



PICKLEBALL B C  
BOARD MEETING  
August 5, 2021

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

1. **Quorum** – met
2. **Minutes** of Julyboard meeting motion to approve with no amendments Rod Williams, 2<sup>nd</sup> Heather Hood - carried

**3. – Head Referee Report – Alan Thomson**

Referee Training and Assessment opportunities were highlighted in the Referee's Corner Article for July.

- Have had one report that a candidate was assessed and given Level 2 Accreditation
- Waiting to hear of more success stories from the Trainers throughout the Province

For those that are interested in such things, the IFP Rules Committee has completed their task of assessing and rating the rule 2022 Rule Change submissions. While I cannot provide any details, I will say that the number of changes is significantly less than the last few years.

- Next Step – The USA Pickleball Rules Committee will now review those passed for further consideration and make recommendations for changes to the Rules for 2022.

Discussion – Question asked if the drop serve rule has any changes – Alan informed that this has been modified in some form, but could not go into details, until the changes had been finalized.

**4. Membership Report – Rod Williams**

There are 47 BC clubs launched and collecting dues through PCNS, an increase of 1 from last month. – Keremeos Pickleball Club

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

Yet again, 2 clubs are in progress-

Vernon Pickleball Association - MOU in Hand, some progress, but no actual profile built in the PCNS

- I have done an upload of their recent new memberships and sent in 54 names to be added to the PCO membership list. Funds have been forwarded from Vernon and sent to the PCO. They charged an additional 17 individuals for PCO/PBC dues who were already members of other clubs, and I have asked them to refund those folks. Not holding my breath.

Shuswap Lake Estates Pickleball – No update since last month, but several individuals from the area have joined Club BC and indicated they wish to be transferred to SLE once it is accepting memberships.

### **-As of August 3rd.**

1928 Memberships processed through the PCNS in March

861 Memberships processed in April.

626 Memberships processed in May (248 Brand New PCO numbers)

1082 Memberships processed in June (612 Brand New PCO numbers)

-May and June totals changed since last report due to Vernon Upload

655 Memberships processed in July (471 Brand New PCO Numbers)

35 so far in August. (33 Brand New PCO Numbers)

(note: There have been quite a few young applicants recently. We have 54 members born in the 2000's)

8 Memberships refunded through the PCNS due to duplicate registrations, as well as one refunded due to a complaint about not getting a full year of membership for a full year's dues. The club involved seemed to be happy to see this individual depart their roster, and I used this as leverage to convince PCO Treasurer to refund the \$10. That is not their usual policy.

Peter Milanovic from Ontario has joined the PCO board as Treasurer and been tasked with picking up the progress on the PCNS project. I have spoken with him, but there have been no meetings with the working group yet. This should occur before the end of August.

System improvements in the PCNS are ongoing, and a number of updates were accomplished at the end of July. There are still lots to come.

## **PBC Membership**

As of August 3rd, there are **7285** Active PBC members, an increase of 589 from the last meeting. There were few expiries in July and many of those renewed. PCO has announced that there are 22183 active PCO memberships in the country as of July 28th. We have a third of those in BC alone.

### **Discussion topic**

It has come to my attention that one club is screening their membership applications based on ability level. i.e. If the applicant is a 4.0 player and they don't want any more of that ability level they are rejecting the applicant. This same club has gone through a bit of a power struggle recently, so I assume that not everyone in the club is on the same page regarding this and other issues.

I guess a club can and should be able to do what they see best for their membership, but this strikes me as a bit odd. I don't believe we as PBC have a set policy on this type of topic, but shouldn't Pickleball be open to everyone? Or can we at least encourage clubs not to be too heavy handed on who joins?

Several opinions were offered, and it was felt that PBCA could not dictate what individual Clubs do or don't do, but that it is our responsibility to provide guidelines on good and fair practices within Clubs.

Karen will investigate our Mission statement as well as our policies to make sure guidelines are clear and concise about inclusiveness for all individuals.

It was also suggested that Club policies need to be transparent about reasons for decisions within individual Clubs

A question arose as to whether PBCA was libel for complaints received on inclusiveness. Walter says not if Clubs have their own set of bylaws.

## **5. Financial Report – Brian Shum**

Opening Balance (VanCity)	22,727.36
PayPal account balance	0.00
Term Deposit #1 rolled (0.95/1.05/2.00% Mat Jul 06/24 – Annual Opts.	6,141.40
Term Deposit #2 (0.6/0.7/1.10% Mat Nov 24/23 – Annual Opts	7,000.00
Term Deposit #2 same as above – Mat. Nov 28/23 – Annual Opts	12,000.00
Investments	25,141.40

Total Cash Available	<b><u>\$47,868.76</u></b>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>	
Walter (MailChimp)- (M J x 115 + J A x 130)	490.00
Website Ad Expense (Ken)	0.00
PCO (Membership Remittance – 967.00 \$5)	4,835.00
PCO (Membership Recovery 3,100.00. \$840.00)	(2,260.00)
Misc	500.00
 Total Expenses Accrued	 \$ 3,565.00
 <b>Ending Bank Balance – Estimated</b>	 <b><u>\$44,303.76</u></b>

Discussion was held on what to do with the accumulating balance in the account. Brian explained that normal expenses are down due to CoVid and no travel or training expenses but that these will be picking up soon.

Barry felt that this money should be allocated and not left in the account.

Heather Hood has expenses that will be arising from Youth initiatives; Alan will be incurring expense for travel for referee workshops and Walter will need to attend tournaments on behalf of PBCA.

We will revisit this issue at next meeting once expenses are can be submitted for approval.

## **6. Youth Development Report – Grant -- Heather Hood**

Participants – Heather, Sharon

Action required:

1. Request for Board approval of recommendation #4 with any amendments

Grant Summary Notes

What kind of Grant type? To prepare the application and Evaluation Criteria, need to know what kind of Grant we want?

1. Competitive Grant (e.g. applicants compete based on set evaluative criteria, Adjudication criteria to be developed)
2. Formula Grant (e.g. Applicants specify group needs, intended outcomes, geographical areas, 1 time only or ongoing?)

3. Continuation (e.g. Intention to provide funds on a regular or continuing basis with annual application deadlines, grant criteria adjustments based on overall needed direction of Youth Program development)
4. **Small Grant\***. (e.g. Intention to provide See Money Grant for start-up funds to get things started in communities, One time only Grant application)

**Recommended option 4 below:**

**If, Small Grant Money Concept – Need decision**

- \$2000 = 4 grants for up to \$500 – seed money
- \$4000 = 8 grants for up to \$500 – seed money
- \$5000 = 10 grants for up to \$500 – seed money

**One Time Only Grant Amount**

- A. Seed monies of up to \$500 as start up on a project to get things going. Suggested possibilities from Town Hall discussions included:
  - Equipment to support youth program such as portable nets, balls, paddles
  - Sponsorship or support for elite athletes to travel to competitions
  - Training sessions for Teach the Teacher Workshops
- B. Applicant Format:
  - Complete application form (tbd Outline – Objectives, Intended Outcomes, # Participants, Timelines, Report
  - Projects provide in writing and/or verbal a summary report at specified times on: lessons learned and actions next

**Eligibility Group Who is eligible?**

- Canadian Citizens
- Youth U-18; Programs for School-aged Youth

**Who can apply?**

- Non-Profits
- Municipalities, Community Centres, Clubs, Community Associations, Indigenous Bands, Schools/Districts

**How to Apply?**

Promote in PBCA Newsletter

- Grant Description and Evaluation Criteria
- Grant Application Form
- Deadline

**Other discussion thoughts, questions, action next, and points:**

- How will youth project lead to new sport participation opportunities?
- How will PBCA communicate Grant opportunity?
- How might we maximize the impact of small Grants? Partnerships, Matching Grant options, Time in Kind

- How can we **promote** Pickleball BC Associations? Banners, Logo (Balls, T-shirts, Paddles, Nets, Newsletters, Hats)
- Junior Tournaments to get things rolling
- Sponsorship of competitive Youth Pickleball player
- Consider the ‘regionalish” concept for partnering on activities – Health Regions like Interior, Fraser, Vancouver Coastal, Vancouver Island, Northern
- Initiate a Youth network and newsletter for sharing ideas, information and as a feedback loop (prototype)
- Inventory Build – Call out to PBCA membership for used paddles to be repurposed in Youth Programs

**Discussion** included what type of direction Board will be offering.

A past motion for dollar amount for grants had been set at \$5250 was set a year ago for equipment and coaching. Decided to leave as is – no need for another motion until we have a more finalized plan for grants and allotment and distribution, but a redistribution of what the money can be spent on will be formatted.

It was suggested that all Clubs should be a resource for the community to lend out equipment, nets, etc and to be a resource for coaching.

Need accountability from any group accessing PBCA resources in the form of some type of follow up – whether a written formal Report or a formal verbal Report to be decided.

Eligibility for grants will be limited to those Clubs who are members of PBCA.

Suggested to drop out elite athletes travel expenses at this time as there is no big need at the moment.

Heather will rework the language and bring back to Board at next meeting.

Heather mentioned that she was contacted by Tony Casey of PCO who is interested in the survey that went out, our Town Hall meeting, and the thoughts on a Youth Newsletter, etc.

## **7. Pickleball BC and Tennis BC Task Force Update – Ray Dear**

We have completed our preliminary discussions regarding the scope and sequence of the anticipated joint report. We have set a tentative time line of the end of October to complete the report to submit to our respective Boards for approval. The targeted date of the report in October is to provide municipalities ample time to incorporate recommendations as they establish their long, and short term budget goals.

It was recommended that the report be written with the audience of politicians and municipal planners in mind. As such it will be brief and succinct for informative reading but there will be

either an additional inclusive report to support the initial report or electronic access to the additional detailed recommendations.

Trish Main, representing PBCA from Victoria will be working with Karen Clark, representing TBC from Victoria, jointly working on the draft. The Task Force will be providing input to the document as it is being jointly written. We are scheduled to review the report at our next meeting scheduled for September 22, 2021.

Ray suggested that the fire situation has been a concern and has made it difficult to move forward at this time, but felt hopeful that it is at a good starting point.

### **8. CoVid Update – Karen Watson**

September 7<sup>th</sup> will be the earliest date that sport will be back to normal. This all depends on how the case numbers play out. It was looking good but numbers are climbing so we will need to wait and see.

### **VIASPORT**

Pickleball has been recognized as a provincial sport. Youth development is a huge part of being accredited. Lifetime sport and age range are also valued consideration to get our accreditation. High performance and excellence also factor in.

### **9. Court Development – Dave Eaton**

Since taking on some of the responsibility for new court development and existing facility upgrading, I have already had 3 enquiries:

Bulkley Valley (Smithers) who are hoping to secure a grant to construct new court there.

Port Hardy, who are looking to build a private court – I encouraged them to also continue to work with their civic staff and elected officials to promote public courts in their town of 4,000.

Chilliwack Pickleball who are struggling to get new courts or at least lines on a tennis court, which have been denied. I gave her the contact info for the tennis reps on the task force that Ray is working with in the hope that those people will employ the intent of the MOU to support pickleball in Chilliwack.

So far a pretty busy couple of weeks.

### **10. Presidents' Report – Walter Knecht**

Walter stressed that he needed as many Board members as possible to attend the meeting – notice below:

**This Special General Meeting will take place August 17, 2021, commencing at 7 pm PST.**

The sole purpose of this meeting is to present, review and approve numerous Bylaw changes as a result of a detailed review done after 30 months operation within the original Bylaw set.

Attached are copies of:

1. The existing Bylaws. [HERE](#)
2. A document titled Bylaw Changes Proposal 21-08-01, which contains all the proposed changes with reasons for suggesting why a change is proposed. [HERE](#)
3. The Agenda for this August 17, 2021 Special General Meeting. [HERE](#)

The Agenda is 'modified' to facilitate just the consideration of the proposed Bylaw changes.

Details re the Zoom meeting will be sent out on or about August 14. Included will be the Zoom meeting link and instructions on voting procedures (voting will be live and per the Bylaws NO proxies are allowed). This email will also serve as reminder of this SGM.

The Pickleball BC Board are recommending approval of all 17 Bylaw change motions.

**FYI** - as a result of discussions at the Town Hall Zoom meeting held July 21, 2021 there has been one change of significance to the proposals - that is inclusion of a clause to enable the removal of a Director for 'cause'.

I welcome each and everyone of you to attend the Zoom meeting and continue to be active in the management of Pickleball BC!

Walter also stressed that ViaSportis now available for grant money to us – with opportunities that have opened up for various items.

Mentioned that PCO has sent out their email Notice specifying who the new Board members are. He expressed optimism about the new position holders.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday September 2 at 4 pm.

Motion to adjourn by Ray Dear, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karen Watson

**THE** link = <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7963445852>



