



PICKLEBALL B C  
BOARD MEETING  
June 14, 2021

**Present:** Walter Knecht, Ray Dear, Rod Williams, Heather Hood, Alan Thomson, Barry Montgomery, Brian Shum, Sharon MacDonald, Karen Watson

1. Quorum – met
2. Agenda approved
3. Minutes of Mayboard meeting motion to approve with no amendments Ray Dear, 2<sup>nd</sup> Al Thomson
4. **Refereeing – Al Thomson**

Al asked to give his report early as he had another zoom call with IFA Rules Committee. At that meeting there will be representation from all over the world to discuss Rule changes. June 10<sup>th</sup> was the last day to submit rule changes. New Rules to come out January 2022.

Al had nothing to report for PBC but felt that with the announcement today from Dr. Henry, and open play inside and outside there will be a pick in demand for refereeing.

Al will be starting referee training outside; some have already been underway. There are no planned clinics for the northern portion of the province, but with the word getting out, there may be a demand for one.

**5. Financial – Brian Shum**

Opening Bank Balance. (VanCity)	18,740.35
PayPal account balance	0.00
Term Deposit #1 (0.65% Matures Jul 11/21)	6,102.28
Term Deposit #2 (0.6/0.7/1.10% Mat Nov 24/23 - Annual Opts)	7,000.00
	12,000.00
Term Deposit #2 (0.6/0.7/1.10% Mat Nov 28/23 - Annual Opts).	0.00
Investments	<u>25,102.28</u>

**Total Cash Available** **43,842.63**

**Expenses (Est):**

Walter (MailChimp) May & Jun (2x115)	230.00	
Website Ad Expense (Ken)		0.00
PCO (Membership Remittance) 1009. \$5		5,045.00
3,100.0 (2,260.00)		
PCO (Membership Recovery) 0 840.00		

Misc	500.00
Total Expenses Accrued	<u>3,515.00</u>

**Ending Bank Balance - Estimated** **40,327.63**

Received approval today from the BC Registry accepting the name **Pickleball BC Association** which was our number one choice. The next step in the process is to gain approval from the BC Office of Protocol strictly because our proposed name change contains "BC." This process requires 7-10 business days from the date of submission to which I have done today. The final step would then be to apply to have our reserved name change activated.

Question as to whether we need membership approval for the name change. When the bylaw changes come into effect the name change will be included. PBC board gave approval for name change.

**6. Membership – Rod Williams**

There are 43 BC clubs launched and collecting dues through PCNS, an increase of 4 from last month. Summerland, Bulkley Valley, Mayne Island and Oceanside Mixed Picklers from Qualicum (a brand-new club – they approached the PCO exec on a Saturday and were up and running and accepting memberships by the following Wednesday). One Club, Fuller Lake out of Chemainus has disbanded and they will be returning collected local dues to their members. They could not find someone to run the club once their President and Driving Force (Rand Granbois) had health issues.

The following 6 clubs still are not accessing the system either because they have not begun administrative duties or have not yet signed a MoU.

- Get Stoked Pickleball Revelstoke
- Peace Country Pickleball Association
- Peach City Pickleball - winter season club
- Port Hardy Pickleball – initial contact (I think I scared them off)
- Saturna Pickleball Association – likely disbanding until next season
- Vanderhoof Pickleball

3 clubs are in progress-  
Desert Pickleball Club (Osoyoos) - MoU in hand, still waiting on Club Setup in PCNS  
Vernon Pickleball Association - MOU in Hand, contacted just this week with next steps  
Shuswap Lake Estates Pickleball – reviewing the setup documentation and will be operational soon.

1909 Memberships processed through the PCNS in March  
861 Memberships processed in April.  
508 Memberships processed in May  
287 so far in June.

As of last National Report on May 26<sup>th</sup>, BC had accounted for \$68K of \$131K processed through the PCNS. Alberta and Ontario are now integrating their members into the PCNS. Last to arrive will be Quebec.

System improvements in the PCNS ongoing. Not that quickly mind you. Needed improvements were held off for a couple of reasons.  
-The My Events module for activities such as RR or Ladder events was deemed unnecessary in the rest of the country as nobody outside of BC was playing any pickleball until lately. My whining is not making it happen any quicker.  
-With the integration of AB and ON in the system, the developer is tied up with keeping his head above water regarding those provinces.

Membership:

As of June 7<sup>th</sup>, there are 6212 PBC members, an increase of almost 600 from last meeting. Some are part of the 1400 members I poked with an expiry reminder, and some are joining up or coming back to the fold now that the light at the end of the Covid Tunnel is visible.

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The following motions were approved by the PCO to fund future improvements in the PCNS and clean up the database (the first motion indicates that PBC is going to get a \$3000 bill sent to us on January 1 every year, our bigger clubs are going to get a \$100-200 bill and the 2-year stipulation was brought forward by Quebec where it is a requirement for societies in their province apparently):

PCO Board Meeting May 11

Two motions were brought forward to the Board from our discussions:

3.5.1. **Motion 1:** The National System fees for the provinces and the clubs to be charged annually as below. The costs will be waived for 2021. The costs for 2022 forward will be invoiced on January 1 of each year based upon the provincial and club members totals in the National System for the previous year.

Provinces (membership size):  
0-2,000 Free (Currently 7 provinces)

2,000-4,000 \$1,500/year (Currently 2 provinces)  
4,000+ \$3,000/year (Currently 3 provinces)

Clubs (membership size):

0-200 Free (approximately 80% clubs fall into this category)

201-500 \$100/year (approximately 10% clubs fall into this category)

500+ \$200/year (approximately 10% clubs fall into this category)

**Carried** Unanimously

3.5.2. **Motion2** That our National System provider delete from all databases any member who's PCO membership has been expired for more than two years.

**Carried** Unanimously

Rod mentioned that membership has 'gone nuts' since May with more revenue since then, than all the months before. There are still approximately 1000 people still not back.

Some concern was expressed over the added expenses and 1/5<sup>th</sup> of our revenue per member going to fund improvement for trackieand we may need to consider raising our fees. BC had no representation at the meeting where this motion was approved. Because BC has one of the largest memberships, we will pay the lion share.

Karen Watson asked if there was a better way to do this, but Rod did not know what the alternative would be as it takes money to improve the system but felt that we needed to have a voice on some of these committees as we are missing out.

Walter suggested that to volunteer on these committees required a lot of time and effort, so people were reluctant to volunteer.

## 7. COVID – Karen Watson

**Provincial Sport Organization** – PBC policies have all been accepted byviaSport. Additional documentation that PBC is in good standing with the Provincial Society Act has been forwarded and some additional information on current membership numbers as well as break down into male /female sent. Hoping to hear back soon about our application

**COVID** – Step 2 released June 14<sup>th</sup>, some clarification required on max numbers allowed indoors. COVID update will be published in Newsletter once information is obtained.

Clarification is needed for indoor play and competition as to the number of people allowed to attend as well as spectators.

Felt the announcement was very vague and there were a lot of blanks that needed to be filled. Need to wait for direction from viaSport.

## 8. Rankings – Barry Montgomery

Earlier in the month I gave an update on new webpage on Ratings at PCO. Also, the updated sanctioning section. A link has been provided on the PBC website.

Here is an additional item being discussed as clubs move to use PB software for League/Ladder and the ratings engine. There is a fair amount of information but not a lot of reaction. Perhaps still too early with play not fully ramping up again. A PCO questionnaire has been sent to all players in the Nationals. Returns are good from Alberta and Sask but BC not so much. Right now, BC has about 120 players registered for the Nationals and fairly distributed across the province.

The world of Pickleball performance-based ratings is ever evolving at a rapid pace. Over this past winter I have been involved in many discussions on the use of several ratings vs only one rating number. Now with players looking at having a “several” ratings with the UTPR’s Pickleball Tournaments, and Pickleball Brackets the social media forums are in debate.

Below is a copy of a post on the Canadian Pickleball Forum by Jason Santerre (PB) in answer to a post asking the question “why do we need a MD rating?”. As you know with Pickleball Ratings (Clique & Club) there was only one number. Many clubs that I have talked with only want one rating and I really think it makes sense. One decision that we should bring back to the table with our scored sessions is do we choose the option to have a doubles game recorded together (grouped) Jason has recently made that option available in the club dashboard. Both Surrey and Regina will be going in this direction.

It would be a lot easier for players to follow.

### Jason Santerre

The only reason we have doubles and mixed doubles because that's a category USAP/IFP established. I personally don't agree with a mixed doubles. I believe when you step on the court you are the same rating when you play mixed or doubles.

If you use our club rating system you can choose to use mixed doubles and regular doubles or you can choose to bundle them together into one category. Just doubles.

We are already working on a screen where people can view ratings by country, sex, and other filters.

Team members are waited differently. In our system the weaker player is weighted at 65% and the stronger player is at 35%. That way when the game is calculated, and ratings increase or decrease points are distributed accordingly. If you use our club rating system you can adjust this percentage to whatever you feel is best for your club. In fact, clubs have the ability to adjust many of the calculations to better fit their club.

Karen Rust has put forward an Expression of Interest for the Nationals. Bids are now open.

Tournament sanctioning have updates and changes mostly due to CoVid restrictions. All are on the website and waiting to hear the latest from ViaSport. Once this occurs, the information will be going out in the Newsletter.

## **9. Youth Initiative – Heather Hood**

Since last PBC Board Meeting report:

1. Hosted and facilitated a Youth Initiatives Town Hall Meeting. See attached copy of my Summary Notes that were sent out to the participating members and clubs and PBC Youth Working Group.
2. The PCO's Youth Task Force (previously chaired by John Hyland and now under new leadership, Elaine Roy, PCO Quebec) have been thanked and disbanded. Elaine Roy will undertake further PCO leadership in Youth PB efforts of promoting, gathering and collecting resources for sharing - see PCO website for updates.
3. Walter proposal and discussion re: Grants – 3 thoughts on how the grants would work – 1 – to introduce the sport 1-2 hours may need to provide supplies and equipment 2 –paid instructors for workshop for higher training and 3 – grant money for more competitive youth players. Meeting at the PBC board level will be arranged to discuss this before the next Town Hall meeting.

Heather suggested that even though there is no longer a National committee on youth initiatives that she is sitting on, we can still work on it provincially

## **10.PBC and TBC Report - Ray Dear**

The committee continues to come to agreement on a number of issues which are framed by the original position paper presented by TBC.

Salient points of the paper present 3 preferred options to meet the needs of the Pickleball and Tennis Communities.

1. The first is to develop full dedicated Pickleball courts in groups or hubs without affecting any tennis courts.
2. Second option is to convert limited and appropriate tennis courts for dedicated Pickleball use.
3. Lastly, use existing tennis courts and add pickleball lines to create dual purposed courts. We are currently working on option 3 which most poses the most issues and creates the most conflict with dual user groups.

Consensus has been reached regarding option 3 scenarios.

1. When there are blended lines on the tennis / pickleball court lines colours are recommended to be shades darker than the court colours to lessen visual distractions for tennis and pickleball players.
2. When adding pickleball courts to tennis courts it is recommended that courts be orientated in line with tennis courts, which is usually a north south orientation.
3. It is recommended that the number of pickleball courts that are placed on tennis courts be guided by sensitivity to residential locations, and the physical space for safe placement of pickleball courts. The more PB courts in a sound sensitive area such as a residential neighbourhood the more vulnerable to sound and noise complaints there will be.
4. It is recommended that one pickleball court be lined and centred on one tennis court if there is less than 8 feet of any obstruction from the two PB base lines. When a single PB exists on a tennis court, it is recommended that the tennis net not be adjusted by any means unless there is a proper mechanism available to lower and raise the tennis nets without damage.
5. Where the standard length of tennis courts of 120 feet or more exist it is recommended to have two pickleball courts lined on either side of the tennis net having a two to one ratio. With 120 feet it will allow a distance of 8 feet for the runoff area as recommended by the Pickleball Courts Construction and Maintenance Manual 2020 published by USA Pickleball.
6. It is recommended that a per capita ratio be used when planning the number of PB courts for communities. We are landing on the same ratio used for tennis court construction of 1 court per 2,000 to 5,000 range.

The committee is currently developing recommendations for joint use systems for dual/blended lined courts. These include designated days and times and of the week for respective PB and tennis play and reservation/booking systems. In conjunction specific systems, developing recommended language, protocols, and instruction for signage to provide clarity when sharing of courts exist.

In our research into this area, we have yet to find any documentation or concrete solutions in the area of PB and Tennis dual use conflict. We believe this may be the first such endeavour and may provide a template for our Provincial communities and beyond. position paper presented by TBC.

Discussion included comments from Karen Watson who suggested that instead of tennis courts with pickleball lines drawn and no adjustment nets, there should perhaps be pickleball courts with tennis lines drawn. She felt that pickleball was a growing sport with more players and should be recognized as such.

It was felt that there was no easy solution but felt that progress was being made by working cooperatively with each other.

Ray asked for help concerning proper pickleball signage on courts with information on court play, conflict of times and shared courts, and what other pertinent information that should be contained on them.

## **11.PBC Bylaws – Walter Knecht**

### **PBC policies (re viaSport) – Walter Knecht**

Walter has sent out the by-law and policies package to all clubs and has not received any negative responses, so will continue processing to make them presentable at the GM.

Resignation of board member Ken Holman received and accepted by Walter Knecht.  
Resignation of board member Isaac St. Cyr received and accepted by Walter Knecht.

Board member positions open with two resignations. Walter will put in Newsletter. Board members are offering suggestions and putting forward names for consideration.

Suggested that we consider the website managing become a paid position.

Next meeting Thursday July 8 at 4 pm

Motion to adjourn by Heather Hood 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karen Watson

Zoom link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7963445852>