matches, and teams advancing will then filter into playoff brackets. At the 4.5 level, we'll only offer mixed doubles this year and may consider mixed doubles at other levels in the future. These changes are being made to simplify the scheduling process and to reduce our overall tournament costs.

Note: Roy Thiessen has been involved with organizing the VO Classic since its inception 25 years ago and voiced concerns over the proposed round robin format change. The original goals of the tournament organizers was to include as many players as possible, guarantee them at least 3 matches and have as many teams as possible play on the final day of the tournament. He pointed out that he felt that the proposed changes may not be consistent with the vision and intent of the original tournament organizers.

Judith Pyle – Social Board Liaison: (Filling in for Colleen Grewenow) Thank you to all of the tennis club volunteers that have participated in fund raising efforts throughout the year. The funds clubs give to the social board are then distributed back to clubs for the purchase of consumable items, as well as things like tables, chairs, and umbrellas. The Social Board election is under way and ballots have been emailed out. Everyone is reminded that it is important to vote in all VO park elections.

New Business

Election / Acclamation of Officers: Proposed officer changes for next year include Gordon Cummings as the new club President and Diane Paul as the new club Treasurer. Returning board members include Pat Balfour as club Secretary, Paula Sundet-Wolf for Player Development, Kim Regier for Court Play, Steve Yoast for Court Maintenance, Marcie Rackow as Social Coordinator and Carol Ann Elliott as EVSTL Coordinator. It was moved, seconded, and voted to confirm these positions for the 2026/2027 season.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at approx. 5:00 pm.

Submitted by Pat Balfour