

1. ***Call to order***

President, Walter Knecht, called the meeting to order at 1:01PM.

2. ***Verification of Quorum***

Walter verified that there was a quorum for the meeting to progress.

3. ***Confirmation of Chair for this meeting***

He questioned whether anyone else would like to chair the meeting. Hearing nothing, Walter continued to chair the meeting.

4. ***Confirm proper Notice of Meeting was sent***

Walter confirmed that the Notice of Meeting was sent to approximately 5,500 members.

5. ***Approval of AGENDA***

Walter asked if there were any objections to the agenda items or to the sequence of the agenda. Heather (North Shore) requested to add an item on *Best Practices*. This will not be an addition to the Agenda, but it will be dealt with during the budget session. The Agenda was APPROVED as distributed.

6. ***Minutes Previous AGM***

As this is the first AGM of Pickleball BC, there were no minutes from previous years. The next AGM will be held in February, 2022.

7. ***Reports***

***a. Head Referee***

See ***Appendix 1*** of these Minutes for Alan Thomson's full report.

Notes: for those who would like to recap the November 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> training sessions, there is a YouTube [link on the website](#). The two sessions last approximately two hours. As there have been significant changes since the latest training, there is no certification "grandfathering in". Only Level 1 and Level 2 referees are recognized. A certification process by PBC is about 18 months away. Contact AI to find out if you would be recognized as certified.

***b. Youth Program Heather Hood***

See ***Appendix 2*** for Heather Hood's full report.

*c. Website*

See *Appendix 3* for Ken Holman’s full report on the Website. Thanks to Ken for his quick responses, and all the work he has put in on the website.

*d. Vice President – Karen Watson*

Karen gave a summary of her report, which can be read in full in *Appendix 4*. There were no questions for Karen.

*e. Treasurer*

There were no updates to the Treasurer’s report. *The Cash Position* as of October 31, 2020 can be found in *Appendix 5*, and the *Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Unrestricted Net Assets* for the period ending December 31, 2019 in *Appendix 6*. Heather requested that a concept of our “best practices” could be added to the website; Walter assured that there would be no cost to add this to the website, and that she should send him an email wording her request and something would be constructed for the website.

***MOTION: M:Brian Shum/ S:Bruce Eburne: Move that the PBC membership fee remain at \$2.50 for 2021. CARRIED.***

*f. President*

Walter thanked all who had served on the board. For a full account of the President’s Report, see *Appendix 7*. In particular, Walter thanked all on the board who have put in time, effort and interest to further PBC, noting that Secretary Tricia will be leaving the board to return to Australia. To date there are 6,631 registrations and 49 active clubs, showing considerable growth. There was some discussion on updated documentation re Return to Sport by viaSport following orders from Dr. Bonnie Henry and the Covid outbreak among pickleball players in Thunder Bay. Many attendees thanked Walter for his leadership, the outstanding job he has done, his enthusiasm, and his work with Ken on the website. Further discussion involved whether clubs should become registered. The cost is about \$300, but there is no cost for clubs to have memberships in PBC.

**8. *Board Election Results***

Al Gautier reported that 577 ballots were cast, 24 of which were invalid. The eleven elected board members will meet to decide roles. Those elected are:

Raymond Dear  
Ken Holman  
Heather Hood

Walter	Knecht
Sharon	MacDonald
Barry	Montgomery
Brian	Shum
Alan	Thomson
Karen	Watson
Rod	Williams
Ken	Witt

***9. Meeting Adjournment***

The meeting adjourned at 1:44 PM.

Tricia Timmermans

---

Secretary

---

Date of Approval

## APPENDIX 1

### PBBC Head Referee Report For Annual General Meeting (AGM)

PCO's Referee training program is on the website, and now underway across the country. At this time, candidates can take several quizzes to test their knowledge of the rules and procedures used to become an accredited referee to either level 1 or 2. PCO has purchased Referee Pouches for those successfully being rated to either of those levels. At this time, the program does not have a Certification process defined.

Referee Training is not easy at the best of times in Canada due to the limited number of tournaments available to those looking to learn, practice and refine their skills. With the onset of Covid-19, it has been made even more difficult.

A four-hour Zoom training session was conducted in July, with a follow up on court session in Burnaby. A rating opportunity was attempted the following day, but limited time, and too many people did not allow for a thorough rating opportunity for each candidate. Ratings should really be conducted at tournaments to properly evaluate the candidate.

Another Zoom Training opportunity was offered in November, in two separate sessions. There was an amazing response with over 100 indicating a desire to attend, but that number dropped to around 65 for each event.

Planning has started for another Zoom session in January, which would include a review of the 2021 Rule Changes and working with Line Judges.

While sworn to secrecy on the rule changes until their release in January, I can tell you that there are well over 100 planned, with a few of those being fairly significant, but again the majority are word changes and minor.

Hoping that Covid-19 will be well behind us by the Spring, I have submitted a plan to do some travelling throughout BC, with the intent of providing on court Referee training. If people are well prepared, this could lead to a rating opportunity. It would be great to get some Level 1 & 2 rated Referees situated throughout the Province. They in turn could help provide direction and training to other interested candidates.

Alan Thomson

PBBC Head Referee

## Appendix 2 – Youth Report – Heather Hood

### **Youth Pickleball Initiatives Report - Working Group - Heather Hood, PBC Director At Large; Matthew Landells, Head Sponsored Junior Player, Pitt Meadows; Evelyn LeRose, Vernon PB Club; October 25, 2020**

Over the past many months, our Working Group has been communicating with Pickleball Clubs in the province to research what we are doing to support the development of Youth Pickleball in B.C.

**Highlights of the Summer Inquiry** In response to, what's working and what's not working in the development of BC's Youth Pickleball. Covid19 continues to present challenges for many Pickleball communities' ability to move forward with plans. Schools have also focused their priorities on school opening and operating this fall. Clubs were very clear that they were supportive of developing youth pB; their first priority, however, is getting adequate dedicated courts for the growing numbers of new players and existing players.

**What's happening in the province of BC to support the growth and development of Youth Pickleball (School-Aged Youth) U 20?** Contacted total of 74 Clubs listed on the Pickleball BC list with a set of inquiry questions to determine what progress is underway to engage youth. In reviewing what clubs had to offer there were some common themes expressed as well as common barriers to youth development summarized as follows:

**% of Youth Players in Clubs** -Most clubs had fewer than 5% of their membership U20. One club (Peace Country) noted that youth participation is 18% of membership and had a good relationship and partnership with the school district. -Very few clubs had a person dedicated solely to development of Youth Programs; whereas, some club directors included Youth development under the umbrella of player development. -The few participating youth were typically introduced to pB by an older family member e.g. grandparent, parent.

**Pickleball in Schools** There are a number of schools throughout Canada who include Pickleball in their elementary to secondary physical education programs. School Curriculum is developed provincially, and most physical education curriculum objectives provide enough flexibility to include the sport of Pickleball in these programs. Ontario, however, developed its own Pickleball Curriculum in 2011. (Note: E.LeRose completed an overview of the Pickleball curriculum for schools in Canada). The survey of BC clubs showed there were several different Youth models of implementation underway in various pockets of the province. These included: Teach the Teacher Training; Professional Development for Teachers; as well as a program where a club offered a Junior Pickleball Training Program. In some cases, trainers were volunteers and others paid trainers; and sometimes Clubs provided the equipment and the volunteers to go into schools to work with the teacher and students.

### **APPENDIX 3, Website Report, Ken Holman**

Our website was showing excellent growth in terms of 'unique visits' and 'page views' until March, at which time visits dropped by about 30%. Since then we have been showing steady and gradual growth and visits have climbed back to the pre-March levels.

Our website continues to be the first choice of new players, visitors and existing players looking for information about pickleball in BC.

In normal times our "Tournaments" page, which lists all up-coming tournaments (we are made aware of), is one of the most accessed pages on our site. We continue to encourage tournament organizers to let us know, well in advance, the dates they are planning to hold their tournament. By doing so it may deter another tournament choosing the same dates, thereby avoiding any overlapping.

We continue to offer the opportunity for small clubs to have a web presence by 'piggy-backing' their unique page on to our site – the cost, a very reasonable \$20.00 a year.

Every effort is made to keep the website relevant and vibrant. We are always delighted to receive suggestions and/or contributions of content for the website and future newsletters.

## Appendix 4, Vice President's Report , Karen Watson

2020 was a very different year from what was expected. Covid -19 kept us away from the pickleball courts for a while and thankfully we finally arrived at Phase 2 and soon thereafter Phase 3 of our Return to Sport.

Indoor play was paused for quite a while but thankfully the weather in BC cooperated and we have been able to play within our bubbles and within the Public Health guidelines outdoors for the most part.

PBC focused on the outdoors for our Return to Sport guidelines. viaSport was supportive as we went through the process of posting the information.

Now that we are into weather that is less conducive to outdoor play some players have been able to go back indoors. Others have chosen not to play indoors and yet others are taking a break from the sport for now. PBC has added in further guidelines to Return to Play and added some recommendations about doubles play, indoor play and playing in air-supported structures.

In October, PBC applied to become a Provincial Sports Organization. The documentation required was submitted and we are now waiting to hear back from viaSport about whether our application has been accepted. Becoming a PSO requires that PBC must have a certain number of members ( we exceeded 20 fold), the membership needs to be throughout the province, PBC needs to be the official representative of Pickleball Canada in the province, our society needs to be in good standing in the province and we need to have commitments to the Sports for Life philosophy, a plan and education curriculum for referees and coaching. I believe we met all the requirements.

Lets keep our fingers crossed and hope that we will be able to continue to advance the access to pickleball for all players.

Lets all do our part to stop the spread of Covid-19. Stay safe.

**Youth Programs** A few clubs (Vernon) with dedicated courts offer Junior Programs and Youth Camps; this includes free Junior Orientations. Chilliwack Club is in the process of developing a Junior Program in partnership with the school district with the club providing all equipment - balls, paddles, nets, safety eyewear. Some clubs assisting schools with free or paid lessons. Other clubs (Kelowna) have focused on training members in becoming PB Teachers.

**Exploration and Successes cited include:** Exploring summer youth camps Evening and weekend hours set aside for students and working adults. Grant writing for lessons targeting At Risk Youth and special needs (Sooke) Seniors (Saturna's Grandparents ) teaching youth the rudiments of the sport.

**BC School Curriculum** The PE K-12 learning outcomes provide a broad description of physical education areas that allows teachers to determine how they will teach movement and manipulative skills and this can be done within the sport of PB. Equipment and courts can be adapted using badminton nets or portable pB nets, and courts. Schools would need to get paddles and balls. Fraser Valley Club and other clubs have partnered with schools to provide equipment and free intro lessons to teachers' classes. Some schools already have wooden paddles and Pickleball Jr. Sets. Barriers cited include: limited number of dedicated courts; difficult to accommodate court usage for existing player lists in the fast growing sport; primarily focused on new players coming to the sport rather than initiating or attracting youth. Another barrier noted by several clubs was the perception or public image that Pickleball is a sport for seniors only.

In summary, there doesn't appear to be any areas of opposition to the development of youth participation in Pickleball. There are, however, few noted incentives to take on the challenge. Those Pickleball Clubs with access to dedicated courts are clearly moving ahead in BC youth development. The question next, Where do we go from here? The working group proposes for Future Directions of Youth Programs 2021 the following goals for consideration.

Proposed Goals: \*To support the increase of BC School-aged Youth players in the sport of Pickleball

\*To adopt and adapt several working models of School-aged Youth Pickleball Programs

\*To plan, market, and implement a future BC Junior Tournament.



Cash Position  
at Oct 31, 2020

		Oct 31/20
Opening Bank Balance (VanCity)		17,263.00
PayPal account balance		90.13
Term Deposit #1 (Matures Jul 11/21) .65%	6,102.28	
Term Deposit #2 (Matures Nov 22/20) 1.8%	7,000.00	
Interest at Maturity	<u>126.00</u>	<u>7,126.00</u>
Investments		13,228.28
Total Cash Available		<u>30,581.41</u>
Expenses (Est):		
Walter (MailChimp)		0.00
Website Ad Expense (Ken)		280.69
PCO (Membership Remittance)	565 x \$5	2,825.00
Misc		500.00
Total Expenses Accrued		<u>3,605.69</u>
Ending Bank Balance -		<u><u>26,975.72</u></u>

**PCO Pickleball Assn BC**  
**Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Unrestricted Net Assets**  
**For the Period Ending December 31, 2019**  
(Unaudited)

	<b>2019</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>	
Membership	\$ 16,443
Advertising Revenue	1,460
Referee Clinic Revenue (net)	176
Interest Revenue	3
Misc Revenue	26
	<b>\$ 18,108</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Website	\$ 1,300
Advertising & Promotion	455
Office	1,278
Bank & PayPal Fees	403
	<b>\$ 3,436</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES - Current Year</b>	<b>\$ 14,672</b>
<b>UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS - Beginning of year</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS - End of year</b>	<b>14,672</b>
<b>UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS :</b>	
Bank Balance	1,495
PayPal Balance	14
Investments	13,000
Accounts Receivable	500
Accrued Liabilities	(337)
<b>UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS - End of year</b>	<b>14,672</b>



APPENDIX 7

## Presidents Report 2020 AGM

### Where, when, and why did Pickleball BC get started?

**October 30, 2016** I applied to Pickleball Canada to be the BC Provincial Ambassador to or for Pickleball Canada (PCO). After a few months in this unknown space and through conversations with PCO it became obvious that an umbrella organization comprising all BC pickleball players and clubs was really what was required.

And so it started.

Through evolution and significant growth, on January 20, 2019 Pickleball BC was granted status as a registered not for profit society under the name PCO PICKLEBALL ASSN BC. Prior to that, November 2018, we signed an agreement with Pickleball Canada as their sole representative in British Columbia.

As of October 15, 2020 we had 5683 registered members, and 45 active Clubs. Members and clubs - we have about 25% of the National totals. COVID -19 has taken a toll with some clubs reporting as many as 20% of their membership not rejoining - yet. But they all report quite an influx of new registrants. Net - our numbers are down about 10%. Even with social distancing and other restrictions in place pickleball in BC is 'healthy'.

Our monthly Newsletters have contained significant registration statistics - no reason to be verbose again.

### General Progress from 30,000 ft.

- The number of members and clubs is a significant advance for pickleball in BC.
- We have a formal agreement (MoU) with Pickleball Canada
- We have a formal agreement (MoU) with BC Senior Games Society (aka 55+)
- We have applied to viaSport for membership
- Our website has high traffic counts and contains much BC based information
- Our monthly Newsletter enjoys a large readership base
- We have members leading or on several PCO committees
  - Officiating
  - Rules
  - Interprovincial & Territorial Advisory Committee
  - Integrated Technology Program - this seems to have several anagrams - ITP, IPP, EPIC ?
  - Several members of Pickleball BC are on the Board of Pickleball Canada.



## **Future Endeavors**

With a Full board of Directors slate we should be able to take on and complete many tasks that we were not able to manage with a short Board.

- Greater participation in the implementation of the ITP project. This is primarily a software task - bringing together either through outsourcing or development everything one needs to run or manage pickleball affairs from the grass roots to the National level. We should see this coming in stages early 2021. A few of the salient features:
  - An online fully integrated members registration system is one key and valuable element
  - Ratings and ranking software from recreation play to tournament level
  - Tournament management capability
- Participation in other PCO based development projects - nationally certified coaching courses for one
- Development of a Provincial Tournament structure
- Host the Western Regional Pickleball Tournament - currently set for 2023
- Support a bid for the 2023 Canadian Nationals

## **Thanks etc**

My personal thank you to the 8 or 9 individuals that were at one time or still are members of the Pickleball BC Board. To those that took 'early leave' - thank you for the time you could give. Tricia Timmermans, who is moving back to Australia - thank you - hope you take your paddle and can get in a few games down under. To those returning - we are not done yet.

I am pleased and excited that we had 14 candidates for the 11 Board positions for the 2021 year. I hope I will be afforded an opportunity to work with the successful 11. We have work to do.

Many thanks to all the clubs and their leadership teams. For the advice, the support, the criticisms. And the opportunities to come play in your community from time to time - so far that is over 50 locations.

And thanks to all the players I meet, played against, and lost games to - it has been a learning experience, a maddening experience, a frustrating experience but also a very rewarding one!

Remember when calling the ball out use your outside voice - would you like me to demonstrate?