

Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Directors of Pickleball BC Held at 7PM, March 26th, 2019, via UberConference.com

Call to Order

Walter Knecht called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

Attendees: Walter Knecht; Tricia Timmermans; Silvia Simpson; Ken Holman, Rick Wadsworth, Brian Shum, and Al Thomson (joined at 7:45PM).

Apologies: Karen Watson

1. Approval of Agenda.

The Agenda was distributed earlier, and was APPROVED with one addition (a PCO update by Walter).

2. Approval of Minutes of January 17, 2019.

The minutes of January 17, 2019 were APPROVED.

Ken noted that no minutes had been put on the website. Tricia will send Ken all Approved minutes.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

Walter reported on a recent PCO meeting. An official PCO insurance waiver is now online for members to sign. When a member logs in, they are met with the waiver page, which must be agreed to. It's a one-time deal. A PCO Ratings committee is looking into how to approach this topic. USAPA wants \$\$\$ for PCO to participate in its system. Cost is \$1.50 per person per year. Most players would be happy to pay it but tournament players are only a small percentage of the Pickleball community. Rick reported that Barry Montgomery has been most helpful with the ratings system. Rick recommends the four-digit system. He will send information to any club interested. Although it more or less mirrors the USAPA system, he did not know if USAPA would accept the ratings from this system in their tournaments. PCO is not on board with what the US is doing, and won't be for some time. Communications from PCO will be changing. They will do a monthly short newsletter and a quarterly longer paper. They are looking seriously at regional-type tournaments, provincial tournaments and national tournaments but this will not be dealt with until 2020.

4. Financial Update:

\$4,100 in a new account (Vancity Credit Union in Coquitlam), less a few expenditures. Brian is working on funnelling spreadsheets from Walter into this account. Financial information will be provided at each board meeting. Walter's PB accounts will be closed off and funds transferred to the Vancity account within in the next two weeks. Post meeting note: actual balance (cash in accounts minus A/P plus A/R) may be less than Brian reported.

5. Recognition and History

Sylvia reported that she has been in touch with Aki, who asked her to look at four submissions made by Chuck and others. She suggested to Aki that she will rewrite the information suitable for the website. She will forward the information to board members.

Sylvia left the meeting. Al Thomson joined the meeting.

6. Membership

There are about 3900 current members, with about 120 to be added this week.

7. Single Database Membership System

Walter has been educating Rick on how the system works. Rick, now cognizant of the amount of work it involves, thanked Walter for all his efforts. There are a lot of mistakes in the PCO system - historical mistakes, typos, etc., but the bigger issue is where we go as a group. Alberta, Quebec, Ontario and BC are doing their own thing. Alberta, PQ and Ont. have bought into database systems that don't comply with the PCO system. *Memberleaf* is used by PCO, but has problems, depending on how you organize it. Nova Scotia, for example, signs up online through Memberleaf, but then has to go back to their clubs for local information. Memberleaf may die as it is not capable of doing everything at once. For example, Walter could not select a group of members – it was all or nothing. Also, many aspects of it are designated “custom”. PCO is looking at other systems, but they are doing it independently. BC is the only province that has looked at what the whole system should look like. A few people are looking at various systems here in BC. Alberta is happy with [Wild Apricot](#). They have 3900 members running through it. Walter will rewrite his database dissertation and hopes to get more comments back. He is impressed with the North Vancouver group, [Interpodia](#). They have about 25 employees in Australia, Denmark and Canada.

8. Refereeing – Where are we?

Al reported on a recent meeting. In short, not too much is happening. PCO is very slow and not well organized. Various PCO committees will look at the different levels of training. What does the nomenclature mean? Certified Referee, Registered? It can mean a person has simply gone onto the USAPA website and downloaded the handbook. It's difficult to know who can provide training. People need to have a level of proficiency and teaching knowledge. The immediate target is to produce scorekeepers. There is simply not a high level of interest for people to want to become certified. The USAPA handbook is available and that's the *bible*. There is a high fail rate for certification. He is concerned that Canada should not water down the system. Once people are trained, they still have to go out and do a lot of court time, which is not yet defined by PCO. So, how should BC approach it, so that we do not end up with a “wildwest” approach? To be continued.

9. Provincial Playoffs.

Walter asked that we look at Tom and Sandi Caverly's proposal for BC Provincial Championships. We will revisit this in a month's time.

10. Ratings – Registry.

PCO has a document online regarding ratings. Walter will send the links to board members. PCO is primarily interested in Tournament ratings – it is up to the provinces and clubs to create their own registry with self-ratings, despite the fact that Club A may not like Club B's ratings. Rick explained how well the four-digit rating works in Vernon. Not all agree that a central registry is necessary, as pickleball is still very much a social sport. If it should be deemed that ratings are needed or wanted, a registry open to all would be valuable.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM.

Tricia Timmermans

Secretary

Date of Approval