



PICKLEBALL B C
BOARD MEETING
November 10, 2021

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

Regrets: Al Thomson, Beca Stuve

1. **Quorum** – met
2. **Minutes** of October board meeting motion to approve with no amendments Ray Dear, 2nd Karen Watson, carried
3. **October 31 Minutes** re Tennis BC/ Pickleball BC
Report Attached

Motion to approve Dave Eaton, 2nd Ray Dear

4. **President's Report – Walter Knecht**
Report attached

Discussion with respect to associations being affiliated with PBCA – cost;
NCCP – lots of interest in the West with Vernon and Chilliwack slated – going through the list of interested Clubs;
Tournaments were up this year in comparison to last year.
Policies concerning abuse of youth and vulnerable – wording is being worked on with an effective date of January 1;
Website – looking to overhaul using wordpress – Ken's responsibilities have been divided into 4 groups – Newsletter, Invoicing, New sponsors, and Website -- hoping for a turnover of responsibilities between December and January ;
Insurance – ongoing questions on coverage – PCO is reluctant to give out information – some clubs are looking at additional insurance to ensure proper coverage – uncomfortable with the liability version of this policy.

Ray Dear asked how members know who has tournaments going on. WK informed that Clubs typically send an email to Ken for posting on the website – any sanctioned tournaments need to go through PCO.

5. Tennis BC/Pickleball BC – Ray Dear

The Taskforce reviewed the submission with revisions and draft 11 has been sent out - the wording is better. Another meeting is slated for November 14 to move forward.

HH questioned the use of the word 'should' in 2 – 3 places – felt this was more typical for a policy document – KW commented that 'should consent' or 'should consult' is a softer wording and that was the intent – authors of the document were Karen Watson, Ray Dear and Walter Knecht.

HH noted the word 'anger' in summary and asked that it be removed, so as to maintain neutral language.

6. Provincial Tournament – Walter Knecht

Report Attached

BC is the only province who does not host a provincial tournament. WK will send out correspondence to all Clubs to see if there is an interest – he noted that when this was done 2 years ago, there was not much interest.

KW asked what the purpose would be – would it be a framework to work towards the Nationals? BM suggested that indeed it would and would build a framework working from Regional tournaments, to Provincials to Nationals. This would be a benefit to all members to help recognize the steps involved in tournament play.

It was noted that this year at the Nationals in Red Deer there it was open to everyone with no qualifiers.

Hosting Regionals and Provincial sanctioned tournaments would give members an opportunity to clearly define their true ratings.

HH feels that the 'why' needs to be clearly communicated to all Clubs so that they see the value in hosting regionals and provincials as a pathway to Nationals.

7. Youth Development – Heather Hood

There was a strong response to the announcement of Grants with copious amounts of emails and expressions of interest but to date only 2 formal applications have been made. KW asked how the information was shared – Was the Newsletter the only means? Also how are applications getting through to the people who have been assigned to review them. WK advised that they come to him first and then he filters them to the appropriate people.

WK will update Clubs – HH suggests that the next steps will be strategic planning once the first round has been dealt with. The Town Hall will be scheduled for the New Year.

8. ViaSport – Karen Watson

Nothing new to report – HH noted that ViaSport has grants available and she questioned whether PBCA can apply for them. This money could be used to promote goals that we have. KW advised that “yes” we could apply as an accredited organization, and she suggested that we could apply for funds to promote training programs for the Indigenous population.

9. Financial Report – Brian Shum

Report Attached

Discussion – grant monies are still to come out – would suggest that we leave term deposit and roll over into higher rates.

Noted that there will be approximately \$5000 expense for PBCA fee that we are covering for our members this year.

10. Membership Report – Rod Williams

Report attached

Noted that there are 100's of new memberships. BC continues to be the leader in Canada. Trackie is putting in more streamlining to eliminate duplicates. Once a member inserts their PCO number the system should be able to sort them out.

11. Referee Report – Al Thomson – as submitted by Walter Knecht

One person was assessed and given a Level 1 rating. Assessing should ideally be at a sanctioned tournament, so there probably will not be many assessments now until the Spring.

12. CoVid Report – Karen Watson

No new developments with respect to pickleball

13. Newsletter

Submissions for this month's newsletter are due by November 13.

14. Court Development – Dave Eaton

No further development on this – noted that Facebook page titled “Kitchen” offers interesting posts on pickleball issues.

15. Ratings – Barry Montgomery

The National Ratings group met to discuss the CTPR program. By having more sanctioned tournaments. KW suggested that the ability to find referees may be a problem in hosting sanctioned tournaments.

A large contingent of Clubs are using Pickleball Brackets but would like to see more. The plan is to look into using pickleball brackets for performance base ratings to help eliminate strife at the local level when players are not grouped properly for play.

Motion to adjourn by Ray Dear, 2nd by Dave Eaton.

Next meeting December 8 at 6:30 BC Time, 7:30 Arizona Time.

Zoom Link:

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

REPORTS

Provincial Tournament Hosting Details

Following are the salient details a host club must consider when applying to host a Pickleball BC Provincial Tournament.

1. Pickleball BC may ask for a seat on the organizing committee. At a minimum progress reports, major decisions and meeting notes should be shared with Pickleball BC on a monthly basis.
2. Promotional material must include the Pickleball BC logo and clearly indicate the event is the Pickleball BC Provincial Tournament. The Pickleball Canada logo may also be used.
3. The tournament must be sanctioned by Pickleball Canada; with all associated requirements met.
4. All players must be members of Pickleball BC and normally be residents of British Columbia.
5. Pickleball Canada approved software will be used for the event. The currently approved software is Pickleball Brackets.
6. This tournament may become a feeder to Pickleball Canada Regional and National Tournaments. With that in mind the host club shall determine appropriate skill level and age brackets.
7. Court layout, court quantity and configuration planning information should be considered as part of the 'bid proposal'.
8. All matches should be officiated by suitably trained individuals. Pickleball BC will support the training of officials.
9. Medals to be presented to event winners will be of a design approved by Pickleball BC.
10. The host club may set the player registration fees. It is recommended that consideration for accessibility with respect to the fee level be considered.
11. The host club may arrange for any or all advertising and sponsorships not in conflict with either National or Provincial level sponsors. National and Provincial sponsors will be identified prior to the bid deadline.
12. In consideration of points 10 & 11 the host club shall take ownership of any profits or losses which may occur.

JOINT RECOMMENDATION FOR DUAL PURPOSE COURTS

November 8, 2021

Our joint Publication, “Pickleball and Tennis: A Solution that Meets the Needs of Both Sports” strongly recommends dedicated pickleball courts to meet the needs of both sports. However, not all communities will be able to provide dedicated pickleball courts initially. An interim solution is to create dual purpose courts in underutilized venues - tennis courts, sport boxes, etc. This document provides the do’s and don’ts for creating and managing dual purpose courts on tennis courts.

LOCATION CONSIDERATIONS

Before determining how many and which tennis courts to dual line, municipalities should consult with community tennis and pickleball representatives. Positive examples of consultation and collaboration have demonstrated that better outcomes are achieved when everyone works together.

When looking at dual purposing, municipalities should consider the current court usage, orientation, proximity to residences, parking, and other amenities.

Pickleball play usually involves *groups* of players requiring several courts simultaneously - essentially a HUB. A hub is usually considered as 4 or more pickleball courts together. Pickleball hubs are needed in each community in addition to some 2 pickleball court venues.

PICKLEBALL COURT LAYOUT

The Case Against One Pickleball Court per Tennis Court

- (i) This layout scheme requires pickleball players to use the tennis net. Because a tennis net is higher than a pickleball net, pickleball players will often lower the tennis net by various means. This frequent 'adjustment' could lead to damage and subsequent costs.
- (ii) A tennis net is also wider than a pickleball net. Having to play pickleball using nets that are too high and too wide downgrades the quality of the game and the experience.
- (iii) This layout scheme requires pickleball players to go excessive distances to retrieve errant balls.

The best configuration and orientation for pickleball courts should optimize the number of courts to be realized.

The Case for Optimizing the number of Pickleball Courts per Tennis Court

- (i) Pickleball is played in hubs of four to eight courts and the greater the number of hubs, the greater likelihood that some tennis courts will not have any pickleball court lines on them.
- (ii) Optimizing the number of pickleball courts reduces the frequency of “bumping” players off the courts every 30 minutes. If optimization is not considered, pickleball hubs could “creep” onto the adjacent tennis courts potentially creating unnecessary conflict.
- (iii) Optimizing the number of courts will best meet the needs of both tennis and pickleball players.

Considerations for Optimizing Court Layout

- (i) The existing tennis net can serve as a barrier between pickleball courts.
- (ii) Pickleball courts are ideally aligned with the tennis court.
- (iii) As much separation of lines as possible is recommended as multiple lines in one area are highly distracting.
- (iv) Leave gaps where lines intersect.
- (v) The need to provide portable pickleball nets and on-site storage.

PICKLEBALL LINE COLOUR

Dedicated courts, whether pickleball or tennis, usually have the playing surface painted a different colour than the surrounding surfaces. The superimposition of a pickleball court onto an existing tennis court/facility usually is accomplished by painting pickleball court *lines* only. It is therefore critically important that the pickleball lines are easily discerned.

Tennis lines are traditionally white so pickleball lines should not be white but a color to better differentiate between tennis and pickleball lines. A good choice for the pickleball lines would be a contrasting colour that stands out to the eye when play is in progress.

MANAGING DUAL-PURPOSE COURTS

In Canada, the vast majority of tennis and pickleball are played on public courts. The demand from both sports for public courts has led to pressure for dual purpose courts. Pickleball typically uses dual purpose courts during tennis down times (Monday – Friday between 8 am and 3 pm). Municipalities are happy to see underutilized courts being used on a more consistent basis but the potential for conflict does increase outside of these hours and on weekends. Hours during the weekdays do not meet the needs of those pickleball players who are not able to play during these times nor does it meet the needs of tennis who are looking to play after 3 pm and on the weekends.

Booking systems and priority times help avoid conflict between tennis and pickleball players competing for court time. Booking systems increase court usage and reduce conflicts but players still drop by the courts to play without booking.

Tennis and pickleball have quite different forms of court usage that are incompatible. Based on a single tennis court, tennis players arrange a match for two or four players. They play for 30 minutes and then

relinquish their court to any waiting players. Pickleball players typically schedule play for a larger group of players. These pickleball players continuously rotate on and off the pickleball court(s) for two or more hours. Twelve or more pickleball players are not going to come off the pickleball courts after 30 minutes of play and wait 30 minutes while two tennis players play a set of singles. Likewise, 4 tennis players are not going to come off the court after 30 minutes of play, knowing that they'll have to wait 2 hours to play another set of doubles. Further complexities arise if several unrelated pickleball groups occupy the pickleball courts on the tennis court. The individual groups may have players rotating on and off the courts even without factoring tennis into the situation.

To avoid conflict, frustration, and anger, players need to know which days and times the courts will be available for their sport. Court signage must clearly indicate which sport has priority on any given day and time. If applicable, the sign(s) should include directions to courts that have the opposite priority times.

Court usage needs to be evaluated on a regular basis.

SUMMARY

Before adding pickleball lines to tennis courts, municipalities should:

- (i) First exhaust all efforts to build dedicated pickleball courts.
- (ii) Consult with community tennis and pickleball representatives, particularly in deciding which courts will be single purpose and dual line others. (or the rest?)
- (iii) Consider current court usage, orientation, proximity to neighboring residences, parking and amenities.
- (iv) Run acoustical tests before locating pickleball courts in residential areas.
- (v) Consider both pickleball hubs and two court configurations for the community.
- (vi) When adding pickleball lines to tennis courts, ensure:
 - The best configuration to optimize the number of pickleball courts in a location.
 - Pickleball courts are on both sides of the tennis net.
 - Pickleball courts are aligned in the same direction as the tennis court.
 - Pickleball lines are a highly visible contrasting color to the court surface but should not be white.
- (vii) Use booking systems and/or priority times to help avoid conflict between tennis and pickleball players. Signs must clearly indicate which sport has priority on any given day and time.
- (viii) Consider evaluating court usage on a regular basis.

President's Report - Nov Meeting

1. Associate Organizations

PCO is still pondering but has a very positive view of the concept.

We have *affiliated* clubs (about 56) - not for profit entities whose purpose is promote pickleball only and all members must be PBC/PCO members.

And now we have *associated* organizations - two signed up 2 with MoU's on their tables. These are 'other' entities - may be for profit, may be multisport, maybe multi something else - but have a desire to promote pickleball play, abide by most of 'our' rules and encourage their pickleball players to become PBC/PCO members.

2. The NCCP Pickleball Instructor 1 program has rolled out - maybe with a square wheel or two but so far B.C. has embraced it more than the rest of Canada.

Victoria - 11 of 24 spots taken - 46%

Nanaimo - 11 of 24 spots taken - 46%

North Vancouver - overbooked - has a wait list

Additional B.C. sessions are in planning for 2022

Rest of Canada (8 sessions) - average about 30% booked

3. B.C. Based Tournaments

Seven ran in 2021

Have 8 on the schedule already, 2 more known to be coming soon

Provincial Tournament - separate agenda item

4. PCO level 'policies'

More emphasis on defining and enforcing - abuse, equity, equality etc are focus points

Will involve a screening policy, screening as in vetting volunteer and staff background as a condition to holding certain 'positions' - being defined now.

5. PBC Website

Ken Holman wishes to 'retire'.

Blair Morton has agreed to take over the webmaster role.

He has been 'on the job' officially for 10 days, but was peeking in before.

Ken will 'stay' until the transfer is 'good'.

6. ITAC --->NPAC

Interprovincial Territorial Advisory Committee to become National Pickleball Advisory Council
I was part of the sub committee that redefined the terms. Salient points:

- a. Reduce the membership count - eliminate most of the PCO board members. Result 11 P & T plus a selected 3 from the PCO level.
- b. Reinforce the **advisory** aspect - both up and down the chain.
- c. Joint agenda development.
- d. Meet 2 weeks prior to PCO Board meetings

7. PCO Insurance Coverage

How much do we push to get a full copy of the insurance contract made public? Several Club are concerned that the short summary PCO publishes does not detail enough and they could be left hanging.

PBC Board Special Meeting Oct 31, 2021 via zoom.

In attendance: Barry, Karen, Ray, Dave, Al, Becca, Walter & Brian

Absent: Rod, Heather & Sharon.

Invited guests: Trish Main & Catalin Costea
(members of the TBC-PBC working group)

Meeting called to order 7:03 pm. Quorum achieved.

Purpose of this special meeting - discuss the latest versions of two documents prepared and presented by the TBC-PBC working group. There will be no review of last meeting minutes and no other business will be conducted.

Ray given the mike. He provided a bit of historical context.

Trish was given the mike. She reviewed a few of the problem phrases per the last Board meeting discussions.

- the documents no longer say 'no loss of tennis courts'
- tennis very adamant they cannot tolerate a multiplicity of lines on courts
- pickleball lines specified as no more than 3 shades different than the main tennis court paint scheme

- maintenance of either one or may 2 pickleball courts be over painted per tennis court due to safe distance considerations
- Official Pickleball Construction manual cited (verbally) as the guide for colour and distance considerations

Considerable discussion on all the above - plus. Believe it not necessary to note every point/ counter point.

Again salient - Becca printed out a sentence on Page 3 of the Joint Recommendation document that appears to contradict the meaning of an earlier statement. [With the popularity and participation rates of tennis increasing, it may be more prudent to repair tennis courts than to repurpose them.](#)

Considerable discussion over the number of pb courts that could or should be over painted. Suggestions or recommendations for two or one is less than happens now. Can we remove this limiting condition? Considerable discussion re ob line colour painting. Three shades different is also a lesser condition than is in practice now. Can we remove this limiting conditions.

Moved by Walter, seconded by Al, to accept Joint recommendations (V7.3) document amended by the removal of the following sentence - page 3 - "[With the popularity and participation rates of tennis increasing, it may be more prudent to repair tennis courts than to repurpose them.](#)"

Motion passed - unanimous

Moved by Ray, seconded by Barry - postpone further discussion on the Dual Purpose Court (v5.2) document.

Motion passed - unanimous

Discussion before and after the vote:

- when does it come to the agenda again - next Board meeting
- what will be different? The Board will make definitive wording suggestions with the two significant points (vs. letting the working group interpret intent)

OTHER POST MEETING NOTES

All the discussion was not recorded in detail. All participants were asked to provide any final comments they wished to have put on record. Following are the comments received.

From Karen Watson

Good work done by the committee. This is a big achievement – has brought pickleball and tennis vision/thoughts into better alignment with a better understanding of each sport
Communities for the most part are further ahead than tennis in that they are more open to the needs of pickleball than tennis currently seems to be. Enlightening to me is that there are still communities that are yet to support pickleball the way they need to.

Both documents are very well written and clearly describe the issues of both sports.

Like the “dedicated court” document and will support this assuming the one problematic sentence identified by Becca is amended or removed.

The concern with dual-purpose court document is the recommendation for 2 pickleball courts only/tennis court as this will limit the number of lined pickleball courts to be painted. Limiting the number of courts will not meet the demand for pickleball. Limiting the number of pickleball courts will encourage the frequency of overflow onto more tennis courts and risk of conflict.

Pickleball lines need to be visible as pickleball does not have painted courts (only lines) and I don’t think we should push for painted courts (unless they are dedicated courts) as this will be even more confusing to all but contrast for these lines is important but they don’t have to be white.

I think these were my main points....

From Becca Stuve

The third page of the Joint Recommendation states, “We realize that some communities may opt to build a pickleball hub by repurposing such facilities because this is easier and less expensive than building new courts from scratch”.

Further down in the document “With the popularity and participation rates of tennis increasing, it may be more prudent to repair tennis courts than to repurpose them “ I recommend that this line be removed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Cash Position								
Board Meetings								
								5:20pm
								Nov 09/21
Opening Bank Balance (VanCity)								28,025.81
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 (0.6/0.7/1.10% Mat Nov 28/23 - Annual Opts)							12,000.00	
Investments								25,141.40
Total Cash Available								53,167.21
Expenses (Est):								
Walter (MailChimp)					Sep/Oct/Nov			450.00
Website Ad Expense (Ken)								48.25
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								3,573.25
Ending Bank Balance - Estimated								49,593.96