2023 APTA BOARD MEETING
TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

MISSION STATEMENT

To deliver functional technology solutions, support and engage the current and future members of the APTA across all their activities involving platform tennis play (Social, Leagues & Tournaments).

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Membership/E-Commerce
Over Summer 2022, Isabel worked with Lightway Solutions (formerly Transom Partners) to implement a new e-commerce system for the APTA. This is the system used by players to register for tournaments. This project was sufficiently completed to be used throughout the season.

One significant issue prevented the delayed charging of waitlist tournament entries and significantly increased the amount of manual work and player outreach to collect registration fees throughout the first half of the 2022-2023 tournament season. This issue and several operational problems ("stuff breaking when they deploy changes") have eroded confidence in the Lightway Solutions (formerly Transom Partners) development organization.

Generally speaking, the infrastructure support (managing server uptime, restarting, etc.) still retains our confidence.

Live Scoring
Number of events continues to grow and the evolution of Team Nationals format was successfully managed.

The beginning of the 2022-2023 season was particularly difficult with performance challenges culminating at Chicago Charities. Reached out to a number of potential partners to price consulting work to assist with Live Scoring performance analysis. Volley ultimately stepped up and identified a couple of key queries that, once optimized, vastly improved the capacity and performance resilience of Live Scoring. Volley contributed time, expertise, and real effort as goodwill.

Website (Platformtennis.org)
The plan was to revisit the website technology migration during the 2022-2023 season. The APTA hired Jennifer Beringer and she has engaged the existing staff, a variety of board members, and championed and kicked off the platformtennis.org transition project with Realware LLC. The initial phase of this project was approved at the February 28, 2023 board meeting.

Ongoing Maintenance/Support
Ongoing work includes training, technical support, and routine maintenance and fixes to our systems. We also support the various committees and initiatives as new projects arise. In addition, there is always a long wish list of projects. The order in which various projects are completed changes in sync with APTA initiatives.

Match History Data Warehouse

A basic open-source data warehouse has been in use for one-off projects by a variety of leagues and PTI committee efforts to support and research PTI-related issues.

In early 2023, the PTI committee issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) to Volley, Tenniscores, and C3IT (Enterscores) to build a production quality PTI Management System to ensure the future and interoperability of the PTI system. Proposals were submitted by Volley and Tenniscores and the project was awarded to Volley for the cost of $0, where Volley would value the work cost as a donation to the APTA. This project has just started (mid-April 2023) following a general discussion about APTA Data Usage Philosophy.

Submitted by Chair Demian Johnston